



Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology
Association canadienne des infirmières en oncologie

**CANO/ACIO
Council of Chapter Reports
2012 - 2013**



Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology
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Quebec Chapter/ Association québécoise des infirmières en oncologie (AQIO)

Submitted by:

Marika Swidzinski, RN., B.A., MEd., CON(C)
Quebec Chapter, AQIO Representative to CANO
Nurse Manager Hematology Oncology Services
McGill University Health Centre, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal

Name of the executive:

- President – Maryse Carignan
- Vice President – Linda Hershon
- Treasurer – Jacinthe Brodeur
- Secretary – Nicole Tremblay (Genevieve Mercier-Maternity Leave)

Board Members:

- Onco-Nursing Journal: Sylvie Croteau (Editor), Nicole Tremblay, Linda Hershon
- Translation Committee: Marie de Serres
- Communication, Website and AQIO Annual Conference Liason: Lise Lavasseur
- AQIO Representative to CANO: Marika Swidzinski
- Education Committee: Irène Leboeuf, Melany Leonard, Alexis Parent, Karine Lepage
- AQIO Annual Conference: Jacinthe Brodeur, Lise Lavasseur
- CANO Quebec City 2014 Co-chair - Lucie Tardif

Group Characteristics:

The Quebec Chapter has a membership of 118 nurses.

Key Initiatives:

The Quebec Chapter set an objective to offer educational sessions to our members in cities other than Montreal and Quebec City. We were able to achieve this with two of our Educational Evenings via video-conferencing. The first conference was held in Montreal on November 14th, 2012 where speakers shared highlights from the CANO/ACIO Annual Conference in Ottawa. A total of 130 nurses from Montreal, Drummondville and Quebec City were able to participate.

The second educational evening in Montreal focused on Lymphoma. This February conference was attended by 78 nurses, on-site. Nurses were also given the opportunity to connect to the presentation via the internet. The challenge for this conference was to determine the actual number of nurses who joined us via their own computers or at their hospital center. Certificates of Participation were available to all nurses, however not everyone who linked via the internet requested the attestation.



Nurses who missed the live session were able to view the lectures at their leisure for several weeks via a link on the AQIO website.

Over the past year, AQIO organized two conference days. In November 2012, with the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec, (CHUQ), a seminar entitled: *Depister la détresse et y répondre: défis et nouvelles connaissances* gave participants the ability to explore many aspects of symptom distress screening in cancer patients. One hundred and ten nurses were able to participate in the sessions.

In May 2013, in partnership with Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemount (HMR), nurses were able to attend a scientific conference with the theme, *Mieux soigner les personnes atteintes de complications osseuses*. The workshops provided health care professionals a greater understanding how bone health influences the quality of life of cancer patients. Ninety-one health care professionals attended. Participants were able to receive a Certificate of Continuing Education of 5.5 hours for this conference. This was the first time that AQIO was able to offer contact hours. AQIO would like to offer special recognition for this complex process to Nicole Tremblay.

AQIO's Annual Provincial Conference entitled *Les soins infirmiers en oncologie: une passion qui rallie* took place on April 12th, 2013. This year the Conference Planning Committee invited potential presenters to submit abstracts for oral presentation. From the numerous submissions, 18 abstracts were selected for oral presentation. Two hundred and ninety nurses were able to network and share their knowledge with colleagues.

Once again this year, the 8th annual seminar for the *infirmières pivots en oncologie (IPO)* was organized as part of the content of the AQIO Annual Provincial Conference. The workshop, *Assurer l'accessibilité aux infirmières pivots en oncologie: portait de la réalité et pistes d'action futures* was attended by 88 Pivot Nurses in Oncology. Andréanne Saucier and Alain Biron (McGill University Health Center) shared the results of a provincial government sponsored research project by la Direction Québécoise de cancérologie (DQC) related to the accessibility of Pivot Nurses for patients diagnosed with cancer.

Group Outputs:

The AQIO web site (www.aqio.org) continues to provide oncology nurses in Quebec and worldwide with information and a venue to promote networking with colleagues. AQIO would like to acknowledge the financial support of Roche, Sanofi Aventis, Amgen Canada and Jansen for this endeavor.

