



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

**CANO/ACIO**  
**Council of Chapter Reports**  
**2015-2016**

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## British Columbia Chapter Annual Report

### Names of the Executive:

- Senz Hamilton, President
- Michelle LaFreniere, Vice-President
- Theresa Zapach, Past President
- Karen Janes, Secretary
- Jennifer Stephens, Treasurer
- Andrea Knox, Communications and Membership

### Group Membership:

- 71 current members

### Key Initiatives / Educational Events:

- Executive has met regularly to discuss incentives to increase membership, discuss the needs of the membership, review the budget, and to plan activities for the year
- We are utilizing our Facebook page to promote events and connect members and we regularly update the CANO-ACIO BC Chapter webpage with events as they occur
- On November 7, 2015 we staffed a CANO/AICO table at the Nursing Across the Cancer Care Continuum conference in Vancouver. We raffled off a free CANO/AICO membership to one of the participants
- For November National Nursing Students Week, we donated CANO/AICO promotional items and information to the Langara College chapter of the Canadian Nursing Students Association
- On November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015, we partnered with Professional Practice Nursing at the BCCA to host “A Taste of CANO/AICO.” A representative from BC Chapter Foundation delivered a welcome message from the Foundation. Seven oncology nurses from across BC shared summaries of their presentations given at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual CANO/AICO Conference. Through Telehealth technology we managed to link the BCCA centers with several of the Community Oncology sites across BC (7 sites, 33 participants). Thanks to the financial support of CANO/AICO we provided a light dinner to all attendees at all participating sites. Coffee, tea and dessert was graciously provided by the BC Cancer Foundation.
- On April 5, 2016, we again had the opportunity to partner with BCCA Professional Practice Nursing to celebrate Oncology Nursing Day. Tracy Truant delivered a message from the CANO/AICO Board; Dr. Sally Thorne introduced Dr Joyce Zhang, a nurse from China visiting UBC to study cancer survivorship; Our keynote was a presentation by Elizabeth Causton who gave an inspiring talk called “Changing the Way We Care: Self First,: Exploring the Art of Giving Without Giving Ourselves Away. Through Telehealth technology we managed to link the BCCA centers with several of the Community Oncology sites across BC (10 sites, 80 participants). Our event was also attended by Employed Student Nurses, nurses from our local

affiliate hospital in Victoria, and professors from UBC and UVIC. Staff ranged in experience from new grads to experienced oncology nurses who have been working over 30 years. Thanks to the financial support of CANO-ACIO and the BC Cancer Foundation we provided a light dinner to all attendees at all participating sites. We raffled off a free CANO/ACIO membership to one of the OND participants. Canadian Cancer Society daffodil pins were distributed by donation in Vancouver. However, they could not distribute them in the clinical areas because of administrative policies to the contrary

- Continue to explore and develop our relationships with ARNBC, the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society of Canada and the Canadian Cancer Society

### **Financial Report:**

- Our Chapter received two grants from CANO/ACIO head office that were used to fund our Fall 2015 education event titled "A Taste of CANO" and our highly successful 2016 Oncology Nursing Day dinner and educational meeting. Both events were very well-attended by over 80 nurses from around the province linked via video teleconferencing. Additional funding and resources were supplied for these events by the BC Cancer Agency and the BC Cancer Foundation. We remain very appreciative to CANO/ACIO for their continued financial support of our Chapter
- The BC CANO Chapter also continues to financially support the CANO/ACIO conference best poster award
- Our Chapter remains highly solvent in its accounts, but we are hoping to increase fundraising efforts in 2016-2017 to allow us to present larger and more frequent education events

### **Plans for next year:**

- We are looking into fundraising by selling fair trade coffee and food items through our Facebook page. This will help replenish our savings accounts and give our Chapter additional security for future member activities
- We look forward to again having a table and a membership draw at the year's Nursing Across the Cancer Care Continuum conference in Vancouver, scheduled for November
- We look forward to hosting another successful OND event for our BC nurses

Sincerely,

Senz Hamilton RN, BScN  
President, CANO/ACIO BC

On behalf of the CANO/ACIO BC Executive

cc. T. Zapach, K. Janes, M, LaFreniere, J. Stephens, A. Knox

## Greater Toronto Chapter Annual Report

Report Respectfully Submitted by: Shawne Gray, RN, BScN, CON(C) President



GTCON is continuing to provide various venues for registered nurses involved in cancer care to network and collaborate with other colleagues across the Greater Toronto Area.

