

President's message



2012 has been a very busy yet exciting year for me. As the NENA president I have had the opportunity to attend or take part in provincial, national and international meetings, conferences and focus groups. I have been able to give you, the Canadian emergency nurse, a voice at these functions while gaining considerable knowledge for myself. Now, as I try to pass on some of that knowledge, I share with you the following.

Emergency departments have become the front door of our medical system obliging emergency nurses to expand their knowledge to include issues previously addressed in different settings. It is difficult in a busy emergency department to take the extra time needed to deal with non-emergency issues, but nurses must continue to advocate for these patients regardless of the reason for their visit or their medical issue.

Many emergency departments face increasing workloads, overcrowding and long wait times making it a stressful work environment for both staff and patients. Our hospitals are putting programs into place to deal with patient-to-staff violence, but let's not forget about bullying, lateral violence and incivility between staff. You can be the one to start the change; whether you have been bullied or been the bystander, take action. To begin you can simply stand beside the target, or better yet, be courageous, speak up and help extinguish this type of behaviour.

NENA, along with many other nurses from the Canadian Network of Nursing Specialties (see CNA Associate and Affiliate Members and Emerging Groups has a new name, below), met for a one-day session on June 16, just prior to the CNA conference in Vancouver. The day included a wealth of information on everything from a talk on bullying, working with the media and getting your message out to the right people.

Some of the take-away points were:

- patients and families are our top priority
- RNs need to understand their populations
- RNs need to get into the boardrooms
- RNs need to take on the power, get out of the back seat
- RNs have the power to make change.

For NENA to accomplish some of these points, we need to build our membership and share our knowledge. I would like to encourage all nurses to attend the conference May 29–31, 2013, in Vancouver BC—“*NENA 2013—Wild and Spectacular*”. This is an excellent opportunity to gather valuable information, practise some hands-on skills and network with other nurses from across Canada and the U.S. What you learn can be taken back to your facility and shared with co-workers. I hope to see you in May 2013. ☒

Sharron Lyons
NENA President

Communication Officer's report



Thank you, each of you, who have contributed to this fall edition of the NENA Outlook. Your willingness to share and your investment of time and

knowledge are a wonderful gift to your peers across the country.

Even as we are preparing this edition for the press, I want to remind NENA members that we will be publishing another edition in the spring. Spring seems very

far away when we are only beginning to haul winter coats and mitts from storage places, but it will be here before we know it. The deadline for submissions for the next journal is January 31, 2013. ☒

Stephanie Carlson

Secretary's note

Hello everyone. I want to introduce myself to you. I am the interim secretary for NENA—my name is Dawn Paterson. Recently I have served on the board as the Alberta representative. I have met many of you in that position over the last few years and hope to meet more of you in my new position. Please feel free to contact me via the website if you need to direct anything my way. ☒



Thanks,
Dawn Paterson

outlook NENA at work

CNA Associate and Affiliate Members and Emerging Groups has a new name!

The Canadian Nurses Association has a network of 43 national nursing specialty groups previously known as the *Associate and Affiliate Members and Emerging Groups (AAE)*.

Earlier this year, CNA hosted a “name that network” contest for all nurses in Canada to come up with a new name for the network of national nursing specialties. CNA felt the new name needed to be more reflective of who these nurses are

and the important work they accomplish. CNA received 73 suggestions, which were reviewed and narrowed down to a list of four potential names. The network members, of which NENA is one, then voted on the short list and the winning suggestion was announced at the June CNA Conference in Vancouver. The AAE will now be known as *Canadian Network of Nursing Specialties*. Susana Styles, its author, won \$300—congratulations, Susana.

News from the provinces

Ontario

The past six months have been very busy for the Emergency Nurses Association of Ontario (ENAO). The year-long celebration of ENAO's 40th anniversary culminated with a successful provincial conference "Compression for Compassion" held in Toronto in September. ENAO was honoured to receive recognition plaques from Toronto's Mayor, Rob Ford, Ontario's Premier, Dalton McGuinty, and Canada's Prime Minister, Stephen Harper.

The conference attendees were treated to an amazing line-up of speakers and presentation topics, all so pertinent to the emergency nursing specialty of today. Many exhibitors and corporate sponsors partnered with ENAO to create this incredible educational event for emergency nurses. The nurses learned about the latest products, services and pharmaceuticals available, while receiving countless and varied take-home gifts.

