

# Canadian Association for the History of Nursing

Association canadienne pour l'histoire du Nursing

Newsletter Volume 20, Number 2, Fall 2007

### President's Message - Geertje Boschma

CAHN/ACHNwas founded in 1987 and celebrates its 20th Anniversary this year. A first conference was held in 1988. The upcoming 2008 CAHN\ACHN International Nursing History conference, to be held at the University of Toronto Faculty of Nursing, will mark twenty years of

an organized effort to stimulate interest in the history of nursing, endorse preservation of historical material, promote historical nursing scholarship, and encourage students in their study of the history of nursing as outlined in the objectives of our organization. As noted in the conference call, the conference brings together scholars from many different countries and many different areas of nursing and health care history. The conference theme, *Borders, boundaries and political context in health care history*, indicates a view of history that contributes to a critical understanding of developments and events that shaped nursing and health care. The conference themes explore and raise critical questions about the so-cial and power relations that affect health care.

Being a relatively small, charitable volunteer organization, it takes the work of many to make this broad aim happen, and we are fortunate that we have been successful over the years to continue to attract people to our group who have given their time and commitment to strive toward the realization of CAHN/ACHN's objectives. Members of our organization have been involved in building connections and continue to be involved in initiatives that foster expanded interest in the field. Looking back at the conferences over the last years, we have seen a gradual expansion in the number of students presenting new research, supported by a growing number of scholars engaged in historical research in nursing. Also, we have maintained a membership of interested nurses dedicated to promoting and preserving the history of nursing. The CNA has requested our input in updating the CNA Position Statement Promoting Nursing History/La mise en valeur de l'histoire des soins infirmiers which was first developed with our input in 2004. The CNA centennial celebration, also in June 2008, has sparked the interest in updating the statement.

Over the years, we have built connections with related fields, resulting in several joint conferences with our colleagues in the history of medicine, and continued connections and activities with women's history scholars. Vera Roberts, one of our more quiet, but committed members made CAHN/ACHN a beneficiary of her will with a large endowment, with the specific aim to promote the history of northern nursing, preferably of the circumpolar area. We will promote the interest in this area of scholarship at the upcoming conference with a panel of presentations devoted to historical research.

We continue to benefit from ongoing support of AMS in funding of an annual Hannah Lecture and over the last years an amount of funding for student travel. For the upcoming conference we have received a substantive AMS conference grant toward the cost of the conference to reach our goal of an international conference, as well as support from various other sponsors. We invite you all to attend our upcoming conference and to encourage others to come as well. We will have several francophone speakers, so - repeating Anne-Marie Arsenault's earlier invitation: Je lance une invitation spéciale à nos collègues francophones du Québec et des autres régions canadiennes de se joindre à nous en devenant membre de l'Association. Nous souhaitons une grande participaton aux activitiés planifiées pour la prochaine année.

Last May we had a very successful joint conference with the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine. The Hannah Lecture was presented by Dr. Maureen Lux. Several students presented their research as well as a large group of nursing and medical history scholars. Many outstanding new books in nursing history were presented at a book launch and

## President's Message Cont'd

conference reception, hosted by Dr. Jacqie Duffin, and we enjoyed a pleasurable conference dinner. We thank Sandra Bassendowski for taking on the local arrangements, together with Barry Edginton and Lisa Smith. During the Annual General Meeting we approved of the proposed changes to our constitution and bylaws, as distributed among our membership in March 2007, including two friendly amendments that Associate members may also hold offices at the discretion of the executive and that the membership committee shall be composed of up to two members, at least one of whom will be a regular member of the Association, with term of office of two years, which can be renewed. The scholarship awards were announced, and you will find them reported in the newsletter. Last, but not least, we welcome several new and many continuing members on the board and standing committees to take up the work of the organization. I am looking forward to working with all of you in my new role as president over the coming years. And I hope to meet many of our members at the upcoming conference.

