

# President's Report

It has been said, “plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose”—“the more it changes, the more it’s the same thing”, usually translated as “the more things change, the more they stay the same,” (Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr). This is true of emergency nursing and it is true of NENA. We follow predictable cycles, but they are punctuated by the unexpected—new medications, revised procedures, staff churn, administration attitudes, and political climate.

One of NENA’s most challenging changes in recent years has been the transformation of NENA from a collective of affiliated provincial emergency nursing special interest groups to an association of members who are also members of their associated provincial emergency nursing organizations. NENA’s Vision, OUR STRENGTH: OUR MEMBERS; NOTRE FORCE: NOS MEMBRES, has dictated our direction, but the change has not been easy. As I write this, a committee of NENA members from across Canada is working to define *emergency nurse*. We expect that this will be the final key revision to our bylaws.

Of the things that remain the same, a number of NENA members were

recognized at the NENA conference in Charlottetown in June. Cathy Sendeki and Donna Gallant were awarded Honorary Lifetime Membership Awards in recognition of their lengthy and faithful service to emergency nurses.

The following emergency nurses were awarded NENA bursaries: Christina Graham, Kyla Neary Griffiths (Margaret Smith Award); Loree Vint (Debbie Cotton Award); Monique McLaughlin; Leah Chesney; Janet Calnan; Sharron Lyons; Tanya Penney; and Christina Follador. Congratulations to each of you.

Bursaries are available to NENA members. Information about NENA Awards of Excellence and other bursaries and applications are available in the *Documents* section on the NENA website. A call for applications will be distributed to members in the new year. The annual deadline is March 15.

NENA continues to administer Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) and Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC), as well as maintaining a strong presence on the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) national working group.

NENA is excited to be partnering with prnEducation in the development and delivery of EPICC (Emergency Practice, Interventions and Care—Canada) courses. Beginning with *EPICC Foundations* in 2014, the development team has added *EPICC Trauma* and is beginning work on a pediatrics course. These truly Canadian courses are offered in English and French.

NENA has been a presence on CNA’s Certification Advisory Committee, supporting and encouraging certification in emergency nursing ENC(C) for our members and others. A link to its *Canadian Emergency Nursing Certification Exam Prep Course* is posted in the *Courses* section of the NENA website. We encourage all our members to seek Emergency Nursing Certification. The deadline for renewals is November 30.

NENA exists for the purpose of promoting excellence in its nurses and advancing our specialty, intrinsically joined to the provincial organizations and its members.



**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Stephanie Carlson,**  
**President**

## Rapport de la présidente

Il est dit que : « Plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose » (Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr). Ceci est vrai pour les soins infirmiers d’urgence et pour l’ANIU/NENA. Nous suivons des cycles prévisibles mais ponctués par des moments inattendus; nouveaux médicaments, procédures révisées, roulement du personnel, attitudes de l’administration et climat politique.

Au cours des dernières années, l’un des changements les plus difficiles pour l’ANIU/NENA fut de passer d’un collectif de groupes d’intérêt provinciaux spéciaux et affiliés en soins infirmiers d’urgence à une association de membres étant également membres de leurs organismes provinciaux en soins infirmiers. La vision de l’ANIU/NENA - NOTRE FORCE : NOS MEMBRES - a dicté notre direction, mais les changements

n’ont pas été faciles. Au moment d’écrire ce rapport, un comité de membres de l’ANIU/NENA, de partout du Canada, travaille pour définir les *soins infirmiers*. Nous nous attendons à ce que cela devienne la dernière révision clé de nos règlements.

Sur les choses qui ne changent pas, plusieurs membres de l’ANIU/NENA ont été reconnus en juin lors de la conférence de l’ANIU/NENA à Charlottetown. Cathy Sendeki et Donna Gallant ont reçu les prix Honorary Lifetime Membership en reconnaissance de leurs longs et loyaux services envers les infirmiers et infirmières d’urgence.

