



## Fall/Winter Newsletter 2015

### Seasons Greeting CSORN Members Past and Present



#### Message from the President of CSORN

Those of us in the Toronto area are enjoying unseasonably mild weather for November. I hope it continues for some time and that we do not experience a rude awakening with a brutal winter and piles of snow. Even with our weather, I think we all agree that Canada is the best place to live and work. Please take a moment to think about the folks in Paris and around the world who are facing adversity and multiple challenges when it comes to safety and security.

1. The executive is working diligently with Horizons Web Design to get our new web site up and running. It is a steep learning curve for all of us, but I believe worth the effort. I suggest you go to the ORNAC website at [www.ornac.ca](http://www.ornac.ca) and check it out. It has been designed by Horizons Web Design. We will be ready to accept membership payment by December 15/15 on-line.
2. Our Secretary Marlene Griffin continues the challenge of reaching everyone as e-mail addresses continue to be a moving target. If you fail to notify us of changes we cannot keep you in the loop.

3. The final criteria for formation of Regional Groups will be posted on the new website so keep watch.
4. Planning for our 2016 conference in Ottawa, Ontario is in the capable hands of our Ottawa area folks.
5. We have learned for the Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS), our parent organization that their costs to run the annual conferences have increased significantly. They have served notice to CSORN that the rebate portion of our registration fees to the conference will be reduced effective 2015 after this conference. The executive discussed our membership fees (in Victoria) and a decision was made to keep them at the same rate for the 2016 year. *Please recognize that this will likely translate into increased membership fees beginning the 2017 membership year.* The fees have been the same for the 10 years I have been involved in CSORN and frankly there are not many groups where you can belong for \$25/yr.

In Ontario the Ministry of Health has a Vision Care Strategy to provide all types of Ophthalmological care ensuring access. The government has again reduced the dollars available for the cataract episode of care. We are now in the \$480 range. This amount is expected to cover ALL costs (pre-admission visit, IOL, medical surgical supplies, staffing costs). Many centers providing Eye Surgery are looking at adding the Laser cataract approach to care. This is a challenge in Ontario as patients will have to assume the cost themselves as it is not funded by OHIP. I imagine this is also an issue in other provinces as well.

I want to encourage all nurses to function and put Excellence into their practice every day. We must be able to articulate and demonstrate our value to the system if we are to preserve nursing positions.

Kathy

### **CSORN Victoria June 2015:**

This year we were fortunate to have had our COS/CSORN Conference held in Victoria, BC. Kate Callaghan and Linda Wong did a wonderful job in planning and arranging for an educational and interactive day. Our Speakers were current and engaging. A big thank you to Kate, Linda and the Conference Coordinating Team for a job well done!

## **COS/CSORN Ottawa June, 2016:**

**Save the Date!** Next year's Canadian Ophthalmic Society (COS) Symposium will be June 17 - 20, 2016. The official nursing CSORN conference day will be Friday, June 19, 2015. Next year's Conference Coordinators Conference Coordinator is Janet Powers from Ottawa. Updates will be included in the Spring Newsletter. Please check the COS website for next year's CSORN Conference: [www.eyesite.ca](http://www.eyesite.ca) for more information,

To be eligible for the reduced rates for COS, you must be a CSORN member, non-members pay a higher rate to attend the CSORN Conference.

## **Future Conferences:**

Walter Wright Symposium: December 4-5, 2015, Toronto

Toronto Cataract Course: February 20, 2016, Toronto

ASCRS: May 6-10, 2016, New Orleans

COS/CSORN: June 17-20, 2016

## **Provincial Reports:**

### **British Columbia: *Adonis Manglapus, Patsy Aplas***

B.C. Chapter held a meeting October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Dr Francis Law spoke on the Characteristics of a Toric Lens. Dr Patrick Saunders gave a talk on Dry Eye: A Clinical Approach. The meeting had 45-50 attendants. We are hoping to have a second meeting early February 2016. In addition, I would like to recognize Kate Callaghan and Juanita Mercado for the hard work they have put in to the Regional Chapter over the past 3-4 yrs.

