**Association of Public Health Nursing Leaders of Ontario**

**(Formerly ANDSOOHA – Public Health Nursing Management)**

**Annual General Meeting – September 30, 2015**

**Education Report**

Throughout 2014/2015 ANDSOOHA members participated in educational activities including direct representation on education committees and work groups, support for research initiatives and the provision of tools to enhance practice.

ANDSOOHA has been a longstanding member of the **Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN)** and hasrepresentation on the **CASN Public Health Task Force**. The focus of the Task Force in 2015 has been on knowledge exchange including providing support to nursing educators in the provision of public health content. One deliverable from this work was the creation of CASN’s new Public Health Website (<http://publichealth.casm.ca/>) to act as a repository of exemplar teaching strategies that can be used by educators to integrate the competencies into curricula. The Public Health Teaching Strategies website has over 50 teaching strategies and these strategies incorporate indicators from all five *Entry-to-Practice Public Health Nursing Competencies for Undergraduate Nursing Education* competency Domains. Each strategy is described in thorough detail, including links to relevant resources and included are unique and innovative strategies covering a variety of demographic, cultural and geographic differences. The Task Force is also planning a webinar series but details are not yet available.

ANDSOOHA also has representation on the **Joint Provincial Nursing Committee (JPNC),** Nursing **Education for a Sustainable Healthcare System Work Group**. Membership on this group encompasses representatives who are nurse educators, health care organizations supporting student nurse placements, the Centre for Internationally Educated Nurses, Ontario Nurses’ Association, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) and government representatives from MOHLTC and the Ministry of Training, College and Universities. This work group was established by JPNC in the Fall, 2012, with the support of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). The primary purpose of this work group is to provide recommendations to JPNC regarding how to enhance the clinical education system in order to address: a) patient needs across the continuum of care; b) inter-professional care; and c) the availability and accessibility of quality clinical placements.

In order to fulfill the work group’s mandate it was determined that more information was required to identify areas of clinical education opportunities and challenges within the current health care system. Thus the work group developed, administered and analyzed two large surveys, including one for nursing educational programs and another for health care agencies. A third survey was undertaken by Brock University and the Nursing Health Services Research Unit (McMaster) in order to inform the work group of nursing student perceptions of their clinical placements.

To provide a public health nursing perspective ANDSOOHA directly participated in the piloting and distribution of the Agency Survey. Surveys were completed by Ontario Public Health Unit’s Chief Nursing Officers in 2014.

The work group has reviewed all survey results and has developed final recommendations. The “Report of the JPNC Nursing Education for a Sustainable Healthcare System Work Group” will be submitted to the Joint Provincial Nursing Committee in September, 2015. Next steps will be determined once JPNC has reviewed the Report. Release of the Report, including survey results and work group recommendations to stakeholders is pending JPNC approval.

In 2014, the Quality Assurance and Continuous Quality Improvement Working Group of the Northern Professional Nursing Practice Network completed review and revisions to the ***Transition to Public Health Nursing*** document developed by Algoma Public Health and ANDSOOHA – Public Health Nursing Management. Further revisions were made to the document in 2015 to update links to resources as well some content. The entire document, along with the modules, has been posted on the updated ANDSOOHA-Public Health Nursing Management website at <http://andsooha.org/resources/knowledge-exchange/>. If you identify additional areas that need updating/revisions please send a message at <http://andsooha.org/contact-us/> .

As part of its 2015 work plan, the Quality Assurance and Continuous Quality Improvement Working Group of the Northern Professional Nursing Practice Network aims to update the ***Documentation Audit Toolkit*** (2002) developed by ANDSOOHA – Public Health Nursing Management. Permission from the ANDSOOHA Executive was obtained to revise the Toolkit in November, 2014 which resulted in a literature review on best practices related to documentation audits and a survey was developed. The survey is an environmental scan of the documentation audit practices of Ontario health units and attempts to ascertain the level of awareness and usage of ANDSOOHA’s Documentation Audit Toolkit. This survey has been recently distributed to Chief Nursing Officers at each Ontario Public Health Unit. The results of the survey will inform revisions to the Documentation Audit Toolkit.   Data analysis of survey results will be completed this Fall, and it is anticipated that recommendations for changes to the Toolkit will be made by 2016. The Toolkit can be found on the ANDSOOHA – Public Health Nursing Management website at <http://andsooha.org/resources/toolkits/>.

ANDSOOHA continues to be involved in education activities to shape policy and practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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Education Portfolio Representative