

President's Message- Fall 2011

I am so pleased to write this president's report which introduces our new website. As I go into my second term in office I have a renewed sense of purpose to keep our vision alive "To promote and support family practice/primary care nursing as an inspired profession of a lifetime."

Autumn is a bitter-sweet time with end of a more relaxed summer routine, closing up and saying goodbye and as jackets yet again become part of our morning routine we can also look forward to the beginning of a new academic year.

I want to welcome, the nurses registered in this new academic year of the Family Practice Nursing program at George Brown College, Toronto. This program came about following the collective participation and collaboration of CFPNA on Primary Care projects and papers including the Primary Care toolkit with CNA and our continued support from the CFPC.

We have been keenly aware that a website is our most important communication tool, allowing CFPNA to reach nurses across the country especially those nurses working in solo or smaller practice or in more rural and remote regions of Canada. It was the collaboration of Ontario and Nova Scotia's Family Practice Nurses Associations who amalgamated their provincial with our national membership that boosted our national numbers and gave us the necessary funds to pay for our new website. With funds in place it was the tireless efforts of our President elect, Michelle Allard who with the help of Winnipeg based Modern Earth created our new website. We invite you to explore www.cfpna.ca, this a place for CFPNA members to view, discuss and post information relevant to us. We encourage your questions and although we may not always have answers, they will result in thought and discussion.

"A good question is never answered. It is not a bolt to be tightened into place but a seed to be planted and to bear more seed toward the hope of greening the landscape of idea." ~John Ciardi

We represent a unique group of nurses with close collaborative ties to both CNA and CFPC. Inspired by the release of the CFPC & CNA joint vision-statement on inter-professional care stating that every person in Canada should have a personal family physician and access to a nurse and others as needed on teams caring for the patients of each practice at the CFPC Family Medicine Forum in Winnipeg, Oct 2007, we made a decision to form a national association. Since then our membership has grown more than tenfold and I am looking forward to a membership of 1000 by our 2nd biennium November 2012

Together we can do it and we can make a difference.

Ann Alsaffar, RN