## Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

## SUDBURY & DISTRICT CHAPTER

If you have feedback on our newsletter, please forward it to Maria at mcasas@rnao.ca

## **ENGAGING WITH NURSES & NURSING STUDENTS**

Our general meeting in December featured two guests who introduced the topic of mindfulness. At the meeting, participants engaged in brief mindfulness exercises to familiarize themselves with this method of supporting their personal well-being.

The January Annual General Meeting (AGM) also featured two guest speakers and we launched the new student award that acknowledges the efforts of one student from each of the local schools of nursing.

Guest speakers included Dr. Michelle Acorn, Provincial Chief Nursing Officer, and Jeannette Lindenbach, Professor with the School of Nursing at Laurentian University. Dr. Acorn discussed Nursing Leadership in Healthcare Transformation, while maltreatment of vulnerable adults in the home was the topic of Ms. Lindenbach's presentation. Her research on this topic was the basis for a resolution we prepared for the upcoming provincial AGM.



Jeannette Lindenbach provides an overview of her research

The AGM also presented an opportunity for the Chapter to display its new banner that will be used at future RNAO events and meetings held locally.

Following the AGM, an invitation went out to all our members asking for their interest in participating at the provincial AGM as a voting representative. We encourage those who have not had this experience before to put their name forward.

We also started a new "Kudos and Concerns" section at our general meetings to encourage members to share and discuss various issues of significance to them as a nurse.

## SPEAKING OUT ON EMERGING ISSUES

As mentioned, the Sudbury & District Chapter developed and submitted, in collaboration with the Northeast Gerontological Nurses' Association, a resolution for consideration at the upcoming provincial AGM.

The resolution calls for RNAO to advocate the provincial government to institute legislative reform and infrastructure development to support professional intervention in cases of suspected abuse and mistreatment of vulnerable adults living at home and receiving care by informal caregivers.