

Registered Psychiatric Nurses' Foundation Inc.

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What's in this Edition of Your RPNF News.

- Welcome Reader
- RPNF Award Reception
- Awards of Excellence ²⁰¹⁸
- Scholarships Recipients ²⁰¹⁸
- Stay Current, Get Involved.

2018 RPNF AWARDS RECEPTION



Photo credit: Ashley Nicole Photography

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Summer Edition of the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation Inc. (RPNF) newsletter, "Your RPNF News".

We are pleased to share the **2018 RPNF Scholarships** and **Awards of Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing Practice** presented at the May 17, 2018 RPNF Awards Reception held at the Hilton Airport Suites, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

RPNF Scholarships

Scholarships are provided by the **Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation** in order to support academic excellence in the field of psychiatric nursing. The awards are limited to Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Canada or students preparing to become Registered Psychiatric Nurses in an approved undergraduate psychiatric nursing education program.

Each year, since 1998, the Foundation grants scholarships to applicants who have met specific criteria. The Foundation now has four Manitoba Scholarships and three National scholarships that may be awarded to qualified applicants.

As there were no qualified applicants for two of the scholarships in 2018, the RPNF provided a total of \$3,500.00 to the recipients..



RPNF Vision: "to enhance the profession of psychiatric nursing in Canada".

Congratulations to all who received an RPNF Scholarships and to those honoured with Awards of Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing Practice.



(L to R) Beverly Moore; Rhonda Martin; Tracy Thiele; Cathy Demas; Brittany Read; Karen Clements; Sheree Warburton; Laurie Shorting. (Missing: Will Fifi; Marina Kolar; Nicole Ambrosi.)

Below - Bonny Wynnobel acknowledges the many years of service by Past President Annette Tormiber-Osted.



The May 17, 2018 RPNF Awards Reception held at the Hilton Airport Suites, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Bonny Wynnobel, President of the RPNF Served as Emcee, introducing the Scholarship and Award Committees for the presentation of the award. Information from the Annual General Meeting was provided and RPNF merchandise were available. We thank all who supported this event through attendance and generous donations.

Thank you to the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba for ongoing support and joint coordination of our Annual General Meetings and CRPNM Education event and RPNF Receptions.

Photo credits in this issue: Ashley Smith, RPN (Ashley Nicole Photography) - Thank you Ashley!



RPNF Vision: "to enhance the profession of psychiatric nursing in Canada".

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE in PSYCHIATRIC NURSING PRACTICE!

The Awards of Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing Practice are presented to Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Manitoba in recognition of excellence in psychiatric nursing and their high degree of professionalism.

Laurie Shorting - Excellence in Clinical Practice



(The 2018 RPNF Award of Excellence in Clinical Practice was presented to Laurie Shorting by Vice President - Marg Synyshyn.).

Laurie Shorting has been with the Addictions Unit at Health Sciences Centre for almost 10 years. She works in the capacity of a clinical nurse specialist. Her work has been described as simply exemplary. Laurie receives consults for new patients in crisis in the Emergency Department predominantly where her consultations are very astute. Laurie has high ethical standards which she does not compromise. She has been involved in process redesign and she sits on various committees regarding continuity of addictions



care within the region. Her knowledge of both addictions medicine as well as systems related issues is outstanding; she is a definite educational resource for physicians and nurses alike. Her work exhibits natural leadership through clinical excellence and all that this encompasses.

Laurie was nominated by Kulvir Badesha and Angela Godee,

AWARDS of EXCELLENCE

Intent of the Awards:

- To acknowledge contributions of psychiatric nurses to the profession within specific domains of practice: Clinical, Education, Leadership and Research.
- To provide public recognition of excellence within the profession.
- To increase public awareness of services and contributions made by psychiatric nurses.

Call for Nominations

The Awards of Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing Practice are considered in the following domains:

- **Education**
- **Research**
- **Clinical Practice**
- **Leadership**

Nomination Process:

Each year a call for nominations is sent to all members of the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba. The nominator and / or the seconder must be practicing members of the College. A Committee, appointed by the RPNF Board of Directors reviews all nominations and present recommendations to the RPNF Board for approval.

Award winners will be announced and presentations made at the Annual General Meeting and Reception in May 2019.

The Criteria and Nomination for the Awards of Excellence are located on the RPNF website. www.rpnf.ca

The nominee and/or seconder must be Registered Psychiatric Nurses.



