**Happenings of OPHNL – Quarter Two, 2018**

 **Relationships:**

OPHNL hosted the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) forum in early June. The Chief Nursing Officers engaged in dialogue on important issues related to systems transformation, health care policy and a changing political landscape for public health. Carol Timmings, the Past President of RNAO and Pegeen Walsh, Executive Director of the Ontario Public Health Association presented at the Forum. Staff from Public Health Ontario also presented on the Locally Driven Collaborative projects and committed to engaging the CNOs in the selection and prioritization of projects for future cycles. Rosanne Jabbour from the College of Nurses of Ontario provided a progress update on the issue of RN Prescribing along with results from a recent survey conducted with nurses on practice expectations. This presentation can be accessed here: <http://ophnl.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/CNO%20Presentation%20to%20PH%20Leaders.pdf>

Following Rosanne’s presentation, the CNOs participated in a facilitated discussion on the benefits, drawbacks, risks and potential mitigation strategies for RN Prescribing. A report will be presented at the November 1 AGM of OPHNL from this facilitated discussion. The CNO Forum concluded on a high note with a continued commitment to keep CNOs informed, engaged and to solicit their input on public health nursing practice and healthcare systems issues.

**Systems Levels Impact:**

Earlier in Spring many of the OPHNL Executive attended the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario’s (RNAO) AGM. This meeting was facilitated by one of the Chief Nursing Officers, Carol Timmings, who recently finished her term as RNAO President. At the AGM, new research work conducted by RNAO on Transforming Nursing Through Knowledge: Best Practices in Guideline Development, Implementation Science, and Evaluation was debuted. It was a proud moment to see Ontario nurses as leaders in implementation of best practices and the international influence and spread of best practices work that has taken place to enhance nursing care globally.

Several of the OPHNL Executive recently attended the Canadian Nurses Association’s (CNA) Biennial Conference and AGM. The CNA voted on an important new by-law to support intra-professional collaboration which will now open up membership to the association for RPNs/LPNs and registered psychiatric nurses in addition to RNs and NPs. The conference proceedings brought forward important opportunities for OPHNL to consider for advancing policy issues that are important to us from both a nursing and public health perspective. I also recently attended an executive forum organized by the Canadian College of Health Leaders (CCHL) on the LEADS in a Caring Environment leadership framework. In the near future, we will explore a potential collaboration with CCHL to gain access to an online platform with LEADS resources and potential education.

 **Foster a Highly Competent and Innovative Workforce:**

### The Workshop Planning Group has been busy planning away. Through careful consideration of different topics and workshop presenters, the group has selected “Coaching in Leadership” as the theme for this year’s workshop. The Workforce Development Workgroup is currently reviewing some programming possibilities to sustain the learnings from this year’s workshop and to offer our membership some post workshop materials and possible webinar offerings.

**Marketing and Memberships**

To date, I have had the opportunity to attend and engage with OPHNL members of the Northern, Central East, Central West and South West Regions. The information provided by members on the strategic priorities for OPHNL has helped inform a recent poll that we have sent out to the membership. . This poll includes a series of ideas and projects that we would like membership input on. Once you provide us with your input and help us in prioritizing, we will determine our plan and areas of focus for the association. If you have not had a chance, please go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OPHNLPoll> and complete the poll by July 6.

Finally, we are hoping to clean up our membership database over the summer and early fall. This will assist in smoothing over the current kinks that some of our members maybe facing with renewals. We thank you for your patience.

Our AGM and Workshop are scheduled for November 1 and 2 at the Novotel Toronto Centre. At this year’s AGM, we will be nominating our new President Elect. I would like to request our members to consider this important role and please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any queries. The OPHNL Executive and I would be happy to provide you with an overview of our work-to-date, the association’s priorities and areas of need and answer any questions.

I want to express my sincere gratitude for your support and leadership. A special thank you to the CNOs, who shared their valuable time, knowledge, ideas and expertise at the recent Chief Nursing Officer Forum.

Sincerely,

Hamida Bhimani

OPHNL President

Email: hamida.bhimani@york.ca