

## 2016 President's Report

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. I am so pleased to see the turnout for this years annual conference and AGM. For 2016, we count 23 memberships for PANGS. Down one from last year.

The PANGS executive had three meetings before this AGM:

April 6, 2016  
May 4, 2026 (SRNA AGM)  
September 26, 2016

Before I go any further, I want each person to consider volunteering for one of the executive positions available this year. The time commitment is minimal and most meetings are done by Skype or the SRNA Teleconference line. The meetings usually only last an hour or slightly more. We will continue this discussion of elections later.

The National Conference of PeriAnesthesia Nurses is being held in Toronto on November 5-6<sup>th</sup> this year. Myself, Lara Peiffer and Alison Virtue will be attending. Lara Peiffer will attend the NAPAN© Board Meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> and I will be attending the first Standards Meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are rumours that next years' national conference will be in BC.

The Canadian Nurses Association has expressed great concern to NAPAN© about the significant drop in people writing the PeriAnesthesia Certification Exam. The first year had 99 people write the exam. Last year was 30 and this year is 17. There is one person from Regina writing the exam as far as I know. Next year the exam will be offered twice during the year instead of once. Hopefully this will encourage more people to accept the challenge of certification. This reflects hugely on our professional practice as perianesthesia nurses and we must encourage anyone working in the perianesthesia environment to write the exam. Yes, there is very little financial incentive to writing the exam, but professional accountability and pride are worth it.

The discussion of LPN's working in post anesthetic care units became a reality in Alberta this year. We can expect this to be discussed at some point in our health regions as well. Already, in the RQHR, the critical care experience requirement for employment in PACU has been deleted. It is not unrealistic to think that LPN employment in PACU is next. Remember, the NAPAN© Standards of

Practice are for registered nurses working in the perianesthesia environment, not LPN's.

The Saskatchewan government has determined that healthcare in this province must do it's part to decrease the deficit. As evidenced by the recent announcements of registered nurse lay-offs in Saskatoon and Regina, we must ensure that health regions maintain the standards established by the National Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses of Canada. It is for the safety of our patients that these standards were developed and we must hold the health regions accountable to meeting those standards.

This is the end of my 3 terms as president of PANGS. It has been quite the learning curve. I want to thank all members of the executive committees that I have worked with. It goes without saying that the highlight of my time as president, was the NAPAN© 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and AGM held here in Regina in 2014. The glowing evaluations we received from so many attendees validates the hard work done by the conference committee. The speakers were of the highest caliber and the vendors were exceptional! We may not have

made a huge profit, but people returned to their home province thinking, “Regina and the prairies are a lot nicer than I thought they were!”

We continue to work hard to encourage PACU nurses and Day Surgery nurses to join us. It is an ongoing challenge, with the question “What’s in it for me?” frequently asked of us. “What’s in it?” is meeting with other nurses in your field. Discovering that the day to day challenges that you face in your workplace are faced by nurses in other health regions, and in other provinces. Some of the solutions developed by your colleagues in other parts of the country may work in your unit. Here in the RQHR, we now use a PeriAnesthesia Pathway Documentation form that was first presented at our national conference here in 2014 by a nurse from Ontario. So there are benefits to being in a professional organization of your peers, so please give it some serious consideration.

In closing, I thank you again for coming out on this wonderfully warm and sunny day to engage with PACU colleagues from other health regions and, hopefully to learn something new to take back to your

workplaces. You have a new executive that I know will continue to encourage active participation in this professional organization on a provincial, national, and international level. It has been a great experience and a pleasure being your president. Enjoy the afternoons' presentation and discussion and drive home safely.

Thank you.