The ENAO 2012 conference planning committee did an incredible job of acquiring so many unique door prizes, which were awarded to attendees. The 50–50 draw was financially beneficial to both the winner and ENAO. ENAO is proud to have awarded two complimentary ENAO/NENA one-year memberships—one for the free ENAO booth draw and one for the sponsor passport draw.

ENAO was honoured to have special guests in attendance throughout our conference. Lucie Vachon, Nurse Consultant, CNA Certification Program, and Janet Calnan, NENA President Elect, both addressed the attendees. ENAO also happily welcomed emergency nursing colleagues from Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia.

A historic event for ENAO happened during the 2012 Annual General Meeting, which took place during the ENAO conference. The members voted to dissolve the longstanding district set-up within ENAO's provincial structure. The members also voted to create two new ENAO Board of Directors' positions—education

coordinator and member at large. The ENAO BOD hopes that an eight-member BOD will continue to serve the needs of all ENAO members and our emergency nursing colleagues throughout all of Ontario.

ENAO is now moving full steam ahead with our ongoing plans and preparations for our next turn to host the NENA conference in 2014. Stay tuned!



Respectfully submitted,
Janice L. Spivey
ENAO President

Newfoundland and Labrador

Membership: Our numbers have been steadily increasing with the new trial format of registration—renewal on your own anniversary date, as opposed to the set "deadline" of June 30 yearly. Thus, our membership at this point is at 56 with 15 pending payment.

Courses: The province has offered education courses in TNCC and CTAS with the expectation of introducing ENPC (thanks Sharon Lyons for travelling to NL) provincially for the first time ever! Recent corporate decisions have made it difficult to deliver NENA courses, as they have instituted a province-wide "ban" with all staff being declined requests to travel outside their particular region for educational purposes (see conference information below).

Conference: We are relaunching a NENA conference October 19-21, 2012, in Corner Brook, NL. We had a strong launch of the conference in April and had a projected participation of between 125 and 150 participants. With recent government legislation that will limit the travel opportunities of emergency and, indeed, all nurses for education, our numbers look to be in the 40 to 60 range of expected participants. Due to this government "cutback" there have been a number of annual conferences from other health care provider groups

cancelled. Despite the health authority's professional development ban, we are forging ahead and look to deliver the first conference in more than eight years to the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. Therefore, join us for our conference on "Disaster Preparedness: Are we ready?"

Ongoing issues: As we hear from our colleagues across the country, we seem to have similar concerns regarding delivery of care, as we struggle with increased wait times, boarded admitted patients in the emergency department, and staff abuse related to public uncertainty and frustration.

We are also currently being subjected to a province-wide ban on travel relief and financial support for professional development. The health authorities (four within our province) have been directed by government to refrain from granting education relief for these events. They will only honour core competencies education. We expect to see long-term reduction in staff motivation for continuing education and an impact on morale, as nurses feel they have no support. Ultimately, this will be reflected in patient care because staff will have difficulty remaining current with trends.

Positive note: I would like to thank my colleagues in nursing, paramedicine and ERPs who have helped my conference committee remain positive and for your encouragement to persevere as compassionate caring health care staff who continue in this career because it's a calling and not a job.

We are lucky to have had Hurricane Lesley visit the province with only minor mishap, but it reflects the need for disaster preparedness. As we tend to get these events more frequently, there is a need for a more comprehensive coordinated response from all parties. Like TNCC and ENPC, we need a systematic approach that is universal to all across the island.

Thank you,
Todd Warren

British Columbia

Wow—the summer has flown by and on the coast we are preparing for cooler nights and lots of rain.

Emergency departments organized the first International Sepsis Day on September 13. The B.C. Safety and Quality Council has been providing educational materials and links to Twitter discussions from around the world. Any B.C. site can still join the sepsis network, so look to get involved.

Our 2013 NENA conference planning committee has been madly working behind the scenes putting together a show-stopping event.

Bouquets of flowers and red wine to Jan Calnan, Darlene Campana and Kitty Murray. The island women are a force to be reckoned with. This is an event not to miss.

