

REGIONAL ONCOLOGY NURSING COUNCIL OF SOUTHEASTERN ONTARIO

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 2003

NEW MEMBER

Shannon Loughrey,
Peterborough Oncology Clinic
is replacing Jody Dunn.

ABORIGINAL REPRESENTATIVE

The chair has spoke to Brenda Asselstine, a nurse on the Tyendinaga reserve. She has agreed to send a representative to the council.

CANO ABSTRACTS SUBMITTED

The chair has submitted on behalf of the council an abstract regarding the council.

CCO PROVINCIAL NURSING GRAND ROUNDS

The chair shared with the council the success of the 1st Provincial Grand Rounds by Centra Web Cast that was held on Wednesday, January 29, 2003. The topic of the rounds was "The Nurse's Role in Managing Radiation Side Effects" given by Karima Velji, Advanced Practice Nurse. The power point presentation was sent to all council members by email.

The next Grand Rounds will be held on Monday, March 24, 2003 from 0800-0900. The topic

of the rounds will be "Pain Management in Cancer Care – A Challenge for All Health Professionals" and be given by Virginia Jarvis, Advanced Practice Nurse, Pain and Symptom Management at the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre. Esther Green (CNO-CCO) will send the power point presentation and the teleconference number to anyone who is interested. Any council members, who have any ideas for topics or individual speakers, should contact Gail McCartney at the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre.

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY (CCS) ONCOLOGY NURSING EDUCATION AWARDS

Esther Green (CNO-CCO) approached the Canadian Cancer Society – Ontario division last year about the CCS Oncology Nursing award. CCS-Ontario division will continue to support education in nursing with a focus in oncology. \$40,000.00 a year for the next 3 years and Cancer Care Ontario will administer the fund. CCO will be responsible for the application process, criteria for selection, making the award on behalf of CCS and getting the information out. This award is not to be used for conferences but university preparation only. The award can be up to

\$10,000.00 and individuals enrolled in part-time or full-time studies. Amount of monies received depend on the number of applications received and the number deemed to fit the criteria.

PROTOCOL TO DEVELOP CHEMOTHERAPY IN COMMUNITY

A discussion took place regarding the need to standardize training for chemotherapy and training of community nurses. Esther Green (CNO-CCO) mentioned that there are provincial standards regarding chemotherapy orientation and it would be a good idea to develop a learning modular. She suggested that Gail McCartney (ORCC) would be the person to contact and invite to the next meeting. The chair suggested that a Chemotherapy Working Group be developed to find out what people see the needs to be, not all members will be dealing with chemotherapy issues. The group would bring back to the council any issues or concerns.

PETERBOROUGH ONCOLOGY CLINIC UPDATE

Shannon Loughrey gave an overview on what was going on with the Peterborough

Oncology Clinic. Dr. Wierzbicki was the only oncologist at the clinic and he left February 14, 2003 for a position at the Durham Cancer Centre. The patients have been triaged and all passive follow-up patients have been sent to their family physicians. 200+ patients have been sent to the Durham Cancer Centre and approximately 50-60 patients have been sent to Kingston. Dr. Lucy Blume, a family physician in Peterborough is starting on April 28, 2003 as a clinical oncology associate. She will be seeing follow-up patients only. Oshawa Cancer Centre will send an oncologist to Peterborough by the end of the year. Peterborough is not seeing patients at present, except for Wednesday, when KRCC sends a radiation oncologist and Thursday when Dr. Mohrinda, a hematologist is there. Patients are now going to Durham Cancer Centre to see a physician then coming to Kingston for radiation and chemotherapy and then back to Durham for follow-up.