



# Fall 2018 Newsletter



*Speaking out for nursing. Speaking out for health.*



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## • Chair Report •



Hello to all NRIG members! Greetings from your new Chair! My name is Amy Wright, and I am a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and nearly PhD graduate from the

McMaster School of Nursing. I am a new Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto, starting January 2019. I am so excited to be the new Chair of this wonderful organization that does a fantastic job of linking nurse researchers and students across the province.

### NRIG Executive Update

I want to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing executive members; Fissan Lau who served as our Secretary, Harshdeep Hehar, who served as our Social Media Member at Large and Amanveer Deol who served as our Student Representative. Thank you to all our outgoing members for all your hard work and dedication in your positions on the board.

As well, I would like to introduce four new members to the executive, including: Oona St. Amant who is taking over the Secretary role, Marzieh Moattari who will be joining Sheila Boamah, as a Co-lead Policy and Political Action Officer, Shivali Barot as our new Student Representative and Melissa Northwood as our Social Media Member at Large. Welcome to our new executive members—we are excited you have agreed to join the team and we look forward to working alongside you in our initiatives this year! I am thankful for each one of you and know our members will benefit greatly from the wealth of knowledge and experience that this new NRIG executive embodies.



### **NRIG Annual General Meeting**

This year the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was hosted at McMaster University. Despite the snow keeping many of the attendees away, we had a great evening of networking and learning! The food was fantastic and Dr. Bernice Downey, our speaker was fabulous! Many students joined us for the evening and it was a great opportunity for students and seasoned nurse researchers to intermingle and network. I hope next year the weather will cooperate, and we'll have even more join us for this excellent event.

### **NRIG Website**

Our new website launched at the beginning of 2018 and is a fantastic tool to relay important events and information to our members. Visit the website and feel free to send your feedback or suggestions for additions to myself and Joyce Tsui.

### **NRIG on Social Media**

NRIG is newly on three social media platforms including Facebook (RNAO Nursing Research Interest Group), Twitter (@RnaoNrig) and Instagram (rnao.nrig). Please add us to your profiles and share and follow our posts. Melissa Northwood will be posting valuable information related to nursing research, scholarship and employment opportunities, as well as available research education.

### **NRIG Webinars**

Mark your calendars for our upcoming webinar! Dr. Melissa Kimber will be speaking to us on March 26th, 2019 at 12pm EST about how nursing graduate students

can begin to prepare for a life of academia. Please check out [Page 12](#) of this newsletter for more information on this exciting webinar!

### **NRIG Awards, Scholarships and Grants**

It's almost that time of year again! Start thinking about your references and freshen up your CV for your NRIG award application! The deadline for your application to the NRIG Research Award administered through the Registered Nurses Foundation of Ontario (RNFOO) is January 21, 2019. Please see the grants opportunities section of this newsletter for details.

A call for the NRIG awards applications will be emailed to NRIG members once the application is available. This year, in an exciting new initiative, NRIG will open the eligibility for a bursary award to new NRIG members. All other awards will require a minimum membership of 2 years. Become a new NRIG member today to be eligible for this exciting new opportunity!

As the holidays are nearly upon us, I wish all a safe and happy season. I hope you all will take time from your busy schedules to be with friends and family to care for yourself, so you can enter the new year refreshed and rejuvenated! I look forward to meeting you, and please don't hesitate to email me or any member of the executive with any comments or feedback. We would love to hear your suggestions on how we can best meet your needs! Happy Holidays!

*Respectfully submitted, Amy Wright, NRIG Chair*



## • Annual General Meeting •

NRIG hosted their 2018 AGM on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at McMaster University. Despite the inclement weather it was a successful evening of networking and reconnecting opportunities for the AGM's attendants. This year's AGM featured a talk from distinguished scientist, Dr. Bernice Downey.