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Rhonda Martin - Excellence in Clinical Practice

Rhonda Martin was working in the acute mental health program in 2012 when Selkirk Mental Health Centre introduced two electronic patient assessment tools. The Resident Assessment Instrument – Mental Health (RAI-MH) and the National Rehabilitation Reporting System (NRS) used in the Acquired Brain Injury program.

She quickly adapted to the new software and soon became one of the program area experts. Her excellent clinical assessment skills became evident at the time as she was able to ask critical questions to ensure she was completing the RAI-MH correctly. Her inquiring mind also led to further enhancements to the mental health tool.

It was not long before Rhonda could see the possibilities on how the RAI-MH could help transform services to the individual person receiving care, to the program areas and to SMHC as a whole. There was now better data to assist with the patient's recovery planning, including graphs that can be shared with the patient to show their progress; assisting the program to better understand the needs of the people they served; and assisting MHC to ensure the right resources are available. All of which Rhonda played a major role.

Her expertise in clinical assessments made her the ideal candidate for a newly developed position known as the RAI/NRS Coordinator. In this role she assists the clinical treatment teams (nurses, doctors, occupational therapists, social workers, physiotherapist, speech language pathologists, etc.) by providing training and support on the tools, auditing for compliance of question requirements, and monitoring timely completion of both assessment tools as well as SMHC's electronic recovery plans. Rhonda is the lead trainer and works closely with all program areas, SMHC's Health Information & Technology team and the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Rhonda is an exceptional role model and is highly respected by all her colleagues. She displays a high standard of care and strives to ensure that all patients at SMHC receive quality assessments that are used to assist them in developing their recovery plans. Rhonda's work plays a major role in ensuring that the people served by SMHC receive the services they need.

Rhonda was nominated by Lynn Luining and Doug Jonker.



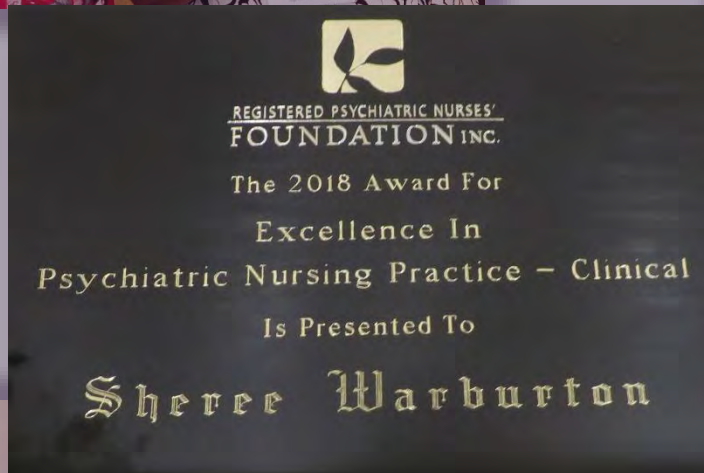
Top: Rhonda received her award from VP Marg Synyshyn.



(Tanya Denys (Awards committee member), listens as Rhonda expresses her appreciation.)



Sheree Warburton - Excellence in Clinical Practice



Sheree Warburton

Sheree is in her 40th year of Psychiatric Nursing and is set to retire from the Child and Adolescent Treatment Centre in Brandon MB within the year. Sheree currently holds a position as a primary nurse for a mental health treatment program for children ages 7-14. Sheree has played a vital and important role in the design and implementation of daily programming for the children in treatment programs at the Child and Adolescent Treatment Program. Sheree's steadfast and consistent approach has been an excellent clinical example in providing care the kids learned to count on. Several children have attended the facility when parents were apprehensive about accessing mental health services but in knowing Sheree as a nurse who had cared for them themselves or someone they knew, their trust in Sheree's clinical skills to assess and make a plan to help their child allowed for critical interventions and positive outcomes for kids and families. Sheree's solid counseling skills, treatment group facilitation abilities and her kind and consistent approaches with kids and parents provided many new nurse and with a clinical role model within our building. Sheree's commitment to continued education do not go unnoticed. Sheree has excellent clinical skills with both kids and families at CATC.

Sheree was nominated by Monica Pugh and Bev Dixon.



Beverly Moore - Excellence in Leadership

Beverly Moore demonstrated outstanding work and leadership ability on Selkirk Mental Health Centre's eOrders, eMAR and eMed Rec Project that was implemented in all program areas at Selkirk Mental Health Centre (SMHC). This was a complex project that transformed medication and clinical orders, medication administration records and the medication reconciliation processes from paper into an electronic format.

