

# 2004



ANNUAL REPORT  
April 1,2003 – March 31,2004  
[www.caccn.ca](http://www.caccn.ca)



**Dear CACCN Members and Supporters:**

It is that time of year again when we have a chance to reflect on the activities of the past year. CACCN's annual report is created to update you on new initiatives and projects, highlight achievements of our members over the past year, and celebrate the contribution that our Association continues to make to critical care nursing practice in Canada – and on an international level as well.

Many challenges and accomplishments faced our members and Association over the last year. We were all influenced by the SARS outbreak in our country and found that providing critical care nursing in this milieu brought with it its own set of unique situations – one that many of us would have never thought we would ever experience in our careers. Dynamics 2003 was held in lovely Prince Edward Island with over 400 delegates attending. The first conference held in this province was outstanding! As usual, we continue to build bridges with counterparts everywhere in our country to help spread the voice of CACCN.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of CACCN, I bring you a year's end report to outline the activities of our Association. The 2004 Annual Report covers the period from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004 and reflects the work of CACCN's Board of Directors, its 11 chapters and 1023 members.

There are many dedicated critical care nurses across this country who every day make a difference in the lives of many. Thank you for the work you do every single day. I would like to encourage you all to become more active in CACCN whether it be nationally or locally and make this the best Association it can be. We need your help to spread our voice and the issues that critical care nurses deal with on a day-to-day basis. I would like to leave you with this quote:

*Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.*  
~ Warren Buffett

Sincerely,

Lori Garchinski RN, BSN, CNCC ( C )  
President  
On behalf of the 2003-2004 Board of Directors

# WHO WE ARE

## CACCN Board of Directors

- **Patricia Hynes** – Patricia, one of our Central Region representatives from Toronto, Ontario, has completed her second year on the Board of Directors. Patricia will take over as President March 31, 2004. Her experience and knowledge has been a great asset as she oversaw both the Research and the Publications Portfolios in 2003.
  - **Pam Hughes** – Pam, one of our Eastern Region Directors, from Halifax, Nova Scotia, is completing her second term and has held the Treasurer's Portfolio for the Association. Pam's continues to be enthusiastic and dedicated to CACCN has been a valuable asset to us all.
  - **Sue Williams** – From London, Ontario, also representing the Central Region. Sue has completed the first year of her term and is the Secretary for our Association. Sue is also the Chairperson for Dynamics 2005, which will be held in Ottawa.
  - **Asha Pereira** – Asha is a Western Region representative from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Asha has been involved with CACCN in numerous ways and has enjoyed the first year of her term. Asha holds the portfolio of Recruitment and Retention.
  - **Grace MacConnell** – Grace is from Nova Scotia and represents the Eastern Region. She has also completed the first year of her term. Grace is responsible for Awards and Corporate Sponsorship.
  - **Lori Garchinski** – Lori is the Western representative from Regina, Saskatchewan. She has completed her second year as President of CACCN this year. She wishes the 2004 – 2005 Board the best of wishes as she hands over the Presidency to Patricia on March 31, 2004.
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## Local Chapter Presidents

**Joyce McMullen**  
Nova Scotia Chapter

**Renee Chauvin**  
Montreal Chapter

**Abigail Hain**  
Ottawa Regional Chapter

**Cecilia St. George-Hyslop**  
Toronto Chapter

**Karen Palmer**  
London Regional Chapter

**Helga Borchert**  
Manitoba Chapter

**Diane Tyrer**  
Saskatchewan Chapter

**Elaine Rose**  
Calgary Chapter

**Margo Miller**  
Greater Edmonton Chapter

**Paula Mahon**  
BC Lower Mainland Chapter

Prince George Chapter

You may contact any of the Presidents through CACCN's website.

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## CACCN Clinical Editor

**Paula Price**  
Calgary Chapter  
[pprice@mtroyal.ab.ca](mailto:pprice@mtroyal.ab.ca)

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## CACCN Administrator

**Pamela Gladysz**  
[caccn@caccn.ca](mailto:caccn@caccn.ca)

# CURRENT INITIATIVES

The members of the Board of Directors had three teleconferences and two face-to-face Board meetings this year. Between meetings and teleconferences – the Board does a significant amount of work via email to address the everyday workings of the Association.

