



Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Ontario

Association des infirmières et infirmiers cliniciens
spécialisés de l'Ontario

Dr. Paul-André Gauthier
President - CNS-ON.
Summer 2025

RNAO
100th anniversary

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C N S

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CNS – ON 2024 – 2025 Executive

President	• Paul-André Gauthier
Director of Finance (ENO)	• Rashmy Lobo
Director of Policy, Practice, and Political Action (ENO)	• Stacey Roles
Director of Communications (ENO) / Secretary	• Kadeen Briscoe
Director of Membership & Services (ENO)	• Emily Fung
Director of Research & Education (ENO)	• Elisabeth Jensen
Social media (ENO)	• Paul-André Gauthier
Workplace Liaison (ENO)	• Robin Coatsworth-Puspoky
Graduate Nursing Student Representative (ENO)	• Krissy Jordan

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Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Ontario
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- Ontario has the **largest** number of CNSs across the country.
- CNS-ON **collaborates** with the CNS Association of Canada (**CNS-C**), the CNS Association of USA (**NACNS**), and other nursing organisations.

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About our Association



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The **CNS-ON** is comprised of RNAO members who are **committed** to Advanced Nursing Practice, specifically CNS practice.

History:

- The Clinical Nurse Specialist Interest Group (CNSIG) was formed in **1977**.
- It became an official interest group of RNAO on September 13, **1979**.
- At the April 28, 2012 AGM, we **changed our name** to Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Ontario (CNS Association of Ontario / CNS-ON).

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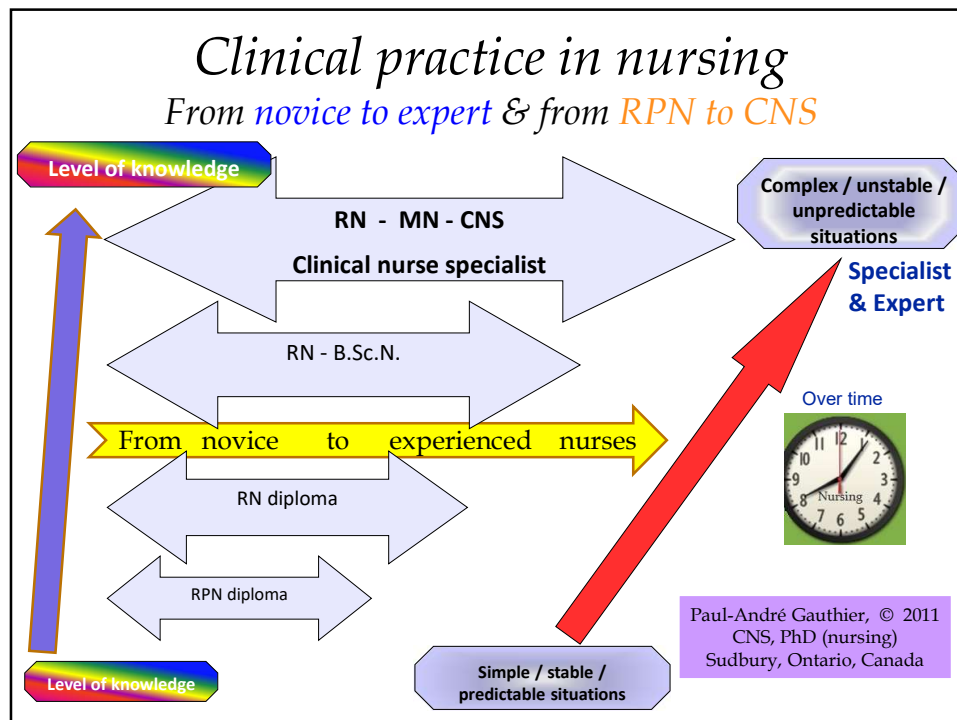
The **CNS** role defined

RN with ...

- at least with a **Masters** degree **in nursing**;
- education based **in-depth** clinical knowledge and skills in a nursing specialty;
- **in-depth clinical experience** and research skills.

A CNS can provide solutions for **complex health care issues** at all levels.

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Three spheres of influence:

Spheres of influence provide a framework for describing core CNS competencies.

- **Patient / client:**
 - e.g. develops interventions that enhance the attainment of predicted outcomes while minimizing unintended consequences.
- **Nurses and nursing practice:**
 - e.g. works collaboratively with nurses to implement innovative interventions that improve outcomes.
- **Organization / system:**
 - e.g. assesses the professional climate and multidisciplinary collaboration within and across units for their impact on nursing practice and outcomes.

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Expert clinicians in a specialized area of practice

The specialty may be identified in terms of a:

- **Population:**
 - e.g. pediatrics, geriatrics, women's health.
- **Setting:**
 - e.g. critical care, emergency room.
- **Disease or medical subspecialty:**
 - e.g. diabetes, oncology.
- **Type of care:**
 - e.g. psychiatric, rehabilitation, palliative care.
- **Type of problem:**
 - e.g. pain, wounds.


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The impact of CNS in healthcare

- **Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs) have a Critical Role to play in Advancing Healthcare and System Excellence.**
- Allowing Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs) to **practice to their full scope** brings immense value to patients, clients, healthcare teams, and the broader healthcare system.

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The **impact** of CNS in healthcare

At a time when healthcare systems are under increasing pressure, **the role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist** is not only relevant—it **is essential**.

Fully utilizing the knowledge, skills, and leadership of CNSs.

- CNSs can transform care delivery, **empower nursing practice**, and achieve **meaningful, sustainable improvements** in care and health system performance.

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Information available



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- **We publish our reports:**
 - Members' voices;
 - Newsletters;
 - Activity reports;
 - Awards;
 - Information relevant to members;
 - Such as conferences, webinars, etc.

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Awards:




- **CNS of the Year:**
 - ✓ 1 / year
- **CNS Education Award:**
 - ✓ 2 - 5 / year
- **CNS Student Award:**
 - ✓ one per CNS program in Ontario.

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NOTICE for the AGM:



CNS Association of Ontario

AGM (Annual General Meeting)

Saturday, **June 7th**, 2025 at 10:00

Zoom meeting.

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