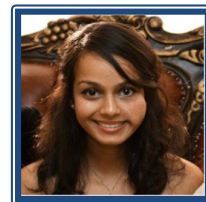
Dr. Downey is a medical Anthropologist with the School of Nursing at McMaster University since 2017. She is cross-appointed with the Department of Psychiatry and Neuro-Behavioural Sciences and is the Indigenous Health Lead for the Faculty of Health Science at McMaster. Dr. Downey is also the Regional Aboriginal Cancer Lead for Cancer Care Ontario, Toronto-Central. Her research interests include Indigenous health, health literacy, Indigenous Traditional knowledge and health/research system reform for Indigenous populations. Dr. Downey has participated on multiple, national and international Indigenous research policy initiatives.

We had the honour of having Dr. Downey share her research experience with Indigenous peoples and the implications for nurse researchers undertaking research with Indigenous populations. Dr. Downey emphasized the unique culture of Indigenous peoples and that culture is a determinant of health, therefore cultural knowledge is vital to address community health needs, develop culturally relevant programs and policies and ensure culturally competent healthcare. This includes developing an understanding in conducting research with Indigenous

peoples. For example, Indigenous knowledge is valid and important knowledge that must be utilized. Despite the challenges of conducting ethical research with Indigenous people, nurse researchers are making positive advances, by building authentic relationships with Indigenous communities, conducting collaborative research and ensuring study aims are to the betterment of Indigenous people. Finally, Dr. Downey encourages us to learn about colonization, its continued impact on Indigenous people and Indigenous cultures and traditions if we want to undertake research with Indigenous peoples. A question and answer session followed Dr. Downey's presentation.

NRIG would like to thank Dr. Downey for sharing her work and passion for nursing research! Thank you to all who braved the storm and attended the 2018 AGM and to those who contributed to its success.

*Respectfully submitted, Demelza Domingo,  
Communications Officer –Newsletter*





**NRIG**

**Nursing Research Interest Group**





**NRIG**

**Nursing Research Interest Group**





## • Scholarships and Awards •



**Research Grant**, each valued at \$2, 000:

- **Linda Sheiban**, Schlegel Centre of Advancing Seniors Care, Conestoga College

*Respectfully submitted, Barbara Chyzy, Past-Chair*

## • Recipient Spotlight •

We are pleased to continue to be able to support the ongoing research and scholarship of NRIG members. This year \$6, 000 was awarded to nursing students and novice researchers in Ontario: \$1000 Research Award (through the Registered Nurse Foundation of Ontario, RNFOO), two Graduate Scholarships valued at \$1500 each and one Research Grant valued at \$2000 each. We received 5 applications for the NRIG Graduate Scholarships program and 1 application for the NRIG Research Grant Program.

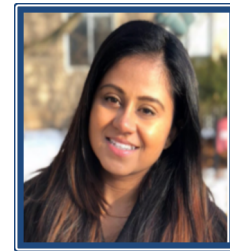
We are proud to announce the 2018 NRIG Award, Scholarship and Grant recipients:

**NRIG Award** (awarded by RNFOO), valued at \$1, 000:

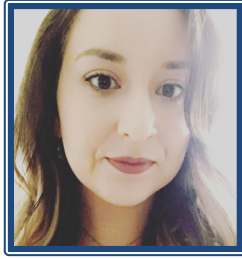
- **Tharshika Sugumaran**, Master of Nursing student,

**Graduate Scholarships**, each valued at \$1, 500:

- **Karen Campbell**, PhD student, McMaster University
- **Jessica LaChance**, PhD, Western University



**THARSHIKA SUGUMARAN**, *the NRIG Research Award recipient*, is a paediatric nurse at McMaster Children's Hospital and greatly enjoys working with children and their families and advocating for their needs. She has continuously sought to further her knowledge and advance her nursing profession through various opportunities. Currently Tharshika is completing a thesis-based Masters of Nursing exploring the impact of diabetes coaching on community-based adults who have Type II diabetes. Upon completing her studies, she hopes to investigate new areas of nursing including research and clinical education.



