



Fall 2009

*Canadian Association for the History Of Nursing*  
*Association canadienne pour l'histoire du Nursing*

## Newsletter

Volume 22, Issue 2

### *President's Message- Marion McKay*

Greetings to CAHN Members and Supporters,

This edition brings with it my first message as President of CAHN. I confess that over the past few months, having been tasked with the responsibility of creating a pandemic plan for the undergraduate nursing programs at the University of Manitoba and of facilitating an unprecedented mobilization of undergraduate nursing students to participate in H1N1 mass immunization clinics, the CAHN has not always received the attention that it deserves - at least, not from me. But the historic connections between past pandemics and current gaps between need and available resources have certainly been on my mind. I am even more convinced than before that historians contribute a great deal to our understanding of the social dynamics that underlie human responses to large-scale crises, and that the past can provide instructive examples of how to plan for current and future health care challenges.

As you will read in another section of this newsletter, the joint CSHM/CAHM meeting in Ottawa was an outstanding success. Planning for the next joint meeting, which will be in Fredericton at the University of New Brunswick in 2011, will begin shortly. Plans for the 2010 CAHN Conference in Winnipeg on June 18-20 are well underway.

Most of my time has been spent in an ongoing dialogue with Dr. Peter Warren, President of CSHM and Dr. William Shragge, President and CEO of Associated Medical Services. Over the past several months, AMS has embarked on comprehensive reappraisal of its mandate. In part, this decision is a direct consequence of the severe economic downturn of the past year. AMS estimates that it has lost about 25% of its capital since 2008. However, Dr. Shragge also shared with us that the AMS Board also feels that it must evolve and grow. While the "history of medicine" may no longer be a priority for AMS, this does not mean that AMS is prepared to abandon the work and the partnerships that it has nurtured over the past many years.

During our meeting on September 8, 2009, I asked Dr. Shragge whether AMS would continue to fund the CAHN Hannah Lecture and to support graduate student travel to CAHN conferences. In the short term, this may still be possible, and the 2010 conference planning committee plans to submit funding proposals for both projects this month. Long term commitments to these and other CAHN initiatives remain unknown at this time.

Both Dr. Warren and I expressed our concerns about AMS's decision to move some of its research funding to CIHR. We had a long discussion about whether or not a funding body more accustomed to evaluating and supporting research in the sciences and social sciences provided the best platform to support scholarship in the history of health care. This week, Dr. Shragge will meet with CIHR representatives in Ottawa, and he has asked for follow up information from both Dr. Warren and me to take with him to that meeting. We also expressed concerns about the impact that losing AMS funding would have on the Canadian Bulletin of Medical History. Members of both CAHN and CSHM publish in the Bulletin and its loss would have a serious impact on both organizations' capacity to develop and sustain scholarship in the history of health care. In the short term, support for the Bulletin is in place, but the long term commitment of AMS remains unknown at this time.

While all of these unexpected developments create some uncertainty about our future working relationship with AMS, I am confident that CAHN can continue to support and nurture scholarship in the history of nursing.

Finally, I want to thank the members of our Executive for their hard work over the past few months. We will soon have a re-designed web-site to showcase our organization and after the many months of preparation, I look forward to seeing the finished product.

Best wishes,

*Marion*

**INSIDE: CALL FOR PAPERS!**

**2010 CAHN/ACHN Conference- Winnipeg, MB**

**Continuities, Contingencies and Fault Lines: Nursing 100 Years After Nightingale**

## CSHM/SCHM and CAHN/ACHN 2009 Conference Report

From the 29<sup>th</sup> until the 31<sup>st</sup> of May CAHN/ACHN held its annual conference jointly with the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine. The conference was held during the Congress for the Humanities and Social Sciences at Carleton University in Ottawa. A big thank you to Meryn Stuart, Cynthia Toman and Jayne Elliot for their leadership in the organization of this conference. Suzanne Klaussen and Valorie Minett were the co-chairs from CSHM. Thank you too, Suzanne and Valorie. It was a great conference. The conference opened with a pre-conference tour for those who were interested to visit the Canada Science and Technology Museum. Curator David Pantalony gave a special backroom collection tour for members.