The last AQIO journal, Onco-Nursing was sent to AQIO members this spring/summer. The future goal is to explore alternatives such as an electronic newsletter on the website in order to provide oncology nurses the opportunity to share their knowledge with their colleagues.

Special Recognition:

This year, AQIO honoured Sylvie Belanger from l'hôpital Sacré-Coeur de Montréal our past president, with the *AQIO prix d'excellence* for her dedication to oncology nursing in Quebec. Sylvie also was awarded the Pfizer Award of Excellence in Leadership at the CANO conference in Ottawa.



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Josiane Rousseau, Nurse Manager of the Comprehensive Cancer Center of the CSSS de Laval was acknowledged by AQIO as an Oncology Nurse who inspires change not only in her Center but in her involvement as a member of the Organizing Committee of our Annual Conference. AQIO was proud to nominate Josiane for Oncology Nursing Day 2013.

Work Plan for Next Year:

Objectives for the upcoming year:

- Increase a communication network among nurses in Quebec and Francophone nurses throughout Canada with an interest in Oncology Nursing by providing access via video conferencing and the internet to Educational Conferences.
- Develop standard operating procedures for the portfolios held by Board Members
- Develop a mentorship program for new Board Members
- Establish criteria for the development of an electronic journal
- Work in partnership with CANO for the Annual Conference Québec City in 2014



Ontario Champlain Chapter

Chapter Executive Members:

- Patricia McCarthy (Past Co-Chair)
- Kelly Ann Baines (Co-Chair)
- Jeanne Robertson (Treasurer)
- Amber Killam (Secretary)

The Champlain local chapter executive committee has been spending the better part of 2013 wrapping things up following the 2012 National Conference we hosted in Ottawa, as well as looking at future directions for the chapter.

The executive committee along with many volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure a seamless conference. The Westin Ottawa Hotel was well received as a conference venue and the post-conference feedback from our delegates was very positive overall. Two of the conference highlights were seeing our very own Lynn Kachuik being recognized by her peers with the first ever Boehringer Ingelheim Oncology Nurse of The Year Award and Dawn Stacey being awarded the Nurse Researcher of the Year Award. We are so proud of our fellow members and colleagues! Other highlights worth mentioning include the Inuit children throat singers at the opening ceremonies, several excellent The Ottawa Hospital concurrent presentations, especially advocating for a patient (presented by RNs from 5 East, Medical Oncology), the stunning photo exhibit by local photographer Mychele Valberg, the generous “Look Good Feel Better” beauty kits given to each delegate at registration, the inspiring keynote addresses by Samantha Nutt & Josh Cassidy, and the well-attended Social Event held at the National Arts Centre where an Elvis impersonator was enjoyed by all & the Flashmob initiated by members of the Local Planning Committee got the crowd moving!

Thanks in part to a chapter grant awarded for our Inuit Health initiative, we were able to sponsor two Inuit RNs to attend the 2012 conference in Ottawa and many Inuit themes were incorporated into the conference program (e.g. opening ceremonies, Inuit children’s art exhibit, etc.). Kim Franchina, Marian Waldie and Patricia McCarthy took the lead on this project, which enabled the two Inuit RNs to take advantage of some incredible learning/networking opportunities. Feedback from the Inuit RNs regarding their experience was very positive. Esther Greene wrote: *“You guys were awesome and I haven’t stopped bragging about how good and how much of an eye-opener our trip to the conference and hospital was.”* A poster about this initiative was presented at CANO and CAPO and the group is hoping to publish the project in CONJ soon. There are plans to start an Inuit Health Special Interest Group at the national level (20 RNs signed up at the 2012 Conference). In fact, the first inaugural Inuit Health SIG meeting will tentatively be held at the upcoming Vancouver conference. The local chapter plans to maintain an ongoing relationship with the Inuit RNs and we will be sponsoring Pallulaq Ford to attend this year’s CANO conference in Vancouver where she will be co-chairing the SIG meeting along with Jeanne Robertson. Furthermore, Patricia McCarthy has received funding to write and publish a book for Inuit pediatric cancer patients.

