



*The National Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses of Canada (NAPAN®)*

October 16, 2020

Fellow PeriAnesthesia Nurses and NAPANc Members,

I want to take a moment to introduce myself and thank you for placing your trust in me as the next NAPANc President. As a nurse in my 21<sup>st</sup> year, I have cared for patients across the ages and who presented at various phases of their medical journey. As a young nurse I worked on a Pediatric Medical Unit, learning many basic yet important nursing skills that I use to this day. After feeling I needed more of a challenge, I moved into Emergency nursing for both Pediatric and Adult patients. The variety of medical issues presented kept me on my toes and ironically wanting more. The next logical step for me was to head north, while most would prefer the heat of the "South". I spent 3 ½ years working in remote communities, most notably Pond Inlet, Nunavut which became my second home during this time. The Inuit culture became very special to me as I learned to work more autonomously in nurse only communities. This was an experience that provided growth in my professional and personal life. I came to a point in my life that starting a family took higher priority for me and I returned permanently home. After several more years of Emergency nursing, I finally found my place in the Pediatric Day Surgery and Recovery Room at the IWK Health Centre in Halifax.

Skip ahead to May 2015 when I was approached by my manager to attend a NAPANc conference just at the end of my maternity leave. Off I head with a co-worker of mine at the time to Moncton, NB for the weekend and to attend something that truth be told....I had no idea what it was all about. Our immediate past president, Laura McNulty ensured that I was fully informed by Sunday, as she used her charm and abilities to talk to me about becoming the Treasurer-Elect for NAPANc. I headed home to Halifax after this conference with this title, the awareness that ANSPAN existed, having networked with a group of nurses with similar interests, more knowledge to share with co-workers related to PeriAnesthesia nursing and tired from all the fun and laughs. This was the beginning of my time involved with NAPANc and I have yet to look back. Since this time, I completed my terms as Treasurer-Elect and Treasurer for NAPANc, and the term as President-Elect. Closer to home, I am currently the President of

ANSPAN and will be handing over those reigns to our new President-Elect, Christina Hindle, next month.

The role of NAPANc President is one I don't take lightly, and will go forth with excitement and trepidation as I fill very large shoes. I am looking forward to what this role has in store, not only for myself, but for all NAPANc members. I recognize that you all have tremendous amounts of nursing knowledge within you and ask that you please share this with me. In an effort to grow further professionally and continue to strengthen PeriAnesthesia nursing, I would like to keep this role very open and transparent and intend to seek input and guidance along the way.

I hope that you are all remaining strong and taking time for self-care in this very unprecedented time. Look hopeful towards the future and our next National Conference in Winnipeg 2021.

Sincerely,

Leigh-Anne Marshall RN, BScN

NAPANc President (2020-2022)

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