Highlights of the conference were two AMS funded lectureships. The Hannah Lecture was given this year by Dr. Judith Walzer Leavitt, Ruppel Bascom and Ruth Bleier Professor of Medical History and Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, US. She presented on her new book "Make Room for Daddy: Men and Childbirth in Mid-Twentieth Century United States. Her talk was most interesting and the book is highly recommended. The Paterson Lecture was given by Dr. Angus McLaren, Professor Emeritus of the University of Victoria, BC. His presentation was entitled: "Divorcing Sex and Reproduction: The Discussion of Artificial Insemination in Britain, 1918-1948". McLaren pointed out how the interwar years provided an important context for the emergence of this controversial medical intervention, which was much welcomed by some while seen as a threat by others.

Because of the generous financial support from the Associated Medical Services two nursing history students, Margaret Scaia and Nerrisa Bonifacio, received a travel grant to present their research at the conference. They joined a large number of nursing and medical history students who presented their work on a wide variety of topics. In sixteen concurrent sessions students, junior and senior scholars presented research on a wide range of projects. For example, the first session focused on University and Hospital Schools of Nursing. Andrea Melvin gave a talk on nursing uniforms at Kingston General Hospital Training School for Nurses, and Margaret Scaia and Lynne Young presented their research on the history of the University of Victoria School of Nursing. The third talk this session was by Luciana Luchesi from Brazil, who analyzed the influence of Gleite de Alcântara on Brazilian nursing. Gleite had studied at the nursing program at the University of Toronto as part of her career.

Another interesting session was the one on indigenous medicine and nursing in Canada. A nurse from the first nations community commented on three presentations, by Cynthia Toman (A suitable girls: Agnes Sampson, the Weston Hospital and the Ontario Women's Christian Temperance Union, 1917-1929), Myra Rutherford (The voice of patients: Blending medical traditions in Northern Canadian communities), and Laurie Meijer Drees respectively (Our medicine: Local indigenous "Medicine" and Nursing in the Nanaimo Indian Hospital, 1945-1975). The recent publication by the Aboriginal Nurses of Canada (ANC) (2009) on cultural competence and cultural safety in nursing education: A framework for First Nations, Inuit and Métis nursing (Ottawa: Author), was presented as well during the session. It is an important document for all schools of nursing. These were just a few examples of the high quality presentations at the conference. Both organizations held their annual meetings, and we all enjoyed a great conference dinner in downtown Ottawa. Thanks again to the conference organizers, and note your calendars for the next CAHN/ACHN.

By Geertje Boschma

*(See call for abstracts for 2010 CAHN/ACHN Conference in Winnipeg Manitoba on pg.6)*

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# Newsletter

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## Museum of Health Care at Kingston

**To: Canadian Association for the History of Nursing**

**From: James A. Low**

**Date:** May 20, 2009

I am pleased to have this opportunity to write to the membership of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing

While planning for the Museum 20 years ago, a number of issues became evident. Two of these issues were:

- **Canada did not have a mission specific museum for health care**
- **Museums must have a professional staff (thus a budget) to be successful**

### Mission specific museum

Collections of health care artifacts will be found in major national, provincial and community museums, and interpretative centres. These artifacts will be used periodically in exhibits to enhance the story that they wish to tell. What is missing is a museum whose only mission is the history and science of health and health care

The vision of the Museum is to be a national resource whose only mission is to preserve the legacy of health care.

The goal of the Museum is to develop a representative collection of artifacts reflecting the history and science of each health care discipline and to make this available as a research resource through the Internet.

The Museum collection numbers in excess of 30,000 artifacts. The Museum catalogue includes 26,250 fully accessioned artifacts with 8,500 images. The Museum catalogue is available through the Internet on the Museum website [www.museumofhealthcare.ca](http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca) and on Artifacts Canada maintained by the Canadian Heritage Information Network. This is a research resource for historians, graduate and undergraduate students to be used in projects, presentations and publications.

### Museum Budget

A museum must have a professional staff to achieve its mission. The budget to achieve this is difficult for institutions whose primary commitment is either health care or education. Therefore the Museum of Health Care was established as a non profit corporation governed by a Board of Directors whose only mission is the preservation of the legacy of health care in Canada.

The Museum of Health Care has grown rapidly since its inception 20 years ago with six full time, one part time and in the summer four or five contact staff. A number of volunteers provide valuable assistance. Our annual budget is now of the order of \$300,000 per annum. This is achieved with the support of individuals, partnerships, program sponsors and project grants from government, corporations and foundations.

