

# CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF NURSING ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR L'HISTOIRE DU NURSING



## President's Message: Helen Vandenberg (Fall 2017)

Greetings from Regina, Saskatchewan!

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CAHN/ACHN, and the conference held in Halifax in 2018 will be the thirtieth conference co-hosted by the organization. CAHN/ACHN has had plenty of successes and challenges over the years, but our members have contributed greatly to the promotion of nursing history scholarship across Canada and beyond.

In the last three decades, CAHN/ACHN and its members have assisted the CNA to update a position statement about the [value of nursing history today](#), and CASN has recently recognized nursing history as foundational knowledge for undergraduate and graduate programs in the [2015 National Nursing Education Framework](#).

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Moreover, many of our members have been recognized for their work and scholarship nationally and internationally. CAHN/ACHN continues to foster the scholarship in nursing history in Canada and internationally through our scholarships, awards and grants programs.

At our AGM in May 2017, there were several important changes to the composition of the CAHN/ACHN executive. I wish to thank Lydia Wytenbroek for her work as president over the last two years. Lydia has been active in a number of capacities related to CAHN/ACHN and other nursing history organizations across North America. We are glad that we will hold on to her for another two years as she undertakes the role of Past-President/Nominations.

I would also like to thank our long-standing Treasurer Chris Dooley and Research and Scholarship Chair Kristin Burnett for many years of dedicated service to CAHN/ACHN. I wish to thank Susan Armstrong-Reid for her work as membership chair and for leading several activities on the long-range planning committee. I thank Susan, Chris and Kristin for mentoring our colleagues, as they transition into new executive roles.

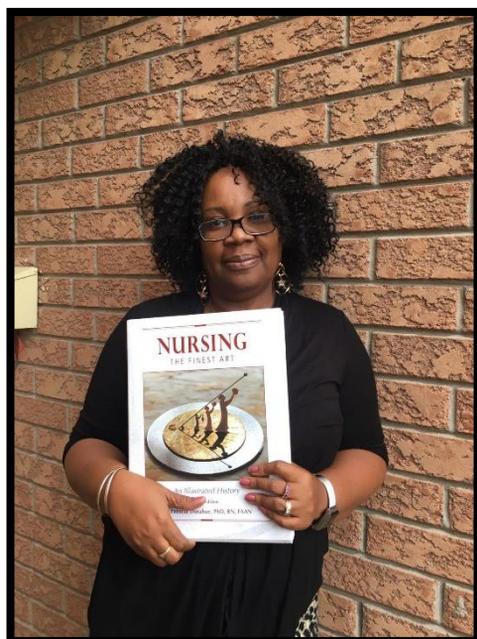
This year the executive welcomes new members among our ranks, including Sandra Harrison who joins us as Vice-President and Evy Nazon as Treasurer. Linda Quiney has volunteered as Membership chair, and Geertje Boschma has stepped into the Scholarship Chair role (assisted by Carol Helmstadter and Margaret). We welcome Kathy Murphy, who is now secretary, and David Yacoubian who has become a member at large (alongside Carrie Lee and Gloria Stephens).

A thank-you to Erin Spinney who continues to assist with the website, Noreen Bolton who is our key contact for all communications to members, and Michelle Filice who continues in the role as newsletter editor.



I want to thank those of you who helped plan the 2017 joint conference held in Toronto. It was a pleasure to hear our AMS Hannah Lecture delivered by Dr. Karen Flynn, an Associate Professor in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies and the African-American Studies Program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Flynn spoke to a packed room about the history of Black and Caribbean nursing, highlighting the experiences of nurse Gloria Baylis. Dr. Flynn's keynote address offered a window into the professional and personal lives of Black nurses in Canada. Her talk inspired many conversations about race, intersectionality and how historians can re-examine the history of Black Nursing in North America and beyond.

I would like to send a warm thank-you to Gloria Stephens and the Nova Scotia Nursing History Group for their assistance with the planning of the 2018 CAHN/ACHN Conference in Halifax. I would also like to thank Margaret Scaia and Peter Twohig for their assistance with additional arrangements for the conference. We're happy to announce that the 2018 AMS Hannah Lecturer will be [Dr. Janet Greenlees](#) from Glasgow Caledonian University in Scotland. We are very excited about the upcoming conference.



At the 2017 conference





# News and Awards

## AWARDS

Sandria Green-Stewart is the Dr. Vicky Bach Memorial Book Prize award winner for 2017. At the CSHM conference in May, Sandria gave a talk entitled, “Womanly Christian Duty and the Care of Others in Jamaica, 1870-1920.”