Bev participated in the initial training sessions and became one of the super users for her area. She was quickly recognized as an expert in the new software and accepted the invitation to become the key trainer for nurses and to play a major role in the conversion process! Without Bev's willingness to step up, the project would certainly have been challenging to implement.

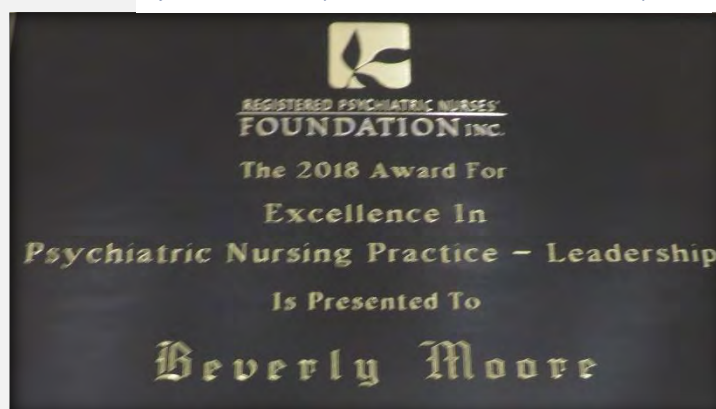
Beverly collaborated with the Clinical Information Management Application project team which included Health Information Services & Technology, project pharmacist and nurse educators to revise and streamline the new training modules. She was the lead trainer for nurses in both classroom and individual sessions, completed user acceptance software testing, identified, recruited, trained, coached and mentored nurse super users to assist with the conversion process and took the lead in the conversion process for nine program areas. To ensure the project was successful, she provided follow up assistance by walking around to program areas and checking in with nurses and doctors post go-live, assisted the project team by identifying issues and problem solving business requirements and workflows.

Bev is a great role model who was a pleasure to work with and everyone greatly appreciates her positive, solution oriented, and proactive approach.

Beverly was nominated by Bonny Wynnobel and Brandi Waldner.



Beverly receiving her Leadership Award from Secretary-Treasurer, Darlene Henry.



Tracy Thiele - Excellence in Leadership



Tracy Thiele is an accomplished and inspirational RPN. She has shown leadership in her pursuit of higher education (is presently pursuing her PHD) as well as her position in the WRHA as the Manager of Nursing Initiatives. She is the first RPN to hold this position.

She provides support to the Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer of the WRHA in the writing of briefs and reports, conducting literature searches, committee support, developing recommendations based on research and analysis, development of effective professional practice and organizational models for

the delivery of quality client care and promotes consistency in the management of nursing issues across the WRHA.

Aside from her employment responsibilities, Tracy has taken on leadership roles as the Manitoba rep on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Federation of Mental Health Nurses, is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International and was the president of the Honour Society of Nursing from 2015-2017.



(Award presented to Tracy by Darlene Henry, Secretary Treasurer.)

Tracy is presently the Vice President of the Board of Directors of the CRPNM, member of the Advance Practice Committee, has assisted in preparation work for submission to the Regulated Health Professions Act and participates on the Continuing Competency Education Program for the CRPNM.

She has been an instructional associate in the baccalaureate program in psychiatric nursing at Brandon University, as well as the College of Nursing, University of Manitoba. Tracy has published a number of papers in peer reviewed publications and has presented widely on a number of topics.

Tracy is a strong advocate for the psychiatric nursing profession and a shining example and role model for RPNs on a regional, provincial and Canadian level. Tracy does all of these things with good humour and a gracefulness that is truly inspiring.

Tracy's nominators: Marg Synyshyn and Deb Melanson.



Karen Clements - Excellence in Research

Karen Clements has been with Brandon University since 2005 and has been principal investigator (PI) for three research projects as well as serving as co-investigator on two projects. She has shared the findings from these studies at numerous conferences in Manitoba as well as across Canada.



Karen's research projects have included colleagues, students, and community members as a part of the team. She served on the Brandon University Research Committee from 2008 – 2010. In this role she participated in the evaluation of proposals submitted and awarding research grants to Brandon University applicants. She sat on the editorial board of the Canadian Journal of Psychiatric Nursing Research (2012 to 2014) and Mental Health Practice (2013 – 2017). She has been a member of the Brandon University, Faculty of Health Studies, Graduate Studies Steering Committee since 2016.