### ***GTA: Donna Punch***

Greetings from GTA chapter,

November is upon us, we have been enjoying such great weather it is hard to believe 2016 is just around the corner! Ophthalmology in Ontario continues to struggle with funding and trying to meet targets with less. This inevitably comes back to us all to continue to improve efficiencies as Hospitals and Clinics are looking for inventive ways to deliver services to the people of Ontario.

Our annual education/Chapter Meeting was held Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at North York General Hospital, Branson Site. We had 21 in attendance. Dr. Raj Maini, a Corneal Specialist from North York General, gave an informative presentation on Cornea Transplants. We also held elections at this meeting for President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. Congratulations to our new leadership team, Marcela

Tutay, President, Mary Ann Reyes, Recording Secretary and Farah Parishan, Treasurer.

I will be moving from Vice President to President of the National CSORN in June of 2016. I look forward to serving in this capacity in the next three years.

Season's greetings to you all,

Donna Punch,

CSORN GTA Chapter Chair

## **Ontario:**

### **Ottawa: Rosemary Bickerton**

The Ottawa Chapter has been busy planning, as we will be the hosts for COS/CSORN day for 2016. We want to thank last year's CSORN planning committee for putting on such a wonderful conference in Victoria. We were able to send 7 nurses to the meeting which was great. The Ottawa Chapter will be holding our annual membership dinner Monday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. This is a wonderful tradition that we have started, which brings together the Ottawa nurses for an educational evening and where we collect the dues for membership 2016. Dr. Dollin will be presenting on *Retinal Detachments "From Office to OR"*. We are also very excited to host the CSORN conference in June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The venue is the Shaw Conference centre which overlooks the Rideau Canal by the Parliament buildings. June is a great time to visit our city. We are in the midst of planning and look forward to seeing everyone.

Here is our Ottawa Chapter news that we will be happy to share with you at our conference in June.

- Ottawa has recently signed our RFP for cataract surgery with Abbott Medical Optics (AMO). This was a lengthy process but very transparent. The tender was not solely based on price but included a clinical evaluation and scale for the lenses and other products.
- QBP (Quality Based Procedures) for cataracts means we are working hard to reach our target of 9776 cataracts by year end. It also means we have to do this in the most efficient way, to keep costs down. Our nurses contribute great ideas to make things more efficient and still give excellent patient care.
- QBP for retina is next to become QBP.
- we are experiencing a high turnover of nursing staff these days due to retirement.
- we are reducing costs by not changing patients into gowns
- reduced the size of our cataract tray and took out unused instruments
- using paper sterile gowns and towel. By putting these in our packs we have reduced costs++

- using pre-cut cornea tissue for DSAEK, saves the cutting time ++
- using the DMEK procedure verses the DSAEK procedure, it is a shorter procedure, less instruments and blades, with excellent patient outcomes
- we have a new diabetic protocol for ophthalmology patients which is easier and better for patients and nurses
- we are working on post-op calls to our patients which the patients really like, but is often hard to fit in at the end of the day

Looking forward to seeing many of you in June,

Rosemary Bickerton

CSORN Ottawa Chapter Chair

Members, as you can see from the Provincial Reports we have only Four chapters now active throughout Canada. The declining groups seem to be related to the former members retiring. Since ALL provinces are performing eye surgery, should you wish to start a Chapter in your province please contact Kathy Bruce for information. The New Website will include information on “Forming a Chapter” in your area. CSORN meetings are a great way to professionally network with other Ophthalmic Nurses, throughout the country.

The CSORN Executive wish you all a very

***Healthy and Happy Holiday Season***

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***Donna Punch: Vice President***

***Janet Powers: Past President***

***Wanda Mulrooney: Treasurer***

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