Santé! Geertje

### **Editors' Message -**

Marilyn Beaton & Jeanette Walsh

As we write this, Marilyn and I are sitting in a B & B in Gander, Newfoundland having just completed a province wide tour interviewing nurses for our most recent nursing history project. Our aim is to have the interviews transcribed and analyzed, and hopefully presented at the 2008 nursing history conference in Toronto. As with our early research project, it continues to amaze us how much nurses have contributed to health care in this province and how much will be lost if their stories are not documented. Hopefully others are doing similar work in other provinces.

Unfortunately we were unable to attend the conference in Saskatchewan but you will read in Geertje's message that it was a wonderful conference. The abstract of the Hannah lecture by Dr. Maureen Lux is included in this newsletter.

The 2008 CAHN/ACHN Conference is scheduled for Toronto, June 5-7. Important information on the conference can be found throughout the newsletter. The registration form is included on the last page for your convenience. You are encouraged to register early.

We want to thank those who submitted material for this newsletter. As always it has made our work so much easier. We urge all members to send any items they think would appeal to those interested in nursing history.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Margaret Scaia has regretfully resigned from the Communications Committee. Thankfully for us Judith Hibberd has agreed to continue with the committee.

Marilyn and Jeanette

### <u>Nominations</u> Committee Report for the 2007 AGM

The following is the Nominations Committee report for the 2007-08 Executive Board and Committee Members.

### <u>Executive,</u> <u>Board and Committee Members</u> <u>2007-2008</u>

**President** Geertje Boschma (2007-2009) Boschma@nursing.ubc.ca

#### Vice President Marion McKay (2007-2009) Marion\_mckay@umanitoba.ca

Past-President Marg Gorrie (2007-2009) <u>mlgorrie@shaw.ca</u>

#### Treasurer

Carol Helmstadter (2006-2008) carol.helmstadter@rogers.com

**Secretary** Sandra Bassendowski (2007-2009) S.bassendowski@usask.ca

### Membership Committee

Janet Beaton (2007-2009) Janet\_beaton@umanitoba.ca

Allison Cowell (2007-2009) <u>ccowell@mts.net</u>

### Communications Committee

Marilyn Beaton (2005-2008) mbeaton@mun.ca

Jeanette Walsh (2005-2008) mj.walsh@nl.rogers.ca

Judith Hibberd (2007-2009) jmhibberd@shaw.ca

## Membership Committee

Jayne Elliott, (Chair) (2007-2009) jelliott@uottawa.ca

June Anonson (2007-2008) June.anonson@usask.ca

### Scholarship and Research

Florence Melchoir (Chair) (2006-2008) Florence@mhc.ab.ca

Judith Young (2006-2008) judith@primus.ca

Diana Mansell (2006-2008) djmansel@ucalgary.ca

Heather MacDougall (2006-2008) hmacdoug@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Cynthia Toman (2006-2008) ctoman@sympatico.ca

### Finance Committee

Carol Helmstadter (Chair) (2006-2008) Carol.helmstadter@rogers.com

Marion McKay (2007-2009) Marion\_mckay@umanitoba.ca

Robert Hager (Public Rep.) rhager@hsf.bc.ca

### Nominations Committee

Marg Gorrie (Chair) (2007-2009) mlgorrie@shaw.ca

Laurie Clune (2006-2008) lclune@ryerson.ca

Kathy Gates (2006-2008) kgates@ryerson.ca

## Long-Range Planning Committee

Marion McKay (Chair) (2007-2009) Marion\_mckay@umanitoba.ca

Nicole Rousseau (2007-2009) Nicole.rousseau@fsi.ulaval.ca

Beverley Hicks (2006-2008) hicks@mts.net

Sioban Nelson (2006-2008) Sioban.nelson@utoronto.ca

### Conference Co-Chairs 2008

Carol Helmstadter (2007-2008) Carol.helmstadter@rogers.com

Judith Young (2007-2008) Judith@primus.ca

### Conference Chair 2009

Marion McKay (2007-2009) Marion\_mckay@umanitoba.ca

## Submitted by the Nominations Committee June 2007:

Anne-Marie Arseneault (Chair) Marion McKay Laurie Clune Kathy Gates

## CAHN/ACHN Scholarship & Research Awards Committee

Members: Florence Melchior (chair); Heather MacDougall, Diana Mansell; Judith Young; and Cynthia Toman.