See **Top Ten** on page 8...

### Award News

#### Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarships: \$35,000 per annum for 3 years

**Award recipient:** Margaret Scaia, University of Victoria BC, Interdisciplinary Studies PhD: History, Women's Studies and Nursing

#### UNDERSTANDING WOMEN'S LABOUR, 1965-1976: WORK, NURSING AND MOTHERHOOD

##### Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this program of research is to explore and understand significant intersections between the history of women, work and motherhood as reflected in changes in the social construction of nursing during the period 1965-1976. The research will be contextualized through references to the post war period and the decade following the 1960s and will build on scholarship in the areas of history, women's studies and nursing, including my own scholarship around the history of motherhood in Post War Canada. This inquiry will be informed by scholarship around women's labor history, second wave feminism and the historical contextualization of the period. The exemplar of this transition in women's experience of work and motherhood will focus on the professionalization of nursing during a particularly significant period of women's history in Canada. Thus, the disciplines of nursing, history and women's studies will offer sources of scholarship essential to the quality and depth of inquiry demanded at this level of research.

#### 2009 CAHN/ACHN Allemang Scholarship Award

The winner of this year's 2009 CAHN/ACHN Margaret Allemang Nursing History Scholarship Award was Margaret Scaia from Victoria, BC. Margaret is enrolled in the PhD program in interdisciplinary studies at the University of Victoria with a focus on nursing history. Her doctoral research will focus on gaining an understanding of how changes in the nature of women's lives has affected changes in the social construction of nursing. Margaret is also Instructor at the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria. In June she joined the CAHN/ACHN board as a member at large.

Congratulations Margaret!

Applications for the CAHN/ACHN Margaret Allemang Scholarship and the CAHN/ACHN Vera Roberts Nursing History Research Award will be accepted until February 1<sup>st</sup> for the 2010 award year. Visit our website for more information.

#### ATTENTION STUDENTS!

#### Website for Graduate Students:

Canadian Historical Association-  
Graduate Student Committee

<http://www.cha-shc.ca/gsc-ced/en/index.shtml>

[www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca)  
For more information

### Call for Abstracts!

## 2010 CAHN Annual Meeting, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 18-20

### **Continuities, Contingencies and Fault Lines: Nursing 100 Years After Nightingale**

A century after her death, Florence Nightingale continues to cast a long shadow over the History of Nursing, especially in the English-speaking world, where the Nightingale narrative long served as a basis for assertions of a universal body of knowledge and a unitary sphere of practice that justified nursing's professional claims. In the last quarter century, however, historians have increasingly turned their attention to illuminating the diversity of nursing practitioners, the contingency of nursing practice, and nursing's location within social, national and imperial projects.

The Canadian Association for the History of Nursing is pleased to announce Continuities, Contingencies and Fault Lines: Nursing 100 Years After Nightingale as the title theme for its 2010 Annual Meeting, to be held in Winnipeg, June 18-20, 2010. The Program Committee invites proposals for papers which explore the diversity of practitioners who have performed caring work and laid claim to the title nurse; the nature of their practices; and the ways in which ideas about nursing have been challenged, transformed, dissolved and reconstituted across space and time. Abstracts on other topics are also welcome.

We invite proposals in English and French for presentations in either language. Abstracts should be no longer than 350 words and should be accompanied by a one-page *curriculum vitae*. Submissions by e-mail are strongly encouraged, or they can be mailed to the address below. Abstracts will be blind peer reviewed, and the Program Committee will notify applicants of its decision by February 15, 2010

#### **Submission information:**

Abstracts must be received by January 8, 2010 to be considered. Abstracts should be sent via e-mail to:

[CAHN2010@UManitoba.CA](mailto:CAHN2010@UManitoba.CA)

or mailed to:

CAHN 2010, c/o Marion McKay,  
Helen Glass Centre for Nursing  
Faculty of Nursing  
University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, MB, CANADA R3T 2N2

**For further information and updates, please visit the conference web-site at:**

<http://www.umanitoba.ca/nursing/CAHNconference2010>

### **Transmission d'un héritage, contingences et lignes de fracture : les soins infirmiers 100 ans après Florence Nightingale**

Un siècle après sa mort, Florence Nightingale domine toujours l'histoire des soins infirmiers, particulièrement dans le monde anglophone où le statut de praticien est revendiqué en alléguant un corpus universel de connaissances et un domaine d'exercice professionnel uniforme longtemps inspirés de sa vie. Cependant, ces praticiens ont au cours du dernier quart de siècle de plus en plus retenu l'attention des historiens dans le but de mettre en lumière leur diversité, les contingences de leurs conditions de travail et la place des soins qu'ils prodiguent au sein de projets sociaux et, au cours de l'histoire, nationaux et impériaux.

