Education Report ANDSOOHA Annual General Meeting March 30, 2011

During the 2010-2011 year, educational activities have involved ANDSOOHA's continued participation on the Canadian Association of Nursing (CASN) Subcommittee on Public Health Education.

Leveling Standards and Placement Guidelines

ANDSOOHA has played an active role in past activities of the subcommittee which focused on establishing the level of performance for new baccalaureate nursing graduates with respect to the Canadian Community Health Nursing Standards (CCHNS) and the development of Guidelines for Quality Community Clinical Placements. As the CCHNS were created for community health nurses in practice for 2 years, some leveling of the standards was required to specify an appropriate level of proficiency at graduation for use by educators. The Public Health Education Subcommittee has been using the leveling information to work with the CASN Bureau of Accreditation to recommend the incorporation of standards for schools of nursing. It is hoped that building standards into the accreditation process will help to support and ensure public health nursing content in curricula. Dissemination activities have been the priority for the Guidelines for Quality Community Clinical Placements. These Guidelines have been presented at a number of conferences in 2010 including the Canadian Community Health Nurses of Canada, Canadian Public Health Association, Canadian Nurses Association and CASN Educators. An article has also been submitted for publication and an insert arranged in the Canadian Journal of Public Health.

Website and Resource Development

The next planned activities include compiling and/or developing resources to support community health nursing education. The development of a CASN website as a compository of resources and examples of innovation is being explored and preconference consultation sessions will be held at the Ontario Public Health Convention on April 8, at the CHNC conference on May 16 and at the Canadian Public Health Association conference on June 19. These consultation sessions will focus on identifying who would be users of the website and what type of information in what format would be useful to them. The plan is to build a site for specified audiences customized to meet their specific needs. The consultations are free so please register to attend as input from practitioners, especially with respect to needs for working with students in clinical placements would be most valuable.

Activities for 2011 and beyond are limited as the CASN Subcommittee is currently without external funding to support ongoing activities. A call for funding is expected in the fall and a proposal will be submitted for further work to support the education of new public health nurses in both academic and clinical settings.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo Ann Tober Education Representative, ANDSOOHA President