It is never easy organizing educational events, and thanks go out to a group of professionals who are essentially volunteering time at the St. Pauls emergency medicine conference in Whistler, B.C., to promote and increase nursing presence at emergency conferences. Monique McLaughlin, Landon James, Claude Stang, Katie Procter, Sheila Turriss, Sheila Finamore, Deb Scott, Camille Ciarnello, Lori Baker, Tracy Northway, Brent Woodley, Susanne Moadebi, and Dr. Doug Brown have contributed to a jam-packed event. My heartfelt thanks to you all.

TNCC, CTAS, ENPC, CAIMAN and ACLS classes are happening all over the province, and we have another collaboration with Washington State—in Seattle this year—for our fall education day. Please email if you have any questions regarding these courses.

Continue to provide the excellent emergency care that you do, in all the various settings in which you have chosen to work.



Sherry Stackhouse
ENABC President

Québec: AIIUQ

L'AIIUQ est très fière des développements qui sont actuellement en cours pour que l'affiliation au NENA soit concrète pour les membres. Nous travaillons actuellement à attacher les ficelles des structures administratives qui sont nécessaires et essentielles sur les liens avec le site internet et tous autres détails. Nous avons très hâte de débiter les discussions avec les autres provinces, nos nouveaux partenaires, pour participer au développement continue de la pratique des infirmières d'urgence. Dans nos activités de l'automne, nous avons notre congrès annuel qui aura lieu dans très peu de temps, soit le 3-4 octobre prochain, sous le thème: «Les soins d'urgence, un milieu propice au développement professionnel». Nous sommes aussi impliqués dans un groupe de travail, avec le ministère du Québec, qui élabore des recommandations sur la prévention des infections dans les salles d'urgence. Ce sera un plaisir de partager ces recommandations avec les intéressés lorsque les travaux seront terminés... Et nous continuons d'offrir à nos infirmières de la formation continue sur différents thèmes intéressants, évaluation respiratoire, triage et autres. Notre défi de l'année sera de trouver des moyens pour augmenter notre membership!



Carine Sauvé
President AIIUQ

Nova Scotia

Fall greetings from Nova Scotia! It's hard to believe the summer has passed by so quickly! We started it with a bang here in Nova Scotia, hosting the national NENA conference in May, in Halifax—“30 Years of Navigating the Depths of Emergency Nursing.” It was a fabulous conference from all the wonderful educational sessions and brilliant presenters to the connections/friendships made and the party at Murphy's on the Waterfront! A huge thank you to all those who attended and a big round of applause to the organizing committee for all the hard work in making the conference such a great success! We certainly hope that you will all come back to visit us again and hope to see you at the next national conference in Vancouver!

Work continues across the province preparing for the Emergency Department Standards that the Department of Health and Wellness is hoping to have in place by 2014. We are seeing more TNCC and ENPC courses happening throughout the province, as nurses prepare to meet the education standards to work in Nova Scotia's emergency departments. We have also seen the development of some Collaborative Emergency Centres (CECs) in the province. These centres are located in the more rural areas of the province and are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During the night the centres are staffed with a registered nurse and/or a paramedic working under the direction of a medical oversight physician through Emergency Health Services.

We are planning a provincial meeting of NSENA this fall, as we strive to become a stronger support and advocate for emergency nursing in Nova Scotia.



Michelle Tipert
NSENA President

Alberta: ENIG

My name is Pat Mercer-Deadman, and I am pleased to be the president of the ENIG of Alberta and the Alberta Director for NENA. I have been a member of ENIG since 1994. I truly love emergency nursing and believe wholeheartedly in what ENIG and NENA stand for. This said, I have a huge learning curve with these new roles, but feel “up for the challenge”.


As summer quickly is becoming fall, I have been busy thinking of ways to increase our membership and engage our members. We have more than 3,000 emergency nurses in our province and yet the membership with ENIG has always been less than 200. With this statistic in mind, it is my personal priority to substantially increase our membership. We are developing a brochure and a poster to advertise our group and are looking at ways to contact all the ER nurses in the province. I hope to get a personal e-mail out to each RN who has identified themselves as working in emergency through CARNA, by year's end. We are in the

planning stages of education days for the fall and the spring, as well as making our newsletter, ER STAT, more substantial and informative.

ENIG executive continue to not only promote our group, but also encourage emergency nurses of Alberta to join in

so our voices can be heard on political issues that arise, not only in Alberta, but also on the national front through NENA.


