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

**President’s Report 2014/15**

Upon reflection of my 2 plus 1 years as President I have learned many things and had the opportunity to work with tremendous people. As well it provided me with the gift of a lens of the world of public health and nursing from a provincial perspective. So often we get mired in our everyday world in our home organizations and lose touch with the bigger picture. The most important thing I learned about being the president of a not for profit organization is;

* It takes great and committed people,
* Strong connections and relationships and
* A solid foundation to work and grow from

Or in other words, “ It takes the a village to have a successful association”

Over the last year, I have watched members roll up their sleeves and work hard to modernize and reinforce the foundation of our new leadership association with the support of Strava Consultant Pat Else. This has been for the most part the primary focus of the president. It has been a privilege to work with the groups who worked to draft our new constitution, goal and name. There has been a healthy environment of debate and exchange of great ideas and passion and I am excited and pleased to see the organization move forward in its new form. Thank you to Jean Nesbitt OPHCNO Chair for her partnership in moving public health nursing leadership forward. I also want to thanks and recognize the work of the Advisory Committee (JoAnn Tober, Carol Timmings, Joyce See, Jean Nesbitt, and Cathie Walker) and Transition workgroup (Ken Allan, Karen Ellis, Maureen Cava, Kathy Dowsett, and Lesley Rintche). This committed group defied timelines and “got her done!” For the first time in our history, the association held a special meeting by webinar and completed an online vote for constitutional amendments, change of name and organizational goal.

Over the last year the ANDSOOHA executive worked hard to maintain the business and relationships of the organization. Membership on the aLPHA, and OPHA boards, and the Joint Provincial Nursing Committee and its workgroups was continued. The organization’s website became operational thanks to the executive team that made it possible, David Groulx, Susan Blue (Regional Reps) and Mary Jean Watson (President Elect). Other executive members included Secretary Esther Mogdaham, Treasurer, Joyce See (up until June 2015) , Treasurer/Membership lead: Dorothy Barr, Jo-Ann Tober (Past President) and other regional reps, Kathy Dowsett and Jane Hess. I want to thank the team for all of their hard work and support over the past 3 years. It has been a gift to work with such a great group of professionals. Each member of the executive was committed to ensuring the excellence of the organization through strong engagement of members and strong relationships with partner organizations.

The association was able to provide comment and advice for many groups including the RNAO rural work group, expansion of RN scope of practice with the Nursing Secretariat (consultation delayed but pending), and the PHO Health Equity module development.

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this role. I look forward to watching and supporting the new executive as they move the association into the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Quigley-Hobbs

President