

RNFOO Newsletter

2004 RNFOO Gala *Another Resounding Success*

The Annual RNFOO Gala Dinner returned to the Liberty Grand in June 2004, our third successful sold out event at this venue with 600 people in attendance. This year marked our 7th Gala. The proceeds that RNFOO receives through gala ticket sales, raffle prizes, and the silent auction along with individual donations made during the evening and after the event support RNFOO's efforts to invest in nurses through the annual Awards and Scholarships Program. The Gala is a great venue for recognizing our successful award and scholarship recipients, sponsors, donors and for raising money for our cause.



Kay Arpin acknowledges her
Honourary Life Membership

This year the RNFOO was pleased to have the Honourable Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman in attendance. He presented a cheque along with Amir Remtulla, Director of Industry & Regulatory Affairs, Molson Canada. On behalf of RNFOO, President Ann Hawkins extended sincere thanks to Molson Canada for its most generous donation of \$175,000, representing a significant portion of the proceeds from the 2003 Rolling Stones SARS benefit concert (more on page 2).

Thanks to our sponsors, Pfizer, Deloitte & Touche and MDS, 16 of the 26 Award and Scholarship winners were in attendance to receive recognition. In addition, Beverly Moir, a past President of RNFOO presented Kathleen (Kay) Arpin with an Honourary Life Membership to join the company of Laura Barr and Susanne Williams, past recipients. Special recognition was given to Doris Grinspun, Executive Director of The Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO), for receiving the Order of Ontario.

The 2004 Gala raised \$7,400 on the sale of raffle tickets and a further \$3,500 on the silent auction. The entire evening raised \$46,000, a significant increase over last year. Thank you to all who contributed.

There are always many volunteers behind the scenes that make this event run smoothly. So, many thanks are extended to the Gala Committee who donated their valuable time and significant effort. We extend our special thanks to the sponsors and the donors of the more than 60 raffle prizes and 25 silent auction items.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2005 Gala to be held on Wednesday May 4, 2005 at the Liberty Grand, to continue the tradition and enjoy networking for a worthy cause. *"Nurses Celebrating Nurses ...Nurses Investing in Nurses"*.

Sue Munro
Chair, Gala Committee



President's Message

Shirley Avery

This issue of our newsletter includes many examples of how people and nurses themselves are *Investing in Nursing*. And so, it is with great pleasure, as RNFOO President, that I extend thank yous to each and every one of you who have generously given to RNFOO. Your donations enable us to move forward with our important work of financially supporting nurses in their academic pursuits.

First of all, thank you to Molson Canada for their generous donation of \$175,000. This was a significant gift from the 2003 Rolling Stones SARS benefit concert. These monies will support nurses and health professionals in completing their Infection Control Programs and Certification thus raising the level of skill and knowledge about infection prevention and control in our health care system.

Second, thank you to the Honourable Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman for his leadership, his commitment to health professionals and to the health of Ontarians. His strong support enabled the Molson Canada donation to take place. The announcement of the Molson donation at our June Gala certainly added to the excitement and celebrations that evening.

Third, thank you to both Sue Matthews and Sherri Huckstep from the Nursing Secretariat at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Their commitment to

nurses and nursing was also instrumental in bringing the Molson donation to fruition.

The 2004 Gala was a resounding success. As you see by the highlights in this newsletter, it was a great evening of celebration. Thank you to all our supporters — those of you who celebrate with us yearly, those of you who joined us for the first time this year and those of you who sponsor the event in so many different ways. I am sure that the 2004 award recipients who attended this year's Gala were thrilled at the recognition of their achievements. Congratulations to all the 2004 Scholarship and Award recipients for your successes in nursing. A sincere thank you to all the RNFOO Board members and volunteers for their significant contributions throughout the year. In particular, a special thank you to Sue Munro, Chair of the Gala Committee whose leadership and tireless commitment has enabled the Gala to become our signature event.

And so, from this year's celebrations we look forward to 2005 and to *Investing in Nursing!*

Sincerely,

Shirley Avery
RNFOO President

Molson Canada Donates \$175,000 to RNFOO

For those who live in Toronto, SARS had a profound effect not only on those who worked in health care but also those who worked in other service industries impacted by decreased tourism and social events. Molson Canada established a SARS Memorial Fund whereby 50 cents on every ticket to the famous SARS Benefit Concert was directed.