This past year has been very eventful for us at the Greater Toronto Chapter of Oncology Nurses. Carrying out a plan we introduced at last year's AGM, we met with our industry partners and chose a model to help expand the number of nurses we could reach with the educational events. We have hosted 7 events again this year with two of them occurring on the same night at two different sites, allowing us to enable 60- 70 nurses receive education. We trialed new formats for presenting using the WebX for our November event and in May we had two speakers at two different sites giving similar presentations. We had more nursing presenters discussing important issues relevant to nurses. The details of the education sessions are as follows:

1. June 17/15 - Advances in First Line Therapy for Metastatic Pancreatic Cancer and AGM -Shari Moura RN MN CON(C) CHPCN(C)
2. Sept 9/15 – Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL)- Practical Knowledge for Optimal Patient Management -Cindy Murray RN, MN, NP
3. Nov 4/15 – The Cancer Care Journey – Pleural Catheter Care in the Community - Kieran McIntyre MD.FRCPC and Shawne Gray, RN, BScN, CON(C) -done via WebX across 2 sites
4. Feb 10/16 – Highlights from ASH 2016 and the clinical nurse implications and applications - Karen Parmentier RN BScN CONC and Sabrina Bennett, RN, OCN
5. Apr 5/16 – OND!! **Bringing you the Breaking News in Hematology and Oncology** - Dr. Henry Kreiger, MD, FRCPC, Tammy DeGelder, MN, NP, CON( C) and Nancy Wolf, RN, BScN (CANO stress ball given to all the nurses at this event)



6. May 12/16 – Nursing Week!! Understanding Immunotherapies, Clinical Applications and the Management of Immune Related Adverse Events 2 sites-Dr. Parneet Cheema, MD, FRCPC & Dr. Jeffrey Rothenstein, MD, FRCPC (CANO card holder phone attachment given to all the nurses at this event)
7. June 22/16 – **Breast and Lung Cancer Update + AGM** (Dr. S. Sehdev, MD, FRCPC and Dr. R. El-Maraghi, BSc, MD, FRCPC)

In October we hosted the country in the vibrant city of Toronto for the annual conference. This was also CANO's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, which added further exuberance to the celebration. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) deserves a great amount of gratitude for providing the people, energy, ideas needed to create a successful and fun event. This committee met frequently and worked hard for two years planning, fundraising and promoting this event and making it a huge success.

In December we had a holiday social, which has now become a regular part of our annual planning. There is no education session at this meeting and provides an opportunity for oncology nurses to network and welcome in the holiday season.

Over this year we increased online presence on Facebook and Twitter. We have posted about recent publications of our members and our upcoming events occurring in the GTA area. We also promoted issues important to nursing, cancer care, and CANO.

In April 2016, at our OND event, Sonali Kirshenbaum was awarded the GTCON Chapter Champion award. GTCON congratulates Sonali Kirshenbaum for the award of GTCON Chapter Champion 2016. Sonali is an exceptional, passionate and committed oncology nurse and a leader on her interprofessional team at the Odette Cancer Centre.

In the New Year we realized that we would have to expand the team so that we could continue the momentum we have gained over the past year. We made changes to our terms of reference to expand the executive team of GTCON to meet this goal.

We created an Events Co-ordinator and a Director of Recruitment and Retention positions. The AGM voted in favour of this change and we also amended our terms of reference to reflect that "all nurses of a registered class" would be welcome as part of GTCON if they are CANO members. This amendment recognizes the various classes of nurses providing cancer care in Ontario.