## Membership

Our membership as of March 31, 2004 was 1023, down from 1091 in the year prior. We continue to explore opportunities to share the vision and goals of CACCN with as many critical care nurses as possible.

## Communication Boards

Of the original 100 communication boards that were purchased by the CACCN for distribution to critical care units across the country, only a few remain. A special thank-you to our liaisons for maintaining the Boards with up to date information including announcements, notifications of contests such as for Nursing Week and deadlines for applications for CACCN awards/educational bursaries, and membership applications.

The CACCN communication boards are intended to promote communication and networking, and to build our membership. Indeed, they have served us well.

One of the advantages of the permanently mounted, CACCN logo shaped boards that they allow us to reach the critical care nursing community at large and, in that way, promote optimal care for all patients and families.

## Awards:

CACCN proudly recognized members receiving awards for publications, research proposals, innovative projects, and certifications in Critical Care Nursing.

- Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors and CACCN's liaison Grace MacConnell, our awards continued to be available to and valued by CACCN members
- New ways for our sponsors to be involved continues to be actively pursued by relevant Board members

### *Johnson & Johnson Editorial Awards*

The 2003 winners are:

- Dominique Michaud for his paper: Intra-abdominal pressure monitoring for critically ill patients. *Dynamics, 14(1), 15-19, 2003.*
- Marlene Donahue for her paper: Aprotinin: antifibrinolytic and anti-inflammatory mechanisms of action in cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass. *Dynamics, 13(3), 16, 18-23, 2002.*

### *Johnson & Johnson Innovative Project Award*

- Is presented to a group of critical care nurses who develop a project that will enhance their professional development. The primary contact person must be a CACCN member. Deadline for receipt of applications: January 15th.
- The 2003 Winners are a group of nurses from the IWK Health Centre in Halifax  
Team members: Kate Mahon, Janet Curran-Smith, Jackie Croft, Susan Roper & Shane Calder
- Their "Project for Internet based Orientation Program - An evolutionary change in practice" allows staff to learn at their own pace and supports them through their orientation, continuous learning and everyday work.

### *The Smith Medical Canada Ltd.*

- Educational Grant of \$750.00 was awarded to Melanie Quinlan (September, 2002 winner) from London, Ont. who is enrolled in Nurse Practitioner Program University of Toronto with an expected date of graduation in 2004.
- Lisa Beck, of Thunder Bay (January, 2003 Winner) Masters in Nursing - CNS in Critical Care through University of Southern Indiana with an expected date of graduation in 2004.  
Good Luck in your educational endeavors, Melanie & Lisa
- Unfortunately there were no submissions for the *Soren Biomedical (COBE) Chapter of the Year Award* this year. The Board of Directors encourages all eligible Chapters to apply for the coming year.

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## Home Page

CACCN's homepage continues to see a steady increase in popularity. The site provides many links of interest to our members. Critical Care Chatter is a forum for the exchange of questions and ideas on all aspects of critical care nursing from clinical issues to developing policies. Information on our annual conference, Dynamics of Critical Care, is available and updated on a regular basis. In addition, there is information on our Chapters and their activities, on critical care nursing research, awards and many other topics. Members can also purchase publications or renew their membership on the secure on-line site. Visit us @ <http://www.caccn.ca>

## Research



The CACCN – Research Committee works to facilitate the conduct and utilization of critical care nursing research.

- The Research Committee consists of Wendy Fallis (Manitoba), Martha Mackay (BC), Sabrina Martin (Ontario) and is chaired by Patricia Hynes, CACCN Vice-President.
- A mission statement for the committee is being developed under the leadership of Dr. Wendy Fallis.
- Thank-you to all the nurses who shared their vision of critical care nursing research on a survey distributed at the Dynamics conference. Results will be shared with the membership in the near future.
- The CACCN Research grant (\$1000.00) was awarded to Paula Price from Calgary, Alberta.

## CNA Certification



CACCN continues to support and promote the Canadian Nurses' Association's specialty exam for Critical Care. In 2003, 27 CACCN members were newly certified, 34 CACCN members re-certified and 14 CACCN members wrote the Pediatric exam.