Through the support and facilitation of Sue Matthews and Sherri Huckstep from the Nursing Secretariat of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, RNFOO was identified as a worthy recipient of a significant portion of this fund. The objective is to administer scholarships to build capacity with Infection Control Practitioners in Ontario over a 3-year period. Amir Remtulla from Molson Canada and the Honourable Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman presented a cheque in the amount of \$175,000 at the RNFOO Annual Gala Dinner at the Liberty Grand.

Valerie Grdisa, Chair of the Awards and Scholarship Committee and Dorothy Ferguson, Vice President, RNFOO are working on details to launch this exciting initiative. Stay tuned for more details on the website www.rnfoo.org.



Shirley Avery, President, Valerie Grdisa, Chair, Awards and Scholarships Committee, The Honourable Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman, Ann Hawkins, Past President and Sue Munro, Chair, Gala Committee.



The 2004 Awards & Scholarships Recipients (Part I)

2004 RNFOO Awards & Scholarship Review Committee:
 Valerie Grdisa, Chairperson
 Members: Julie Carthew, Kim Jackson, Gail Siskind,
 Janice Waddell, Dorothy Wylie

The 2004 RNFOO Awards and Scholarship Program was highly successful! \$45,500 (of an available \$51,500) was granted as 26 awards and scholarships. There were 9 recipients at the undergraduate level (including 4 nursing students), 16 recipients at the graduate level and 1 recipient of the research award.

The 2004 recipients were invited to the RNFOO Gala and 16 attended. They were formally recognized throughout the evening and several were delighted to meet the Honourable Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman, Provincial Chief Nursing Officer, Sue Matthews, a past RNFOO Scholarship recipient, and Nursing Leaders from throughout the province.

RNAO INTEREST GROUP AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

In 1972, the Foundation originated within the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO). In 1997, RNFOO became a distinct and separate foundation which continues to build upon the 32-year history of collaboration with RNAO. In 2004, there were seventeen awards and scholarships available from seven RNAO Interest Groups. The seven RNAO Interest Groups include: Childbirth Nurses Interest Group, Diabetes Nursing Interest Group, Mental Health Nursing Interest Group, Ontario Association of Rehabilitation Nurses, Ontario Nursing Informatics Group, Provincial Nurse Educators Interest Group, and Staff Nurse Interest Group. RNFOO looks forward to continued collaboration with the RNAO Interest Groups in recognizing outstanding nurses in their chosen area of interest.

This edition recognizes eleven outstanding 2004 RNAO Interest Group Award and Scholarship Recipients. The winter 2005 edition will recognize the second group of 2004 RNFOO Award and Scholarship recipients.

2004 RNAO INTEREST GROUP AWARD & SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Ernie "Aieh" Jacobs Memorial Award {Diabetes Nursing Interest Group (DNIG) and sponsored by Smith & Nephew - \$2,000.00}

Leslie Legros — Leslie is a RN enrolled in the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner RN (EC) program at Lakehead University. As a Diabetes Nurse Educator, she focuses on diabetes prevention and health promotion strategies in partnership with First Nations communities. Her long term goal is to provide leadership as a Diabetes Nurse Educator/Nurse

Practitioner within a multidisciplinary health care team to further enhance community based services.

BACCALAUREATE LEVEL

*Childbirth Nurses Interest Group Scholarship
 (2 recipients - \$1,000.00)*

Maryanne Platt — Maryanne is a post-RN student (BScN) at Brock University and is completing her Perinatal Health Certificate through Mohawk College. Upon graduation Maryanne hopes to engage in Community Health Nursing with a focus on women's health. Her long term career goals include graduate education to prepare her for advanced practice in the area of reproductive and sexual health.

Emily Robson — Emily is completing her BScN at the University of Toronto. She is involved in an international breastfeeding/HIV research study and in future would like to continue to work in Maternal Infant Care in a community setting. She plans to pursue a Master's or PhD in Nursing Science in order to research the effects of physical activity on post-partum depression.