On May 27th, we held our Annual General Meeting in concert with an informative educational session entitled *Demystifying Cancer Pain*. Dr. Edward Fitzgibbon and Virginia Jarvis, APN gave a dynamic talk about the myths surrounding pain management for cancer pain, updates on current treatment modalities and practical tools for assessment and management of cancer related pain.

During our AGM, Gail Macartney was recognized for successfully defending her doctoral thesis



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entitled *Symptom Experience and Quality of Life in Children who have Survived a Brain Tumour* at Queen's School of Nursing and she has agreed to help out with a new Champlain chapter sub-committee on research once it has been formed. Unfortunately, our plans to create new subcommittees up until now have been put on hold due to serious illness in the family of one of our Co-Chairs.

In the coming year, our education subcommittee plans to select topics based on the interests of our membership. Our chapter continues to apply for chapter grants from head office and conference travel grants continue to be awarded each year by our chapter for participants to attend the annual conference. McCarthy has stayed on as Past Co-Chair this year while we search for a suitable candidate to replace her.

Submitted by:

Amber Killam, RN, MScN, CON(C)



Ontario Horseshoe Chapter (formerly Central West Chapter)

Greetings from the Horseshoe Chapter; encompassing a large area of Southern Ontario, we are 38 members strong.

Our chapter has rebounded from two years of inactivity. As our momentum continues to increase, we hope that our membership grows and as such our membership engagement improves. A new Cancer Centre has opened up in St. Catharines-Niagara region called the Walker Family Cancer Centre providing Radiation and Chemotherapy services for clients in the Niagara region. We are hoping that more nurses in that area will join our Chapter.

Our new executive for 2013-2014 is:

- President: Heidi Thomas
- Secretary: Kathy Coskey
- Treasurer: Nancy Knox

It is with excitement that we are sending a representative from the executive to the Annual Conference in Vancouver. Kathy Coskey will be the representative.

As part of our Oncology Nurse's Day celebration, we had past President Jennifer Wiernikowski speak to us about becoming a CANO member and the benefits of doing so. Our membership did see a slight increase as a result of this presentation. A hot breakfast was sponsored by one of our Pharma partners, Novartis.

Upon their return from CANO, Kathy Coskey and Debbie Harris will be highlighting some of the interesting topics presented at the conference. This will occur at a breakfast meeting on November 26th, 2013. The agenda is being developed.

GOALS for 2014: We are hoping to increase our membership for 2014 by encouraging nurses from the Niagara Region to join. We are certainly interested in planning an educational event for 2014. We would like to increase our executive to at least 5 nurses.

Respectfully submitted by:

- Kathryn Coskey RN
- Heidi Thomas
- Nancy Knox



Ontario Northeastern Chapter

Executive/ Leadership

- Barbara Ballantyne, President
- Micheline Lapierre, Past-President
- Lissa Gagnon, President-Elect
- Terry MacKenzie, Fundraising
- Lizette Deacon, Fundraising
- Karen Mallet, Secretary
- Karen Mallet, Treasurer

Membership

The Northeastern Chapter of Oncology Nurses (NEOCON) currently has 17 members representing oncology nurses from all over Northeastern Ontario.

Our membership drives have met with limited success this year and we continue to look for ways to engage our nursing colleagues.

Mandate

To promote oncology nursing through meetings, educational and social events such as oncology nursing events.

Key Initiatives:

- NEOCON has raised funds to provide 2 members with \$1000.00 chapter grants to attend the 2013 CANO conference in Vancouver. A contingency of four members will attend the conference this year.
- At the 2013 AGM Terry MacKenzie and Karen Hubert will provide an oral presentation outlining the great work done at our centre for patients receiving oral chemotherapy.
- Barbara Ballantyne and Lizette Deacon are currently working on 2 separate nursing research projects which they hope to present in 2014
- For Oncology Nurses Day 2013 NEOCON members organized a local flash mob and custom made tee-shirts. For logistical reasons the dinner that was planned had to be canceled but will proceed in September
- Fundraising was very successful again this year. Funds have been generated through our annual Christmas gourmet basket/ quilt raffle as well as an Easter bake sale/used book sale/penny table.
- One member also successfully wrote the CNA hospice palliative care exam