## NEWS

*Canadian Nurse* provides insightful and up-to-date articles about nursing in Canada on their [website](#).

A special edition in July/August examined the [history of nursing](#). Lydia and Helen contributed an article you can read [here](#). Check it out!

*Congratulations*



# News and Awards

## NEWS

CAHN-ACHN offers two major financial awards each year: the **Margaret M. Allemang Scholarship** for graduate students (Masters or PhD level) studying in the field of nursing history, and the **Vera Roberts Endowment** for historians of nursing (academic or independent) who are working on Canadian nursing history focused on regions north of the 60th parallel.

ACHN-CAHN offre deux offres de financement chaque année: le **Bourse d'étudiant(e) Margaret M. Allemang** pour subventionner les recherches conducteur par des étudiants(es) (maîtrise et doctorales) en histoire du nursing Canadien, et le **Fonds Vera Roberts** pour les recherches et les publications en histoire du nursing en régions éloignées au Canada avec une priorité accordée aux régions circumpolaires canadiennes (au nord du 60<sup>ième</sup> parallèle).

**Deadline: February 1, 2018**



# L'histoire : un perpétuel recommencement ?

## History: A Perpetual Renewal?

Par/By: Evy Nazon

*English to follow*

J'ai eu l'occasion de lire récemment la Vision 2020 de l'Association des infirmières et infirmiers du Canada (AIIIC).<sup>1</sup> Dans ce document, l'AIIIC prévoit que contrairement à la tendance actuelle où la majorité des infirmières (environ 70%) travaillent en milieu hospitalier, en 2020, 75% des infirmières exerceront dans la communauté. Ceci semble être un objectif à atteindre. Cette vision de l'AIIIC peut sembler une nouveauté, pourtant, il s'agit en réalité d'un retour sur ce qui se faisait déjà la profession. En effet, au début de la profession, une telle situation était la norme. En faisant un retour et en lisant l'histoire des soins infirmiers, on note que jusqu'à la fin de la deuxième Guerre mondiale 60% des infirmières exerçaient en service privé au domicile des patients.<sup>2</sup> Seul un petit nombre d'entre elles œuvrait en milieu hospitalier. D'ailleurs, pour certains historiens, le fait d'avoir délaissé la communauté pour l'hôpital dans les années 1950 a constitué une perte de l'autonomie des infirmières et la déprofessionnalisation.<sup>3</sup> Aussi, il est important de souligner que de telles décisions ne sont pas le fruit du hasard. Elles émergent des contextes sociaux, politiques et économiques particuliers d'une époque et des conditions de possibilités (modification du rôle des hôpitaux, des soins communautaires et hospitaliers, des savoirs infirmiers et médicaux, etc.). Ces changements font en sorte qu'à un moment donné, le rôle des infirmières devient indispensable dans certain milieu communautaire rendant possible, par exemple, la vision 2020 de l'AIIIC.

I recently had the opportunity to read the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) Vision 2020.<sup>1</sup> In this paper, the CNA predicts that, contrary to the current trend whereby the majority of nurses (approximately 70%) work in hospitals, in 2020, 75% of nurses will work in the community. This seems to be a principal aim. The CNA vision may seem a novelty, yet it is actually a return on what was already being done in the nursing profession. Indeed, at the beginning of the profession, such a situation was the norm. Travelling back in the history of nursing, we can note that until the end of the Second World War, 60% of nurses were in private service in patients' homes.<sup>2</sup> Only a small number of them worked as hospitals' nurses. In fact, for some historians, moving away from community work to hospital work during the 1950s resulted in a loss of nurses' autonomy and de-professionalization.<sup>3</sup> At this point, it is important to emphasize that such decisions are not accidental. They emerge from particular social, political and economic contexts of a time and conditions of possibilities (change in hospitals' role, community and hospital care, nursing and medical knowledge, etc.). These changes ensure that, at some point, the role of nurses becomes essential in the community setting and explain, for example, the CNA 2020 Vision.

1. Association des infirmières et infirmiers du Canada (2006). *Vers 2020 : Vision pour les soins infirmiers*, Ottawa, Canada

2. Sharon Richardson, « La syndicalisation du nursing au Canada ». Dans Bates Christina, Dianne Dood et Nicole Rousseau. *Sans frontières : quatre siècles de soins infirmiers canadiens* (Ottawa : Les Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa, 2005), 213-224.

3. Kathryn McPherson, *Bedside matters : the transformation of Canadian nursing, 1900-1990* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996), 26-73.



# News from NHRU/URHN

The spring was a busy time at the NHRU-URHN as the unit members poured all their energy into making the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Graduate Student Conference a success. The conference took place May 18, 2017 at the Roger Guidon Campus, University of Ottawa.