- Sue Williams is responsible for the adult portfolio while Brenda Morgan continues as the BOD liaison working in partnership with the CNA as a member of the Adult Critical Care Exam Committee.
- SARS interfered with the writing of the exam in 2003 and as a result there were two sittings of the exam. CACCN is experiencing some difficulty in getting final numbers of certified members.
- Financial awards (3 newly certified and 3 re-certified) will be given out once CACCN National Office is assured that all the names of those eligible for 2003 are in.
- A letter of congratulations will be issued on behalf of the CACCN to each newly certified critical care nurse as well as to each nurse who has re-certified.
- 2003 was the first year for the writing of the pediatric critical care certification exam.
- Grace MacConnell is responsible for this portfolio with Judy Rashotte as the liaison to the CACCN Board of Directors.

## Publications



Dynamics – The Official Journal of the CACCN is the only peer-reviewed critical care nursing journal in Canada. We publish four issues annually, which are distributed to approximately 1300 subscribers. The journal is also listed in three indexes.

- The summer issue of Dynamics is reserved for publishing abstracts that have been accepted for presentation at our fall conference, also called Dynamics. We have received a lot of positive feedback from conference delegates and the membership at large who report that this initiative is helpful in keeping them in touch with current and new practices in critical care.
- Paula Price, our Clinical Editor, continues to do an outstanding job in effectively leading the Editorial Review Board team, consisting of Debbie Fraser Askin (Manitoba), Janice Beitel (Ontario), Franco Carnevale (Quebec), Bonnie Davies (Manitoba), Kathleen Graham (Ontario), Joy Kramrich (Ontario), Martha Mackay (BC) and Judy Rashotte (Ontario). The Publications Chair for 2003-2004 is Patricia Hynes – CACCN Vice-President.
- CACCN is fortunate to have the commitment of Pappin Communications of Penbrooke, Ontario. Bruce, CB and Heather have provided tremendous ongoing support.
- The Dynamics Journal is hosting a new column offered by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada). We hope to provide patient safety information on an ongoing basis and have encouraged these individuals to provide regular submissions.

Thank-you to all our readers and especially the authors who contributed to making our journal a success over the past year.

# Partnerships

## Canadian Nurses Association

- ◆ The CNA chose to provide networking opportunities to the Associate and Affiliate groups via teleconferencing. Three teleconferences were held in which CACCN participated. It continues to be a great avenue to share information and learn more about CNA's initiatives.
- ◆ As an Associate group of the CNA, we also provide an annual report on CACCN's events and goals for the year to their Association.
- ◆ The suggestion of a commemorative stamp was forwarded through to the CNA as a result of discussion at our last AGM in PEI. The CNA will be looking into this option in 2008 along with its centennial celebrations.
- ◆ The CNA is also looking into fee structures and dates for the certification exams which may be more conducive to nurses and encourage writing.
- Educational initiatives were increased to raise awareness, e.g., a poster was distributed.
- Provincial and federal groups also collaborated with families regarding recognition needs
- Lori Garchinski and Grace MacConnell traveled to Vancouver last April to participate in a forum entitled "Neurological Determination of Brain Death." The goal of this forum was to develop a national consensus around neurological determination of death. CACCN was pleased to have been invited to sit at this table. There was truly a multidisciplinary team approach involving many key players such as Emergency Nurses, Critical Care Society, Neurology and Neurosurgery groups, Legal and ethical groups, Emergency Physicians and representation from pediatric and adult settings.

## Canadian Critical Care Society

- CACCN members continue to be involved with education sessions offered by CCCS and wish to continue and enhance such involvement.

## World Federations

- ◆ Bernice Budz became the CACCN representative for the World Federation of Critical Care Nursing this year; Bernice is also Treasurer of the Board for this group.
- ◆ The philosophy and mission of the group is reassuringly similar to that of the CACCN
- ◆ Take a minute and subscribe to the online journal at [www.wfccn.org](http://www.wfccn.org) or [www.connectpublishing.com](http://www.connectpublishing.com) or take some time to browse through their website!

## International Critical Care Nursing Associations

- CACCN maintained contacts with our colleagues in three other countries, namely, Australia, Britain, and the United States;
- Desire to share and network is strong with these three associations and interchange of journals and conference registrations continues.

## Committees for Organ Donation and Transplantation

- This partnership continued to be active with Rosella Jefferson participating in communications via email and teleconferencing with many committed partners to increase organ donation rates

# Corporate Colleagues



CACCN is proud to have relationships, both new and long-term, with corporations. Our association with our corporate colleagues has enhanced our ability to support our members by providing scholarship awards and a variety of educational opportunities.