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara Ballantyne, R.N. BNSc., MScN CON(C), CHPCN (C)
President, Northeastern Chapter of Oncology Nurses



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Nova Scotia Oncology Nurses Group

Submitted by:

Kara Henman, RN, MN, CON(C)

Group Membership:

Currently we have 31 registered CANO members in Nova Scotia (NS) and we continue to be proactive in increasing membership. Specifically we are focusing on increasing membership in all of our health care facilities across NS, engaging members that practice outside of the two tertiary cancer centers. Through technology we are now engaging oncology nurses in our rural settings in our CANO chapter meetings. We also have recruited new executive members that practice in rural settings.

CANO Events

On Oncology Nurses Day representatives from Halifax were welcomed to Province House for a signing of the proclamation by the Premier and of NS as well as the Minister of Health and Wellness. After the signing they were invited to the gallery in the legislature where the Minister of Health and Wellness introduced the nurses and read the resolution for oncology nursing day.

Also, Jennifer Fahie- our NS Chapter Education Chair was interviewed on CBC Radio and Information Morning and did a fantastic job at conveying what oncology nursing means to all of us, and why this challenging work is also so rewarding. We also advocated for Oncology Nurses across the province to arrange their own facility social event and many sites participated in celebrating. Events ranged from cake and coffee, to lunch and dinners out. Encouragement was given to all to take some time and celebrate all their hard work and contributions to their profession.

Our annual spring education session in conjunction with the Atlantic Canada Oncology Group (ACOG), took place June 14th in Halifax. The session was free and available to all oncology health care professionals. Topics for this year were: "Breast Health in Halifax Regional Municipality-Look How Far We've Come" presented by Lisa Cicchelli, Margaret Devries and Sue Roberts. Also being presented was "When Helping Hurts: Understanding Compassion Fatigue in Cancer Care" by Leslie McLean. Evaluation results showed that participants found the sessions informative, enjoyable and overall a great learning opportunity.

Plans for 2013/2014:

We continue to strive to increase our membership in both the main cancer centers as well as in our rural settings and would welcome anyone that is interested in joining the NS chapter to please get in touch with one of our executive members.



Oncology Nursing Interest Group of Alberta, South (ONIGA-South)

Executive:

- Jennifer Anderson RN, MN, CON(C), Treasurer
- Stephanie Duffy RN, BN, CON(C), Secretary
- Elysa Meek RN, BA, BN, Education Coordinator
- Sydney Farkas RN, BN, CON(C), President

ONIGA-South strives to promote excellence in oncology nursing practice through educational events held quarterly throughout the year. As well, ONIGA-South is focused on building relationships with supportive cancer care services in our practice settings and communities as well as partnering with local academic institutions to increase oncology nursing awareness, knowledge and career opportunities.

Membership:

Currently, ONIGA-South has 40 members.

We continue to build capacity with the local academic institutions to attract nursing students to oncology nursing and motivate passion and interest that would translate to membership in the future. We also continue to engage oncology nurses in various practice settings including inpatient bone marrow transplant, hematology and pediatric oncology.

Educational Events:

The theme for our year was around the role of the oncology nurse in the context of hematology and bone marrow transplant. This theme was selected based on feedback collected from our member surveys the year prior.

November, 2012: Management & Myths of Opioids, presented by a Tom Baker Cancer Centre pharmacist

January, 2013: Myelodysplastic Syndrome presented by two TBCC Nurse Practitioners

March, 2013: Pediatric Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant presented by the BMT Nurse Practitioner at the Alberta Children's Hospital

April, 2013: Oncology Nursing Day Celebration Event, Ethical Dilemmas in Hematology and Palliative Care presented by a Palliative Care nurse

April, 2013: Partnered with the TBCC Nursing Education Department to host and MC a two-day Spring Update to oncology nursing staff. This year our spring up date focused on strategies to manage workplace stress, new developments in metastatic gastrointestinal cancer treatments, bone marrow transplant and gynecologic brachytherapy, young adult cancers and the patient experience, difficult patient topics, nursing leadership and ethical patient care.



