

**WINTER
2017**

Diabetes Nursing Interest Group Newsletter

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Report from the Chair

By: Lisa Herlehy, DNIG Chair



Welcome all to a new membership year with RNAO and your DNIG. There are a number of exciting things planned for 2018 and, as always, membership input is very important so we are ending the calendar year with the annual general meeting (AGM) on December 14, 2017. Make sure to save the date. Although, as you will learn in the newsletter, the predicted rising tide of diabetes is staggering, you won't be given a job if you attend the meeting (unless you want one) so don't worry! Contact me at dnig.info@gmail.com for more information and dial in instructions.

This end of November newsletter is full of interesting updates and opportunities. DNIG is proud to announce more funding for ongoing learning in diabetes and continues to sponsor conference funding so be sure to take advantage and share with fellow DNIG members. DNIG values ongoing education and networking opportunities and to that end members of the executive spent many hours helping to organize a conference in collaboration with the International Nurses Interest Group (INIG) which took place last week in Toronto. Check out the recap by our membership ENO Alwyn who along with Margaret were key elements in the event's success.

Margaret travelled to Edmonton for the annual Diabetes Conference in early November and we are still waiting for her fingers to thaw out. No doubt many of our members were there as well. We also had members attend the Canadian Wound Conference.

So as we prepare to say good-bye to 2017, on behalf of the DNIG executive I would like to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season and the Happiest of New Years. No doubt 2018 will be an interesting year for the advancement of nursing care in diabetes and as a member of DNIG you are a part of it.



DNIG Executive Team

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DNIG 2018 Awards

DNIG is pleased to offer two new awards in 2018 administered through the Registered Nurses Foundation of Ontario (RNFOO). Each award is for \$1000. These are in addition to previously sponsored awards for continuing education and research. **Awards this year total \$7000.** The newest sponsorship will be for eligible applicants who wish to pursue special projects in diabetes or who wish to advance education in diabetes and who live in Northern Ontario.

Any member of DNIG is eligible to apply for tuition or project support. If this is not a year in which you can apply, encourage colleagues who are DNIG members to consider.

For further details please visit the [RNFOO](#) website.



Impact of the Ontario College Strike on Nursing Students

By: Anissa Ramchatesingh, Bachelor of Nursing, 4th year student,

Humber College ITAL/University of New Brunswick

The longest college strike in the history of Ontario has finally come to an end. For five weeks, over 500 000 students across the province have been out of the classroom. Unfortunately for nursing students whose curriculum was affiliated with a college, they have also been out of the clinical placement setting, losing precious hours and experience.

Every student has felt the effects of the strike, no matter the program. Students living away from home have had to pay a whole extra month of rent. Mental health services on campuses were discontinued over the course of the strike, leaving some students without a place to turn to when they needed it most. Even though there is a \$500 'Strike Relief Fund' for approved students, this is realistically not nearly enough to cover the month of rent (especially for international students, who already pay exorbitant fees). The holiday period has been shortened to accommodate for the lost class time, and the fall semester is being extended past the new year into January, which has affected every student's winter break and summer break plans.

Nursing students, however, have had to contend with other issues unique to the program. Clinical practicum was discontinued over the strike, and students were left in the dark as to how the hours would be made up. Clinical has been extended into the month of December, but clinical and community placements, as well as clinical teachers, were not prepared for this. Some clinical teachers' contracts end at the beginning of December, and they will therefore be unable to continue to teach their clinical group. These groups will have a brand new teacher, which is confusing since they unfortunately have not had the opportunity to observe their students' growth and areas of improvement over the course of the semester.

From my own point of view, and that of my peers, these five weeks have been nothing short of stressful. Admittedly, it was nice to get a break from the heavy course load - most students took the opportunity to catch up and get ahead in the course content. However, the anxiety and uncertainty of lost clinical hours and having to deal with a condensed semester only became worse with every passing week. Being in my 4th and last year of the program, I was very much looking forward to finally graduating and joining the workforce of nurses next summer. Now, knowing that I'll be graduating later than other nursing students in the province, I am unsure if there will be as many nursing jobs available at all.