Les infirmières d’urgence suivantes ont été récompensées avec les bourses ANIU/NENA : Christina Graham, Kyla Neary Griffiths (Margaret Smith

Award); Loree Vint (Debbie Cotton Award); Monique McLaughlin; Leah Chesney; Janet Calnan; Sharron Lyons; Tanya Penney; et Christina Follador. Félicitations à chacune d’entre vous.

Les bourses sont disponibles aux membres de l’ANIU/NENA. Les renseignements sur les prix d’excellence de l’ANIU/NENA, d’autres bourses et les demandes sont disponibles dans la section *Documents* du site web de l’ANIU/NENA. Un appel de demandes sera lancé aux membres au cours de l’année prochaine. La date d’échéance annuelle est le 15 mars.

L’ANIU/NENA continue d’administrer le Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) et le Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC), ainsi que de maintenir une forte présence

dans le groupe de travail national de l'Échelle canadienne de triage et de gravité (ÉCTG)

L'ANNIU/NENA est fière d'être en partenariat avec prnEducation dans le développement et la livraison de cours EPICC (Emergency Practice, Interventions and Care – Canada). Depuis le EPICC Foundations en 2014, l'équipe de développement a ajouté EPICC Trauma et a commencé à travailler sur un cours

pédiatrique. Ces cours canadiens sont disponibles en français et en anglais.

L'ANNIU/NENA est présente au Comité consultatif sur la certification de l'AIC, en soutenant et en encourageant la certification dans les services de soins infirmiers ENC(C) pour nos membres et autres personnes. Un lien au *Canadian Emergency Nursing Certification Exam Prep Course* est affiché dans la section Cours du site web de l'ANNIU/NENA.

L'ANNIU/NENA existe afin de promouvoir l'excellence pour ses infirmiers et infirmières et faire avancer notre spécialité, qui est étroitement liée aux organismes provinciaux et à ses membres.



**Respectueusement  
soumis,  
Stephanie Carlson,  
Présidente**

## Director of Education Report

**N**ENA has seen growth and creativity in developing educational programs for emergency nurses. Your National Course Administration Committee (NCAC) is hard at work with dissemination of the TNCC and ENPC across Canada. NCAC is very involved with the rollout of two new core emergency nursing education courses: Emergency Practice Interventions Care-Canada (EPICC) in both English and French.

Two courses are now available—EPICC-Foundations and EPICC-Trauma. Congratulations to EPICC working team members for such fabulous work. The CTAS National Working Group NENA reps have been working hard in two domains: CTAS rollout in Ontario and CTAS course revisions. Your NENA education team is hard at work and spends many hours working on developing, teaching, and mentoring NENA-sponsored educational programs.

### Emergency Nursing Certification

There is a lot of BUZZ around certification! Many emergency nurses are exploring this opportunity for career development. NENA is committed to providing study resources for emergency nurses applying for emergency nursing certification in Canada.

Recently, CNA had a certification discovery week (Aug 20-27, 2017) to promote the 20 nursing specialty certifications in Canada. Fifty Canadian nurses who have certification in one or more of the nursing specialties in Canada were mentors for discovery week.

NENA's certification committee would like to hear from emergency nurses about your successes with promoting certification in your workplaces and those strategies that you have implemented that assist emergency nurses in preparing to write the exam.

Contact information:  
[educationdirector@nena.ca](mailto:educationdirector@nena.ca)

### Canadian Concussion Collaborative (CCC)

Seventeen organizations across Canada participate in the CCC and NENA is one of those sponsoring organizations. Two new documents have been published on the website:

- 1) Four characteristics of good concussion clinics (July 2017)
- 2) The Top Five Key Messages from the 5th International Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport (July 2017).

All documents are available in English and French.

Parachute Canada has published a new document on their website. This website also has numerous resources for education on concussion.

Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport / Lignes directrices canadiennes sur les commotions cérébrales dans le sport

<http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/canadian-guideline-on-concussion-in-sport>

### Emergency Nurses Pediatric Course – 5th Edition update

The project is full steam ahead with the ENPC 5th revisions. The working group anticipates the rollout in 2018.

### TNCC Instructors make their 20th anniversary as instructors!

Margaret Balzer (ON) and Carolyn Hill (ON) were recognized at NENA's AGM in Charlottetown, in May 2017.