The theme, “Continuity and Change: Themes and Topics in Nursing and Health History”, was broad enough in scope to draw in a number of important issues and also represented one of the six historical thinking concepts. We were excited to see proposals coming in from other universities and departments, a sign that we continue to deepen our roots in the field of nursing and health history.

The final program included two sessions, with three papers each, featuring six graduate student papers. In addition, we invited Dre. Laurence Monnais, Canada Research Chair in Healthcare Pluralism, Department of History, Université de Montréal, to be our keynote speaker. Dre. Monnais’

talk, “Entre ruptures et continuités: l’importance de l’histoire de la médecine dans l’appréhension des défis en santé d’aujourd’hui” was the highlight of the day and an important opportunity for the students to hear an excellent speaker. We closed the day with a cocktail party which included a book launch of Dre. Monnais’ book *Médecine(s) et santé. Une petite histoire globale, 19e et 20e siècles* and the announcement of the winners of the Graduate Scholarships.



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Au cours de l'été, l'équipe des IRSC de Dre Thifault *Des institutions et des femmes. Évolution du nursing psychiatrique au Québec* a accueilli sept stagiaires de l'Université Laval, UQTR et l'Université d'Ottawa pour participer soit au dépouillement des revues *Bulletin canadien des gardes-malades catholiques*, *Bulletin canadien des infirmières catholiques du Canada* et les *Cahiers du Nursing Canadien*, soit à la collecte des données dans les dossiers de patients psychiatriques de l'Hôpital Saint-Michel-Archange de Beauport (Québec). Tous les membres de l'équipe se sont réunis à l'UQAM le mardi 22 août pour une journée d'étude [Martin Pâquet, Alexandre Klein et Mathieu Bouchard-Tremblay de l'Université Laval; Marie-Claude Thifault, Karine Aubin, Laurie Kirouac, Daniel Angers, Camille Vivash et Sophie Van Den Bremt de l'Université d'Ottawa; Sandra Harrisson, Amy Boissonneault, Alexandra Ménard et Jessica Lafrenière de l'UQTR].



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For the 2017-2018 academic year the unit offered two scholarships, one at the doctoral level (\$7000.00) and one at the Masters level (\$3000.00). We were delighted to have multiple applications for both categories. Le comité d'évaluation des dossiers de cette année était composé du Dre Jayne Elliott, Dre Karine Aubin et Dr Alexandre Klein. Les projets de recherche primés sont ceux de Geneviève McCready (candidate au doctorat, Université d'Ottawa) « *Contribution des infirmières francophones canadiennes oeuvrant en dehors des hôpitaux à l'amélioration des conditions de vie des personnes et des communautés (1928-1976)* » et celui de Kim Lauzier (étudiante de 2<sup>e</sup> cycle, Université d'Ottawa) *The Rise of the Evidence Based Nursing Movement, 1994-2000* ».

There are a few new roles at the unit this academic year. As the recipient of the doctoral graduate student award Geneviève McCready will act as the unit's graduate student representative. In addition, Alessandra Iozzo-Duval, who has been the unit's postdoctoral fellow from July 2015-June 2017, has moved into a new role as Research Associate.

We look forward to a busy and productive fall and winter as we continue to deepen our research interests, support various exciting projects by our members and encourage our graduate students as they investigate nursing and health history.



Nursing  
History  
Research  
Unit

Unité  
de recherche  
sur l'histoire  
du nursing

# Nurses, the Air Force and the Korean War

By: Carl Mills

The Korean War began in June 1950 when North Korean troops crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded South Korea. In July 1953, an Armistice was negotiated and Canadians were further involved until 1957. The Korean War involved some 27,000 Canadians – 23,000 were Army, 3,000 were Navy, and 1,000 were Air Force and civilians.

## Korean War Aircraft

Three Canadian-built aircraft were involved in the Korean War – the Canadair North Star, the de Havilland DHC-2 Beaver, and the Canadair F-86 Sabres. The North Star aircraft were used by Canada's 426 Squadron and, initially, by Canadian Pacific Airlines (CPA). Hundreds of Beavers were used by the United States Air Force (USAF) and the US Army. The Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) gave 60 older model F-86 MkII Sabres to the USAF for combat duty in Korea and, through logbook analysis, it was determined that about 20% of Canadian-flown combat missions were in Canadian-built Sabres.

A series of nine aircraft model dioramas depicting the Korean War are held by the National Air Force Museum in Trenton. They were all constructed by Carl Mills. This is the Nurses diorama that won medals in competition.