We would like to thank Sabrina Bennett for her role as Director at Large. She took on the responsibility of ensuring that the plan we set out for the year of educational events was executed to perfection. She was also a key member of the Social Planning committee for the CANO conference. Christine Piescic will be stepping down as the Director of Finance but will continue as a Member at Large. As part of the LPC, Christine was the lead in the largest fundraising effort to date for the Toronto conference. She also found time to keep GTCON's books straight and plan the social events we had for the past three years locally



and when we were away at conferences. We are grateful for her mentorship of the new team members as in her new role of Member -at-Large. Sanober Firth is also remaining as an Executive Team member and will be taking over as the Director of Finance. Thanks should also go to Shawne Gray who was our Director of Communication. In this role she increased our membership over the year (2015) and took the lead on the LPC with our social media efforts. When the president was unable to act due to illness Shawne stepped in and took the lead of GTCO as the interim president.

We also want to thank Philiz Goh who, as our President, expanded the learning opportunities available to oncology nurses in the Greater Toronto area. The new president, Shawne Gray, appreciates Philiz' current role as Past President and mentor for the next year.

Our Executive team for 2016-2017 is:

Immediate Past President - Philiz Goh  
President - Shawne Gray

Director of Communications - Samantha Scime  
Director of Finance - Sanober Firth

Editor-in-Chief GTCO Newsletter -Rosemarie Rivera

Events Coordinator - Marcie Flynn-Post  
Director of Recruiting and Retention - Jeanne Taraya-Niskiewicz

Members at Large - Christine Piescic  
Members at Large - Sonali Kirshenbaum

Undergraduate Student Rep - Pamela Proskin

As always GTCO can be contacted via our email address: [GTCOinformation@gmail.com](mailto:GTCOinformation@gmail.com). Members can register for events, ask questions, and submit nomination applications or newsletter materials to this email address. We also encourage members to follow us on Facebook to see pictures from various events and upcoming events and even become a CANO member!



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## Alberta North Chapter Annual Report

President: Sarah Champ

Past President: Susan Horsman

Secretary: Michelle Blue

Treasurer: Romeo Felix

Education subcommittee: Karey McCann and Marie Kemp

Retention and Recruitment subcommittee: Amanda Banks and Michelle Lack

Members at Large: Marilyn Goodman, Mike Harding, and Derek Rothe

ONIGA North has recently undergone some restructuring. We had our Annual General Meeting on March 2, with elections held during this meeting. The new executive was elected as reflected above. As a new executive, our first order of business was to hold and promote an OND celebration for the nurses in the Cross Cancer Institute. We partnered with the United Nurses of Alberta, and provided a pizza luncheon for approximately 70 nurses. Over the course of the lunch time, nurses were able to come and go as required, with two scheduled sessions where patients came to talk about their experiences during their cancer journey. We had a physician come to speak to the nurses, and we talked about CANO membership, and the upcoming CANO conference.

The next event we held was a social event, which was a wine tasting event. 20 nurses, members and non-members came together for a fun social night. We had a short presentation on the benefits of an CANO membership, then enjoyed a night of talking and wine tasting. We are currently planning our educational events for the year, with topics such as PTSD in the cancer patient and PAD as topics of interest from our membership. We will be providing lunch for these events, and expect good attendance. We are hoping to continue to use telehealth to reach those members outside of Edmonton

We have been increasing our social media presence through facebook and twitter, and ONIGA north is keen to assist ONIGA south in the upcoming CANO conference. Many ONIGA members have indicated they will be attending, and have been spreading the word about the conference. Other plans for the future are a survey of nurses to better understand how ONIGA can meet the needs of the nurses in northern Alberta, and plans to further extend ONIGA and CANO membership beyond the Cross Cancer Institute into other areas outside of Edmonton, and those who work with cancer patients outside of Cancer Care.

We expect to continue to face challenges ONIGA has met in the past such as finding the best times for meetings and presentations to enable attendance of shift workers and outside RN's, encouraging and communicating the value of belonging to CANO to all nurses in oncology, and trying to find a balance of presenting specialized information that will help to encourage all levels of nursing practice, for novice, mid-level and experienced

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oncology nurses alike. We are optimistic about the future of ONIGA north, and look forward to what the coming year brings!