GRADUATE LEVEL

*Dr. Hildegard E. Peplau Award
 (Mental Health Nursing Interest Group - \$1,000.00)*

Alison Watson — Alison is completing a Master of Nursing (Mental Health Clinical Stream) at the University of Toronto. Her long-term career goals involve pursuing doctoral studies and practicing as a certified Nurse Psychotherapist. Alison has a particular interest in the mental health of older persons as she defines, "I would like to be able to offer unique and high quality mental health solutions to an entire range of older adults in Ontario."

*Provincial Nurse Educators Interest Group Award
 (2 recipients of 5 awards - \$1,000.00)*

Angela Luciani — Angela is pursuing her Master of Nursing at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Angela is described as "innovative in her approach with students, creating unique learning opportunities and showing profound organizational abilities." Angela's long term career goal "is to work in a nursing education environment where the concepts of praxis, community partnerships, and community development are developed into central components of basic nursing education."

Jennifer Phillips — Jennifer is completing her MScN at the University of Western Ontario (UWO) and has applied for the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (PHCNP) Program. Also a graduate student teaching assistant at UWO, Jennifer has developed her thesis entitled, "Clinical Nurse Educators Self-Efficacy for Evaluation of Marginal Baccalaureate Nursing

The 2004 Awards & Scholarships Recipients (Part I)

continued

Students.” One of Jennifer’s career goals involves working in elder care/gerontological nursing as a PHCNP.

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ALL EDUCATION LEVELS

Childbirth Nurses Interest Group Scholarship (2 recipients - \$1,000.00)

Lisa Chadwick — Lisa is enrolled in the Clinical Health Sciences in Nursing (MScN) at McMaster University. Lisa demonstrates her commitment to obstetrics and maternal-child health through continuing education opportunities such as Breastfeeding and Doula courses, as well as the Maternity Certificate program. One of her long-term career goals involves engaging in research “that promotes the healthy development of maternal-child nursing as a profession.”

Charlotte Etue — Charlotte is completing her Master of Science in the Family Nurse Practitioner program at D’Youville College. Charlotte completed a RNAO Clinical Leadership Fellowship supported by four regional hospitals to examine current practices of care of near-term newborns; 35-37 weeks gestation. Recently, Charlotte led a project to implement regional newborn transitional care guidelines in perinatal areas and subsequently, nursery admission rates have decreased by 50%.

Ontario Association of Rehabilitation Nurses Award (\$1,000.00)

Rosemarie Rombough — Rosemarie is enrolled in the Master of Science (Nursing) at Queen’s University. The primary aim of her thesis is “to examine reported quality of life, feelings of despair and depression, and caregiver strain and burden in primary caregivers of stroke survivors.” Rosemarie was profiled in the second quarter 2003 Sigma Theta Tau International publication, Reflections on Nursing LEADERSHIP as the recipient of *The Scholarship for Post-RN Baccalaureate Students*.

Ontario Nursing Informatics Group Scholarship (2 recipients - \$750.00)

Sylvia Cashmore — Sylvia is completing her Master of Business Administration (MBA) at Athabasca University’s Centre for Innovative Management. Sylvia is recognized at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre for her commitment to working with nursing staff, information system personnel and regional partners to develop an integrated Meditech system to support nursing informatics. One of her career goals involves co-leading “the production of a business case for the implementation of the Ontario Stroke Strategy” in the Peterborough region.

Kristine Newman — Kristine is completing her Master of Science (Nursing) at Queen’s University. Kristine is conducting a study for her thesis in the nursing informatics and documentation field. As indicated by one professor, “this is a very challenging proposal both intellectually and technically...such evaluations of the benefits of technology on health care delivery are still relatively uncommon.”

*Three RNAO Interest Group Awards were not disbursed in 2004:

1. Mary Ann Murphy Memorial Diabetes Award (\$1,000)
2. Margaret Myers Diabetes Clinical Practice Award (\$1,000)
3. Staff Nurse Interest Group Award (\$1,000)



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Foundation of Ontario

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Newsflash!

**\$60,500 for a total of 32 awards
or scholarships available in 2005**



Application Deadline: Monday, February 28, 2005 at 4:30 p.m.
Visit our website www.rnfoo.org to download the application package.

Contact: RNFOO Administrator
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Phone: 416-426-7127 E-mail: info@rnfoo.org

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