



RNAO

MEN IN NURSING INTEREST GROUP

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario

Newsletter

Summer 2009

Board Members: David Keselman, Co-President; Daniel Ball, Co-President; Mark Vimr, Vice President; Franklin Gorospe, Co-Finance Officer; Kingsley Osabuohien, Co-Finance Officer; Darrell Jutzi, Membership Officer; Fred Go, Co-Education Officer; Wendell Greenidge, Co-Education Officer; Gianni Accettola, Political Action Officer; David Mastrangelo, Co-Communication Officer

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Welcome from MINIG Executive

Another exciting opportunity to connect with our members as we embark on the summer edition of our newsletter. In this newsletter, you will find a variety of interesting information and updates on our recent activities. We are happy to say that our "little" group has grown and is constantly gaining momentum in its recognition and reputation. Our recent AGM was yet another milestone well done, we are hoping to have a much greater participation at the next one. We would like to encourage everyone and especially those that have yet to join, to go ahead and become a part of this powerful group.

There are many opportunities to participate and lead change. Whether you are a part of the executive or a member at large, please make sure to drop a line and see how you can become more active with the group. If you have any innovative ideas about how to raise our profile, contribute to nursing and help raise awareness of men in nursing let us know. We are committed to do what it takes!!!!!!!

Daniel Ball and David Keselman

Membership Update:

The MINIG currently has 142 members from 51 different towns and cities! This is an increase in membership of 10% percent since January 2009. The highest percentages of members are from Toronto, followed by London then Ottawa. Currently students make up 52% of the MINIG membership with the remaining 48% of members being RNs. There are still many towns and cities where only one person has become a member. Promoting the MINIG to your peers, whether at your school or workplace is an importance piece to enhancing our capacity and potential to evolve. Let's work together to promote the MINIG within Ontario and aim to double our membership by 2010! If you would like more information on our membership or resources to help promote the MINIG in your school or workplace please email darrelljutzi@hotmail.com.

Why Nursing?

As the seasons change we are reminded of the moments that pass, the experiences that we share, and the memories that we create. The passage of time enables us to grow and move towards achieving our personal and professional goals. In the midst of our own agendas, we must not forget our motivation, our foundation, and our reasons for answering the fundamental question: '*Why Nursing?*'



In late April, MINIG humbly had the opportunity to engage in a *Career Day* event for a Toronto elementary school. The aim of the program is to allow student insight into the many career paths available. The event composed of a full-day program that involved representatives from a variety of professions including law, business, pharmacy, engineering, and nursing to name a few. Each representative presented to six different groups of elementary students.

At the start of the nursing presentation a grade 8 student blurted "Why do I want to be a nurse? I like to think and use my hands". As the teacher approached the student, I restated the question back to the student and the class "Good question: Why nursing?" This was followed by "What are your favourite subjects?" This question allowed the students to answer their own question. The endless possibilities of the nursing profession shift the essence of 'Why Nursing' into my concluding remarks "the choice is yours...Why not Nursing?"

Franklin F. Gorospe IV RN MN

Political Action

Greetings

Hello to all members;

I am delighted to be the new Political Action Officer for the MINIG. I am fortunate to be part of a team that is committed to their mission of strengthening the image of nursing, advancing the profession, and supporting new and existing men in nursing.

I look forward to serving you. The members of the MINIG and I encourage all of you to get involved to help achieve our goals.

Gianni Accettola RN

Political Action at Work

This past May, the Honourable John Wilkinson, Minister of Research and Innovation, Liberal MPP for Perth-North Wellington visited my organization, the Palmerston District Hospital. I took advantage of the RNAO "Bring Your MPP to Work" initiative to invite Mr. Wilkinson and make this visit possible. I introduced him to the MINIG and some of our visions and goals to improve the profession, and offset the nursing shortage by targeting and recruiting men into the profession.

It was a very positive meeting; he was very supportive and encouraged us to continue with our cause. I intend to build on this encounter and establish a partnership between Mr. Wilkinson and the MINIG.



What Can You Do To Help?



There are many things that you the members can do to help our profession. A good start is to look at the RNAO Ambassador Program. To sum it up, nurse ambassadors educate the public about the nursing profession and promotes nursing as a career choice. The best part of being an ambassador is that they speak to secondary school students on career days, and can make a huge impact on influencing students to join the profession. Being a male

ambassador also sends a strong message to young men that men are in nursing and nursing is an excellent career option for them. There is also a Student Ambassador program. To find out more, visit RNAO's website and search for "ambassador". It's a simple way to make a positive difference.

Share Your Thoughts and Stories

We have all done, or currently involved in political action or doing other types of activities to help strengthen the image of nursing. Email us your story, MINIG would like to hear about it.

Gianni Accettola RN

