

MEMBERS' VOICES: July 2019 – February 2020
Speaking out for nursing - Speaking out for health

SUBMITTED BY: Paul-André Gauthier, RN, CNS; PhD (nursing)
Provincial President, Rainbow - RNIG.

END: Engage with registered nurses and nursing students to stimulate membership and promote the value of belonging to their professional organization.

- We are representing the Rainbow Nursing Interest Group (Association in Ontario).
 - Association des infirmières et infirmiers arc-en-ciel de l'Ontario.
- To contact me: my email: pgauthier@rnao.ca
- Our numbers are – as an association:
 - As of Oct. 31, 2019: total # 1,070 (RNs / NPs: 92 and B.Sc.N. students 978).
 - As of January 23, 2020: total # 896 (RNs / NPs: 96 and B.Sc.N. students 800).
- Members can find information that we post regularly on our Facebook and Website to add information and encourage members to contribute. We are monitoring for fake messages and fake profiles. Our links are:
 - **Information-RNIG** : <https://chapters-igs.rnao.ca/interestgroup/58/about>
 - <https://rnao.ca/connect/interest-groups/rnig>
 - Previous email messages : <https://chapters-igs.rnao.ca/interestgroup/58/email/903>
 - **Facebook**: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RainbowNursing/>
 - **Newsletter**- January 2020: https://chapters-igs.rnao.ca/sites/default/files/2020-01/RNIG_Newsletter-Jan-2020-0.pdf The next one is being developed (coming out in early March 2020).
- We responded to e-mails from members and non-members who are interested about association and activities.
- Three (3) emails were sent to members on various topics since last September. For example: informing the members of the new Executive; holiday wishes and the latest Newsletter.

END: RNAO advances the role and image of nurses as members of a vital, knowledge-driven, caring profession, and as significant contributors to health.

- The President adds regularly comments on the Facebook of Radio-Canada (French radio & television) for the North and Toronto.
- Our association- RNIG- will be represented at the Fair at York University on March 5, 2020.

END: RNAO speaks out on emerging issues that impact on nurses and the nursing profession, health and health care.

- **Federal Submission May 2019 -LGBTQ2:**
<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/421/HESA/Brief/BR10506788/br-external/RainbowNursingInterestGroup-e.pdf>
- Paul-André was involved in January 2020 in the discussions and making suggestions about MAID via the Canadian Nurses Association consultation. The public, and our members were invited to provide feedback on the federal government consultation on their website.

END: RNAO influences healthy public policy to positively impact the determinants of health, supporting Medicare and strengthening a publicly funded, not-for-profit health-care system.

- Political action regarding health care:
 - The President shared the political action which he undertook in representing and speaking on behalf of our association in his meetings and media interviews.
 - Since last summer, Paul-André met a few times with the MPP for Nickel Belt, France Gélinas, and for Sudbury, Jamie West. Both MPPs attended the Fierté Sudbury Pride walk in July 2019 (see the pictures).
- Also, we support RNAO's Action Alerts.



OTHER:

- We have a new executive since August 2019. We have updated our financial authority signatures with the bank, develop an expense form, approved the budget for 2019-2020 and our financial report for 2018-2019.
- We submitted our financial report 2018-2019. It was provided to Nancy Campbell, Director of Finances at home office, fulfilling RNAO's requirement.
- Paul-André (President) and Abigayle (membership ENO) attended the RNAO Assembly meeting & Interest Groups meeting on September 13-14, 2019 in Toronto.
- Paul-André (President) and Christopher (Political action ENO) will attend the Day at Queen's Park on Feb. 19-20-21, 2020. Linda will join us representing her chapter.
- Paul-André continues as Chair of the Sudbury-Manitoulin Ethics Network (**SMEN**) – clinical ethics.
- We are planning to attend Pride Toronto in June 2020 and Fierté Sudbury Pride in July 2020 in Sudbury.
- Our executive members are involved in discussions. And we are using Zoom for executive meetings.
- We are planning a Zoom meeting / education event for our members-RNIG- about *Social Media dating and being safe* by the end of March 2020.