

Nursing in the north

# RNAO Algoma Chapter newsletter

611  
members  
and  
counting!

Keeping you in the know. Speaking up for nurses in the north. Helping you find your voice. [JOIN NOW!](#)

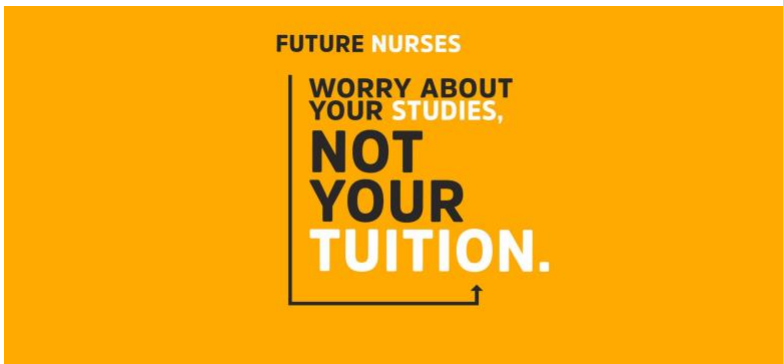
## CALLING ALL NEW GRADS

If you've just graduated or are set to graduate soon, you can **join RNAO for FREE**. Membership valid until Oct. 31, 2024.

Here's how to JOIN:

- Email membership@RNAO.ca
- Subject: NEW grad promo
- Include grad date & CNO #

to be **informed**  
to be **inspired**  
to be **involved**  
to be **guided**



## FUTURE STUDENTS

Thinking about becoming a nurse? Worried about tuition cost? Sault College is offering, *Ontario Learn & Stay Grant*, for students beginning their first semester in September 2023 of the BScN and practical nursing programs. Students receive **full, up-front** funding for tuition, books, and other direct educational costs!!

[APPLY NOW](#) & MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

## What's the latest



**Queen's Park News** - On March 2, 2023, RNAO's board of directors, assembly of leaders, communications, policy and political action executive network officers (ENO), and members of staff headed to the Ontario legislature for its annual Queen's Park Day (QPD). Nurses met with MPPs over a series of breakfast meetings for the first time since 2020 and discussed priority issues, including RN understaffing and the opioid overdose crisis. For our Algoma Chapter, two of our executive team



members: policy and political action ENO Brett Corbiere, RN, BScN, and Region 11 board representative Maxine Lesage RN, BScN, attended this event and represented our Algoma Chapter.



**RNAO Algoma Chapter Student Award** – Executive member Brett Corbiere, attended Sault College’s annual awards night on March 21, 2023 and presented student Megan Morgenstern (third-year BScN student) with the RNAO Algoma Chapter Student Award. Congratulations Megan!

**Nursing Week Giveaway** – Krista Maeumbaed was the lucky prize winner of the RNAO Algoma Chapter giveaway during Nursing Week. Products were provided by Little Loves + Co, Be Free Bath and Body, & smash Designs. Congrats Krista!



**2023 scholarships from the Registered Nurses’ Foundation of Ontario** - Cheryl Osawabine-Peltier, a first-year practical nursing student received the Karim Moosa Memorial Scholarship; Robbi Imbeault, a first-year BScN student was awarded the RNFOO Undergraduate Scholarship for Year 1 or 2; Tanvir Ahmed, second-year Collaborative BScN nursing student, received the Mildred Grace Harbour Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations!

**June 4** – The RNAO Algoma Chapter supported the local YMCA with a table at trunk sale! Proceeds from this event directly supports the efforts of the Sault Ste. Marie YMCA Strong Communities Campaign. It assists in removing barriers of the financial burden so all families can benefit from healthy daily lifestyles through the use of programs and facilities.



## Upcoming events

**RNAO's Annual General Meeting (AGM) - June 22 – 24, 2023**  
([Register online](#))

**RNAO Algoma Chapter AGM – Details TBD!**

For a list of **events** across Ontario, virtually or in person, visit [RNAO's events calendar](#). Don't miss out on an opportunity to explore, learn and network!



## Meet your executive

President – **Adrienne Kappes**



Adrienne is a smart, dedicated, and strong Registered Nurse. She is very passionate about her profession. She is there to help whenever and wherever she can. She is our brilliant leader for the Algoma Chapter RNAO.

Region 11 board representative – **Maxine Lesage**



Maxine is an Indigenous Ojibwe Qwe from Ketegaunseebee (Garden River First Nation) of the Robinson-Huron Treaty Territory and has worked in the health field for more than 30 years in various sectors of the health-care system. Her experience has been in cardiac and emergency care, long-term care, home and community care, community health nursing in Indigenous communities, and currently in Indigenous primary care, all while mentoring nursing and medical students to understand the Anishinabe worldview as it relates to patient care and the health-care system in general. She is a passionate advocate for the needs and issues that affect Indigenous people, minorities and the rural population of our northern communities for Region 11 of RNAO. A long-standing member of RNAO and a current board member, she makes herself available to help others where she can. Embracing her culture, language and lifelong learning are her passions, second only to family and the sacred land that she embraces with every opportunity in her spare time. Maxine also devotes herself to local community events and charities when she is called upon or when the opportunity presents itself including her term as a long-standing board member of the local YMCA in Sault Ste. Marie and more recently, on the board of directors for FNDHO (First Nations Digital Health Ontario).