#### CAHN/ACHN Dr. Allemang Scholarship in Nursing History (2007)

The committee received several excellent submissions for the scholarship. We awarded one scholarship at the master's and one at the doctoral level. Congratulations to both recipients.

Master's Level Scholarship: Shaina Goudie from Memorial University, NL studying the changes in nursing education in Newfoundland after 1966—the year that the Memorial University Bachelor of Nursing program was founded.

Doctoral Level Scholarship: Mary Jane McCallum from the University of MB studying the Aboriginal nurse history in Canada during three periods: 1900-1945, 1950s and 1960s, and 1969-1989.

#### Vera Roberts Endowment (2007)

Besides funding research in northern nursing, publication/dissemination of northern nursing history may also be funded. The committee has developed some guidelines for this avenue; the guidelines for research and publication proposals can be found on the cahn-achn website.

The scope of eligible projects for the publication (dissemination) of northern nursing history is broad. Some possible projects may include:

- An exhibit on northern nursing
- A presentation to a historical or nursing conference
- A CAHN/ACHN lecturer or invited speaker at a conference
- A northern panel for nursing history at a conference
- Preservation of primary data
- Collection or compilation of primary data, for example oral histories

Interested applicants may contact the chair of the Scholarship and Awards committee to ascertain the appropriateness and fit of a proposal project. The principle investigator/disseminator should write a letter to the chair outlining the proposed project including time lines and budget. The "Application Cover Page" from the Guide for Nursing History Proposals may be used where applicable.

The committee received an application from the organizers of the CAHN/ACHN Conference Planning Committee (2008) to fund a panel of northern nursing history. The project which includes a bi-lingual panel of four nursing history scholars has been awarded the first monies from the Vera Roberts Endowment.

Submitted by: Florence Melchior (Chair)

## **CAHN/ACHN International Nursing History Research Conference**

## **Call for Abstracts:**

## Borders, boundaries and political context in nursing and health care history

The conference is organized by the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing/Association Canadienne pour l'Histoire du Nursing and co-sponsored by the Associated Medical Services, the Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, the School of Nursing, Ryerson University, the School of Women's Studies, York University, the Allemang Centre for the History of Nursing, and the AMS Nursing History Research Unit.

Aiming for a critical understanding of connections between health and nursing, the conference welcomes papers that explore borders, boundaries and the political context in nursing and health care history. The conference seeks to explore the history of nursing practice, religious and missionary roots of modern nursing, as well as critical questions on the history of specialty areas and regions of practice. Looking at critical and under-examined areas of nursing's past, questions of practice, power and health policy will be examined. How did local, regional and global contexts of health care shape nursing practice? How did colonial, imperial and political regimes impact on health care practice and administration? How did communities respond to special needs, difficult behaviour and vulnerability? How did nurses influence or participate in (inter) national health politics? What tensions arose over claims of knowledge, skill and identity? Priority will be given to abstracts addressing these themes.

The conference brings together scholars from many different countries and many different areas of nursing and health care history. We especially welcome abstracts from students. CAHN/ACHN has a certain amount of funding to support student travel. The two Hannah Lecturers at the conference will be

Karen Schultheiss, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Illinois, Chicago, author of *Bodies and Souls: Politics and the Professionalization of Nursing in France 1880-1922.* 

Catherine Choy, Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California Berkeley, author of *Empire of Care: Nursing and Migration in Filipino American History*.

Please submit a one page abstract on completed research by e-mail of no more than 300 words. State the title of the paper at the top and at the end list name, institutional affiliation or city, contact information, and whether you are a student. Let us know if you would like your e-mail to be published along with the abstract, and if you have any audiovisual or other special requirements. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed.