## Corporate Supporter

*(up to \$999.00)*

- EHS

## Corporate Member

*(\$1000.00-\$1999.00)*

- Alaris
- Arrow
- Baxter
- Bristol Myers Squibb
- Edwards Life Science
- GE Medical
- Health Match BC
- HillRom
- Medtronic
- Ortho Biotech
- Roche

## Corporate Sponsor

*(\$2000-\$4999.00)*

- Gambro
- Phillips

## Corporate Partner

*(\$5000.00+)*

- Eli Lilly

# EDUCATION

Gaining momentum every year, our annual conference is well established as being educational, entertaining and enthusiastic. This year was no different.

## **Dynamics 2003 Prince Edward Island**

LINKING OUR NATION: SHARING KNOWLEDGE FOR SUCCESS

### HIGHLIGHTS...

- Over 400 people in attendance
- Chairperson – Valerie Banfield. Planning Committee: Sandra Matheson, Margaret Vloet-Morrison, Jackie Croft, Glenda Pack, Pam Gladysz
- Keynote Speakers included: Mr. Robert Calnan – President of Canadian Nurses Association; Dr. Mary Ferguson-Pare – Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at University Health Network; Andre Picard – public policy writer; Dr. Heather Spence Laschinger – Associate Director Nursing Research at University of Western Ontario; Dr. Robert Buckman – world-class expert on interpersonal communications; Ms. Lynne Hughes – Career Development Manager at Shannex Health Care
- Annual Dinner – PEI Lobster Feast and Dance
- 21 Poster Presentations
- The conference even made it into the local paper!

**CACCN thanks all of you!**

# CHAPTER CONNECTIONS DAY

- Thanks to all of the wonderful representatives of the chapters of CACCN. The 2003 event was again a day of learning, enjoying and connecting.
- As in previous years, Chapter Presidents were supported for registration and one hotel night accommodation with a total investment of almost \$6000.00.
- We were asked to randomly pick phrases from the Chicken Soup for the Soul series to stimulate discussion as to how we can incorporate these ideas in our work with the CACCN.
- This year as part of the Board's continued support for executive members, an afternoon educational session was presented by Francis Loos – Clinical Development Educator and Co-chair of the Professional Practice Council in the Regina

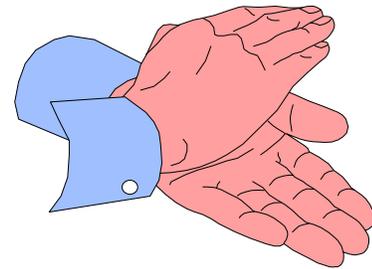
Qu'Apelle Health Region in Regina Saskatchewan.

- Francis has been a nurse for many years and enjoys sharing his experiences with fellow colleagues. He engaged the group in two interesting topics – one on mentorship and one on challenges and benefits to nursing throughout the generations.
- Francis gave the group a lot to think of in regards to their own practice and some challenges to us all as we incorporate a variety of generations thinking, values and beliefs not only in our practices at work but also in our Chapters.
- Thanks to all the participants for their dedication and energy.



# FUTURE ENDEAVOURS

As the need to provide larger sites for our educational event - Dynamics – grows, the Board of Directors works at balancing the requests of its members with the feasibility of locations. More and more conference areas are requesting down payments in order to secure space, which requires your Board to set plans in motion a number of years in advance of any given conference. Here are the plans to date:



***Dynamics of Critical Care 2004***  
***October 19-22***  
***Banff, Alberta***

***Dynamics of Critical Care 2005***  
***Ottawa, Ontario***

***Dynamics of Critical Care 2006***  
***St. Johns, Newfoundland***

## ***Other Plans***

- Involvement in CNA's Biennium Conference June 2004 in St. John's Newfoundland. CACCN will have an information booth.
- Ongoing support for the CNA certification exams for both Adult and Pediatric Critical Care.
- Consider ongoing significant issues for critical care nurses: shortage of nurses and funding for health care, need for outcome related research regarding the relationships between patient care and expert critical care nurses, and the need for politically active, astute nurses
- Complete the change over for the database at National Office
- Publish a revised CACCN Standards of Practice Document