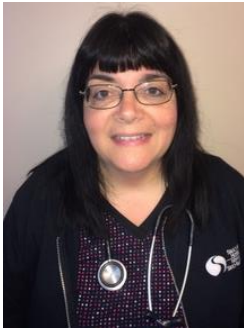
BPSO liaison Maamwesying (OHT) – **Maxine Lesage** (see bio above)  
BPSO liaison (F.J. Davey Home) – **vacant**

Policy and political action ENO – **Brett Corbiere**



Hello my name is Brett Corbiere. I am Ojibway of the Batchewana First Nation and a community health Nurse for a local First Nation. I come from a family of nurses and was inspired by my mother to join the profession. I remember attending some of her nursing classes and sitting on her knee while she studied. I'm happy to have had similar experiences with my own children. I joined the Algoma Chapter's executive in November 2022 as the policy and political action ENO because of my interest in advocating on behalf of my fellow nurses. I believe that taking care of nurses helps to optimize client outcomes. Having become a nurse during the COVID-19 pandemic has been an isolating experience. Being part of RNAO has really helped me to feel connected to other nurses and part of the nursing world.

Finance ENO/Secretary – **Lorena Bressan**



I started my RNAO membership as a student, was the recipient of a student RNAO Foundation Award, and will reach the RNAO Quarter Century Club Member this year! I am proud to be a nurse and truly believe nurses make a difference every day. I have worked in a variety of nursing roles over the past 30 years and am currently employed at Sault Area Hospital in Telemedicine. I have held numerous positions on the Algoma Chapter Executive and was awarded the RNAO Distinguished Service Award. Currently I am the Financial ENO for our chapter. I am married to my best-friend and mother of 4! Life is busy but remember to always be kind to others.

Membership ENO – **Lindsay Armstrong**



I graduated from the BScN program at Sault College in 2016. The majority of my career I have worked in rural hospitals within Algoma Region. I had the opportunity to expand my practice during the pandemic into infection control and occupational health in Wawa, Ont. I have also travelled to B.C. and work on a COVID unit in the Okanagan area. This past fall I moved back to the area. Currently I am working at SAH on the cardiac/stroke unit. Most of my down time lately has been used to renovate my house, but also enjoy spending time with family and friends!

BScN liaison – **Ahmad Algouthani & Katherine Tomas**



My name is Ahmad, and I am a second-year nursing student in Sault College's collaborative BScN program. I will begin my third year in September. I am a residence advisor, a director on the board of directors at the Students' Union, and a governor on the board of governors at Sault College. I've always been drawn to leadership as well as advocating for and supporting students. That is the primary reason I am in my current job. I enjoy having fun in life and constantly smile.

Communications ENO – **Katherine Tomas**



Hello! I have been a registered nurse since 2012. I graduated from the BScN program at Sault College. I have worked majority of my career in emergency services. I moved back to the area this past fall 2022. I joined the Algoma Chapter recently this year. I've got two beautiful little girls ages three years and 10 months. While finishing up my maternity leave, I am working on opening my own nursing foot care clinic, Whole Sole Foot Care Inc, here in Sault Ste Marie. When not at work you can find me and my family exploring the outdoors!

Social media ENO – **Jasmine Santos**



I have ten years of nursing experience, the majority of it being acute care in the emergency department. I now work in primary care at a family health team. I am always looking for ways to improve processes and bring in new programs/ideas. When I am not working, I am spending time with my husband, four-year old son, one-year old daughter and our dog Shady. I love to travel and am passionate about food.

Student liaison – **Kelly Fenlon**



I am entering my fourth year of the BScN program at Sault College. I was born and raised in Sault Ste Marie. My role for the Algoma Chapter is Student Liaison. I provide updates to the RNAO on behalf of the students and to the students when something new happens with the RNAO.

Member at large – **Chantalle Trivers**



I have been an RN since 2015. I am a member of RNAO. I have worked in Blind River at the North Shore Health Network as an emerg and acute care front-line nurse for five years. During the last two years I have been working as the quality lead and coordinator for our long-term care home. Love working and living in the NORTH.

Workplace ENO – **vacant**

Friends of RNAO – **vacant**

*If you or anyone you know may be interested in these positions, please visit us on the RNAO website under the Algoma Chapter at <https://chapters-igs.rnao.ca/chapter/25/about> and contact us!*

**FOLLOW US ON [SOCIAL MEDIA!](#)**