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Member Recognition:

ONIGA-South nominated Louise Watson RN, BScN, CON(C) for the CANO 2013 Chapter Award. Louise is the Nursing Education Manager at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre and has been a CANO member almost since its inception.

Linda Watson, RN, PhD(c), CON(C) is the successful candidate for the Pfizer Award for Excellence in Nursing Leadership and will be presented with it at CANO this fall.

Plan for 2013/2014:

We intend on framing our next ONIGA-South year based on our survey results around survivorship, and also with local and provincial priorities around recruitment and retention.

We plan also to continue seeking new ways to grow membership and interest outside of ambulatory oncology and look forward to continuing to partner with the University of Calgary, Mount Royal University and Students Interested in Oncology Nursing (SION), pioneered by ONIGA-South's past-president Tracy Powell.

Several of our members will be presenting at CANO in October.

This report was prepared by:

Sydney Farkas RN, BN, CON(C), ONIGA- South President



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London Oncology Nurses Interest Group Key Activities 2012/2013 year

Current executive members remain the same as last year:

Adrienne Fulford: President

Pat Stalker: Treasurer

Maureen Quinn: Secretary

Over the year our membership has remained stable. We were able to host an educational evening in June 2013 on Dealing with patients who have received distressing news. Out of this educational workshop a tip sheet for staff has been developed. We are in the process of planning for our next conference for April 2014. This is a one day conference is usually well attended and received by members and non-members alike.

Our mandate, like others, is to promote Oncology Nursing through educational sessions and our local conferences, usually held every 18 months to 2 years. We encourage membership in CANO and support nurses to share their projects and presentations at the local and national levels. We are pleased that one of our nurse members is presenting this year at CANO in Vancouver. We would like to start develop strategies that promotes greater participation by all LONIG members in our events.

Respectfully submitted

Adrienne Fulford MScN, RN(EC), CON(C)



CANO NL Annual Report October 2013

For CANO-NL, this past year has been one of success for individual members and the chapter itself but also one fought with challenges that we bring to the coming year as we strive to change those struggles into opportunities that will promote the growth of our chapter. Just as members were preparing to leave for the conference in Ottawa last year we were informed that due to budgetary restraints there was a freeze on both education leave and financial assistance for individuals to attend non-mandatory educational events. This resulted in CANO-NL having to cancel our annual provincial conference. As this practice will continue into the coming year, our group will strategize to find alternate ways to meet our objective of providing a provincial day-long educational opportunity for those caring for our patients and their support persons. Attendance at our evening educational events is high; however, membership attendance at business meetings is challenging so much so that we have had several meetings with no one in attendance but the president. This is another opportunity for us to think outside the box for creative solutions to increase participation in chapter business.

Despite challenges we are also celebrating great successes this past year. In November, our chapter worked with representatives from Merck to bring Kathy Trip to NL. On a stormy November evening more than 30 nurses braved the weather to hear Kathy speak to *Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting: A Quality Improvement Initiative*. This was an opportunity to bring together nurses from the generalist and oncology practice settings; ambulatory, acute care and community practices; those who care for individuals with solid tumours and hematologic malignancies and nurses across the continuum of care from screening to palliation.

With a chapter grant from CANO, the NL group planned numerous activities to celebrate Oncology nurses day. The week began with the Mayor of Canada's oldest city signing a proclamation recognizing Oncology Nurses Day and from there we moved on to numerous activities celebrating the contribution of nurses working with individuals touched by a cancer experience. It was important for us to include our members who did not work in the immediate region of the chapter thus gift certificates were provided for members to celebrate in their home community. To acknowledge that oncology nurses work in many areas outside designated oncology units we sponsored the "Standing Proud" contest inviting nurses working in any practice setting, who care for oncology patients to email us acknowledging their practice area. All who participated were entered into a draw for a Chapters gift card. We also invited nurses to participate in the "orange wave." For this event, nurses caring for oncology patients were encouraged to wear orange on oncology nurses day to stimulate discussion about why we were wearing the color thus providing an opportunity for nurses to proudly display our commitment to our speciality and those we care for during a difficult time in their lives. This was great fun and something we will consider again next year.