### ENPC Instructors make their 20th anniversary as instructors!

Audrey Bell-Peter (ON), Jane Stuart-Minaret (ON), and Marie Grandmont (MB) were recognized at NENA's AGM in Charlottetown, in May 2017.

### Education opportunities for all NENA members—FREE! (The Rounds)

An organization that sponsors a virtual conference web-based program on emergency medicine and critical care has offered a free one-year membership for NENA members. All NENA members were sent an email on how to sign up for this opportunity. If you are new to NENA or missed the email, contact [educationdirector@nena.ca](mailto:educationdirector@nena.ca) for more information.



**Submitted by  
Margaret Dymond, RN,  
BSN, ENC(C)**

# Rapport de la directrice de l'éducation

L'ANIU/NENA a vu sa croissance et sa créativité croître dans l'élaboration de programmes d'éducation pour les infirmiers et infirmières d'urgence. Votre Comité national d'administration de cours (CNAC/NCAC) travaille très dur dans la diffusion du TNCC et ENPC partout au Canada. Le CNAC participe beaucoup dans le lancement de deux importants cours d'éducation pour les infirmiers et infirmières d'urgence. Le Emergency Practice Interventions Care-Canada (EPICC) est disponible en français et en anglais.

Deux cours sont disponibles - *EPICC-Foundations* et *EPICC-Trauma*. Félicitations aux membres de l'équipe de travail EPICC pour un incroyable travail. Les représentants ANIU/NENA du groupe de travail national de l'ÉCTG ont travaillé très dur dans les deux domaines : Le lancement ÉCTG en Ontario et les révisions de cours ÉCTG. Votre équipe d'éducation ANIU/NENA travaille beaucoup et passe de nombreuses heures dans l'élaboration, l'enseignement et le mentorat de programmes d'éducation commandités par l'ANIU/NENA.

## Certification en soins infirmiers d'urgence

Il y a beaucoup de discussions autour de la certification ! De nombreux infirmiers et infirmières d'urgence explorent la possibilité d'un développement de carrière. L'ANIU/NENA est engagée à fournir des ressources d'études pour les infirmiers et infirmières d'urgence qui font une demande de certification en soins infirmiers d'urgence au Canada.

Récemment, l'AIC a mis en place une semaine de découverte de la certification (20-27 août 2017) dans le but de promouvoir les 20 certifications de spécialités en soins infirmiers. 50 infirmiers et infirmières canadiens, détenant une

certification dans une ou plusieurs spécialités en soins infirmiers au Canada, ont agi en tant que mentors durant la semaine de découverte.

Le comité de certification de l'ANIU/NENA aimerait en savoir plus de la part des infirmiers et infirmières d'urgence au sujet de leurs réussites dans la promotion de certification dans leurs lieux de travail, ainsi que des stratégies mises en place pour aider les infirmiers et infirmières d'urgence dans la préparation de leur examen.

Coordonnées : [educationdirector@nena.ca](mailto:educationdirector@nena.ca)

## Collaboration canadienne sur les commotions cérébrales (CCCC)

Dix-sept organismes partout au Canada participent à la CCCC et l'ANIU/NENA fait partie des organismes commanditaires. Deux nouveaux documents ont été publiés sur le site web :

- 1) 4 caractéristiques de bonnes cliniques de commotion cérébrale (juillet 2017)
- 2) Les 5 meilleurs messages de la part du 5<sup>e</sup> énoncé du consensus international sur la commotion cérébrale dans le sport (juillet 2017)

Tous les documents sont disponibles en français et en anglais.

Parachute Canada a publié un document sur leur site web. Ce site web contient également de nombreuses ressources pour en savoir plus au sujet de la commotion.

Lignes directrices canadiennes sur les commotions cérébrales dans le sport / Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport <http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/canadian-guideline-on-concussion-in-sport>

## Cours pédiatrique en soins infirmiers d'urgence - Mise à jour 5<sup>e</sup> édition

Le projet est en pleine expansion avec la 5<sup>e</sup> révision ENPC. Le groupe de travail anticipe un lancement pour 2018.