L'Association canadienne de l'histoire du Nursing a le plaisir de vous annoncer que son assemblée annuelle de 2010 aura lieu à Winnipeg du 18 au 20 juin sous le titre : " transmission d'un héritage, contingences et lignes de fracture : les soins infirmiers 100 ans après Florence Nightingale ".

Le comité de programmation vous invite à lui envoyer des propositions de communication qui explorent la diversité des soignants professionnels ayant pratiqué en qualité d'"infirmiers" et revendiquant ce titre, la nature de l'exercice de leurs fonctions et la manière selon laquelle les idées sur les soins infirmiers ont été mises au défi, transformées, démolies et reconstituées au cours du temps et autour du monde. D'autres sujets sont aussi les bienvenus.

Nous vous invitons à nous soumettre des projets de communication en anglais ou en français, qui ne devront pas dépasser 350 mots et d'y joindre un curriculum vitae d'une page. Nous vous encourageons vivement de nous faire parvenir votre soumission par courriel, mais vous pouvez aussi l'envoyer à l'adresse ci-dessous. Elle sera revue à l'aveugle par vos pairs et le comité de la programmation vous notifiera d'ici le 15 février 2010 si elle est retenue ou non.

#### **Information concernant les soumissions :**

Seules les soumissions reçues d'ici le 10 janvier 2010 seront prises en considération. Vous pouvez nous les envoyer par courriel à : [CAHN2010@UManitoba.CA](mailto:CAHN2010@UManitoba.CA) ou nous les adresser par la poste à :

CAHN 2010, c/o Marion McKay,  
Helen Glass Centre for Nursing  
Faculty of Nursing  
University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, MB, CANADA R3T 2N2.

## 2010 CAHN Conference Update Planning Committee

CAHN/ACHN's 2010 Annual Conference will be held in **Winnipeg June 18-20** in the Helen Glass Centre for Nursing at the University of Manitoba. The Manitoba Association for the History of Nursing and the Faculty of Nursing, University of Manitoba will co-sponsor this event, and planning is well underway. Partnering with the Faculty has enabled the MAHN to use the Helen Glass Centre at no cost, and to pay reduced rates for food services, technical support, and other services.

The Conference will begin on the evening of Friday June 18 with a public lecture by Dr. Sioban Nelson, the 2010 AMS/CAHN Hannah Speaker. On Saturday evening, the conference dinner will be held at the University of Manitoba Faculty Club, which overlooks the historic Red River.

If you are interested in participating in the conference as a speaker, abstracts must be received by January 8, 2010 to be considered. Copies of the full Call for Abstracts can be found on the CAHN/ACHN website at: <http://www.cahn-achn.ca/> or on the Faculty of Nursing website at: [http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/nursing/media/MAHN\\_2010\\_CFP\\_final-1.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/nursing/media/MAHN_2010_CFP_final-1.pdf).

Conference registration forms will soon be posted on the CAHN website (address above) or on the Faculty of Nursing website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/nursing/cahnconference2010/index.html>. The conference planning committee plans to offer reduced registration fees to graduate students.

Information about hotel accommodation will also be posted in the near future. Since the conference will not be held in a hotel, it is unlikely that conference rates can be negotiated.

Please plan to join us in Winnipeg in 2010. June is one of our most beautiful months, and the campus of the University of Manitoba has never looked better!

### **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON NURSING HISTORY London, 14th to 16th September, 2010**

This landmark event is being organised by the European Nursing History Group and the American Association for the History of Nursing and will run alongside commemorative events to mark the centenary of the death of Florence Nightingale.

Abstracts are invited for paper and poster presentations on the five broad conference themes of 1 'profession, identity and ideology', 2 'systems of care and ways of working', 3 'biography and place', 4 'military history, power and conflict', and 5 'technology and the patient'. A more detailed list of possible topics within each theme is available on the conference website at:

**[www.nursesvoices.org.uk/conference](http://www.nursesvoices.org.uk/conference)**

The Conference Scientific Committee welcomes abstract submissions from scholars studying history within a range of disciplines, including history, nursing history, medical history, women's studies, education, and sociology.