Submit abstracts to geertje.boschma(at)nursing.ubc.ca

Abstracts must be received by Dec. 1, 2007. Notification of acceptance will be send out by Feb.1, 2008

For further information contact Judy Young: judith@primus.ca or Carol.helmstadter@rogers.com

## **Update On 2008 International Conference**

We are pleased to announce that Associated Medical Services has given us a large grant for our 2008 International Nursing History Conference. This generous grant has enabled us to set up three panels with distinguished speakers who come from Canada, the USA, Germany, Switzerland and Australia. The panels will address the themes of our conference: the first will be on the political, imperial and colonial context of health care, the second on missionary and religious nursing history in international context, and the third on the political context of mental health care practice. There will be three invited speakers on each panel who will speak for 20 minutes each followed by comments from the chair and discussion and questions from the audience.

There will be a fourth panel on Northern Nursing, sponsored by our Vera Roberts Endowment. This panel will follow the same format but will also include a brief biography of the distinguished Canadian nurse who left us this legacy and a description of the new Vera Roberts research and scholarship awards.

We particularly encourage students to attend and to submit poster and paper abstracts. There will be a special student luncheon workshop following in the tradition of our previous conferences where these meetings were extremely successful.

Registration is now open. We encourage people to register early because it facilitates the conference planning. The conference hotel is the Delta Chelsea and we will be setting up a link to its reservation offices shortly. We will also have conference rates at one or two other less expensive hotels and there will be student rooms at the University of Toronto available as well.

Please watch our website for further information. For more detailed information please contact <u>carol.helmstadter@rogers.com</u> or Judy Young at <u>judithy@primus.ca</u>.

### Accommodation For The Conference

The Delta Chelsea Hotel will be the conference hotel for the 2008 Conference. It is within walking distance of the University of Toronto Faculty of Nursing where the conference will be held and is where the Welcome Reception Buffet and first Hannah Lecture will be given on Thursday night. Coordinates for the hotel are:

33 Gerrard Street West Toronto, ON M5G 1Z4 Canada Phone: 1-800-243-5732 Fax: 416-585-4393 www.deltachelsea.com

Please make your reservations directly with the hotel. Conference rates are Canadian\$181.26 a night. You must identify yourself as a delegate at the conference with the code GJACAHN and reserve before May 6 2008 to qualify for the conference rate. You can also book on line using the link <u>www.deltachelsea.com/gjcahn</u>.

We are offering a conference rate at a second hotel which is somewhat less expensive, the Toronto Midtown Holiday Inn. It is somewhat further away from the Faculty of Nursing and will take a short 5 minute subway trip. Both subway stations are very close to the hotel and the Faculty. The hotel coordinates are:

280 Bloor Street West Toronto, ON M5S 1V8 Canada Phone: 1-800-HOLIDAY-Property Code YYZBS Fax: 416-968-7765 www.holiday-inn.com/torontomidtown

Rates are Canadian\$142.49 for singles and doubles and \$153.89 for triples and quads. You must identify yourself as a delegate with the code HNC and book before May 5 2008 to get the conference rate.

## Accommodation At University Of Toronto

There are two residence facilities at the University of Toronto which we suggest. The first is <u>89 Chestnut</u>, a former hotel in which each room has its own bathroom ensuite. Rates are \$89 for a single and \$99 for a double. This hotel would require a one stop subway ride to get to the Faculty of Nursing. The subway stops are within a block or two of the hotel and the Faculty. We have not reserved a block of rooms but you can book directly on the internet:

OR 89 Chestnut 89 Chestnut Street Toronto, ON M5G 1R1 Canada Phone: 416-977-0707 Fax: 416-977-1136

The second residence is <u>New College</u>, a student dormitory. Rates are \$36 for a single and \$50 for a double for students. For non-students it is \$39.50 and \$58. New College is within easy walking distance of the Faculty of Nursing. We do not have a block of rooms reserved but you can book directly on the internet:

OR New College Summer Residence Office University of Toronto 40 Willcocks Street

Toronto, ON M5S 1C6 Canada Fax: 416-946-3801 E-mail: summer.newcollege@utoronto.ca

## 2007 CSHM/CAHN Joint Conference—Hannah Lecture

The following is the abstract for the Hannah Lecture presented by Dr. Maureen K. Lux, PhD Department of History, Brock University at the Joint CSHM/CAHN Conference held in Saskatoon May 31—June 2, 2007.