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## Alberta South Chapter Annual Report

Our chapter's main focus for 2015-2016 has been working with CANO to actively plan the upcoming national conference being hosted in Calgary, October 20-23, 2016. We have been investing our time in organizing, planning, directing, and guiding the conference planning as a local committee, in collaboration with the CPSC and Scientific Planning Committee.

Conference planning has also meant meaningfully engaging our CancerControl Alberta leadership team, in order to find ways to support and communicate the importance of this conference, and help support and facilitate our local nurses' attendance. Our CancerControl executive lead for CANO is the Tom Baker Cancer Centre's (TBCC) Executive Director, Teresa Davidson. We are pleased with the support and engagement we have received and will continue working closely with the TBCC's leadership team, along with the broader executive leadership team, to make CANO 2016 a success!

ONIGA-South is a small, but mighty chapter! We have three passionate oncology nurses holding executive roles: Elysa Meek, Jennifer Anderson (currently on maternity leave), and Sydney Farkas. We have approximately 30 loyal members. Elysa and Sydney are the Co-Chairs for the Local Planning Committee (LPC) and also sit as members on the Scientific Planning Committee. One of our members, Linda Watson, Chair of the Scientific Planning Committee (SPC), also worked hard to support the LPC's initiatives in moving the conference planning forward. Planning and support for our nurses to present, participate, and share learnings after the conference has been possible through a collective effort from this chapter and partnerships with ONIGA-North, CancerControl Alberta, and leadership across all cancer sites in the province.

### Chapter highlights for 2015-2016

On November 25, 2015, ONIGA-South presented the inaugural LPC CANO conference meeting with broader group of members. This meeting provided members with an overview of the conference and conference planning, and overview of LPC and volunteer options, and was used as a brainstorming by members about keynote speakers and fundraising. The LPC and broader group meets every two months in online meetings to coordinate, plan, and allow for easy communication throughout the province.

ONIGA-South also partnered with the Tom Baker Cancer Centre and CancerControl Alberta leadership to offer "Abstract Writing 101" on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Nursing Education collaborated with Yongtao Lin from Knowledge Resource Services to host two back-to-back inservices on abstract writing. These inservices allowed for exploration how to make an idea into an attractive abstract as well as share conference updates.



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Both sessions were teleconferenced to the Alberta Children's Hospital and to the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton to support nurses to submit abstracts for the upcoming CANO conference.

The video was also launched ONIGA-South's Spring Update on April 8<sup>th</sup> at Fort Calgary to 33 nurses. This annual event celebrates oncology nursing day, provides an opportunity for learning and functions as our chapter's annual general meeting. This year the focus was on offering a patient perspective and personal practice reflection with the objectives of:

- Remembering the patient experience;
- Exploring values work as a key coaching skill;
- Exploring stories and their function as a tool to support patient and family centred care both professionally and personally.

Local conference planning efforts continue with a variety of meetings with our executive, the broader LPC, CancerControl leads, and the SPC. Notably, the SPC with CANO-Malachite's support held a full day meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, to plan the academic program for the conference.

Lastly, ONIGA-South is offering a final education event prior to the conference entitled, "There is a Light at the End of a Long Tunnel" on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This event offers an update on pancreatic cancer treatment and is presented by one of our local oncologists, Dr. Scot Dowden.

ONIGA-South is going to continue working hard to make CANO 2016 in Calgary one of the best conferences yet! We hope to see you all there!

Elysa Meek RN, BA, BN & Sydney Farkas RN, MN, CON(C)

ONIGA-South Executive





## Prince Edward Island Chapter Annual Report

Submitted by: Kara McQuaid-Duffy President CANO PEI Chapter

### **Membership:**

- Current membership is 26
- Our chapter focus is on engaging new oncology RNs and inpatient RNs to join PEI CANO Chapter.
- We have been engaging students through preceptorship programs.
- Our chapter offers a financial incentive to join/renew if completed by January 31, of the current year.

### **Educational Events:**

Over the past year we have offered and participated in various educational events:

- October, 2015 we partnered with CVAA PEI at their annual conference. Providing education on patient perspective and experience to generalist RNs across the province. We promoted CANO by engaging with various disciplines while sponsoring a booth at this conference.
- October, 2015 we held our provincial conference *Difficult Conversations*. Dr. Anne Katz educated RNs, Radiation Therapists, LPNs, Nurse Practitioners, Physicians etc... on the importance of addressing patient sexuality with a cancer diagnosis.