ENIG's philosophy is to improve standards of emergency nursing practice, to promote growth professionally, to im-

prove communication among emergency health care providers, to act as a resource on emergency nursing and to be a voice for issues affecting emergency nursing. 


Pat Mercer-Deadman
Alberta Director




outlook Bouquets


 **TNCC's 20th anniversary**
Bouquets to visionary NENA members from past years. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) in Canada. NENA developed and implemented the TNCC for national and international dissemination as a means of identifying a standardized body of trauma nursing knowledge.





 The TNCC (Provider) is a 16- or 20-hour course designed to provide the learner with cognitive knowledge and psychomotor skills. Nurses with limited emergency nursing clinical experience, who work in a hospital with limited access to trauma patients, or who need greater time at the psychomotor skill stations are encouraged to attend courses scheduled for the 20-hour format.

 **Web changes**
Bouquets to our Webmaster, Gary Pronych, who has developed the web capability for the change in the membership year. NENA members and potential members may now join or renew lapsed memberships at any time of the year and know that their memberships are valid for a full 12 months. This hasn't been without headaches and a few problems, but Gary has struggled to make it work. Next spring we will see another major change when we go to online voting for the open executive officers, secretary and treasurer. We

believe these two changes are major advances for NENA and a good service for all members. For people who are non-computer literate, there is a tendency to expect that some of these web-based actions are easy to accomplish with a mere change of a code or key stroke. In fact, things that would be simple to do with pen and paper and a good filing cabinet can be remarkably complex in the computer world. Thank you, Gary, for all your work.


 The ENAO BOD wishes to recognise and thank the ENAO 2012 conference Co-Chairs, Humberto Laranjo and Motsi Valentine for all of their time and efforts in creating an awesome educational opportunity for emergency nurses in Ontario and beyond.


 Thank you for your service to outgoing NENA Board members Cate McCormick, Lori Quinn, Raegan Gardner. Thank you to Valerie Pelletier for representing AIIUQ during the arrangements required to facilitate joining NENA.


 Welcome to Jan Calnan, newly elected President Elect. Jan has many years of experience on the NENA board as secretary.

 Welcome to Dawn Paterson, who is the new NENA Secretary.


 Welcome to Carine Sauvé, who is the AIIUQ President.


 Welcome to Lydia Sousa, who is the Saskatchewan Provincial Director.


 Welcome to Pat Mercer-Deadman who is the new Alberta Provincial Director.

 Kudos to the Halifax Conference Committee for hosting an amazing event and valuable conference and a huge THANK YOU to our


corporate sponsors of all levels for enabling NENA to host a national conference. There are other volunteers, too many to mention, whose untiring work in the details made the conference appear effortless.

 Congratulations to British Columbia's Mandy Hengeveld, Northern Outpost Nurse and Lion's Gate Hospital ER RN, who won a trip to the NENA conference from ENABC.

 Bouquets of flowers and red wine to Jan Calnan, Darlene Campana and Kitty Murray. The Island women are a force to be reckoned with. Our 2013 NENA conference planning committee has been madly working behind the scenes putting together a show-stopping event.

 Thanks to a group of professionals who are essentially volunteering time at the St. Paul's Emergency Medicine Conference in Whistler, BC, to promote and increase nursing presence at emergency conferences. Monique McLaughlin, Landon James, Claude Stang, Katie Procter, Sheila Turris, Sheila Finamore, Deb Scott, Camille Ciannello, Lori Baker, Tracy Northway, Brent Woodley, Susanne Moadebi, and Dr. Doug Brown have contributed to a jam-packed event. My heartfelt thanks to you all.

Sherry Stackhouse

 A big thank you to Traci-Foss Jeans for all her dedication and tireless efforts to make the Emergency Nurses of NL a well-educated and competent group of professionals. We thank you so much. My personal thanks, as she encouraged me to be the NL Director. I am truly thankful, as she provided me with a conch to have my voice heard. Todd Warren, NL Director



National Emergency Nurses Affiliation
National Conference 2012

30 Years of Navigating the Depths of Emergency Nursing

May 3–5, 2012
Halifax, Nova Scotia

The National Emergency Nurses' Affiliation would like to thank all the companies that sponsored our annual educational conference "Thirty years of Navigating the Depths of Emergency Nursing", held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 3–5, 2012. This sponsorship was sincerely valued, and without the support, the NENA conference would not have been such a success.