## Call for Abstracts: 2010 CHSM Annual Conference Montreal, Quebec, May 28-30

The theme of the 2010 Congress is **Connected Understanding/le savoir branché**. Abstracts on other topics are also welcome.

Please submit your abstract and one-page c.v. for consideration by **30 November 2009** to:  
Marie-Claude Thifault and Jayne Elliott,  
CSHM Program co-chairs  
AMS Nursing History Research Unit  
School of Nursing, Room 3245D  
University of Ottawa  
451 Smyth Road  
Ottawa, ON K1H 8M5  
[mthifaul@uottawa.ca](mailto:mthifaul@uottawa.ca)

Abstracts must not exceed 350 words. **Submissions by email are strongly encouraged**. If submitting abstracts by mail, please send one original and 3 copies, typed single-spaced on one sheet of paper. The Committee will notify applicants of its decision by 15 January 2010.

N.B. If invited to present at the meeting, the author must undertake to provide a translation of the abstract for the bilingual program book.

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Le thème général du Congrès de cette année est **Le savoir branché/Connecting Understanding**. Vous pouvez néanmoins soumettre des propositions sur d'autres thèmes de votre choix.

Veillez envoyer votre proposition de communication et votre curriculum vitae (au plus une page) avant le à:  
Marie-Claude Thifault et Jayne Elliott,  
comité organisateur  
L'unité de recherche sur l'histoire des sciences  
infirmières de l'AMS  
L'école des sciences infirmières, pièce 3245D  
Université d'Ottawa  
451, chemin Smyth  
Ottawa, ON K1H 8M5  
[mthifaul@uottawa.ca](mailto:mthifaul@uottawa.ca)

La proposition de communication ne doit pas excéder 350 mots.  
Si vous envoyez votre proposition par la poste, veuillez soumettre l'original et 3 copies (une page simple interligne). Le comité fera connaître sa décision avant le 15 janvier 2010.

Il est à noter que chaque auteur invité à participer au congrès de la Société se doit de prendre ses dispositions pour fournir un résumé de son intervention dans les deux langues.

## NEWS ITEMS

**The Sudbury History of Nursing Group** was pleased to present their oral history project to the Laurentian University archives. The fonds consists of 42 interviews with nurses who graduated between the 1930s and the 1970s and who worked in Northern Ontario. The original interviews were on audiotape and are being transferred to CDs. They have also been transcribed and are available in hard copy.



Photo: Laurentian University Chief Librarian Leila Wallenius and Joyce MacQueen sign the forms for the donation of the Sudbury History of Nursing Oral History Project to the Laurentian University archives

*The Museum has been sharing with our members the 10 Top Reasons why this support is needed by the Museum:*

10. Because private donations and membership contributions fund more than 47 cents of every \$1.00 spent each year, sustaining museum operations.
9. **Because** enhancing public understanding of the history and science of health and health care is proving to be so valuable to Canadian society
8. **Because** the 10 outreach education programs delivered by the Museum educators to more than 1,500 students every year, awakens in our youth – an abiding interest in health and health care.
7. **Because** offering national access to our collection of more than 30,000 artifacts online – 24/7 – requires a dedicated team of skilled professionals
6. **Because** assembling and maintaining representative collection of artifacts and archival materials – for all the health care disciplines – require research, persistence and stamina!
5. **Because** experienced professional and curatorial staff members are essential, in short supply everywhere. Importantly, it is critical for us to retain them here
4. **Because** despite our prudent resource management practices and enhanced operating efficiencies, the Museum still requires a significant amount of sustainable funding annually
3. **Because** ALL donations (large and small) make a real difference- permitting the Museum to survive, and perhaps to thrive
2. **Because** the \$50,000 needed this year to offset funding no longer available from traditional sources ... is a lot of money to find in a short period of time!

..and finally, **the #1 reason**

**Because** only with your thoughtful, ongoing support can we continue to preserve the legacy of Canadian healthcare for the generations that follow...

We would be pleased if the members of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing would consider an individual membership. The membership is a valuable community expression of support for the mission of the Museum.

