

Members Voices

May - September 2015

OHNIG Activity Report to RNAO

END 1

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

- Fielded enquiries online from various RNs and students, i.e., education to become Occupational Health Nurse – “How to register a new business because I went to City Hall then CNO and nobody knew” – Where to train as a health coach – How do I join an interest Group – What is PLP for my independent practice nursing service?
- Diligently collected from RNAO web site all IG and Chapters contact emails addresses to communicate future networking, collaborating on events public education - work on projects, educate and availability of our "Speaker's Bureau"
- Web sites upgraded to use social media, the most rapid way to contact members [so I’m told by my younger executive leaders]
- For members to ask each other specific questions colleague to colleagues, created an onsite member password protected “chat” room
- Two interest groups OHNIG and IPNIG collaborated to initiate a "Rally Call" to all Registered Nurses to join public education campaign for the recognition of diverse nursing capabilities [inclusive of occupational health nurses] delivering a host of specialized nursing workplace occupational health and environmental safety services ... [click here](#)
- OHNs Change Agents for Health ... [click here](#)

END 2

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

To date our calendar is filling in nicely

- National Nursing Week May 2015 created a booklet with anecdotal stories submitted by our members for distribution ... [click here](#)
- Booked exhibitions September, October and November in North Toronto, London, York Region and Ottawa, i.e., nurse diabetic conference, Public Associations Annual Meetings
- Announcement "new" Speakers Bureau: available knowledgeable speakers who can present to groups, i.e., detailing their own nursing practice or presenting self-help topics for independent practice nurses, i.e., business theory savvy

END 3

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

- Alert members re Medical Marijuana the next hot topic for OHNs who look after workers' health at workplaces
- News alert to members about Ontario Lung Association's Provider Education Program eModule about Work Related Asthma: ... [click here](#)
- Public Education booklet circulated to Ontario members to join the rally call to educate public to speak up for sustainable health care and challenge the health care administrators to plan future health care system to meet community health care needs

END 4

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

- Following our AGM End Goal 2016 2018 initiated a staged progressive public education campaign, a "Rally Call" for sustainable client centered community Primary Health Care PHC utilizing full nursing capabilities [inclusive of occupational health nurses] performing a huge diversity of nursing health care services in the workplace
- National Nursing Week May 2015 published a booklet now available hard copy or use the [online printable version](#) filled with anecdotal stories submitted by our members highlighting remarkable nursing services delivered ... [click here](#)
- September booked events for the public education campaign
- Executive working with RNAO Professional Nursing Practice committee developing, reviewing for a standard matrix for scope of practice specific to their nursing work
- Three executive OHNIG leaders are representatives on Worker Advisor Group (MOL) two separate national committees for "new" policy
- BAC Ban Asbestos Canada currently a petition circulating to sign for national policy banning asbestos National Regulatory Policy established ... [click here](#)
- Request all RNs, health care professionals and public to sign Asbestos ban by September 30
- Met July 30, 2015 Director Worker Advisor Group for further collaboration on upcoming symposium
- Confirmed OHNIG members support the national committee Centre for Research on Worker Disability Policy CRWDP, i.e., national committee researching to determine national policy
- OHNIG has attended CRWDP online meetings with 80 plus members from across Canada
- CRWDP notes: Disabled workers released from work had 9,000 appeals to Worker Advisor Group who handle a maximum capacity of 6,000 appeals per year
- Add the number of victims of MVA on disability, off work and discontinued from insurance coverage once maximum is reached leaves another significantly large group of victims without continuing health care

Other

- Responded to the RNAO request "Is it safe to work as a nurse in Canada?"
- Met the Global TV producers to report our experience with all the injured workers in hospitals, reporting incidents of injury d.t. violence, confrontation, verbal abuse and more
- Corrective action for workplace health and safety is well established in major private corporations and these proactive, preventative protection strategies need to be in place in hospitals.
- Spoke of the existence of Best Practice Guidelines for Healthy Workplaces for Healthy Workers availability
- Member Voices - Engage with registered nurses and nursing students to stimulate membership and promote the value of belonging to their professional organization*
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