Dr. Mireille Lecours and Blanche Ward spoke on *Secrets of Communication in Serious Illness*. In collaboration with The PEI Breast Cancer Information Partnership and the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Atlantic Division, our chapter provided support to have Dr. Katz present sexuality education with a cancer diagnosis, to patients and their significant others.

- Oncology Nurses Day 2016 was celebrated with a gathering at a local restaurant. Members attended from across the province. We held a chapter meeting and provided education about the COSTaRs Practice Guides. Each member was provided with a copy. Discussion was held in regards to implementing this tool into clinical practice.
- April, 2016 The PEI Chapter of CANO and Health PEI collaborated to provide compassion fatigue education to many health care providers in the province. The





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workshop, *Beyond Kale and Pedicures* by Francoise Mathieu was well attended and received.

- April, 2016 CANO PEI Chapter collaborated with the Canadian Cancer Society to raise awareness by selling daffodil pins.
- Our chapter provided support to individual members for continuing education.
- Our chapter supported 5 members to attend the 2015 CANO conference in Toronto.

### **Plans for 2016/2017**

- Continue to collaborate with our CVAA and Canadian Cancer Society partners while building new partnerships.
- Providing support to our *Associated of Registered Nurses of PEI* annual conference.
- Organizing our annual CANO PEI Chapter conference to be held May, 2017.
- Survey members to determine education needs.
- Continue to educate, support and encourage Oncology RNs.



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## Quebec Chapter/ Association québécoise des infirmières en oncologie (AQIO)

Rapport de fin de section Juin 2016

### **Nom de la personne ressource :**

Marika Swidzinski, RN., B.A., MEd., CON(C)

Représentative des relations d'ACIO

Infirmière Gestionnaire Hématologie, Oncologie et Soins Palliative  
Centre Universitaire de McGill, Hôpital Royal Victoria, Montréal

### **Exécutive :**

- Président – Maryse Carignan
- Vice-présidente– Linda Hershon
- Trésorière – Jacinthe Brodeur
- Secrétaire – Sylvie Croteau (résigné April 2016)

### **Conseiller :**

- Représentative des relations de ACIO : Marika Swidzinski
- Communication Externe : Alexis Parent, Nicole Tremblay
- Site web : Annie Jean
- Facebook : Annie Jean, Alexis Parent
- Éducation : Irène Leboeuf, Melany Leonard, Claudine Tremblay
- Représentative de la ville de Québec : Marie De Serres

### **Activités :**

### **Séminaires 2016**

Sous le thème « Tout bouge, tout se transforme ; choisir ce qui compte », le séminaire annuel, le 15 Avril, a reçu 225 participants. Les participants ont eu la chance de choisir entre des présentations (14) et ateliers (5) simultanées. Merci au coordinatrices : Karine Bilodeau et Lise Levasseur. Aussi le comité organisateur pour cet excellent travail : Jacinthe Brodeur, Joanne Brodeur, Fred Côté, Olga Guerra, Karine Lepage, Caroline Mathieu, Maria-Gabriela Ruiz Mangas et Sylvie Lévesque.





Chaque année l'AQIO souligne l'excellence d'une infirmière reconnue par ses pairs comme un modèle de rôle infirmier. Cette année le prix a été remis à madame Christine Maheu, PhD, professeure et chercheure à l'Université McGill de Montréal.



Pendant la journée du séminaire, le Prix Infirmier Any d'Avray a été accordé à Liette Martel du Centre des maladies du sein Deschênes-Fabia (CMS) du CHU de Québec-Université Laval et son équipe pour le projet « Séances d'information suite à l'annonce d'un diagnostic de cancer du sein ». Ce projet a été conçu en collaboration avec l'infirmière-pivot en oncologie (IPO) et les travailleuses sociales du Centre de coordination des services régionaux (CCSR) du PQDCS (qui offrent aussi le service au Centre de référence pour investigation désigné (CRID)) afin de mieux informer les patientes atteintes d'un cancer du sein non métastatique dans leur parcours vers la guérison. Le Prix infirmier Any d'Avray récompense chaque année un projet infirmier destiné à améliorer la qualité de vie des patients atteints de cancer.



