

Middlesex- Elgin Chapter

newsletter)))

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Issue

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario Annual General Meeting 2023

This past June, Lannie Seddon, a member of the Middlesex-Elgin Chapter attended the 98th annual RNAO AGM in Toronto. This was her first time attending an RNAO AGM and she describes it as an incredible experience. In addition to socializing with other Middlesex-Elgin RNAO members, Lannie had the opportunity to meet new people from other chapters and learn more about the multitude of RNAO Interest Groups.



Left: Volunteer consultative representatives for our chapter at the AGM. Right: Past president of RNAO Morgan Hoffarth being recognized by current president Claudette Holloway for her outstanding leadership.

Lannie participated in the annual general meeting as a volunteer consultative representative which allowed her to participate in voting for the future directions of the RNAO. From the exciting opening ceremonies to bonding with fellow RNAO members, the annual general meeting is a great way to get involved in the nursing field from a different perspective than the bedside. Lannie hopes to attend next year's annual general meeting and would

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middlesexelginrnao**



encourage anyone interested in getting involved with the RNAO by applying to be a consultative representative! Stay tuned for information on the RNAO's 2024 Annual General Meeting!

MPP to Work Event

Hosting the MPPs at our workplace was a rewarding experience for our whole organization. Considering our current political and healthcare climate, the opportunity for nurses to highlight their roles within the health system (working with especially marginalized populations) and voice their concerns and insights on gaps in care directly to decision makers was energizing, to say the least. 'The system is broken,' is something we hear daily, which can often come with a certain sense of resignation and even despair. Given the levels of fatigue among our nurses coming out of the pandemic and in the face of the worsening opioid poisoning and housing crises, it was incredible to witness them speak with passion and pride about the work they do while advocating boldly on behalf of the clients for whom they care. Our leadership team is now discussing how we might facilitate access for staff to speak to power on a more regular basis because of how impactful it was. We are so grateful to our RNAO chapter for reaching out and coordinating the day; and I would highly recommend other organizations to participate if the opportunity arises.



Left: Terrence Kernaghan (MPP), Scott Courtice (Executive Director for LIHC), Rob Flack (MPP), Teresa Armstrong (MPP), and Lauren Rogers RN. Right: Peggy Sattler, MPP for London West (NDP) with Melanie Weaver RN.

RNAO In the News: Experiences of Violence in Hospital Settings

This month, our very own member of the Middlesex-Elgin Chapter, Lannie Seddon, was interviewed by CBC London's Kate Dubinski on the topic of the rise of violence and aggression against healthcare workers in the healthcare setting. In the past 2 years alone, 165 Code White calls have been made at hospitals in London, indicating the need for assistance in the presence of escalating or violent behaviour. Lannie Seddon describes the environment of violence she has witnessed in the hospital as an opportunity to reiterate the importance of preventative measures to prevent workplace violence. Lannie states, "Workplace violence impacts all sectors of healthcare, so I think that it's important for people to be aware of the issues that nurses and other healthcare professionals face. I'm glad I had the opportunity to share my

Upcoming events:

Sign the Petition!

In light of recent arbitration, nurses who work under ONA in hospitals were awarded a pay increase. However, RNAO is calling on the Ontario government and employers to award equal compensation to all nurses as another step in tackling the critical nursing shortage and nurse retention issue. Get involved and sign the petition and make your voice heard! Petitions are being collected by September 15, 2023. Read more about the petition here:

<https://myrnao.ca/civicrm/mailling/view?reset=1&id=26597>

RNAO In the News

Read Lannie Seddon's interview here:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/local-hospital-staff-frequently-deal-with-violent-aggressive-patients-new-numbers-show-1.6928520>

Read the Take Your MPP to Work Event article here:

<https://london.ctvnews.ca/registered-nurses-push-for-wage-parity-in-annual-take-your-mpp-to-work-event-1.6468449>

personal experiences and to shine light on the importance of preventive measures for workplace violence such as safe staffing ratios”.

Chapter of the Year Award

The executive of Middlesex Elgin Chapter was delighted to receive this year's Chapter of the Year award at the RNAO AGM in June. This RNAO award is in recognition of a Chapter that best exemplifies a commitment to the RNAO through active promotion, participation and initiation of projects that promote healthy public policy and the role of the RN, NP and nursing students within the chapter. Our events that engage area politicians, promote nursing roles, and enhance student engagement have all led to this achievement. We as a chapter are very proud to be recognized in this way.



From left to right: Claudette Holloway (President), Lannie Seddon, Lindsay Richer, Emma Butler, Emily Preswood, Janet Hunt, Safeeyyah Raji, Doris Grinspun (CNE), Ryan Chan and Paul Kaups.

Contact us at:
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Or via our social media pages listed on page 1