Despite the confusing changes to the semester, teachers and staff have been working hard to get things back on track, and they are committed to our success. This hasn't been easy for any side. Nursing students are only hoping that the strike will not affect their NCLEX success and readiness for the career.



Application Now Open

The Advanced Clinical Practice Fellowship (ACPF) program provides registered nurses (RN) and nurse practitioners (NP) the opportunity to have a focused self-directed learning experience to develop clinical, leadership or best practice guideline implementation knowledge and skills, with support from a mentor(s), the organization where the RN/NP is employed, and RNAO. This initiative is aimed at developing and promoting nursing knowledge and expertise, and improving client care and health outcomes in Ontario. Clients are defined as individuals, families, groups or communities.



The length of the program is 12 weeks (full-time) or 20 weeks (part-time) for a total of 450 hours.

Follow this link to find out more about [ACPF](http://rnao.ca/ACPF). <http://rnao.ca>

Romy Burgess Burfitt, Advanced Foot Care Nurse and DNIG Executive member, was invited to take part in a diabetes awareness in Brampton facilitated by Diabetes Canada. Brampton has one of the largest population of clients diagnosed with diabetes. They all provided education on diabetes, prevention, treatment, footcare, nutrition and fitness challenge regarding diabetes. The Mayor of Brampton, Linda Jeffrey, Brampton MP Sonia Sidhu, and the community engagement coordinator - Diabetes Canada, Kelpa Pathak were also present at this event.

RAISING AWARENESS



The Michener Institute of Education at UHN's **Diabetes Specialty Courses** have been designed to build on basic knowledge and advance the practice health care providers. A working knowledge of basic diabetes care and management is required for enrollment in these courses. michener.ca/ce



Diabetes Management in Seniors

Discover theory and techniques to assist elderly diabetes patients to sustain the best quality of life possible. This course, designed for practising health care professionals working in long term care or community settings, will focus on the development of individualized plans in the care and management of diabetes in seniors.

Register By: January 19, 2018

Start Date: January 29, 2018

Intensive Insulin Management

Enhance your knowledge of current insulin therapies used by people with both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes with this practical and comprehensive course. The course begins with basal insulin therapy and moves to oral hypoglycemic agents before progressing through to the addition of prandial insulin including human insulin, rapid-acting insulin analogues and pre-mixes.

Register By: January 26, 2018

Start Date: February 5, 2018

Diabetes and Pregnancy

Explore the complexities of diabetes management during pregnancy and enhance your knowledge about the care of pregnant women with Type 1, Type 2, and gestational diabetes.

Register By: February 23, 2018

Start Date: March 5, 2018

Engaging Patients in Managing Chronic Illness

All health professionals working with people who have a chronic illness will benefit from this course. Our experienced Certified Diabetes Educator will teach you how to facilitate the changes that people need to be successful in managing their chronic illness, through the examination of theories and practices pertaining to behavioural change counselling.

Register By: March 16, 2018

Save the Date!

Talk Diabetes 2018

Diabetes Education and Management Centre

Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston

May 11 2018

Ambassador Hotel

Kingston

Contact bennn@hdh.kari.net for more info



Hotel Dieu
H O S P I T A L

DNIG-INIG Symposium 2017

Diabetes: Caring from a Cross Cultural Perspective

By: Alwyn Moyer

In partnership with the International Nursing Interest Group, DNIG held a day long symposium at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, St. Michaels Hospital, Toronto on November 25th.

Dr. Angela Brathwaite, RNAO's president elect, gave the keynote presentation on Cross Cultural Caring and other presenters contributed different perspectives on the conference theme:

- Emi Giddens: Diabetes in 2017: World Health Report
- Indubala Shekhawat: Gestational diabetes in the Asian community
- Melissa Stevenson and John Laforme: Providing traditional healing within a multidisciplinary health care model at Anishnawbe Health Centre
- Rizwana Ramzanali: My Experience of Living with Diabetes:
- Tammy Richardson: Providing Diabetes Education in Complex Care

The symposium concluded with a panel discussion. Sepelene Deonarine; Bertha Hughes; John Laforme, and Melissa Stevenson offered insight into the challenges of providing diabetes health promotion and prevention across cultures and reflected on the lessons learned that had informed their practice.

