Hello Fellow Members,

This month Ontarians will head to the polls on February 27th, to cast votes in the 2025 snap provincial election called by Ontario's Premier, Doug Ford. As a nurse and a member of the RNAO we have an important and influential role in deciding governance issues that affect the future direction of the RNAO and of course all citizens of Ontario.

During this time of political discontent at both our federal and provincial levels and with the tariffs implemented by the U.S. president, now more than ever, we need your help recruiting new members to help push the nursing agenda forward.

Membership Numbers Kingston Chapter:

October 2023 - 815

October 2024- 848

Let's continue the great work of increasing membership in the RNAO, which provincially has over 54,000 members. We have a powerful force to be able to make changes for our patients and our profession.

In addition to the fantastic and necessary Legal Coverage, being a member of the RNAO comes with many other benefits including a robust advocacy program to promote many challenges facing Nurses today. The RNAO is also known worldwide for its Best Practice Guidelines with over 50 BPG's that guide our Nursing Practice. This is your chance to join an association which listens to nurses and moves policy changes forward with our government.

## Benefits | RNAO.ca

As a member of the RNAO, you will be able to network with other RNs and NPs who may be facing similar issues in the workplace as you. There are educational events offered to provide opportunities to learn about nursing and health care, and of course, there is the Professional Legal Liability Insurance that all practicing members of the CNO must have, and the Legal Assistance Programs that the RNAO offers to its members.

Some important up-and-coming events:

Queens Park Day is taking place this month on the 27th and 28th. This event takes place at the Provincial Legislature in Toronto. Members of RNAO's board of directors, assembly and executive network officers will be there to engage in policy and political action with MPPs to advance nursing and optimize Ontario's health care system. Two of our RNAO Kingston Chapter Student Executive Network Officers from St. Lawrence College will be attending this year's event.

If you plan on taking part in this event, please make sure to vote in advance. Elections matter and every vote counts!

On March 25th, 2025, at Providence Care Hospital, the Kingston Nursing Research Conference is taking place. This event is located at 752 King St West and will take place between the hours of 0800 – 1600hrs.

To Register: <u>Kingston Nursing Research Conference 2025 Tickets</u>, Fri, 21 Mar 2025 at 8:00 AM | <u>Eventbrite</u>

The executive member of RNAO Kingston Chapter agreed to meet with MPP Hsu every few months. We will be scheduling regular meetings after the election.

The Kingson Executive would like to welcome Jon Hauth and Claire Campbell from St. Lawrence College to the roles of Student Executive Networking Officers.

Students are an important part of shaping our future and we fully support student membership.

Thank you for taking the time to read your RNAO Kingston Chapter Newsletter. If you have any questions regarding membership, please feel free to contact us at: rnaokingstonchapter@gmail.com

Sincerely,

The Kingston Chapter Executive