Continuing our celebration of oncology nurses day, our chapter also hosted a breakfast at the local cancer centre which was attended by 27 nurses. Guest speakers Katherine Chubbs (Vice President Cancer Care Program and Chief Nursing Officer) and Elaine Warren (Program Director for Cancer Care) thanked nurses for their contribution to cancer care. Ms. Chubbs spoke to the many roles and contributions of oncology nurses influencing practice in the local, provincial, national and international arenas. The day was rounded out with an evening presentation by CANO member, Carmel Collins, entitled *Palliative Care: It's All About the Living* which was attended by more than 50 health care providers. In keeping with our theme, Oncology Nursing: Inspiring Change, our purpose was to encourage people to remember that palliative care is greater than end of life care; In fact it is about the lived experience of those having to face a terminal illness. This event was a huge success and feedback was extremely positive.

During the last year our membership numbers have grown to our largest ever and we saw several of our members receive accolades for their personal achievements. After many years working tirelessly to improve the care for women at risk for or touched by breast cancer, Elaine Ledwell was presented with the CARE award at the conference in Ottawa. Christine Power was also recognized as a nominee for the Boehringer Ingelheim Nurse of the Year Award. Later in the year, during the Gala Awards which were hosted to celebrate nurse's week, Carmel Collins was named Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year. Another chapter member coauthor a research article which was published in the latest edition of the CONJ. Congratulations ladies we are proud of your accomplishments and the contributions all of members make on a daily basis to improve the care of those in our province who are touch by or at risk for a cancer diagnosis.

This year we will have five nurses in Vancouver for the annual CANO conference and four of those individuals will be presenters. Our chapter submitted three nominations for CANO awards and we know one of those nominations has been successful - a great showing for our small chapter!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the local executive who have worked closely with me during the past year but most importantly I would like to thank and acknowledge all of our members for their contribution to the success of our chapter over the past year and for their continued commitment and compassion to the speciality of oncology nursing and those we encounter in our practice each day. All of you make a difference in the lives of those you touch during a very difficult time in their lives.

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Fitzgerald

President, CANO-NL



Chapter Funding Report
Rapport de fin de section

Copy and submit one electronic copy (by email) and one signed copy (by mail or fax) to the CANO/ACIO Management Office, 375 West 5th Ave., Suite 201, Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1J6
 Phone: 604-874-4322, Fax: 604-874-4378
 Email: cano@malachite-mgmt.com

1. Name of Chapter / Nom de la section:
 Newfoundland & Labrador

2. Name of Contact Person / Nom de la personne ressource: Kathy Fitzgerald	Address / Adresse : 7 Goodyear Place St. John's, NL,	Postal Code/Code postal: A1E 4Z7
Position/Titre: Chapter President	Email/Courriel: Kathy.fitzgerald@easternhealth.ca	Telephone/Téléphone: 709 – 364 - 8430
3. Title of Activity/Titre de l'activité: OND Activities		4. Date: Y/A / M / D/J 2013 / 04 / 22

5. Description of Activity/Genre d'activité: (timetable, attendance/échancier, participation)

6. Evaluation/Évaluation: (methods, results/méthodes, résultats)

Evaluation evening event – (formal) generated positive discussion to change practice and create a better understanding of the broader perspective of palliative care for individuals with life threatening illness

Morning event – (informal) – opportunity to understand and share how oncology nurse are leaders and working to inspire change in all areas of oncology practice



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CANO Grant Expenditure/Dépense de subvention de l'ACIO _____ :

CANO Grant/Subvention de l'ACIO \$ 500.00 Expense item /Dépense \$ 500.00

Applied to expense item/Imputée à la dépense Food & beverage, speaker gifts, regional member gift card, contest prizes

I declare that/ Je déclare que:

the information in this report is accurate and complete /
les renseignements contenus dans le présent rapport sont exacts et complets.
Kathy Fitzgerald April 22, 2013

Person with signing authority/
Personne autorisée à signer
(print/en lettres moulées)

Signature

Date

Greater Toronto Chapter of Oncology Nurses Report

Report Respectfully Submitted by: Philiz Goh, RN, BScN, CON(c), BSc Hons Kin, C.K.
President

Members of the Toronto Chapter of Chapter of Oncology Nurses (TCON) voted at the 2012 annual general meeting to change the chapter's name from TCON to GTCON (Greater Toronto Chapter of Oncology Nurses) so as to represent the new LHINs that are now part of the Toronto Chapter. These include Central West, Halton, Toronto Central, Central and Central East.