### **Soirées éducatives**

Avec nos partenaires pharmaceutiques ont a réalisées trois soirées éducatives pendant l'année. Les thèmes cette années était : Patients sous chimiothérapie orale : l'importance des préférences des patients et le soutien infirmier (Dr Carmen Loiselle, Daphnée Lamoussenary); Le cancer du poumon: mise à jour sur les thérapies ciblées (Dr Mustapha Tephe, Jeanne Poirier) et; Le mélanome métastatique et immunothérapie (Dr Céline Devaux, Annique Dufour, Martine Belly, Sabrina Hanna). Environ 60 personnes participent aux soupers conférences.

### **Facebook et site web**

En ligne depuis mai 2015, la page Facebook de l'AQIO contribue à la promotion de l'Association en plus de partager de l'information pertinente pour l'avancement des soins infirmiers en oncologie tout en favorisant le réseautage.

Nous y annonçons nos activités éducatives, partageons les bons coups de nos membres. Le site web a été moins actif cette année, mais nous travaillons actuellement à le rendre intemporel. Vitrine de l'AQIO nous espérons faciliter le repérage des documents importants pour les professionnels en oncologie.

### **7<sup>e</sup> jeux des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec**

Cet événement annuel regroupe des maisons d'enseignement de soins infirmiers à travers le Québec. AQIO a tenu un kiosque le samedi 23 janvier 2016 permettant de nous entretenir et répondre aux questions des quelques 400 futurs infirmières et infirmiers qui y participaient. Cette présence appréciée favorise l'attraction de nouveaux membres au sein de l'Association. Une expérience à répéter.

### **Comité national d'évolution de la pratique infirmière en oncologie de la Direction générale de cancérologie (DGC)**



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L'AQIO est représenté au comité provincial d'évolution de la pratique infirmière en oncologie de la Direction générale de cancérologie. Le Comité de l'évolution de la pratique en soins infirmiers (CEPSI) Il agit comme une communauté de pratique réunissant les experts du domaine infirmier dans le but d'obtenir une meilleure concertation en matière de soins et services en cancérologie. Son mandat est de contribuer au développement, à l'optimisation et à la reconnaissance des compétences en soins infirmiers en cancérologie.

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## **Simcoe Muskoka Chapter Annual Report**

**Respectfully Submitted By:** Pamela Sparrow RN BScN CON(c) Chapter President

### **CANO/ACIO Executive:**

Kelly Ross RN, Vice President  
Karin Poole RN, Professional Practice

Mary Gorr RN, Treasurer  
Patti Cameron RN, Secretary

Terri Widawski RN, Member at large  
Kim Tiemersma RN, Member at large

**Membership:** Although we have excellent turn outs for our events we currently have 13 members in our region. Promoting membership will be a focus for us this year, and we plan to hold a membership drive to build our chapter.

**Educational Events:** We held a successful event for nurses in the community surrounding the nurse's role in cervical cancer. We discussed cervical screening, treatment modalities and the role of palliative care for women with advanced cervical cancers.

**OND:** Meg Soper was our guest speaker; Meg is recognized as one of the premiere motivators speaking on life balance and communication in Canada. As a former OR nurse Megs discussion was relevant and close to home for the 51 oncology nurses who attended the event.

**Key Initiatives:** Increasing membership is a focus for the fall we will incorporate with some fundraisers to implement a membership drive with incentive for joining the chapter.

We will be having an educational evening surrounding Home subcutaneous IgG product Hizentra September 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

We are looking to plan another educational evening surrounding resiliency in November. We will be connecting with a local business to host a fundraising day with funds to be used in the membership drive.

From the Cancer Centre alone 4 abstracts were submitted to CANO conference this year. Unfortunately, funding is a barrier and we hope to bridge this barrier with fundraising to allow nurses to attend the yearly conference with some support.