**JESSICA LACHANCE**, a *Graduate Scholarship recipient*, successfully defended her MScN at the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing at Western University in August of 2018 under the supervision of Dr. Richard Booth, entitled: *Exploring unmet healthcare needs, healthcare access, and the use of Complementary and Alternative Medicine in adults with chronic pain: A cross-sectional analysis of the National Population Health Survey*. Immediately following, she was invited to submit her findings to a peer-reviewed academic journal and is currently in the final stages of manuscript preparation. In addition, she will be presenting her findings to diverse, international audiences at three conferences in the upcoming months: The Great Lakes Biennial Nursing Convention in Windsor; INCAM Research Symposium in Montreal, and; Creating Healthy Work Environments hosted by Sigma in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In September 2108, Jessica began work toward a PhD in Nursing at the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing at Western University under the supervision of Dr. Lorie Donelle. In addition to continuing to develop her work with women with chronic pain, she is actively contributing to several ongoing research projects with colleagues at Western to develop expertise and experience in the areas of critical and feminist theory, database research, and the health and social implications of the cannabis legalization.

Jessica also volunteers as the Communications Executive Nursing Officer on the RNAO Middlesex-Elgin Chapter and enjoys collaborating events that promote life-long learning and support of nurses in her region. She is so grateful for the support from the NRIG scholarship, without which her thesis completion would not have been possible.



**KAREN CAMPBELL**, a *Graduate Scholarship recipient*, is a fourth-year PhD student at McMaster University, School of Nursing. Ms. Campbell's work has predominantly focused on supporting young mothers, with over 15 years of experience as a public health nurse. Her program of research is at the intersection of women's health and rural geography. Her dissertation examines the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), a public health nursing intervention program for socially and economically disadvantaged mothers. Ms. Campbell will be determining the modifications and adaptations that are necessary for NFP to be successful in rural Canadian communities.



**LINDA SHEIBAN TAUCAR**, a *Research Grant recipient*, is a Registered Nurse and currently holds the position of Associate Research Chair at the Schlegel Centre for Advancing Seniors Care at Conestoga College. She began her research career by attaining a Master's degree in Health Studies and Gerontology at the University of Waterloo. Her thesis work explored the experiences of healthcare providers who care for those with dementia in primary care memory clinics. Linda now uses her joint clinical and research knowledge in her position as Associate Research Chair by coordinating and conducting gerontological research, focusing on evidence-based care in gerontology and gerontological curriculum development. Linda's current works aims to explore nursing faculty's experiences of integrating RNAO's Best Practice Guidelines into nursing curricula. This work will inform Conestoga College as they begin the journey of becoming a Best Practice Spotlight Organization.

*Congratulations to our 2018 recipients!*

## • Membership Report •

In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, NRIG had a total of 1,935 members. Of these members, 386 were Registered Nurses while 1,549 were nursing students. Membership has been steadily increasing over the last five fiscal years, with a drop in membership noted this year in comparison to the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

NRIG membership recruitment efforts have been focused on reaching out to universities with Graduate Nursing Programs, including junior and senior faculty as well as nursing students through the promotion of NRIG memberships during student events. The wide distribution of our NRIG Newsletters helped to keep our members engaged and informed about nursing research funding opportunities. Supporting the ongoing scholarship and research involvement of our members has been identified as a key recruitment strategy through our Membership Survey.

*Respectfully submitted, Christina Moldovan, Membership and Services Officer*







## • Website Report •



In 2017-2018, NRIG embarked on the strategic plan of website development by completing the development of a new and user-friendly website for our current members. The website was created based on original input from the website subcommittee. NRIG communications officer worked closely with the NRIG Chair during the website development process. Go Daddy was selected to design and host the new NRIG website which was completed in Summer 2018. The new NRIG website provides up-to-date information such as Scholarship Winners, NRIG Newsletters, Upcoming Events and relevant resources to our members. The new NRIG website is [www.nrig.ca](http://www.nrig.ca) and we will look forward to integrating a Social Media component in Fall 2018.

*Respectfully submitted, Joyce Tsui, NRIG Communications Officer, Website*

## • Student Corner •

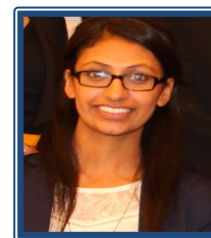
As the Student Representative of this Nursing Research Interest Group, I am proud to say that we have come a long way since we started. I have been on the executive team since January 2015, so unfortunately my 2-year term

has now come to an end. But I have enjoyed every moment of it because I worked with an amazing team of experienced executives and had the opportunity to learn from all of them. I also had the opportunity to work with wonderful student volunteers and leaders at many events.