## NEWS ITEMS

### New Online Journal

*Aporia: The Nursing Journal* is a new online, fully accessible journal dedicated to scholarly debates in nursing and the health sciences. Committed to a pluralistic view of science and to the blurring of boundaries between disciplines, it publishes manuscripts that include (but are not limited to) nursing and health care practices, ethics, politics of health care and policies, technology, bioethics, biopedagogies, biopolitics etc. This welcome extends to nursing history research that fits into its mandate. For more information, please visit the website <http://www.oa.uottawa.ca/journals/aporia/index.jsp?lang> or contact Amélie Perron, receiving editor, [atamelie.perron@uottawa.ca](mailto:atamelie.perron@uottawa.ca)

### NEW WEBSITE!

Stay turned for new exciting updates to our website

[www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca)



*1/3 of No. 11 Can. Gen. Hospital at Inglewood*

### Nursing Shortages in History: Mid-20th Century Canadian Recruitment Films

The Associated Medical Services Nursing History Research Unit is offering a half-day workshop following the 2010 Tau Gamma Conference that will be held at the University of Ottawa 14-16 June 2010. The workshop will use selected film clips in French and English to explore how nursing leaders represented both nurses and the profession to potential recruits in order to address contemporary workforce shortages. It will help participants to situate present day issues associated with recruitment and retention of nurses within larger nursing history contexts. There is no additional cost to participate in this workshop but pre-registration is required, with cancellation if there are fewer than 10 registrants.

L'Unité de recherche sur l'histoire des sciences infirmières de l'AMS offre un atelier d'une demi-journée qui se tiendra lors du Congrès Tau Gamma le 14-16 juin 2010. Cette activité propose le visionnement d'extraits de films en français et en anglais qui mettent en lumière le travail de l'élite infirmière des premières décennies du 20e siècle comme force de recrutement d'une main-d'œuvre infirmière en ces temps de pénurie. L'objectif de cette présentation cinématographique est de sensibiliser les participantes et les participants au parcours effectué par les générations d'infirmières qui les ont précédées, pour ainsi mieux saisir les obstacles surmontés; les acquis obtenus et les enjeux, en ce début de 21e siècle, au cœur de la pratique infirmière marquée par une importante pénurie de main-d'œuvre. Inscription sans frais, toutefois les organisateurs se réservent le droit d'annuler l'activité s'il y a moins de dix inscriptions.

**New Dissertations****Saints and sanitarians: The role of women's voluntary agencies in the development of Winnipeg's public health system, 1882-1945.**

Marion McKay, University of Manitoba

This thesis examines the development of Winnipeg's public health system. It argues that gender shaped the roles available to the men and women who created the city's public health programs. Between 1882 and 1914, Winnipeg's male-dominated health department focussed almost exclusively on sanitation and regulation. The city's female social reformers founded two voluntary visiting nursing organizations, and pioneered school health and maternal/child health programs. Gendered ideas about appropriate roles for men and women in the public sphere established the boundaries between these two approaches to public health. However, because gender is an unstable construct, this division of labour changed over time.

As female-led organizations became increasingly dependent on grants from organized charity and government, their managerial practices came under the scrutiny of male bureaucrats. This development destabilized the previously established boundaries between civic and voluntary public health programs, and voluntary organizations lost much of their autonomy. As well, physicians exerted increased control over the practices of the visiting nurses employed by these agencies. Finally many programs initiated by the visiting nursing associations were taken over by the civic health department.

This thesis also argues that public health programs can also be used to maintain social order and regulate individual behaviour. The programs pioneered by Winnipeg's visiting nursing associations were convenient vehicles for elite and middle class women to disseminate multiple messages to immigrant and working class women about the appropriate behaviours, attitudes, and beliefs expected of Canadian citizens.

Finally, this thesis demonstrates that women's contributions to Winnipeg's public health system have been largely forgotten, although the programs they developed established a legacy and a pattern that shape the publicly funded system to this day. Although the publicly funded health care system spared Winnipeg's citizens from the humiliation of seeking charity, it also marginalized women and, by 1945 they were virtually excluded from policy development within Winnipeg's public health system.

**Cont'd on next page....**

## New Dissertations

### **From Barnyards to Bedsides to Books and Beyond:**

**The Evolution and Professionalization of Registered Psychiatric Nursing in Manitoba 1955-1980.** Beverley Hicks, University of Manitoba 2008.