## Les instructeurs TNCC célèbrent leur 20<sup>e</sup> anniversaire en tant qu'instructeur !

Margaret Balzer (ONT) et Carolyn Hill (ONT) ont été reconnues lors de l'AGM de l'ANIU/NENA à Charlottetown (mai 2017).

## Les instructeurs ENPC célèbrent leur 20<sup>e</sup> anniversaire en tant qu'instructeur !

Audrey Bell-Peter (ONT), Jane Stuart-Minaret (ONT) et Marie Grandmont (MB) ont été reconnues lors de l'AGM de l'ANIU/NENA à Charlottetown (mai 2017).

## Possibilités d'éducation pour tous les membres de l'ANIU/NENA - GRATUITEMENT ! (Les ronds)

Un organisme commanditant une conférence web virtuelle basée sur la médecine d'urgence et les soins intensifs ont offert une année d'adhésion gratuite pour les membres de l'ANIU/NENA. Tous les membres de l'ANIU/NENA ont reçu un courriel sur la manière de s'inscrire. Si vous êtes un nouveau membre de l'ANIU/NENA ou si vous n'avez pas reçu le courriel, contactez-nous à [educationdirector@nena.ca](mailto:educationdirector@nena.ca) pour en savoir plus.



Soumis par  
Margaret Dymond, RN,  
BSN, ENC(C)

# Editor's introduction & commentary

I could not be more excited or proud to be the new editor of the *Canadian Journal of Emergency Nursing*. Though I am rather intimidated to take over from the very capable Ashleigh Malarczuk.

My vision for the CJEN, as editor, is to partner with Canadian emergency nurses to showcase the excellent work we do. My goal in this role is to bring scholarly process and scientific rigour while remaining accessible and collaborative. The CJEN is the ideal venue for showcasing Canadian Emergency Nursing in the domains of clinical care, education, leadership and research. Specialty areas I hope to further showcase are transport, forensic, northern and indigenous nursing. If you have a project you wish to undertake and need advice, or a paper you want to share with emergency nurses across the country, then please reach out. I want to work with you to showcase your hard work.

There are some changes and opportunities on the horizon. I will be working with the NENA board to work out new submission guidelines and article handling processes. If you wish to be a peer reviewer for the journal, please contact me describing your area of expertise. We are also seeking section editors in the areas of trauma, geriatrics and pediatrics for 2018, please contact me if you wish to volunteer for these positions. I will also be seeking expanded indexing in journal databases such as Medline, PubMed and Google Scholar. CJEN is our journal and I want all emergency nurses to be proud of it.

In this edition of CJEN, we have some world-class content. I am very proud to be sharing the work of Daniel Sundahl on our cover and an explanation of his perspective and art. Furthermore, this edition contains clinically focused literature review articles on trauma care topics by authors Christopher Picard and Elaine

Cole. Original research has been submitted by Kevin Lobay et al. on community care emergency medical services and Phillippe Voyer et al. on delirium screening. This later author and his team's work is showcased in a special long-form research report. Allan Lai has provided an editorial on clinical education and Mathieu Figeys et al. have written a literature review on geriatric assessment teams in emergency departments. I am proud and grateful for the hard work of the authors, peer reviewers, editorial and publishing teams, especially during this, my first time at the helm of the journal—thank you all.



**Matthew Douma, RN,  
BSN, ACCN, ENC(C),  
CCNC(C), CCN(C)  
Clinical Nurse Educator  
Emergency Services**

**Royal Alexandra Hospital Emergency  
Department, Edmonton, Alberta**

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## Treasurer's report

My name is Kitty Murray. I began my term as treasurer in July 2016. As a board member, my job is to work with our financial advisor, Wendy Atkinson, who keeps our books up to date and above board. Together, we discuss how to invest profits for short-term gains, we disperse funds for scholarships and bursaries, and we plan for our annual NENA conference. We operate as a not for profit organization.