I have watched our student membership grow over the past few years as we educate more students on the benefits of becoming a member of NRIG. In the past, we hosted successful student research events at Humber College. For the future, we plan to collaborate with Humber, Ryerson and York University's nursing associations to reach out to more nursing students in Ontario. We are planning to have research games, activities, and contests to increase their knowledge of research.

If anyone is interested in joining our NRIG Student Committee, please contact NRIG. I would like to thank all the members of our executive team and students that helped me during my student representative role with NRIG for the past 2 years and I wish NRIG all the best in the future!

*Respectfully Submitted, Amnveer Deol, Past Student Representative*





## • Upcoming Opportunities •



**Canadian  
Frailty  
Network**

**Réseau canadien  
des soins aux  
personnes fragilisées**

### Canadian Frailty Network

The Canadian Frailty Network Frailty Matters video contest submission [deadline is January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019](#). Create a 3-minute video about the experiences of an older adult with frailty: what do they struggle with, what is important, what could improve their quality of life. Three prizes available. Click [here](#) to apply.



### The Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute

The Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute has two open competitions. Twelve innovation to Impact awards are expected to be awarded; funds available include: \$150,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years. 22 Innovation grants are expected to be awarded; funds available: \$100,000 per year and a maximum of \$200,000. The [Deadline to apply is January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019](#). See [here](#).



### Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

PCORI plans to award \$20.5 million as part of the Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards. [Applications are due February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019](#). For more information, please click [here](#).



### International Association for the Study of Pain

The IASP Early Career Research Grant facilitates the development of young researchers just starting their careers as independent investigators. They offer multiple grants at US\$20,000 in the Early Career Research Grants Program for IASP members. [Deadline to apply is February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019](#). For more information, please see [here](#).



### Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

SSHRC offers Partnership Engage Grants valued at between \$7,000-\$25,000. These grants provide short-term and timely support for partnered research activities that will inform decision-making at a single partner organization from the public, private or not-for-profit sector. [Applications are due December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018](#). Please see [here](#).



### The National Institute of Health

Please click [here](#) to access the NIH database to check out many more available grant opportunities.



**SAVE THE DATE!**



Canadian  
**Doctoral Nursing**  
Network Conference

**Dates and Location:**

June 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

**2018 Keynote Speakers:**

**Alec Couros**, BEd, MEd, PhD

**Dr. Maura MacPhe**, RN, PhD

**Goals:**

To bring together nursing scholars engaged in doctoral research, for networking, scholarly discussions and learning opportunities. To provide doctoral students the opportunity to submit an abstract and present. To provide support, encouragement and mentoring of doctoral students.

For more information click [here](#).



**The Canadian Nurses Foundation**

The Canadian Nurses Foundation offers more than 50 scholarships in support of nursing scholarship. They are available for the following categories and amounts:

- Baccalaureate: \$750 to \$3,000
- Masters and Nurse Practitioner: \$1,000 to \$5,000
- Doctoral: \$1,800 to \$10,000
- TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund at all levels: \$1,500 to \$5,000
- Diversity in Nursing Awards for internationally educated nurses

The online application process is now open. Click [here](#) to view the list of available awards.



**The Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario**

Each year the Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario (NLN.ON) awards up to \$9,500.00 in research scholarships and nursing undergraduate and graduate education bursaries. We encourage all nurse leaders involved in research, or contemplating education to consider applying. (NLN.ON Education Awards are only available for members). For more information please click [here](#).



**The Spencer Foundation**

The Spencer Foundation supports research directed in improving education and has Small Research Grants opportunity. The grants award up to US\$50,000.

Applications are due February 1st, 2019. Please click [here](#) for more information.



**WEBINAR! *Save the date!***



**Preparing for a Career in Academia: What to Consider, When to apply and What to Expect**

**Keynote Speaker:**

Dr. Melissa Kimber, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University and Core Member of the Offord Centre for Child Studies.

**Date:** March 26<sup>th</sup> 12-1pm via OTN

**Details:**

For a Live Webcast/archive of this presentation please click [here](#). Click on live events then public events. Event ID: 92323404. Register for the video conference [here](#).

