

RPN News

Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan



Seeing People Through

Fall/Winter 2006

Volume 19 No. 2

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Call for Nominations to RPNAS Council

The Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan is searching for strong leaders as the Association tackles some difficult issues. The Nominations Committee is seeking such people as candidates for nomination and election to the RPNAS Council.

Four Members-at-Large Council positions will be open for nomination as well as the position of President Elect.

Terms of office begin after the 2007 Annual Meeting. Member-at-Large positions are for two years and the President Elect serves two years in that position as well as an additional two years as President.

Nominees must be active practicing members of the RPNAS, who are available to commit to attending four Council meetings and the Annual Meeting each year (approximately eight days), as well as Council committee meetings. Individuals will also be asked from time to time to attend various functions to represent the RPNAS.

For nomination forms, please contact the RPNAS office at (306) 586-4617, e-mail scoward@rpnas.com or visit the website at www.rpnas.com.

Deadline for nominations is March 31, 2007.

RPN Scholarships and Bursaries

The RPNAS recognizes that costs for education programs continue to rise. To assist RPNs and Psychiatric Nursing Students in education pursuits, the RPNAS provides a number of bursaries and scholarships. To find out what scholarships and bursaries are available and to receive application forms please contact central office or visit the website at www.rpnas.com. **The deadline for applications is May 1, 2007.**

May Your Holidays and New Year be Filled with Happiness!

From the Council and Staff of the
Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan

RPN

REGISTERED
PSYCHIATRIC
NURSES
ASSOCIATION OF
SASKATCHEWAN

Seeing People Through

Fall/Winter 2006 Vol. 19, No. 2

The Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association is the regulatory body for the province's 1,000 RPNs.

RPNAS distributes this newsletter to each of its practicing, non-practicing and student members. RPNNews is published four times per year. Please contact the office for submission deadlines.

Publication Agreement #40017796

RPNAS COUNCIL:

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Pamela Watt, RPN 655-6392

President-Elect:

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Don Froese, RPN 931-6172

Janet Kulyk, RPN 953-3022

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RPNAS Central Office Hours

Sept. 1-June 30 0830-1630

July 1-Aug. 31 0830-1600

Closed Dec. 23, 2006 through

Jan. 2, 2007 and Statutory Holidays

President's Pen

By Pamela Watt, RPN



The fall season has seen meetings with different levels of government discussing the psychiatric nursing program. While the NEPS program has once again received conditional approval from the RPNAS, it will not produce enough graduates wanting to work in the area of mental health to meet the needs of the mental health clients. The goal is to have a diploma program reinstated in the province and, hopefully, in time for a September 2007 start date.

The statistics and research findings coming out of national organizations are very mental health focused. Some examples are: The Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI) just released a document which stated 30% of all general hospital days stayed in the years 2003-2004 involved patients with a mental illness. In the same time period it stated 37% of patients discharged from a general hospital diagnosed with a mental illness were readmitted within a 1 year from the time of their discharge. This is compared to 27% of all other patients admitted to general hospitals. The World Health Organization released a document earlier this fall stating by the year 2020 the leading disability for people will be depression. These findings are reinforcing why we need an education program specifically for graduating psychiatric nurses in this province.

RPNAS is continuing to working in collaboration with Alberta, Manitoba, and BC. Some examples of work completed through these collaborations are a revised registration exam, and guidelines for independent practise. These collaborations bring about consistency through out the profession.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and work ethic of our executive director and office staff. They are vital to the operations of our association and achieve results beyond our expectations. Without their dedication our association would not be where it is today.

I would like to at this time to wish every one a very happy holiday season. May your new year be a joyous one.

The Saskatchewan Institute of Health Leadership (SIHL) will be offering its next session in 2007. The aim of the Institute is to bring together professionals from all disciplines and all levels within the healthcare system to foster leadership potential, skills and the creation of a leadership community that works together to promote, support and sustain good health. SIHL is the first program of its kind in Canada.

This seven month program begins with a four-day Institute Retreat in Regina, Saskatchewan, May 14 – 18, 2007 with SIHL Course Presenters and Facilitators. A two-day follow-up Retreat will take place in November 2007.

For further information, contact the SIHL Office at (306) 585-5739 or e-mail: SIHL@uregina.ca

Executive Director's Update

By Robert Allen, RPN



The Canadian Institute of Health Information released a report this week on mental illness and hospital admissions. The fact that one third of hospital admissions and occupied beds are for mental health reasons speaks to the need to address this issue. The priorities of cancer, heart disease and mental illness are fairly obvious when one looks at our health system. Unfortunately, mental health still gets mostly ignored and stigma continues to be a major factor.

The Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Initiative was successful in that a National Charter was developed and a wealth of information was compiled. We now await action on this work and the proposal for the establishment of a Commission. Canada needs a plan to address the needs of those looking for help.

I continue to be part of the management committee for CCMHI, and we are currently awaiting word on funding to continue dissemination of the work that has been accomplished.

The Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Canada has been involved in several other initiatives and activities. Work continues on the mobility issue to ensure that RPNs can work across Canada, the steering committee for the interprovincial masters program in Psychiatric Nursing is proceeding, and a think tank on RPN education and future directions will take place in Vancouver in early December. Work has been completed on the National Examination and the review and revision of the Philosophy, Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

Plans are well underway for the RPNC World Congress for Psychiatric Nursing to be held in Regina on May 22nd, 23rd and 24th 2008. An event planner has been contracted and the committees have been formed. Conference Planning Committee co-chairs are Pam Watt and Candace Alston.

The RPNAS held a very successful AGM and education day in Saskatoon and our annual conference was held in Regina this fall. Attendance at both events was higher than ever. RPNAS again was a partner in Mental Illness Awareness Week held in Regina and around the province.

We continue to work as part of the NEPS program to ensure that the Psychiatric Nursing content enables graduates that choose to become RPNs to do so. The new RPN co-ordinators are in place as well as the professional liaison positions from the association. The liaisons will be working with the students to create awareness of the profession and provide information. The professional liaisons are Candace Alston-Regina, Pam Watt-Saskatoon and Dawn Sinclair –Prince Albert.

The need for a diploma program that articulates to a degree in Psychiatric Nursing (BSCPN) is confirmed by several reports and studies. The RPNAS has met with the Ministers of Health and Advanced Education and presented options and proposals toward this end. We are optimistic that a program will be established and that students will be able to obtain their education in Saskatchewan.

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. All RPNAS members are invited to submit news items, information, ideas and commentaries and opinions to Central Office.

The association reserves the right to select editorial material and edit content.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



About Mental Illness Awareness Week

Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW) is an annual national public education campaign designed to help open the eyes of Canadians to the reality of mental illness. The week was established in 1992 by the Canadian Psychiatric Association, and is now coordinated by the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) in cooperation with all its member organizations and many other supporters across Canada.

Campaign elements include: a grassroots public education initiative; a nationally-distributed poster and bookmark series; the 3rd Annual Champions of Mental Health Awards luncheon on October 5 in Ottawa and a new education initiative with federal Members of Parliament, both in their home ridings and on Parliament Hill.

Why Mental Illness Awareness Week?

For too long, Canadians with mental illnesses have been in the shadows. Too few Canadians know about the burden of mental illness on our society, and too few sufferers seek help when they need it. Mental Illness Awareness Week seeks to raise awareness of the level of mental illness in Canada; to reduce negative stigma about mental illness amongst the general population and health care professionals; and to promote the positive effects of best practice in prevention, diagnosis and medical treatment

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

World Mental Health Day was observed on October 10th. It was started as an annual activity of the World Federation for Mental Health in 1992. RPNAS is proud to be a member of the World Federation for Mental Health.



A Mental Illness Awareness Walk was held in Regina in conjunction with Mental Illness Awareness Week. Approximately 100 people showed up to take part in the walk around Victoria Park which was followed by a lunch and a short program at City Hall.

This event was put on by the RPNAS, CMHA, Schizophrenia Society, Saskatchewan Psychiatric Association and the Regina Health District.

The Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan also marked Mental Illness Awareness Week by hosting, with support from Eli Lilly, its annual Emerging Trends in Mental Health conference in October.

Champions of Mental Health Awards—October 4, 2006

The Fourth Annual Champions of Mental Health Awards luncheon took place on October 4, 2006 in the Ballroom of the Fairmont Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. The gala event brought together more than 300 members of the CAMIMH network, politicians, business leaders, sponsors and other stakeholders to celebrate the contributions of leaders committed to advancing the mental health agenda in Canada. The Psychiatric Nurses Association of Canada is proud to be a member of CAMIMH and the Executive Directors of the RPN associations from the four western provinces once again had the opportunity to attend this years Champions of Mental Health Awards luncheon.

2006 Award winners

The Honourable Steven Fletcher, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, is the 2006 Champion of Mental Health, Public Sector. The award recognizes his ongoing contribution to advancing the mental health agenda in Canada and for his work in advocating for and advancing the implementation of a National Mental Health Strategy.

Ms. Denise Taylor, Aboriginal Policy Coordinator for Interior Health, is the 2006 Champion of Mental Health, Aboriginal. The award recognizes her ability to work within the mental healthcare system and improve it for all Canadians, but specifically for those in Aboriginal communities.