Where do your yearly NENA membership fees go? NENA keeps \$30 of membership fees (the balance going to the affiliated province of the member). This portion of fees provides monies for French translation of documents, course development (i.e., EPICC foundations, EPICC trauma and soon EPICC pediatrics), bursaries, research grants, CJEN (our journal), as well as our annual NENA conference. As well as these membership fees, NENA collects course fees from each participant

and portions some of this to the affiliated provinces and some to NENA to provide these services.

I encourage all of you to be involved in either your provincial or national organization.



**Kitty Murray  
NENA Treasurer**

quiconque car il n'y a pas beaucoup d'autres emplois qui vous permettent de faire une réelle différence dans la vie d'une personne.

Merci à toutes et à tous pour votre soutien continu. Restez prudents et aidons-nous les uns les autres.

**Respectueusement,**  
**Daniel Sundahl**  
**DanSun Photo Art**  
**www.dansunphotoart.com**

*Note de la rédaction : Si vous êtes victime de stress à cause d'un traumatisme que vous avez subi, n'hésitez pas à communiquer. Vous n'êtes pas seuls. Des ressources sont disponibles dans votre lieu de travail par le biais de programme d'aide aux employés et votre fournisseur de soins primaires. Vous pouvez contacter en tout temps le Service Info Santé mentale Ontario au 1-866-531-2600. Les informations et les ressources sur le TSPT sont disponibles par le biais de la PTSD Association of*

*Canada (www.ptsdassociation.com). Si vous avez un intérêt professionnel dans les soins associés au TSPT, l'Université Simon Fraser de Colombie-Britannique a un programme en ligne à temps partiel qui se nomme « First Responders Trauma Prevention and Recovery Certificate » (www.sfu.ca).*

## NCAC report

**F**all always reminds me of the beginning of a new school year and even though I am no longer in school, somehow I have this renewed sense of purpose; a time to start afresh, to make "lists" of things to do (which we have put off during those lazy days of summer). L'automne me rappelle toujours le début d'une nouvelle année scolaire. Je ne suis pas à l'école mais je pense que je devrais être plus organisé comme quand j'étais étudiant.

So, it seems appropriate to be asked to do a "report" of NCAC's activities for the journal. On m'a demandé de faire un résumé des activités de la NCAC. It also seems appropriate that this should follow Thanksgiving and Emergency Nursing Week—where we reflect on how thankful we are for family, friends and country and where we celebrate our brothers and sisters in this incredible profession of ours. Je voudrais tout d'abord vous dire Joyeux Thanksgiving et Bonne Semaine des soins infirmiers d'urgence à tous mes collègues infirmiers.

In the last journal, you met our current NCAC members: Denis Bouchard, our French rep; Dawn Paterson, our Western rep; Sharon Ramagnano, our Central rep; Maureen Doody, our Eastern rep; Val Lamb, our EPICC rep and yours truly, the Chairperson of NCAC. At the end of May, we all met for the first time as the National Course Administrative Committee at the NENA Conference in beautiful Charlottetown, PEI. I was humbled and inspired to be part of this dynamic group of nurses. The leadership and vision of these incredible nurses is what drives our committee. We have a shared commitment and value of



**NCAC teaching EPICC in Charlottetown! From left to right: Maureen Doody, Val Lamb, Denis Bouchard, Monique McLaughlin, Sharon Ramagnano and Dawn Paterson.**

connecting with nurses nationally and to support access to quality nursing education. We are concerned about the barriers (financial, language and geographical) that prevent nurses from accessing education. Les infirmières de ce comité représentent le meilleur des soins infirmiers à l'échelle nationale. We are voicing those concerns at the national table as we work to overcome those barriers. We are currently in negotiations with ENA around the contract to provide TNCC and ENPC in Canada. We are still advocating for French translation in all of our educational materials. We are supporting the rollout of EPICC nationally, as we feel EPICC provides many solutions to some of those barriers to education. For anyone interested in knowing more about EPICC, feel free to check out the website [epicclearning.ca](http://epicclearning.ca). Nous travaillons sur le contrat avec ENA pour TNCC et ENPC. Nous aidons à soutenir l'éducation EPICC. Nous parlons pour la traduction française.

