



NRIG

Nursing Research Interest Group



RNAO

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers autorisés de l'Ontario



FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER



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

Speaking out for nursing. Speaking out for health.



NRIG

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NRIG NEWSLETTER
FALL 2021

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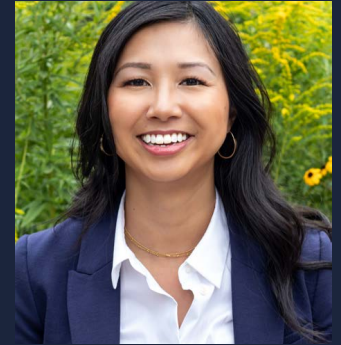
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CHAIR REPORT



To NRIG members,

I want to wish each one of you a warm welcome to this Fall season, NRIG has many upcoming events for you to attend.

First, I want to acknowledge that this past September 30th was the first **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**. For many years Indigenous people have taken on the burden of educating non-Indigenous people about the atrocities of the residential school system and about the support needed for survivors. September 30 was a day for us further educate ourselves and reflect on the trauma Indigenous People's have suffered while being mindful of the ways in which we can advocate for change. NRIG shared a number of resources and encouraged members to spend time learning about the 94 calls to action outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation report.

Launch of a NEW WEBINAR SERIES "In Conversation about..."

NRIG is excited to present a new series of webinars called "In conversation..." where we aim to provide a more interactive forum for nurse researchers to discuss their findings. The "In conversation..." webinars are meant to be more informal roundtable-style discussions between researchers and stakeholders. It not only helps disseminate research in a different way but is also a forum to engage and inspire through "conversation". These webinars will be running in tandem with our traditional webinars.

Nurse researchers at any stage of their career are welcomed to present and attend. Attendees are invited to join the conversation by sharing their ideas, candid questions, expertise, successes, etc or listen and learn. We held the first webinar in our new series "In conversation...about older spousal caregivers for older adults in active treatment" presented by Valentina Donison, RN and a second-year PhD student from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto. Read about her webinar on page 8.

We have a busy Fall schedule ahead. We will continue to encourage our members to reach out with any programming ideas - NRIG is here to meet the needs of its members. Stay safe and be well.

Sincerely,
Charlene Chu, RN, PhD



MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

CHARLENE CHU

CHAIR

Dr. Charlene Chu is a recognized nurse scientist who has passionately devoted her career to improving the quality of life of older adults and those who care for them. Dr. Chu has creatively pursued technology as the means to improve quality of care for patients and is an advocate for person-centered care practices and the co-creation of all technology solutions. She is an accomplished early career researcher who has published in excess of 50 manuscripts, holds two patents, and leads an interdisciplinary team of researchers funded by multiple grants from CIHR, SSHRC, NFRF, and the Alzheimer Society of Canada to demonstrate the wide appeal and significance of her research. She is dedicated to teaching and mentoring nurses who are interested in research.



MICHELLE HEYER

FINANCE OFFICER

Michelle Heyer is the Director, Seniors Care in the Canadian Institute for Seniors Care at Conestoga College. Michelle started her health care career as a Nurses Aide in long-term care, sparking her interest in gerontology. Michelle graduated from the Practical Nursing program at Conestoga College in 2005. She then went on to complete her BScN from McMaster University in 2010, and finished her MSc from McMaster in 2017. The focus of her MSc thesis was on the quality-of-life of older adults in long-term care. Michelle has a vast array of clinical nursing experience including complex-continuing care, palliative care, mental health, acute care and gerontology. In Michelle's role at Conestoga, she is dedicated to helping prepare health care providers to care for older adults with complex needs through gerontological research and education.



MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

YEHUDIS STOKES

SECRETARY

Yehudis is a PhD candidate at the University of Ottawa with a research focus on implementing trauma-informed care in practice. While furthering her studies, Yehudis continues as RN at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. Yehudis intends to continue her path as a clinician scientist, integrating research and academia directly and indirectly with clinical practice. She also hopes to incorporate her art therapy education and experience with her nursing research and practice.



TARA LUNDY

**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER-
NEWSLETTER**

Tara is a Registered Nurse and a graduate student working towards earning her Masters of Applied Health Sciences in Nursing at Brock University. She has previously earned a BScN from Brock University and a BSc in Microbiology and Immunology from Dalhousie University.

Tara currently works as a RN in the Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Centre in Niagara. She is also a Research Assistant for Dr. Joanne Crawford on a community-based project that explores social exclusion among newcomer immigrant women. Her current research interests include understanding health disparities and the well-being of vulnerable populations, particularly in women.



MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

LINDA SHEIBAN TAUCAR

**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER-
WEBSITE**

Linda is a Registered Nurse who currently holds the position of the Associate Research Chair at the Canadian Institute for Seniors Care at Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ontario. Linda utilizes her joint clinical and research knowledge to coordinate and conduct research, primarily focused on evidence-based care in gerontology and gerontological curriculum development. Linda is involved in conducting several research projects related to resident-centred care in long-term care.

In 2018, Linda received a NRIIG research grant to explore the experiences of college faculty on integrating RNAO Best Practice Guidelines in nursing and social service curricula. This opportunity allowed her to grow as a nurse researcher. Linda appreciates the opportunity to continue to participate in NRIIG's initiatives by being on the Executive Board as the Communications Executive Network Officer- Website.



KYLIE TEGGART

**MEMBERSHIP AND
SERVICES OFFICER**

Kylie is an oncology RN with a passion for integrating research evidence into nursing practice. She is a second year PhD student in the School of Nursing at McMaster University. Her research focus is improving symptom management for outpatients living with cancer through the implementation of best practice guidelines in oncology nursing care. Kylie is interested in methods that engage patients, nurses, and other stakeholders in research. She hopes to pursue a career as an academic nurse scientist.



MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

MARZIEH MATTARI

**POLICY AND POLITICAL
ACTION OFFICER**



Marzieh Moattari, RN, M.Sc., MSc.ME (Medical Education), PhD, has been a member of NRIIG since 2017 and joined the Executive Board as the Policy and Political Action Officer in 2019. She has over 10 years of experience in acute and chronic clinical practice, teaching and research in her former professional and professorial position. Her research interests include quality of life and health promotion of clients with complex health challenges across the life span. She is particularly interested in using client-centered methods of empowerment and technology enhanced education strategies to optimize quality of life. Inspiring from her doctoral research on critical thinking, she has applied many teaching strategies such as reasoning map and concept mapping to improve nursing students and nurses' critical thinking skills. In her recent quality improvement research project, she integrated holistic care in the nursing practice of community health nurses working at VHA HomeHealth care.



KRISTINE NEWMAN

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
NRIIG BOARD**

Dr. Kristine Newman obtained her Bachelor of Nursing Science (2003) and Master of Science in Nursing (2005) from Queen's University. Dr. Newman completed her PhD in Nursing Science (2012) from the University of Toronto and a Knowledge Translation Canada: Strategic Training Initiative in Health Research Post-Doctoral Fellowship (2013) at McMaster University. Dr. Newman's program of research relates to Knowledge translation - health evidence; Gerotechnology; Dementia awareness and intergenerational relations, Young Caregivers & their Families, and Formal & Informal Caregivers. She is a founding member of the World Young Leaders of Dementia (WYLD). She has built a research program surrounding her expertise in rehabilitation gerontological nursing practice and knowledge translation. Her knowledge dissemination involves an arts-based approach that makes research accessible and impactful to various audiences. Such projects include: Spare a Thought for Dementia (T4D) campaign, <http://thoughtsfordementia.com/> and Embody - Experiencing Dementia through New Media, <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/mobile/video?clipId=1520005> link.

MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

KAMIKA SYLVESTER

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE
NRIG SOCIAL MEDIA**

Kamika Sylvester, BSc is a recent graduate of the Scholar Practitioner Program at Nipissing University after completing an undergraduate degree in Life Sciences at McMaster University in 2016. She is a Registered Nurse Candidate preparing to begin her career in emergency medicine this Fall. Throughout her community volunteer work and administrative roles, Kamika developed her communication and social media skills which led her to begin consulting for small businesses and community organizations in 2018. As the NRIG Social Media Coordinator, she leverages these skills to promote NRIG initiatives and support the executive team.



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

DESTINY JAVIER



I am a fourth year nursing student at Ryerson University. My developing knowledge for research has simultaneously progressed my enthusiasm for sharing my interest and passion in nursing research with fellow nursing students. I am currently Co-Director of Student Life and Events at Ryerson University's Nursing Course Union as well, and enjoy reaching out to the nursing student community through educational and recreational initiatives. I have recently been exploring my interests for maternal and pediatric health, and hope to pursue a nursing career within these areas! I also enjoy trying new recipes, hiking, and riding ferry boats.

RACHEL NG



I am a fourth year nursing student at Ryerson University. I became immersed in nursing research after I realized the potential to fix issues on the individual, organizational, community, and systemic level. As Vice President of the Nursing Course Union, I have engaged students in great opportunities, and I plan to do the same for students hoping to enter research across Ontario. My personal nursing goals are to become an Emergency/Trauma nurse. I also enjoy kickboxing, gymnastics, and sitting by the pool! We hope you have a great year progressing in your research journey!