Mrs. Jocelyne Monty, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Mental Illness Foundation, is the 2006 Champion of Mental Health, Community. The award recognizes her ability to focus much needed attention on issues related to mental health and to raise money to run programs dedicated to increasing awareness about and lowering the stigma attached to mental illness.

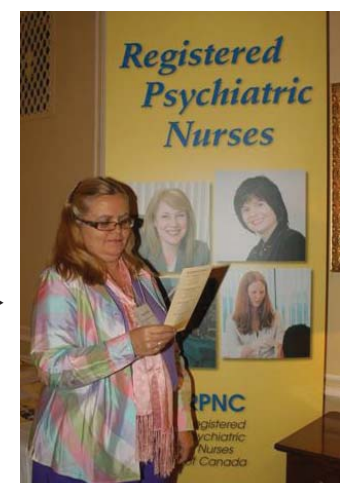
Dr. Paula Stewart MD, FRCPC, Senior Medical Officer, Public Health Agency of Canada, is the 2006 Champion of Mental Health, Research. The award recognizes the significant contribution she has made to collecting, collating, and interpreting data on mental illness in Canada. Her work will influence how Canada deals with the growing social and economic challenges associated with mental illness for years to come.

Senator Michael J.L. Kirby & Senator Wilbert Keon are the 2006 recipients of the Champions Leadership Award, an award established this year to recognize the contribution of individuals or groups who not only effect positive change in their personal actions, but also inspire others to make Canada a better place for the millions of Canadians who live with a mental illness. Under their direction, the Standing Senate Committee on Public Affairs, Science and Technology has become increasingly focused on Canada's health care system. In May 2006, the Committee released *Out of the Shadows at Last*, a groundbreaking report that will significantly influence how Canada deals with the growing social and economic challenges associated with mental illness.



◀ Bernard McNair, consultant with *Beyondblue*, National Depression Initiative (Australia) with Robert Allen, Executive Director, RPNAS

▶ The RPNC display at the Champions of Mental Health Awards



ORDER OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

A hearing of the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan (RPNAS) Discipline Committee under Section 26 of The Registered Psychiatric Nurses Act ("the act") was conducted September 11, 2006 in Regina, Saskatchewan, with respect to Kenneth Bugoy, RPN.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Given the admission of guilt by the member, Kenneth Bugoy, and the Agreed Statement of Facts, the Discipline Committee is satisfied that the member is guilty of the professional misconduct and professional incompetence alleged in the Notice of Discipline Hearing.

ORDER

The Discipline Committee hereby Orders:

1. Pursuant to section 27(1) (e), of the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Act (the "Act") Kenneth Bugoy is hereby reprimanded.
2. Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(ii) of the Act, Kenneth Bugoy may continue to practice subject to the following conditions:
 - a) That he will enroll in the SIAST Psychiatric Nursing Re-entry Program and successfully complete Introduction to Psychiatric Nursing (NRS 273).
 - b) That he will enroll in the SIAST Nursing Re-entry Program and successfully complete Modules 6 and 7 of Health Assessment II (NRS 201).
 - c) That he will bear all costs associated with the courses including but not limited to tuition, texts and study manual and any other supplies associated with the courses.
 - d) That he will successfully complete this retraining and provide proof of successful completion to the Registrar of the Association on or before April 1, 2007.
3. Pursuant to section 27(2) (a) (ii) of the Act, Kenneth Bugoy shall pay the costs of the investigation and hearing in an amount fixed at \$6,000.00. Such costs shall be payable to the Association on or before September 30, 2007 and failing payment, Kenneth Bugoy shall be suspended from the Association pursuant to section 27(2)(b) of the Act.

ORDER OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

A hearing of the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan (RPNAS) Discipline Committee under Section 26 of The Registered Psychiatric Nurses Act ("the Act") was conducted June 19th, 2006 in Regina, Saskatchewan, with respect to Cecilia Merasty, RPN

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Given the admission of guilt by the member, Cecilia Merasty, and the Agreed Statement of Facts, the Discipline Committee is satisfied that the member is guilty of the professional misconduct and professional incompetence alleged in the Notice of Discipline Hearing.