Karen served as the chair of the continuing competence committee from 2000 to 2007. She was responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of the CRPNM continuing competence program. From 2005-08 she chaired the BU psychiatric nursing program Approval Response Committee. In this role, she authored and delivered the report on the department's response to the 2005 CRPNM Program Review Report (accreditation process). She has served as co-chair of the Psychiatric nursing department curriculum committee from 2007 until 2017.

She engages students in a culture of evidence informed practice through her teaching and facilitates engagement of students in formal research assistant roles. She regularly brings people with lived experience into the classroom so that students can benefit from the expertise of lived experience. She has a recovery-oriented focus in all her teaching. She uses games and several methods to have students learn how to apply their theory knowledge in the classroom and has also adapted chapters in psychiatric mental health nursing texts.

Karen was nominated by Fiona Smith and Dana Naismith and Debra Dusome.



Cathy Demas - Excellence in Education

Cathy Demas began her career in education at the Brandon Mental Health Centre and is now at Brandon University. Cathy has taken on many roles within the psychiatric nursing program including Instructional Associate (both lab instructor and Clinical Instructor) and currently as the Student Advisor. In her role as Student Advisor, she is the main contact for students, providing them with direction, guidance and support throughout their time at BU.

She is an engaged committee member and actively participates in committees at the department, faculty, and university level and has also been involved in committees within the wider community during her career. She has been influential in the admissions committee, curriculum committee and policy committee which have shaped the program, policies and student's requirements over the years. She has also served on the board for the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation.

Cathy easily develops and fosters relationships with students, colleagues and individuals within the University community and community of Brandon and surrounding areas. She inspires students by her kind, caring, empathic and supportive nature, portraying the qualities of a psychiatric nurse that we all aspire to. Her hard work and diligence to support students is commendable and her ability to work with students and support them helps to create successful psychiatric nurses and a successful program. Cathy has earned the respect of her peers and has become a role model for newer faculty members and staff.

Cathy has made a lasting impact to the education of psychiatric nursing students. She is an integral part of the psychiatric nursing program and has dedicated her career to the education of students and to the program, benefiting the profession as a whole.

Cathy was nominated by Candace Waddell and Jacquelyn Pentney.



*Cathy Demas receiving her award
from Secretary Treasurer, Darlene Henry,*



2018 RPNF SCHOLARSHIPS



RPNF Scholarships are provided by the **Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation** in order to support academic excellence in the field of psychiatric nursing.

Each year, since 1998, the Foundation grants scholarships to applicants who have met specific criteria.

(Bonny Wynnobell, President introduced Amy Maryniuk of the Scholarship Committee, who introduced the Scholarship recipients)

The awards are limited to Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Canada or students preparing to become Registered Psychiatric Nurses in an approved undergraduate psychiatric nursing education program. The Foundation now has four Manitoba Scholarships and three National scholarships that may be awarded to qualified applicants. As there were no qualified applicants for two of the scholarships in 2018, the RPNF provided a total of \$3,500.00 to the recipients.



Kay Armstrong Scholarship.

Kay Armstrong was a long time psychiatric nursing educator at Brandon Centre for Psychiatric Nursing Education. She was a strong advocate of higher education for psychiatric nurses.



The Kay Armstrong Scholarship is awarded to 4th year students enrolled in the Brandon University Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing Program with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (Brandon and Winnipeg campuses). Two Kay Armstrong Scholarships were awarded in 2018 to two outstanding applicants as there were no qualified applicants for some national scholarships,

- **Brittany Read**
 - (BScPN in 2018)
 - Winnipeg campus
- **Will Fifi**
 - (BScPN in 2018)
 - Brandon campus

(Shown with Brittany Read is Kay's son, Glenn Armstrong who presented the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Foundation Scholarship named in honour of his mother. Note: Will Fifi was unable to attend)



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John Alex Crawford Scholarship

John Alex Crawford Scholarship is awarded to a RPNs in Canada who are in a Masters or Doctoral program. John Crawford was a national leader in psychiatric nursing who was dedicated to high professional and educational standards. He helped establish the first standards of psychiatric nursing practice in Canada. This scholarship is awarded to a graduate psychiatric nurse, registered in Canada who is pursuing relevant studies at a masters or doctoral level. The value is \$1000.00.

There were two John Alex Crawford Scholarships (National) awarded. The recipients were not able to attend the reception.