Our Facebook page TNCC ENPC EPICC (NCAC) is a wonderful opportunity for us to share articles, podcasts, etc., to motivate nurses in lifelong learning. It is also a great networking for nurses to meet nationally. We encourage you to post photos of your courses, share articles, podcasts on the Facebook page. We love hearing from you. Connect with us on Facebook. Share your photos of your courses, interesting articles (yes in French). Please also contact us at [courses@nena.ca](mailto:courses@nena.ca) (this is our e-mail address and we will definitely respond to your questions). We need to hear your concerns, questions and comments. We want to be a responsive committee to you. Nous voulons entendre vos pensées et vos questions. Notre comité est là pour servir les infirmières.

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."*  
—Mahatma Ghandi

**Monique McLaughlin**  
**Chairperson NCAC**

# Provincial snapshots

The year 2017 has been a productive one for many of the provincial emergency nursing associations. Numerous challenges and opportunities are facing emergency nurses across the country.

Mental health and addictions pose some of the greatest challenges for emergency nursing in the west. British Columbia continues to be the nation's opioid crisis epicentre with Alberta following second. The Canadian Institutes of Health Information are reporting a ten-fold increase in Albertan opioid-related hospital admissions in October 2017. Under significant pressure, the Saskatoon Health Region is expected to open a dedicated assessment unit for people experiencing addictions or mental health emergencies, followed by a permanent mental health emergency department in 2019.

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Health has announced that, effective December 4, Saskatchewan will amalgamate the current 12 health regions into one, operating under the name of *Saskatchewan Health Authority*. Names of new board members were announced in October and Saskatoon will host the head offices.

The predictable stated objective is to improve coordination of services to provide quality and timely healthcare to all Saskatchewan residents. Delivery of care to rural and northern areas is difficult, as it is in the other provinces and territories.

Saskatchewan consists of more than 250,000 km of roads, the greatest amount of road surface of all the provinces. Fiscal concern is a strong driver. Operational details remain either undecided or unannounced at the time of this writing.

Manitoba is facing some of the greatest fiscal challenges that Canadian emergency nurses have seen since the mid-1990s in Alberta and early 2000s in New Brunswick. The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority is committed to saving 83 million dollars in the 2017/18 fiscal year. Hospital specialization is on the horizon for Winnipeg. By comparison, cities like Vancouver and Calgary have fewer emergency departments per capita, and wait times are roughly half of what they are in Winnipeg. Clinical consolidation is underway with Victoria Hospital emergency department converting into an Urgent Care Centre and Misericordia Urgent Care transitioning into an Outpatient IV Clinic. Eventually the Seven Oaks emergency department will convert into an Urgent Care Centre and the Concordia Hospital's emergency department will close altogether. At end of the 24-month reform period, three emergency departments and two Urgent Care Centres will remain in Winnipeg. Considering the immense strain emergency nurses in Winnipeg are experiencing, the Emergency Department Nurses' Association of Manitoba requested a change of venue for the Spring 2018 conference, which will now be hosted in Kelowna, BC.

In Ontario, eCTAS has been rolled out in many emergency departments. The Emergency Nurses Association of Ontario (ENAO) is a central contributor to its successful implementation. As of October 2017, there are more than 120 hospitals participating, triaging approximately 400,000 patients per month. More money is being allocated by the Ontario government, 140 million dollars, targeting alternative level of care patients and improved access to home-care—a “back-end” investment to reduce ED wait times. Ontario has one of the lowest rates of hospital bed availability in North America and West Europe at 2.3 beds per 1,000 people.

In the summer of 2017, Maritime emergency departments struggled with reduced hours and short staffing-related closures. Fortunately, some very successful conferences were also had in the region. The NENA 'Find the Edge' conference in Charlottetown was a shining success, as well as the Atlantic Trauma and Emergency Medicine Conference in Moncton. The 2019 NENA conference is in the planning stages, to be held in New Brunswick, and hosted by the 70 energetic and capable members of NBENA. In a further exciting development in nursing education, Holland College in PEI is pioneering nursing education in dementia care using the principles of Gentle Persuasive Approach.

Thank you to Marie Grandmont, Janice L. Spivey, Debra Pitts for their contributions to this segment.