ORDER

Counsel for the Professional Conduct Committee and Cecilia Merasty also submitted a Joint Submission on Penalty. Taking this Joint Submission into account, the Discipline Committee hereby Orders:

1. Pursuant to Section 27(1) (b), Cecilia Merasty shall be suspended for a 14 day period, from July 11th- 25th 2006. Cecilia Merasty shall, immediately after the suspension, provide the Association with a letter from her employer confirming that the suspension was served.
- 2) Pursuant to section 27(1) (d) (ii), Cecilia Merasty may continue to practice on condition that on or before January 13th, 2007 she shall register and successfully complete the Health Assessment Course –NURS 225 (virtual) offered at SIAST and that she is solely responsible for all tuition and text costs related to the course. Cecilia Merasty shall provide proof of her successful completion of the aforesaid course to the Registrar of the Association. In the event that Merasty fails to provide proof of her successful completion of the course, she shall stand suspended until otherwise ordered by the Discipline Committee
- 3) Pursuant to section 27(2)(a)(ii), Cecilia Merasty is hereby ordered to pay the costs of the Professional Conduct Committee and the Discipline Committee which costs shall be fixed in the amount of \$1500.00 payable within two months of the Discipline Committee order. Failing payment, Merasty shall stand suspended from the Association pursuant to section 27(2) (b).

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

Take Notice that Cecilia J. Merasty is hereby suspended from the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association effective immediately pursuant to section 27(2)(b) of The Registered Psychiatric Nurses Act. By a decision of the Discipline Committee dated June 30, 2006, Cecilia Merasty was ordered to pay specified costs of a discipline hearing and Cecilia J. Merasty has failed to pay those costs as ordered.

Pursuant to section 36 of The Act, Cecilia J. Merasty's rights and privileges as a member are removed for the period during which she may be suspended.

This notice shall be provided to the Human Resources Departments of all Health Regions and Tribal Council Health Authorities in Saskatchewan.

Dated at Regina, Saskatchewan, this 4th day of October, 2006.

**The 2007 Annual General Meeting and Education Days will be held on
June 7th & 8th 2007 in Moose Jaw.**

Details to be announced in the new year.

Open Forum Discussion

An opportunity will be provided for members to raise issues of concern through an Open Forum at the Annual Meeting June 8, 2007.

Specific time will be set aside for members to bring forward items of concern or interest affecting the profession and-or the general membership. Members are invited to submit items for discussion prior to the meeting to ensure sufficient time is planned in the agenda.

Items raised from the floor will be dealt with at the discretion of the chairperson, after written submissions are discussed and considered, and will be subject to the time limit identified in the rules of order.

An application for Discussion Request is available from Central Office and must be returned no later than May 1, 2007.

HEALTH EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS**January**

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ◆ Alzheimer Awareness Month | ◆ National Non-Smoking Week Jan 14-20 |
| ◆ Weedless Wednesday Jan. 17 | ◆ Family Literacy Day Jan. 27 |

FEBRUARY

- | | |
|---|---|
| ◆ National Heart Month | ◆ Sexual & Reproductive Awareness Day Feb. 12 |
| ◆ Eating Disorders Awareness Week Feb. 5-11 | ◆ Antibiotics Awareness Week Feb. 12-16 |
| ◆ White Cane Week Feb. 5-11 | |

March

- | | |
|--|---|
| ◆ Help Fight Liver Disease Month | ◆ Brain Awareness Week March 12-18 |
| ◆ Learning Disabilities Awareness Month | ◆ National Farm Safety Week March 13-19 |
| ◆ National Nutrition Month | ◆ World Water Day March 22 |
| ◆ National Kidney Month | ◆ World Tuberculosis Day March 24 |
| ◆ National Epilepsy Month | ◆ Daffodil Days March 29-April 1 |
| ◆ Red Cross Month | |
| ◆ National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month | |

Ranch Ehrlo Society Presents:

Attachment & Healing Conference

With a special focus on child welfare trends facing aboriginal children and families
January 31 - February 1, 2007 Conexus Arts Centre Regina, SK

Keynote Speakers:

Patricia Crittenden, Ph.D.

World-Renowned Authority on Developmental Attachment
Family Relations Institute Miami, Florida

Peter Dudding

Executive Director, Child Welfare League of Canada

Jacqueline Ramdatt, MSW

First Nations Child and Family
Caring Society of Canada

Bruce MacLaurin

Professor, University of Calgary—Faculty of Social Work

For more information please visit www.ehrlo.com

University of Saskatchewan
Continuing Nursing Education
College of Nursing

Jan. 18-19	Foot Care Modalities for the Elderly Person	Saskatoon
Jan. 25-26	Health Informatics Conference: Practical Applications, Future Possibilities (Conference)	Saskatoon Register Online
Jan. 29-30	Nature's Way Breastfeeding Conference	Saskatoon
Feb. 1	E-learning Event - Leading Practices in the Management of Diabetes and CVD	36 Sites Register Online
March 3	Neonatal Resuscitation (NRP) Provider Course	Regina

For more information: Continuing Education, College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan
Box 60000 RPO University, Saskatoon SK S7N 4J8
306-966-1689
<http://www.usask.ca/nursing/cne>

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