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## Flight Nurses and Air Lifts

An important feature of the Korean War was the return of American and Canadian wounded. To accomplish this, RCAF flight nurses integrated with USAF and the United States Navy (USN) nurses on flights between Tokyo and California.

In Canada, the wounded were transported across Canada by 435 Squadron, then stationed in Edmonton, with their Dakota aircraft. There were approximately 1200 Canadian wounded and an estimated 600 were returned to Canada.

The last airwomen in Korea were the RCAF's flight nurses, Flight Officers Hazel Finch and Roberta McQuade, who took their last medical evacuation flight with the USAF in June 1955.



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Returning the war-wounded involved using four-engine aircraft supported by flight nurses. The aircraft were part of the USAF's 453 Medical Air Evacuation Squadron which was based in Honolulu. The nurses were from the USAF, USN, and the RCAF. The aircraft flew from Tokyo to Honolulu and then on to Travis Air Force Base in California. Here, an RCAF nurse, Flying Officer Joan Drummond, looks on with nurses from the USAF as medical attendants care for a wounded soldier.

## Remembrance

There were 516 fatal casualties recorded by the Ministry of Veterans Affairs and on the Wall of Remembrance in Brampton, Ontario – including 16 Missing-In-Action. There were 33 Canadian POWs and 33 Canadians with no known grave sites.

Canadians were amazing in Korea and Korea should not be a forgotten war. Readers are encouraged to visit the Korean War exhibit at the [National Air Force Museum](#) in Trenton, Ontario.



In Canada, the 435 Transport Squadron, flying Dakota aircraft, flew wounded from the USAF's McChord Air Force Base. Here, RCAF flight nurse, Flying Officer G.M. Somers watches as a patient is carried to a waiting ambulance. Flight-Officer (F/O) Somers completed a tour-of-duty in the Pacific with the USAF prior to duty in Canada. Circa 1953.

*(More pictures on next page...)*

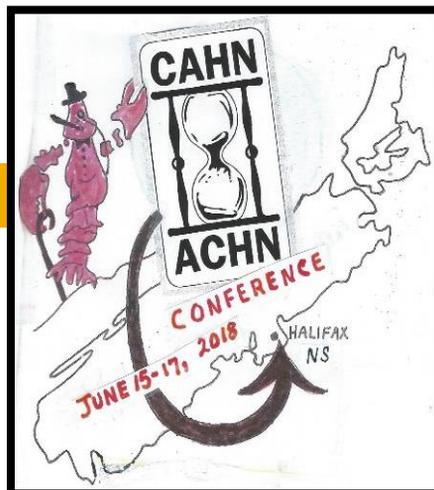


USAF, USN and RCAF nurses took flight nurse training at Gunter Air Force Base in Alabama and then were stationed in Honolulu with the 453 Medical Air Evacuation Squadron. This graduating class of USAF and RCAF nurses has four RCAF nurses – left to right are Flying Officers Ruth Chase, Frances Boudreau, Mary McCallum, and Gwendolyn Somers. RCAF flight nurse were with the USAF in the Pacific from late-1950 to mid-1955, circa Sept. 1953.

Two RCAF flight nurses, Flying Officers Anna Harmon (left) and Dorothy White arrive at the 453 Medical Air Evacuation Squadron in Honolulu for duty. Extending greetings are the USAF's medical staff from 453 Squadron, circa May 1954.



# Conferences



**CAHN/ ACHN Annual Conference**  
**June 15 – 17, 2018 in Halifax, Nova Scotia**  
Hosted by Nursing History NS Society

Call for Abstracts: *Tracing Nurses' Footsteps:*  
*"Nursing and the Tides of Change"*

Where has nursing come from? What have been the ups and downs, trials and tribulations along the journey? How have social, political and economic forces influenced the history of nursing? How were challenges met, and with passing or lasting impact? Who were the nurses that provided the foundational values and vision that established present realities, and challenges confronting nursing today? What can we take from history as it relates to the future expansion of the profession? The content of the abstract should reflect components of the program theme showing how, when and where nurses' footsteps influenced the progressive changes in health care, policy, education and clinical practice. Abstracts on other subjects related to nursing and healthcare history would be welcomed and considered.