#### "Segregated and Isolated: Institutional Health Care for Aboriginal People in Post-World War II Canada"

The Charles Camsell Indian Hospital in Edmonton was officially opened in August 1946 by Governor General Field Marshall Viscount Alexander of Tunis. Eight-year-old patient Doreen Callihoo quietly presented Lady Alexander with a bouquet of flowers. It was high state drama intended to signal the arrival of modern and effective health care for Aboriginal people. For forty years from 1945 to 1985 the hospital, with more than 500 beds, treated First Nations and Inuit people from the west and north. It was part of a larger expansion of hospital spaces for Aboriginal people; by 1960 the government owned twenty-two racially-segregated hospitals of varying size. Bureaucratic, medical, and to a certain extent, historical discourse suggests that hospitalization was part of a natural progression toward effective health care that most Canadians already enjoyed. But large-scale hospitalization must be seen as historically contingent. Institutions for Aboriginal people might be seen in light of the international literature on modern institutions of isolation and confinement – the hospital, the penitentiary, the residential school. In the post-war era the emerging Canadian welfare state was increasingly committed to the management of those who needed care or control. Aboriginal tuberculosis sufferers and those assumed to be 'carriers' of the disease could not be trusted with the freedoms that healthy and responsible citizens enjoyed. The threat to the public health of the careless infected justified their incarceration as a service to the wider community. The hospital's opening ceremony as one of the first acts of the newly-established department of National Health and Welfare, the flagship of Canada's welfare state, was a very public demonstration of the state's commitment to protect all Canadians by segregating and isolating those who threatened the public's health.

### **Tribute to Anne-Marie Arseneault**

Anne-Marie completed her term as Past President of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing in June. As she leaves the executive I would like to pay tribute to her accomplishments and the leadership she provided to the Association. She was present at the founding of CAHN and brought a unique perspective during her years on the executive.

Anne-Marie has been a devoted advocate of bilingualism and has often translated or contributed to the translation into French of a variety of CAHN documents, always on a voluntary basis. Her efforts and skill in this area have contributed to understanding and appreciation between anglophone and francophone nurses. In 2006 Anne-Marie and Member-at-Large Nicole Rosseau worked with a translator to have the Vera Roberts Endowment application and forms made available in French. This is a significant accomplishment as it broadens the range of potential applicants for this award. A proper translation is not easy, at times, even for professional translators. Anne-Marie and Nicole devoted the time and energy needed to see that a French version of the original is correct and clear.

From 2003 to 2005 Anne-Marie was the President of CAHN. During this time she ensured the Association would meet the terms of Vera Roberts' will and received the funds bequeathed to CAHN. This was a milestone for the Association as it is the first time an endowment has been given to the Association. In addition to working to develop the Association's capacity to grant awards, Anne-Marie worked with the Canadian Nurses Association to develop the Position Statement on History of Nursing. The Statement provides an articulation of the importance of nursing history for nursing educators and others. In bringing these initiatives to fruition, Anne-Marie was an able negotiator for our Association's objectives.

Working with Anne-Marie is a pleasurable experience; she is a patient teacher who builds on the strengths of the people with whom she works and fosters a sense of shared accomplishment – building a cohesive sense of teamwork. CAHN has been fortunate to have had the benefits of her knowledge and skill.

