



REGISTERED PSYCHIATRIC NURSES'
FOUNDATION INC.

2015 Annual Report

May 14, 2015

Inn at the Forks, Winnipeg, Manitoba

The mission of the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation Inc.(RPNF) is to promote excellence in psychiatric nursing practice in the domains of education, clinical, leadership and research. The RPNF achieves this by attracting and managing gifts from donors into a permanent endowment fund. These funds are then used to grant annual provincial and national scholarships to recognize excellence in psychiatric nursing practice.

The RPNF now also presents Awards of Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing Practice to Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Manitoba who have demonstrated a high standard of practice in the profession.

Our Strategic Plan for this term of office had four goals:

1. To develop an enduring fund of \$100,000.00 by the year 2020
2. To increase awareness about the RPNF
3. To have all communication processes done efficiently
4. To have effective and efficient administrative processes

The RPNF does not have any staff so some of these relatively simple goals can be a challenge. However, we are slowly working our way towards the achievement of these goals.

The development of an enduring fund of \$100,000.00 was greatly assisted this past year by the very generous donation of \$15,000.0 from Darlene Henry, a long time member of our profession who has dedicated her career to the psychiatric nursing of seniors. As a result of this donation, the RPNF has established a new national scholarship geared towards seniors' mental health.

The RPNF website has now been redesigned and we try to keep it up to date. We have also started using twitter and Facebook as communication tools and to increase awareness of the Foundation. There are documents on your table that tell you how you can assist with this. We are still working on our administrative processes and are grateful to the CRPNM staff, especially Laurie Cenerini and John Schmidt who process our correspondence and take care of our finances. We are trying out new processes for our electronic correspondence and will evaluate that later on this year.

We have been preparing for our presence at the 2015 World Congress for Psychiatric Nurses that will be held in Banff next week. Bonita Fanzega and Beverley Hicks will be representing the RPNF there. This is

part of our ongoing efforts to increase awareness of the RPNF with all RPNs in the country. If any of you are attending, we would appreciate your help in encouraging people to drop by the RPNF booth and to make a donation.

Our biggest challenge remains that of fundraising. As previously mentioned, we were very fortunate to receive the generous donation from Darlene Henry. However, such a donation is very rare. To sustain the ongoing activities of the RPNF, we need more fundraising activities or participation. One of the easiest ways for RPNs in Manitoba to participate is through the debit plan. If you add \$5.00 a month to the monthly debit of your registration fees, that would give \$45.00 to the RPNF. You would get a tax deductible receipt for the donation. If ten persons did this, it would mean \$450.00. If 20 did it, it would be \$900.00, an amount that almost funds a graduate scholarship. You can use the debit plan to make donations to the RPNF even after you have retired and are no longer paying fees that way.

We are continuing the slow work of becoming a national foundation and the establishment of the new national McCormack/Henry Scholarship will assist with that goal. We now have four scholarships dedicated to RPNs from Manitoba and three scholarships that are also open to RPNs from other provinces.

Meanwhile, as an addendum to this report, I have listed the recipients of the 2015 Awards of Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing and the 2015 Scholarship recipients. I hope you can all stay for the reception that will begin at 5:30 PM today to help us celebrate the recipients.

I would like to thank the members of the Board of Directors who have been diligent in assisting with the RPNF processes. Special mention must be made of Dr. Beverley Hicks' work in guiding the provincial and national scholarship processes. This is not an easy task and she works very hard to ensure fairness and efficiency in the process. Cathy Demas chaired the awards process.

Special thanks also to Marlene Fitzsimmons who is chairing the Nominations process for us today. It is an election year and although it is sad to see some members of the board leaving us, it is exciting to see new faces letting their names stand for election.

The Board of Directors for this term of office were:

Cathy Demas, RPN, BA	Beverley Hicks, PN, PhD	Bonita Fanzega, RPN, BScPN
Pamela Kachur, RPN, BScPN	Carlyle London, RPN, PhD	Grant Major, RPN, BA
Amy Martyniuk, RPN, BScPN	Richard Stefanyshyn, LLD	Bonny Wynnobel, RPN

Annette Thorimbert Osted, RPN, LL.D.(h.c.)