



MCNIG Fall Newsletter

Message from the Chair - Leigh Baetz-Craft RN



RNAO is proud to showcase a new way for Chapters, Regions and Interest Groups to electronically reach their members and MCNIG is one of the first groups that signed up in order to try it out. The approach should be more direct and MCNIG will have a more direct manner to submit newsletters and bulletins to the membership without having to go through Head Office. If anyone has any concerns, questions and suggestions in regards to this process, please email us at info@mcnig.ca.

We have had busy year and I just wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the activities in which we have been involved.

Executive attended the Queen's Park Day in February and we had a stellar MCNIG AGM in April 2017 with a wonderful presentation by Wendy Mouldsdales RN-EC who is a Nurse Practitioner in the NICU at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and spoke to us about the PAIL Network.



Thank you Wendy for a very informative presentation.

I would like to thank a former student for writing an article about her experiences. Libby Young is a member of MCNIG who is now a newly- graduated RN working in Toronto.



Labour and Delivery - Real Life 101
By Libby Young

Last semester I had the exciting opportunity to complete a clinical placement at St. Michael's Hospital on the Labour and Birth Unit. I am pleased to be writing to share a little bit about my learning experience with the MCNIG Community.

As a student with family members who have worked in obstetrics, I have always had an interest in the field and was thrilled to have the opportunity gain some experience in labour and birth. I eagerly began preparing for the placement by reviewing my school notes from the few weeks where we covered obstetrics and contacting some of the nurses in my family to get an idea of what to expect. By the first day of my placement, I thought I had a very clear idea of what my role would be and what caring for my patients would look like. However, my expectations were soon shattered when I met my first client.

I quickly learned that labour, birth means so many different things to different people, and that each client's needs and wishes for their birth experience were unique. This placement gave me the opportunity to reflect on my own understanding of labour and birth and to realize that this understanding would not be the same for everyone. Working with the diverse client population of an inner city hospital allowed me to experience many different client situations. I learned that caring for a client in labour is not something you can quickly pick up by reading the birthing chapter of a nursing textbook, but rather providing supportive nursing care is a skill set that is cultivated over time and must always be client and family focused.

I am grateful to have that this learning experience and know that I will take these lessons forward with me into my future nursing practice. It was an honour and a privilege to support clients and families throughout the labour process and I feel so fortunate to have been able to witness the beginning of so many new lives. I look forward to continuing to providing client and family centered in my future career.

MCNIG Scholarship Winner 2017



Congratulations Elizabeth Orr - winner of the Maternal Child Nurses Interest Group Scholarship at the Doctorate Level

Elizabeth Orr is a PhD Student at the McMaster University School of Nursing. For more than 10 years she has worked with critically ill newborns and their families in the NICU at Sick Kids. This work has led to a passion for seeking ways that nursing care can be provided to achieve the best possible outcomes for this unique population. Her thesis will explore the transition from acute care to home for socially and economically disadvantaged young mothers with infants admitted to the NICU.

Past MCNIG Scholarship Winner 2015 and 2016 Karen Campbell

and is now the 2017 recipient of the Dorothy Monteith Scholarship



Karen Campbell is a PhD student at McMaster University, School of Nursing. She has been a Public Health Nurse for 16 years primarily working in reproductive and

child health. Her Master's thesis research focused on the experiences of young mothers living in rural communities. She is continuing to develop this program of research with the evaluation of a public health nursing intervention program for socially and economically disadvantaged families. As a member of the British Columbia Healthy Connections Project, Karen is examining how public health nurses and their supervisors contextualize the Nurse-Family Partnership program in rural and remote Canadian settings.



Report on Membership

Membership continues to grow, as we are one of the few Interest Groups that actively encourages student membership by allowing free membership to our group for all students at the baccalaureate level. Many students who join are encouraged to continue their membership and we all value their present and future participation in the profession as well as RNAO and MCNIG. Here is a picture of me with two very engaged nursing students, Crystal Bignell (left) and Vanessa Papatsikakis (right) who were graduates from University of Ontario in 2016, RNAO Scholarship Winners and are members of MCNIG.



I encourage all student and RN members to be involved in your Interest Group. Some ways you could be involved would be to attend the AGM, suggest a speaker for the AGM, write an article about your experience, suggest a topic for us to explore or suggest some research you would like to see posted. We look forward to all your contributions.

Thank to Wendy

MCNIG offers members two scholarships at the post-graduate level and we are exploring approaches to offer more awards for nurses taking certifications, most likely these will be ready to be offered in 2019.

Happy autumn to all our members