In the 1950s, psychiatric nursing in Canada was developing into two models. East of Manitoba, psychiatric nursing was a part of general nursing. To the west of Manitoba, it was evolving into a distinct profession. Manitoba, during the 1950s, did not fit either the eastern or western model. But in 1960, it achieved the same distinct professional status, through legislation, as its neighbours to the west.

This study is an examination of the factors that swayed Manitoba to adopt the western psychiatric nursing model and achieve the legislation which governed its first twenty years. The factors are: male collegiality with the leaders of the other three western psychiatric nurses associations, the support of the western based Canadian Council of Psychiatric Nurses, the encouragement of medical superintendents of the provincial mental hospitals in the formation of an alternative workforce, and the lack of interest by general nurses in working in the provincial mental institutions.

The legislation achieved in 1960 gave some authority to the psychiatric nurses association to govern its own affairs, but it was not entirely effective in bestowing full professional status. This was especially true of the control over education which was placed in the hands of a committee dominated by medical superintendents.

This study also examines the evolution of the profession during its first twenty years as it worked to gain control over education, develop a professional ideology, and establish a place for itself in the Manitoba mental health system. This study concludes in 1980 with the passage of full professional legislation.

A genealogical analysis was used to examine data which came from archives, oral interviews, and secondary sources. The findings suggest that Registered Psychiatric Nursing in Manitoba is a contingent and political construction, but that it can continue to evolve and grow in unique ways through an ongoing examination of its roots, icons, practices, and philosophy.

### **MARK THE DATE!**

#### **International Nursing History Conference in Denmark August 9-11, 2012**

An international conference in Nursing History will take place in Denmark August 9-11, 2012. Venue of the conference will be **The Danish Museum of Nursing History**. The conference will be run jointly by the Danish Society of Nursing History and the Danish Museum of Nursing History. Accommodations.

Further announcement concerning theme, call for abstracts etc. will follow in 2010 at:

<http://www.dsr.dk/dshs.htm> and  
<http://www.dsr.dk/dshs.htm>

## Course Offerings in the History of Nursing

### Découvrez l'évolution d'une profession... totalement en ligne!

Le cours NSG 4501 *Histoire des soins infirmiers au Canada* est un cours, au choix, de premier cycle de trois crédits offert à l'École des sciences infirmières. Aucun préalable n'est requis. Une expérience unique de cyber-apprentissage!

### Discover the evolution of a profession... completely online!

NSG 4101 *History of Canadian Nursing* is an undergraduate elective course of three credits offered by the School of Nursing. No pre-requisites required. A unique e-learning experience!

<http://www.health.uottawa.ca/sn/index.htm>

<http://www.sante.uottawa.ca/esi/>



**Faculté des sciences de la santé**  
École des sciences infirmières  
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Room 3051  
451 Smyth Road  
Ottawa, ON K1H 8M5

Tel: (613) 562-5800 - 8430  
Fax: (613) 562-5443

### D'hier à aujourd'hui, l'étude de l'évolution des pratiques de soins infirmiers

Le cours NSG 6550 *Contexte historique en sciences infirmières* est un cours d'études supérieures offert à l'École des sciences infirmières. Ce cours favorise une réflexion critique sur le parcours des différentes générations d'infirmières, dans le cadre de pratiques nursing spécifiques, et permet de mieux saisir les acquis, mais aussi les enjeux de la pratique infirmière en ce début de 21<sup>e</sup> siècle.

### Then and now, the study of the evolution in nursing practices

NSG 6150 *Historical Context in Nursing Practice* is a graduate course offered by the School of Nursing. This course encourages critical reflection on the many generations of nurses, within the context of specific nursing practices, to better understand the past achievements of nursing but also its challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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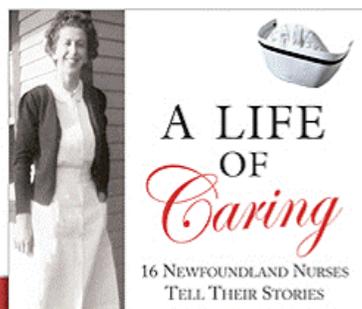
## ALL THE BEST

After a long career, Meryn Stuart will be retiring in January 2010 from the School of Nursing at the University of Ottawa, as well as from her position as Director of the AMS Nursing History Research Unit. Cynthia Toman will take over as Unit Director at that time.

Best wishes Meryn!