"IN CONVERSATION..." WEBINAR SERIES

In conversation about...Older Adult Caregivers to a Spouse in Active Cancer Treatment with Valentina Donison

Valentina Donison, RN is a second-year PhD student from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto. She graduated with her BScN from Ryerson University in 2015 and Masters in 2018. She aims to pursue a career as an independent nursing researcher with a program of research focused on supporting and improving the quality of life of older adults with cancer.

Valentina kick-started our webinar series on September 21, 2021: The number of older adults diagnosed with cancer will double in the next 20 years. Spousal caregivers will provide the majority of care to these individuals living with cancer, despite being older adults themselves. Much is unknown about this group of caregivers, including aspects of caregiving like the type and amount of care they provide, the impact of caregiver burden on their own health, as well as what are the positive aspects of caregiving.

If you have any questions, you can contact Valentina at:
valentina.donison@utoronto.ca



Valentina Donison

In conversation about...Using Computerized Simulation Technologies to quantify Nursing Workload During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Presented by:

Dr. Sadeem Qureshi

Dr. Nancy Purdy

Dr. Sue Bookey-Bassett

When:

November 5, 2021,
1200-1300

Join us on November 5, 2021 at 1200-1300 for our second "In Conversation..." webinar with Dr. Sadeem Qureshi, Dr. Nancy Purdy and Dr. Sue Bookey-Bassett.

About the webinar: COVID-19 continues to take a significant toll on front-line healthcare professionals - especially nurses. Higher acuity levels among COVID-19 patients and increased IPAC precautions, such as donning and doffing PPE, have created additional work demands for these front-line healthcare professionals. Using discrete event simulation (DES) we explored and quantified the effects of varying COVID-19 policies on nurse workload and quality of care. Implications for nurse leaders and decision-makers will be presented.



NRIG MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Jessica Pimienta is a first year PhD Student with the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. She received the NRIG New Member Award in 2019. Jessica's clinical background is in obstetrics and public health nursing, with a specific focus on women's health. She completed her Master of Nursing degree at Ryerson University, specializing in the field of Leadership in Healthcare Policy and Education.

Her thesis work examined perinatal healthcare for recent immigrant women during the three-month OHIP waiting period. Jessica looks forward to expanding her research interests in her doctoral work, which will focus on the relationships among social media influencers and pharmaceutical companies. She wishes to examine the ways that these interactions are regulated in the context of a country that bans direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription medicines.

After completing the PhD program, Jessica plans to pursue a program of research related to the social and commercial determinants of health, and complete research projects that critically approach the impact that the private sector has on public health.



Jessica Pimienta

NRIG STUDENT CORNER



DESTINY JAVIER



RACHEL NG

For this month, we have collaborated with our nursing student research peers to engage you in videos that answer the question "Why get involved in nursing research?" Make sure you check out NRIG's social media to find out the involvement of nursing students within unique research studies, and how you can get involved too!

We as student representatives aim to organize engaging and immersive activities for nursing students that will stimulate both interest and skill-development in nursing research. Our goal is to implement this through information sessions, research workshops, and social media outreach!





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UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



Alzheimer Society
CANADA

The Alzheimer Society of Canada has launched its competition for doctoral, postdoctoral new investigator operating grant and proof of concept grant. Funds available: varies across competition. Application deadline is November 5, 2021.



Pfizer's competitive grants program is requesting proposals for the non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) ASPIRE program. The main areas of priority are improving models of care in patients with NASH and evidence generation of optimal management of NASH in various populations; innovations in use of non-invasive tools in care of patients with NAFLD; and understanding biological drivers of heterogeneity in disease pathogenesis and/or progression and regression in NASH. Letter of intent deadline is October 20, 2021, with full proposal deadline (by invitation) due March 8, 2022.



The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council next Partnership Development Grant competition has a deadline of November 15, 2021. Funds available: \$75,000 to \$200,000. UofT researchers must submit their MRA to UofT and their full application on the SSHRC online portal by Wednesday November 10, 2021 (12 noon). Those who would like an editorial review must email their material to the Editorial Officer, Gabrielle Sugar by Monday, October 18, 2021. The next Partnership Engage Grant application deadline is December 15, 2021; UofT applicants must submit their MRA to UofT and full application to the SSHRC portal by December 10, 2021. Funds available: \$7,000 to \$25,000.



The New Frontiers in research Fund Transformation Competition is now open. Notice of intent to apply deadline is November 2, 2021; letter of intent to apply deadline is January 11, 2022; and full application deadline is September 20, 2022. This funding opportunity supports large-scale Canadian-led interdisciplinary research projects that address a major challenge with the potential to realize real and lasting change. Funds available: Grants are between \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000 per year (including indirect costs) for six years.



The Alpha Phi Foundation's women's heart health Heart to Heart grant has an application deadline of November 5, 2021 (UofT applicants have an internal MRA deadline of November 3, 2021).





2021-2022 EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

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