SILVER



Roche



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BRONZE

An advertisement for Alberta Health Services. It features the organization's logo in the top left corner. On the left is a black and white photograph of a smiling female healthcare professional. To her right is a speech bubble containing the text: "Working at AHS enables a better quality of life, not only for our staff, but for their families - there's no shortage of reasons to join our team." Below the speech bubble is the handwritten-style text "what's your reason?". At the bottom of the ad is the website address "www.albertahealthservices.ca".

Alberta Health Services

An advertisement for TransMotion Medical Inc. It features the company logo on the left, which includes a stylized "T" and the text "TRANSMOTION MEDICAL INC". To the right is a photograph of a motorized stretcher chair. Below the logo and image is the text: "STRETCHER-CHAIRS", "Mobile • Motorized • Safe Patient Handling", "One Patient, One Surface Admission, to Procedure to Discharge", "www.TransMotionMedical.com", "Sharon Center, OH", and "330-239-4292".

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1. Davis K and Lachenbruch CA. A Comparison of Two Powered Transport Features in Reducing Biomechanical Stress During Stretcher Maneuvering Tasks. Hill-Rom Services Inc., July 2011. Based on data collected from University of Cincinnati Ergonomics Laboratory, 2010.
2. A total of 672 trials were conducted representing weights of 0 (empty), 200 lbs, 500 lbs and 700 lbs. Specific tests performed include pushing a straight distance, pushing up and down a ramp and pushing around a corner.

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National Emergency Nurses Affiliation
National Conference 2012

30 Years of Navigating the Depths of Emergency Nursing

May 3-5, 2012
Halifax, Nova Scotia



Colleen Brayman and
Sherry Stackhouse



Sharron Lyons and
Valerie Pelletier



Mari-Elena Guerrero and
Sharron Lyons



Carol Legare and
Marie Grandmont



Above: The signing agreement for
union of AIIUQ and NENA



2012 Conference committee: Heather Peddle
Bolivar, Jennifer Clarkson, Jane Daigle, Sherry
Uribe, Sandra Bosma, and Cate McCormick.



Jan Spivey and Sharron Lyons



Sherry Uribe



Kitty Murray and Sharron Lyons



Pat Mercer-Deadman, Dawn Paterson, Landon James, and Val Eden



Erin Musgrave and MariElena Guerrero



Dawn Paterson and Sharron Lyons



Above and right: Bedbugs presentation



Sharron Lyons and Landon James

2012 CNA Certified Emergency Nurses National Nursing Specialty Group

Alberta

Jaimie L. Marchand
Jason Anthony Bobyak
Dianne Deboer
Marc Sonntag
Janice Hooper
Julie Meyer
Erin P. Murphy
Sherry T. Humphrey
Albert Chun-Kit Wong
Christine Maxwell
Allen T.V. Dechant
Richard W. Drew
Gladys H. Hokanson
Jamie G. King
Cynthia P. Fudge
Brenda Hand
Nicole Bolkowy
Wendy Barrett
Tammy A. Nelson
Bonnie J. Cowan
Joyce Paradis
Lindsay Crook
Jennifer Drover
Susan Knor
Heather A. Loewen

British Columbia

Ian S. Syme
Bradley J. Ruff
Lisa Paul
Elizabeth M. Mainprize
Marilyn Dormuth
Sarah A.E. Savage
Mona L. Krahn
Donna Maatz
Samantha C. Wilson
Fiona D. Francis
Heidi D. Krahn
Robin S. Price
Rhonda G. Jansen
Angelo S. Visitacion
Martha Towers
Olive T. Powell
Jennifer D. Faye
Caralyn J. Bowes

Manitoba

Shelly J. Carmichael
Stacey Boehm

Martha L. Ross
Crystal L. Gurney
Chad W. Munro
Marie A. Grandmont
Krystal G. Isidro
Kathy Collis
Carol J. Legare

New Brunswick

Ann M. Miskimen
Helene Plomp
Nancy B. Chase
Denise M. Weigum
Courtney Budgell
Cheryl A. Drisdelle
Nicole D. Moore
Steve Roy
Mary McLaughlin
Simon T. Richard
Karen J. Allison
Candace D. Boyle
Susan L. Benjamin
Amy C. Tapley
Catherine A. Davies
Amy Ellen McLeod