Please submit a one page abstract (350 words max.) and a one page CV for consideration to: Dr. Margaret Scaia: [mrscaia@uvic.ca](mailto:mrscaia@uvic.ca). Mailing Address: HSD A 442, School of Nursing, University of Victoria, PO Box 1700 STN CSC, Victoria BC V8W 2Y2

**Due date for submission is DECEMBER 15, 2017**

Conference registration fee: Regular \$230, Student \$115. Student travel awards application will be available this year (details forthcoming)

For more details visit our website: <http://cahn-achn.ca/annual-conference>

## **Material Cultures of Psychiatry: Workshop, Hamburg**

**Date:** 3-4 May 2018, Hamburg

**Organisers:** Dr. Monika Ankele (Department for History and Ethics of Medicine at the University Clinic Hamburg-Eppendorf) and Prof. Benoît Majerus (Centre for Contemporary and Digital History, University of Luxembourg)

In the past, our ideas of psychiatric hospitals and their history have been shaped by objects like straitjackets, cribs and binding belts. These powerful objects are often used as a synonym for psychiatry and the way psychiatric patients are treated. But what do we really know about the social life (see Majerus 2011) of psychiatric patients and the stories of less spectacular objects in the everyday life of psychiatric institutions? What do we know about the material cultures of these places in general?

Please submit an abstract (max. 2000 characters) with a short CV to [m.ankele@uke.de](mailto:m.ankele@uke.de) by **15 December 2017**. Inventive approaches and presentations are especially welcome. We would also be delighted to receive proposals for artistic work.

The workshop is part of the research project “Bed and Bath: Objects and Spaces of Therapy in Psychiatry of the 19th and 20th century” (head of project: Dr. Heinz-Peter Schmiedebach), funded by the German Research Foundation. It is planned to publish the papers presented at the workshop in an edited book. The contributions (15 to 20 papers) should be submitted by 10 July 2018 to ensure a quick turnaround.

For more information, please contact:

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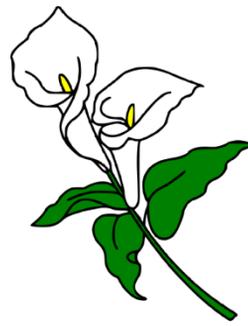
**Prof. Benoît Majerus**

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# Obituaries



## Hallie Sloan

Hallie Sloan passed away January 21, 2016. Hallie was born in Winnipeg on January 21, 1917 and graduated from the Vancouver General Hospital in 1940. Ending her career with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Hallie had a long military history starting with 8th Canadian General Hospital (Saskatchewan Unit), and continuing with postings overseas in Normandy, Belgium and Holland. Following the war Hallie returned to Canada and was one of 30 nurses invited to stay on in the military, where she was in charge of basic training of medical assistants and later, as numbers increased, of the new nursing personnel. Hallie loved teaching and was ahead of her time in advocating for male nurses in the military.



Image courtesy  
CNA

For more about Hallie, please read her full obituary [here](#).

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## Finance Committee

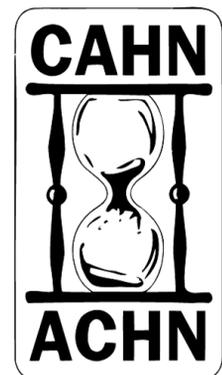
Evy Aude Nazon  
Sandra Harrison

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Sandra Harrison

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# Nursing History Links

## Canada

[BC History of Nursing Society](#)

[Canadian Association for the History of Nursing](#)

[Canadian Society for the History of Medicine](#)

[Consortium for Nursing History Inquiry at the UBC School of Nursing](#)

[Nursing History Nova Scotia](#)

[Margaret M. Allemang Society for the History of Nursing](#)

[AMS Nursing History Research Unit: University of Ottawa](#)

## USA

[American Association for the History of Medicine](#)

[American Association for the History of Nursing](#)

[Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing](#)

[Center for Nursing History, Ethics, Human Rights and Innovations: Purdue University](#)

## UK

[UK Association for the History of Nursing](#)

[Society for the Social History of Medicine](#)

## Australia

[Nursing History Research Unit: University of Sydney](#)

## Ireland

[UCD Centre for Nursing and Midwifery History](#)

## Europe

[European Association for the History of Nursing](#)

For more links go to [www.cahn-achn.ca](http://www.cahn-achn.ca)

## Other Links

David Crawford, Librarian emeritus of McGill University has provided several important bibliographies related to Canadian hospitals, health, medical and nursing history online [here](#).

Several nursing organizations have Facebook, Twitter and other social media accounts. Please 'Like' and/or follow such organizations to support nursing history and stay informed about nursing history events.



## From the newsletter team

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition. If you have any news about events, research, conferences or publications, please let us know so we can print it in the next edition. For any questions, comments or to pass along news, please contact us using the information listed below.

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If you have items you would like to see posted to the website, please send them to Erin Spinney (our website coordinator) at [erin.spinney@usask.ca](mailto:erin.spinney@usask.ca).