The evaluations were strongly positive. As one participant commented: "Great symposium, diverse group of presenters, attendees were engaged in the discussion and asked many questions".

The participants described the presenters as "knowledgeable, enthusiastic and experts in their field" and found the presentation relevant to their practice .

"Personal stories and cases enhanced the symposium."

"Speakers & topics were clear & informative; Learned a great deal & will incorporate into my practice to better meet my clients needs".

"[I learned] to not underestimate respect and kindness (no judgement) towards other cultures and the doors it opens to providing first steps of quality care to complex disease and diabetes."

"The cultural considerations of diabetes care and the examples really opened my eyes as to questions that need to be addressed in patient centred care."

"[Showing] cultural sensitivity and being realistic with what the patient can manage or modify in lifestyle."

"The impact of nurses to prevent and manage diabetes as it is experienced by our clients – to walk beside them on their journey & to support them = true healing."

In conclusion, we would like to thank the interest groups that allowed DNIG and INIG to advertise the conference with their membership: Community Health Nurses' Initiatives Group; Gerontological Nursing Association Ontario; Maternal Child Nurses' IG; Mental Health Nursing IG; Parish Nursing IG, Staff Nurse IG, and Nursing Students of Ontario. Thanks also to Carrie Edwards and the RNAO team for sending out the advertisement to the participating interest groups and chapters.

Upcoming Conferences

27th European Diabetes Congress

From June 20-21, 2018 | Rome, Italy

Theme: New technologies and practical approaches in the field of diabetes and endocrine disorders

Please visit <https://www.diabetesexpo.com/europe/>



Rome, Italy | June 11-12, 2018

Diabetes Canada Professional Conference 2018

Mark your calendar for the 2018 Diabetes Canada/Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism Professional Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia to be held from October 10 - 13, 2018 at the Halifax Convention Centre.

Please visit <https://www.diabetes.ca/>



78th Scientific Sessions American Diabetes Association 2018

Mark your calendars now for the world's largest, most prominent meeting on diabetes—the American Diabetes Association's 78th Scientific Sessions. Next year's meeting will be held June 22-26, 2018, in the West Concourse of the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida.

Please visit www.diabetes.org



American Association of Diabetes Educators Conference 2018



Mark your calendars now for American Association of Diabetes Educators Annual Conference organized by American Association of Diabetes Educators and would be held during Aug 17 - 20, 2018 at Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America. Please visit <https://www.diabeteseducator.org/>

DNIG 2018 Conference Funding Application

We are pleased to report that we have funding to support **three members** to attend a diabetes relevant conference in 2017. The funding will cover costs of travel, accommodation, and meals, up **to a maximum of \$1000 per member.** Please send us completed, scanned application to dnig.info@gmail.com

Applications will be reviewed and granted until 3 successful applicants are announced.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

RNAO membership # _____

DNIG Membership duration _____

Employment status: FT PT

Employer _____

Please tell us about the conference you wish to attend, approximate distance and your anticipated mode of transportation. _____

*NOTE: For reimbursement of the agreed amount, successful applicants must submit an expense report with original receipts, together with a one page report of their learning, no later than one month following the conference. The report will be shared with DNIG members in an upcoming newsletter.

Please attach a 1-page document (maximum 500 words) outlining why you qualify for this funding.

Be sure to:

- Describe your professional objectives for attending the conference.
- Describe your involvement (past/present) in your professional association/DNIG
- Describe your employment status, location, role in diabetes nursing
- Describe how you will share what you have learned with your nursing colleagues

Please provide one professional reference.

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

I certify that all information contained in this application is true and accurate.

Applicant signature _____ Date: _____