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Cathy I. Fewer
Kayla Hickey
Rayna R.A. Maynard
Robert C. Humphries
Hank R.J. Rice
Ryan M. Quinlan
Pam M. Hodder

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Mary C. MacNeil
Hannah Colwell
Eleanor A. Fitzpatrick
Aaron E. Bates
Dylan Humphrey
Phyllis M. MacDougall
Donna Lee Cyr
Donna L. Gillis
J. Fraser MacKinnon

Nunavut

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Mary Ann M. Maningas

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Melissa Lynn Kehler
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Nancy J. Sevenhuysen
Dale S. Smith
Tammy G. Small
Jennifer A. Kluszczynski
Lori L. Smith
Jane I. Foster
Germaine Romano
Allan C. White
Michelle L. Voegtler
Gillian M. Busch
Catherine Patricia Stafford
Nancy Merrell
Megan J. Smith
Sharon M. Musehl
Beata Kubow
Lynn Larochelle
Chantal J. Arenovich
Anastasia Chisholm
Heather Davidson
Sarah M. Stauffer
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Loralie J. Klaehn
Jannet Hudson
Dianne G. Weir-Rowsell
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Ruth A. McMahon
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 Ashley Mary Maki
 Drew Rapoch
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 Zachary L. Brown
 Tammy L. Holt
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Michele L. Coscarella
 Sarla Hegde
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 Kathleen P. Demers
 Paul Lacey
 Julie A. Bain
 Dianna J. Harrison
 Karen Johnson
 Kirsty Nixon
 Natalie De Ciccio
 Rebecca L. Davis

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 Shannell MacKinnon

Quebec
 Christian Garneau
 Sophie Dussault
 Mercegrâce Genaille
 Sylvie M. Loranger-Journeau
 Marie-France Latour
 Isabelle L. Dupras
 Valerie J. Schneidman
 Marie-Christine Brault

Saskatchewan
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 Janet D. Conan
 Lori Gallins
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 JoAnne A. Slinn
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Only those who gave permission are listed

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Vancouver, one of the world's most spectacular cities, welcomes the members of NENA, as host city of the 2013 National Emergency Nurses Conference.

The city of Vancouver is renowned for its incomparable natural beauty and cultural diversity.

Whether you are a staff nurse or manager in an emergency department, an administrator, prehospital, flight, pediatric or trauma emergency nurse, an emergency clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, student or educator, you can benefit from this National Emergency Nurses Conference.

No matter your level of experience, or the size of your emergency department, this conference is for you and it will contribute to your professional growth.

As we all know, the pace of emergency nursing varies from slow to hyper drive, and it can change within minutes.

Patients may be housed in your hallways and cubby holes due to overcapacity in

your facilities, which adds to the stress of our work life, as we struggle to ensure all patients receive excellent and compassionate care.

Our nursing specialty encompasses caring for patients of all age groups and conditions, from delivering babies and resuscitating trauma arrests to administering medication.

Emergency Nurses are "Wild and Spectacular"—the theme for the Conference 2013.

So if you answer yes to any of these characteristics of emergency nursing, then we will have something to offer you in Vancouver on May 29-31, 2013.

- Do you like variety and complexity? This conference has it.
- Do you have the ability to shift gears and accelerate your pace as needed?
- Do you have good observation, assessment, and prioritization skills?
- Do you have multitasking ability?
- Do you have good interpersonal and customer service skills?

- Do you have stamina (as there is great shopping in Vancouver)?
- Are you an assertive patient advocate?
- Can you maintain calm amidst a chaotic environment?
- Do you have the ability to think fast and on your feet?
- Do you have a good sense of humour (this is essential)?
- And last of all, do you want to have fun?

If you answer yes to any of these characteristics, then this conference is for you!

We hope that this conference will find something for all of these characteristics and we can show the world that we are "Wild and Spectacular".

You can never know too much about emergency nursing, so NENA offers this continuing education opportunity that will be involving, comprehensive, and very rewarding.