The Audio line for the webinar: 1-905-415-5796



**Registered Nurses' Foundation of Ontario (RNFOO)**

The RNFOO enhances and advances nursing practice, and contributes to the health of individuals to provide Ontario nurses and nursing students in all programs. Deadline to complete the online application is January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019. For more information please click [here](#).



**The CIHR Canadian HIV Trials Network (CTN)**

The CTN postdoctoral fellowship competition is now open. They provide funding to those who wish to write a research program, trial protocol, and/or develop and run independent trials. Applications are due January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Each award is worth \$50,000 with up to \$5,000 in travel allowance. Please click [here](#) for more information.



**Parkinson Canada Research Program**

**Parkinson Canada**

The Parkinson Canada Research Program supports research in Parkinson's disease and related disorders. Competitions include pilot project grants, new investigator award; basic research fellowship; clinical movement disorders fellowship; and Graduate student awards. The deadline is February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Click [here](#).



**Age-Well NCE**

The Age-Well NCE has launched its core research program request for proposals. The **deadline to apply is January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. For more information please click [here](#).



**Call for Abstracts:**

Abstracts for the 2019 conference are now being received. Applications are due February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

**Dates and Location:**

Quebec Convention Centre, Quebec City, Canada  
May 26-29, 2019

For more information click [here](#).



**Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation**

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer has two grants open: The Young Investigator Grant and the Epidemiology grant. The deadline for both grants is December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018. For more information please click [here](#).



**National Multiple Sclerosis Society**

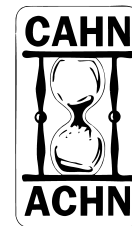
The National Multiple Sclerosis Society funds pilot grants to test innovative, cutting-edge ideas or untested methods for one year. The deadline to apply is January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (*pre-application deadline is January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019*). For more information please click [here](#).



**Please see the following CIHR Grant Opportunities:**

- [Team Grant: SPOR iCT Rewarding Success—Phase 3](#). Application Deadline is January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- [Transitions in Care](#). Application Deadline is February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The Institute Community Support Travel Awards are launching December 13<sup>th</sup> 2018. Deadline is January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. They fund travel to national and international meetings, conferences or symposia. Check [ResearchNet](#).



**Canadian Association for the History of Nursing (CAHN)**

CAHN offers two major financial awards each year: the Margaret M. Allemang Scholarship for graduate students (Masters or PhD level) studying in the field of nursing history, and the Vera Roberts Endowment for historians of nursing (academic or independent) who are working on Canadian nursing history focused on regions north of the 60<sup>th</sup> parallel. For more information, please see [here](#). Applications are due February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.



**NRIG**

Nursing Research Interest Group

## • 2017-2018 NRIG Executive Members •

### **Chairperson**

Amy Wright [NRIG.chair@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.chair@rnao.ca)

### **Past Chairperson and NRIG Representative to CANR**

Barbara Chyzzy [NRIG.pastchair@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.pastchair@rnao.ca)

### **NRIG Chair Elect**

*To be filled in 2019-2020 term*

### **Finance Officer**

Winnie Sun [NRIG.finance@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.finance@rnao.ca)

### **Secretary**

Oona St. Amant [NRIG.secretary@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.secretary@rnao.ca)

### **Communications Officer – Newsletter**

Demelza Domingo [NRIG.newsletter@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.newsletter@rnao.ca)

### **Communications Officer – Website**

Joyce Tsui [NRIG.website@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.website@rnao.ca)

### **Membership and Services Officer**

Christina Moldovan [NRIG.membership@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.membership@rnao.ca)

### **Policy & Political Action Officer**

Sheila Boamah and Marzieh Moattari [NRIG.policyandpolitical@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.policyandpolitical@rnao.ca)

### **Members-at-Large-NRIG Board**

Gillian Strudwick [NRIG.mal1@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.mal1@rnao.ca)

### **Members-at-Large-NRIG Social Media**

Melissa Northwood [NRIG.mal2@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.mal2@rnao.ca)

### **Student Representative**

Shivali Barot [NRIG.student@rnao.ca](mailto:NRIG.student@rnao.ca)