Marg Gorrie

### **Request for Information**

Susan Reid-Armstrong is researching a book on nurses and the World Health Organization. She is particularly interested in contacting anyone who knew the late Evelyn Matheson. You can contact Susan at 519 821 9428 or email reids@rogers.com

### Announcement

The new Associated Medical Services History of Nursing Unit opened at the University of Ottawa. For more information please go the <u>www.health.uottawa.ca/nursinghistory.</u>

## **Books/Articles**

Hardill, Kathy, From the Grey Nuns to the streets: A critical History of Outreach Nursing in Canada, <u>Public Health Journal</u>, Vol 24, #1, pp 91-97

Crowe, Cathy, Dying for a Home. Homeless Activists Speak Out <u>http://tdrc.net/dying\_for\_a\_home.htm</u>

Between the Lines: <u>http://www.btlbooks.com</u>

## *Twice As Good: A History of Aboriginal Nurses* Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada, Ottawa, 2007 Mary Jane McCallum

Twice As Good: A History of Aboriginal Nurses uses the records of the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada (ANAC) and the National Archives of Canada, as well as a range of secondary literature and the recollections of several Aboriginal nurses to examine a century of Aboriginal nursing history in Canada. It has three main goals. First, it attempts to dispel the myth that the retention and recruitment of Aboriginal nurses is a 'new' or 'recent' crisis by providing a loose chronology of four main periods of Aboriginal education and employment in the nursing field (1900-1945: 1945-1969: 1969-1989 and 1989-2006). Second, it argues that Aboriginal nurses stood at a number of critical intersections of Canadian and Aboriginal politics, Indian and health policy, and "Western" and "Traditional" practice and can therefore tell us much about the history of Aboriginal health, Aboriginal labour and the history of nursing in Canada. Third, Twice As Good endeavours to open up a long and interesting history of Aboriginal nursing's past to all Aboriginal students, including nurses. It is intended for those interested in both teaching and learning about the history of nursing, Aboriginal education, and Aboriginal labour. Twice As Good is available through the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada at www.anac.on.ca/publications.html.

*Twice As Good* began as part of my doctoral work at the History department at the University of Manitoba. After sharing a paper on the history of Aboriginal nurses with the ANAC executive, I was asked to do a larger project on the history of Aboriginal nurses. As an Aboriginal student, I have a vested interest in the experiences and policies guiding post-secondary education for Aboriginal students, and have noted a distinct lack of information about the history of Aboriginal people in post-secondary education and work. The book is an attempt to delve into issues of access to higher education, the employment patterns of the Medical Services Branch (now First Nations and Inuit Health Branch), the association of nursing and health with decolonization, and the promotion of cultural competency in nursing education and work. I have greatly appreciated the support of the ANAC, as well as CAHN-ACHN, through its Allemang Scholarship.



My name is Mary Jane McCallum, and I am a history student at the University of Manitoba. I study, in part, the history of Aboriginal nurses in Canada, and I received CAHN's Allemang scholarship this spring. I wrote a brief history of Aboriginal Nurses for the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada, which has been recently printed into a booklet.

### TWICE AS GOOD A History of Aboriginal Nurses



#### CAHN/ACHN

### CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF NURSING/ ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR L'HISTOIRE DU NURSING INTERNATIONAL NURSING HISTORY CONFERENCE JUNE 5-7, 2008 Registration Form

Name			
Position/Title			
Employer			
Home address			
Work Phone	Home Phone		
Fax			
E-mail			
Early registration (before May 15)		\$140	
Late registration (after May 15)		\$180	
Student registration		\$25	
Banquet		\$65	
Guest Banquet Ticket		\$65	
* Please indicate if vegetarian	dinner desired:		

### TOTAL

Registration fee includes continental breakfasts, lunches and coffee breaks.

#### Payment must accompany registration.

- □ Cheque made payable to CAHN/ACHN. Due to the volatility of currency exchange rates cheque must be in <u>Canadian</u> dollars.
- $\square$  MasterCard
- $\square$  Visa

Card number

Expiry Date

Signature

Date

Mail to: Carol Helmstadter Treasurer, CAHN/ACHN 34 Chestnut Park Road Toronto, ON M4W 1W6, Canada