So please mark May 29-31, 2013, on your calendars, and come join the fabulous team of conference planners that I have working with me—the Emergency Nurses Association of British Columbia, your host provincial group, and NENA, and let's be Wild and Spectacular. ☑

Janet Calnan

outlook

NENA at work

Discourses at triage

By Lucy Cross, RN, BSN

Discourses are intimately tied to practice and, if unpacked and exposed, reveal truths. Defined as groups of ideas or patterned ways of thinking within wider social structures, discourses help uncover what is largely taken for granted in practice to create an awareness of what is hidden. There are discourses embedded in the practice focus we use to triage in the emergency department (ED), specifically the use of two standardized texts—The Canadian Emergency Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) and the Canadian Emergency Department Information System (CEDIS)—which construct and produce triage. CTAS and CEDIS are

largely physician-driven data collection endeavours supported by the National Emergency Nursing Affiliation (NENA), as a means to provide potential economic benefits and improve future targeted health care funding to best meet identified population health care needs.

I propose that discourses reveal how these two texts influence triage outcomes for the patient and the triage nurse. The discourses embedded in the triage texts are: a dominant medical discourse, a political and economic discourse and a relational discourse. Other discourses include a discourse of disclosure, a moral and ethical discourse, and a discourse of obligation. We "act" in our discourses and, to

some degree, we choose our discourses. Being aware of the underpinnings of practice and the hidden discourses we inadvertently participate in, can create insight into relational tension and power imbalances that triage can create. Being aware of this can, in itself, create space for learning new truths. While the standardized CTAS and CEDIS texts influence triage decision-making attempts to ensure consistent care and patient safety, the nurse can be aware of the hidden discourses he/she participates in and the implied choices embedded within. An awareness of how the emergency nurse is affected by hidden discourses is key to creating change and fostering personal and professional growth. ☑

National Course Administration Committee (NCAC) TNCC/ENPC/CTAS Instructor Updates

By Margaret Dymond

ENPC 4th Edition Updates

All ENPC instructors should have received an email from ENA describing the process for updating your instructor status to teach the ENPC 4th edition course. The update process is all online. ENPC instructors are required to watch the online videos and write the test after viewing the videos and update information. It is advisable that instructors secure a 4th edition provider manual to preview the course material prior to completing the online videos and exam.

Instructors are being asked to secure funding for the new provider manual with their employer. Some funding is available through your emergency nursing provincial organizations. An application is available and proof that your employer denied your request for funding is required. Funding is not available for the instructor manual.

The 4th edition manuals can be purchased through the ENA.org website or through ENPC course directors.

NCAC regional reps have emailed all instructors in their zone regarding the update requirements. If you have not received any notification, call your regional NCAC rep.

E-course OPS

The online application process for ENA courses has been available to all Canadian course directors for a year through the ENA website. A demonstration video is available for course directors to preview. There are many advantages to applying for courses online—view your courses, invoices, order manuals, and/or cancel courses. Further enhancements coming: entering student rosters and marks online. No more paper!

Course approvals

A two-step process is required for course approvals. Course directors should apply through e-course OPS for their courses. ENA approves that course directors and instructors are current to teach. NCAC ensures all instructors are NENA members by checking the NENA membership list. Generally your NENA membership expires June 30 every year.

TNCC updates

The 7th edition TNCC revision process starts this fall. This process normally takes two to three years to complete.

Course Bytes

This is a great newsletter published by ENA where TNCC/ENPC instructors can get up-to-date information on courses. If you would like an automatic email, send your request to CourseBytes@ena.org

CTAS update

The 2012 CTAS course revisions are available through the CAEP website in a secured manner. Only current CTAS instructors will have access to the course materials. Course materials expire every year. CTAS instructors are required to ensure their instructor status is current (teach one course every 12 months) and be a NENA member. Instructors who have lapsed in either their instructor teaching requirement or NENA membership will not have access to the teaching content. Questions or queries can be sent to ctas@nena.ca.

NCAC positions available

NCAC currently has two vacancies: One NCAC rep for Quebec, and one CTAS rep. Information can be sent to interested parties at chairncac@nena.ca.



Back row: Monique McLaughlin, Traci Foss-Jeans and Debra Bastone. Front row: Margaret Dymond and Ann Hogan.

Course updates

NCAC publishes a newsletter twice annually. Instructors are sent the information via email. If your email address changes, please notify us at ncac@nena.ca. Your NCAC rep can also email you up-to-date Canadian course administration procedures.

NCAC members

All queries regarding TNCC/ENPC/CTAS can be sent to ncac@nena.ca or through the NCAC members below. 📧

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