Marina Kolar, RPN, BScPN from British Columbia wants to identify how ableism is reflected in the discourse of British Columbia's Mental Health Act (MHA), including how the MHA guides and impacts mental health treatment, and the impacts it has towards mental health service users. She is enrolled in the Masters of Nursing program at the University of British Columbia.

Nicole Ambrosi, RPN, BScPN from Alberta will explore the lived experience of criminal offenders while accessing community mental health services once they have left incarceration. She is enrolled in the Master's in Psychiatric Nursing program at Brandon University.

Annette Thorimbert-Osted Scholarship

- Annette Osted was the longest serving Executive Director of a psychiatric nursing association/college in Canada,



As executive director in Manitoba and as a board member of the Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Canada she was a powerful advocate for psychiatric nursing education and practice at the national and international levels. The scholarship which is awarded to a 3rd or 4th year student enrolled in a baccalaureate psychiatric nursing education program in Canada. The student must have a minimum GPA of 3.0. The one qualified applicant for this scholarship was:

- Brittany Read**
Winnipeg (BScPN in 2018)

(Annette Thorimbert Osted with Brittany Read)

2019 SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for the seven annual scholarships awarded by the RPNF opened on October 1, 2018 will close on January 15, 2019 RPNF website: www.rpnf.ca

Manitoba based scholarships:

Alf Barnett Scholarship – awarded to a RPN enrolled in a Masters or Doctoral program.

Kay Armstrong Scholarship - awarded to a 4th year student enrolled in a baccalaureate of psychiatric nursing program

John Kellie Scholarship – awarded to a 3rd year student enrolled in a baccalaureate of psychiatric nursing program

Marlene Fitzsimmons Scholarship – awarded to a RPN presenting a paper at a conference or enrolled in a certificate program.

National Scholarships

John Alex Crawford Scholarship – awarded to a RPN in Canada enrolled in a Masters or Doctoral program.

Annette Thorimbert-Osted Scholarship – awarded to a 3rd or 4th year student enrolled in a baccalaureate of psychiatric nursing program in Canada.

McCormick-Henry Scholarship: to be awarded for the 1st time in 2016 to a RPN continuing studies in the area of seniors' mental

Please refer to the RPNF website: www.rpnf.ca for criteria



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Get Involved

There are many ways to become involved in the Foundation.

- Assist as a committee member in a non-director capacity
- Volunteer to become a director
- Participate in fundraising activities
- Make a donation!

Awards Committee

Calls for, receives and reviews nominations for Excellence in Psychiatric Nursing Practice Awards.

Email: awards@rpnf.ca

Communication Committee

Monitors and updates all written promotional materials as well as the RPNF website.

Email: info@rpnf.ca

Executive Committee

Meets for urgent business in between board meetings.

Email: info@rpnf.ca

Fundraising Committee

Plans for and coordinates fundraising processes and activities.

Scholarship Committee – Manitoba

Calls for, receives and reviews applications for the Kay Armstrong, Alf Barnett, John Kellie and Marlene Fitzsimmons Scholarships.

Email: scholarship@rpnf.ca

Scholarship Committee – National

Calls for, receives and reviews applications for the national John Crawford and Annette Osted and McCormick – Henry scholarships.

Email: scholarship@rpnf.ca



REGISTERED PSYCHIATRIC NURSES'
FOUNDATION INC



DONATIONS MAKE IT HAPPEN!

RPNF is a charitable foundation and will issue a tax receipts for your donations!

Your donations support the Scholarships and Awards of Excellence, which are funded from the interest gained from investments. The RPNF has identified the goal of \$100,000 in investments to sustain the current scholarship commitments. This investment goal is made possible through various fundraising activities and your tax deductible donations. The opportunities for you to support your Foundation can be accomplished through contributions made:

- on a one time basis;
- in honour of a fellow RPN at an event such as retirement;
- through regular transfers via the CRPNM debit plan;
- by naming the RPNF in your will or insurance policy;
- by including the RPNF as a charity of choice in lieu of flowers or requesting donations in memory of an individual.

All donations over \$10.00 will be issued a tax deductible receipt which will be emailed by the end of February each year.

"DONATION" or "IN MEMORIUM" cards are available on request from the RPNF!

How to Stay Current

Go to www.rpnf.ca and scroll down to **Sign up for our mailing list** to receive updates from the RPNF and the latest information about the Foundation and what it can do for you.

"Follow" us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/rpnfca>

"Like" us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rpnfca>