With this change, we created a new logo: the Toronto skyline was chosen to represent the greater Toronto, a change from our stand-alone CN Tower. We also incorporated a ribbon to represent oncology nursing and chose to have no colour attached to a ribbon to encompass all types of cancer.



GTCON strives to provide various venues for registered nurses involved in cancer care to network and collaborate with other colleagues across the Greater Toronto Area. We continue to facilitate educational opportunities for nurses working with patients and family living with cancer. Through sponsorship with our pharmaceutical partners GTCON has offered a number of these educational events. Topics have included:

Update in Metastatic Melanoma and the Role of Immunotherapy – Dr. David Hogg, MD
Recent Advances in the treatment of HER2-positive breast cancer; raising the bar – Dr. Sunil Verma, MD
Kidney Cancer Update; treatment and management – Dr. Jennifer Knox, MD
Nursing Implications for Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Therapy – J. Diemert, RN

Our 2012 Nurse to know award winner was Brenda Menezes, an oncology nurse working at Princess Margaret Hospital and our 2013 Nurse to Know award winner was Angela Boudreau, an Advanced Practice Nurse in the Chemotherapy Unit at the Odette cancer center. Our 2013



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OND event was held at the Western Prince Hotel in North York with Dr. Teresa Petrella speaking topic “the Nuts and Bolts of Melanoma”.

Thank you to Jacqueline Galica (Member-at-Large) for her dedicated service in the advancement of the Toronto chapter. A profound thank you to Simonne Simon who has also decided to step down from the role of President as of June 19th, 2013 and is currently in our Past-President position on the executive committee. On behalf of the local chapter, we would like to thank Simonne for all her guidance, support, and dedication.

GTCON held our annual AGM on May 31st, 2012, which was well attended. In following our previous report, GTCON had 3 individuals who have requested to be a MAL – Sabrina Bennett, Shawne Gray and Christine Piescic. Each of their individual profiles was sent out for GTCON members to vote. At our 2013 GTCON annual AGM, members voted for the incoming president (Philiz Goh) and new student member (Mary Michasky).

Please welcome the 2013 GTCON executive members:

2013 Executive Team:

Philiz Goh, President
Simonne Simon, Immediate Past-President
Charissa Cordon, Director of Finances
Shawne Gray, Director of Communications
Diana Incekol, MAL – Editor of Newsletter
Christine Piescic, MAL
Sabrina Bennett, MAL
Mary Michalski, MAL - Undergraduate Student

GTCON has also introduced the new GTCON email address GTCONinformation@gmail.com. Members can register for events, ask questions, and submit nomination applications or newsletter materials to the new email address. GTCON now also has a Facebook page!



MANITOBA CHAPTER REPORT – October 2013

(submitted by Michelle Rosentreter – Past president)

Manitoba Chapter has been very busy this last few months and has a new executive to introduce.

Darlene Grantham is our incoming President. Darlene has been active with CANO Executive for the past three years. She has been listening and communicating with Manitoba nurses to hear what issues we face as oncology nurses. Her goal is to increase membership and CANO events.

Jodi Hyman is our newest Vice-President and has a lot of enthusiasm and lots of great ideas for trying to connect our rural nurses and involving them in our chapter activities. Jodi has made it her goal to have rural nurses be able to connect our education events via Telehealth.

Rose Wolosyhn continues to hold our secretary position and has been with our CANO Executive for almost 3 years. Her role is to keep our provincial chapter “on track” and alert Manitoba oncology nurses to what’s happening.

