

President's Report

To begin, I want to say a huge thank you to the executive members for the time they have put into telephone meetings throughout the year as well the organization of the education session and Annual General Meeting. It can be a challenge at times to find the balance between commitments at work and at home and add in time for the association as well. Thank you to all!

I would like to highlight some of the activities of the 2015 – 2016 term. We presently have approximately 60 members who have renewed their membership or joined NSGNA as of April 1st. I know we have a few more to add shortly so 70 or more is within reach!

I was able to attend the Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association 18th Biennial Conference in Charlottetown PEI May 26 – 30 as your representative. It was very interesting to represent Nova Scotia at the Board of Director's meetings and attend the other conference events. The Prince Edward Island group were wonderful hosts and provided true Maritime hospitality to all the participants. It is an incredible experience to be in a room with a couple hundred other nurses all there because of an interest in Gerontology. The conference is an excellent time to meet others and gain another nugget which can be used in your work environment. Next year the folks in Ottawa will host and it would be well worth saving your pennies or nickels and dimes toward a trip. Better yet think about a presentation topic that could be submitted – abstracts are accepted until September. Check out the conference website for more info - <http://cgna2017.ca/>.

The CGNA Board of Directors also met via teleconference on several dates. We are working on several areas of the strategic plan with groups focusing on membership, recruitment & retention; promotion of the association; and dissemination of knowledge. It is interesting to hear how others across Canada are working toward adding new members and retaining our present membership. It is a common theme for all.

This past winter, the NSGNA executive continued to work toward updating the by-laws and have discovered some lost information which has changed our focus for this coming year. As an association, we are registered with the Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks. The registration process requires a set of by-laws to be determined and filed with the Registry. This was done in June 1998. We have come to realize that although subsequent versions of the by-laws were developed over the years, none of the updated versions has been filed with the Registry of Joint Stocks. The executive concluded that this being the case, we should take the opportunity to "go back to the beginning" and start from there. I have attached a copy of the original by-laws for your information. This means that we will use the "current" by-laws with as few adjustments as

possible and then create policies to guide us on specific areas. This also follows the model used by CGNA. We are planning to meet in person in June to get underway.

Both our website and Facebook page have regular updates and emails can be forwarded, so please pass along education opportunities, interesting information or events you think others may be interested in. Sometimes we each have access to information that others are missing out on!

Last but certainly not least I want to express our thanks to Dianne Arden & Kathy Cashen-Aucoin for their contribution as Secretary and Treasurer. Both have done a great job and we appreciate it!!

Jennifer Hayes 2016