The following courses in nursing history are offered through the Associated Medical Services Nursing History Research Unit and the School of Nursing at the University of Ottawa. They are available to nursing students and others across the country who have permission from their home institutions to credit these courses as part of their program. The undergraduate courses are totally online; the graduate courses will be offered by distance and may or may not include a real time audio/visual component. For more details of the courses, which are offered in both English and French, please contact Cynthia Toman ([ctoman@uottawa.ca](mailto:ctoman@uottawa.ca)) for the English courses, and Marie-Claude Thifault ([mthifaul@uottawa.ca](mailto:mthifaul@uottawa.ca)) for the French courses.

## New Books



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doctor would ring and say,  
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go ahead and let me know.'  
I was never taught how to  
do deliveries. I just watched  
what they were doing and  
learned on the job."*

– Alma Moores



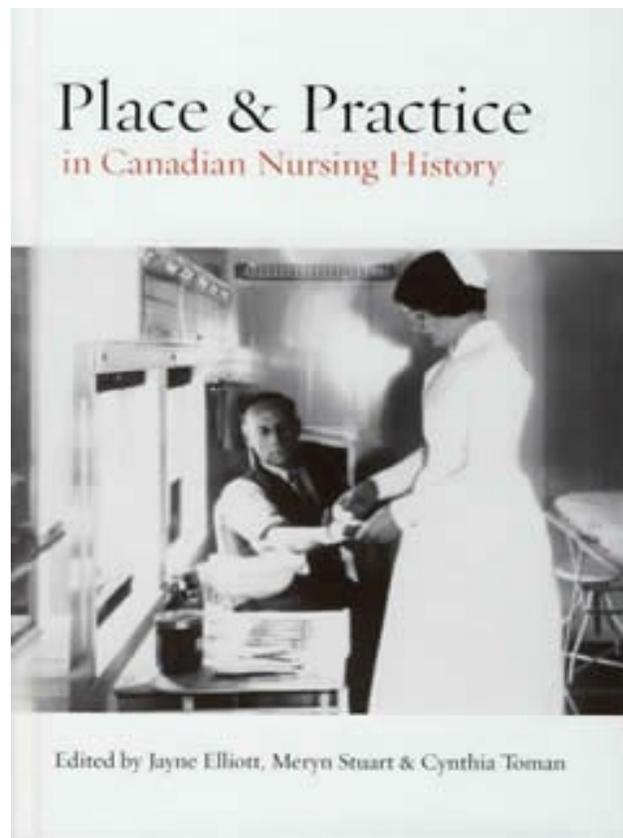
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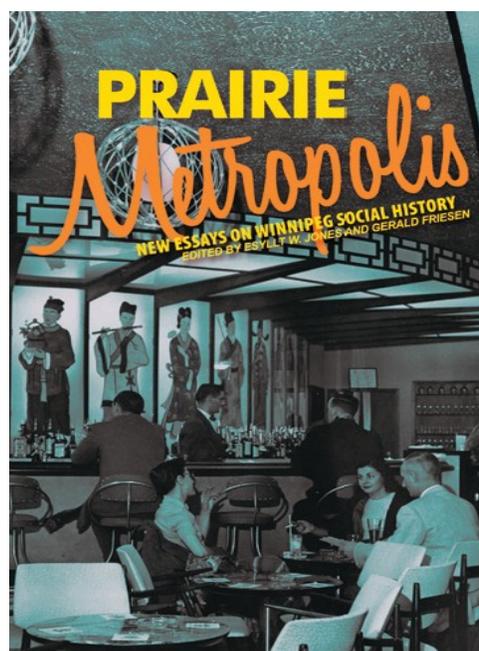


## Place & Practice in Canadian Nursing History

Edited by Jayne Elliott, Meryn Stuart & Cynthia Toman

For more information on this and other books please visit:

[http://www.health.uottawa.ca/nursinghistory/nhru\\_pubs.htm](http://www.health.uottawa.ca/nursinghistory/nhru_pubs.htm)



### Prairie Metropolis: New Essays on Winnipeg Social History edited by Esyllt W. Jones and Gerald Friesen

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Angela E. Davis, Lesley Hall, Kurt Korneski, Megan  
Kozminski, Marion McKay, Tamara Miller, Jody  
Perrun, Ed Rea, Janis Thiessen, Cassandra Woloschuk

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# Newsletter

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Fall 2009

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