Barbara Ammeter, holds the position of Treasurer . Manitoba Chapter continues to financially support an annual Poster Award at CANO National and support many scholarships to Manitoba Members.

As Past President it has been an incredible experience to have held the title of Vice-President and President. It has fueled my passion on providing Manitoba Chapter members more opportunities for education. I have enjoyed networking with the members of CANO National and look forward to continuing my role as Chapter of Councils representative.

This past year we have offered many educational opportunities to our Manitoba Members.

April 2013 – Annual CANO Workshop

May 2013 – “Advance Care Planning – What is the Nurse’s Role

September 2013 – Manitoba Screening Programs

November 2013 – “Palliative-Intent Strategies in the Management of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer”

We are a small but busy executive. We are in the midst of planning the 2014 Annual Education Day and have some exceptional speakers lined up.

2013 winners for our CANO-MB Educational Scholarships included members Patricia Benjaminson, Kathy Trakalo, Shellie Anderson. All three members will be attending CANO National in Vancouver this fall. A Certification was awarded to Tiffany Kautz who did her CON(C) this past year.



CANO ANNUAL REPORT 2013 LOCAL CHAPTER PEI

2012 and 2013 has proven to be quite busy at PEI Cancer Treatment Center. Our local PEI chapter currently has 14 members working both in chemotherapy and radiation. Our nurses rotate positions on an every three month basis. This works well for us, keeps us up to date in all areas and allows for all of us to appreciate what occurs in each area.

We have been very fortunate to have had many educational workshops/seminars at PEI CTC. Over the last year to year and half we have participated in a number of educational events.

We are very fortunate in our facility to have a number of pharmaceutical reps come and discuss new therapies and introduce us to many new targeted therapies for patients. We had Dr Danny Rayson , Medical Oncologist from Halifax spend an evening, January 17th educating us on the latest research and treatment modulates for Febrile Neutropenia. We were very fortunate to have Kim Chapman RN CONc MN , from NB Horizon health come speak to us about Febrile Neutropenia Through the CANO website we have participated in many of the very informative webinars. Cano has made these webinars very easy to access and a great source of knowledge.

In September of 2012 we offered our local chapter educational workshop with Inara Karrei from Ottawa. We offered a full day workshop in Charlottetown with the focus on Central Venous Access Devices. It was well attended and very informative. Inara enjoyed her stay on PEI.. We showed her a little PEI hospitality.

To provide our members with continuing educational opportunities, we hosted our annual workshop in September 2012. We are currently working on a Spring conference for 2014.

We also have a Valentines Basket that we as members donate to. We raffle tickets at both our facilities in Charlottetown and Summerside. This is advertised as a fundraiser for the Oncology nurses education. The patients, families and any supporters are happy to buy tickets.

ACOG is the Atlantic Canada Oncology Group. One of our Oncologist Dr Phillip Champion is the Chairman. When it is hosted on PEI all but 2 oncology nurses attend. When the conference is held in Halifax we provide funding for at least 2 nurses to attend on behalf of PEI.

We are very fortunate to have one of our CANO members and past president, Kara McQuaid-Duffy RN ,CON(c) , be appointed as our first ever Clinical Leader/Nurse Educator in Nursing at the PEI Cancer Treatment Center. Wendy Holmes RN , also a



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CANO member, accepted the position as Patient Navigator. We are very fortunate to have both Kara and Wendy as part of our staff, both bring a great deal of knowledge with her.

Lori Ferguson-Brown wrote her CNA in Oncology and was successful. Lori was fortunate enough to receive the CNF award in Oncology.

As part of our fundraising events with our local annual workshop and Valentine's basket we donate money annually to the PEICTC Christmas project, both Charlottetown and Summerside. This project is to support families at Christmas that are going through either chemotherapy and/or radiation. We also support ongoing education for our oncology nurses. We offer financial support and encourage continued education.

We are sending five RN's to the October 2013 National Conference in Vancouver BC, including our Clinical Lead/Nurse Educator and Patient Navigator.

We are currently in the midst of planning our annual PEI Local Chapter educational workshop in April 2014. Details to follow.

Lori Ferguson-Brown RN, CON(c)
Local President PEI Chapter