

CNIA Newsblast: February BLAST



Canadian Nursing Informatics Association

The CNIA Newsblast delivers informatics news from Canada and around the world to our members and subscribers.

From the President's Desk

Recently the federal government posted a call for a Chief Nursing Officer for Canada. It is my sincere hope that as nursing leaders across the country prepare their applications for this opportunity they consider the critical importance of nursing informatics competencies in this role. Members of the CNIA have long been engaged in promoting the essential contributions of Chief Nursing Informatics Officers to our healthcare systems as well as establishing clear foundational informatics competency requirements for all nursing leaders. This year our CNIA virtual conference event will explore the Digital Transformation of Nursing Practice (abstract call now open) and as we reflect on this profound shift it seems timely to reinforce the need for Canada's new CNO to be well equipped to lead nursing into this digital future and to remind our members and readers who have this expertise, and may be thinking about this opportunity, that CNO applications must be submitted by the end of the month!

Tracie Risling
CNIA President

Profiling CNIA Board Members



Sonia Pagliaroli
Membership Co-Director

How did you start your career in nursing? What first drew you to informatics? What was your first role in informatics?

I knew at a young age that I wanted to be a nurse. Every year around my birthday in December I was hospitalized with asthma. I had an amazing nurse Marie who cared for me and supported my mom. Her presence was reassuring to us both and at that point I knew this was the profession for me. In my preceptor year of nursing school I was assigned to Labour and Delivery. There, I met another mentor Vernie who affirmed my vocation choice. After graduation I was hired in L&D and the hospital soon-after embarked on a computerized charting project. I was volunteered to represent L&D and seconded to the project. This was my entry into Informatics and I loved it. I realized that technology could enable clinicians to provide better and safer care which fueled my internal motivation to help others.

What is your current role and what is the focus of the role?

My current role is Chief Nursing Officer – Cerner Canada. I work with clinical leaders to help them engage in eHealth strategy and measure technology enabled clinical outcomes. My passion is advocacy for efficiency in nursing workflows by reducing burden.

What key messages do you have for nurses interested in working in the informatics field?

Have an open mind. Much of what we do in informatics embraces quality improvement principles. Getting to the root of a problem, then thinking differently about how to solve it using technology. It's about big picture thinking evaluating how information is transformed to knowledge and wisdom.

Final thoughts:

Experiential learning and strong mentors have shaped my career. If you are interested in Informatics, the best way to learn is through immersion by participating in an implementation and witnessing the logistics of support and the management of change. Consider finding a mentor that you can learn from to bounce ideas and approaches with.



Judy Fleming
Membership Co-Director

How did you start your career in nursing? What first drew you to informatics?

I graduated with a college RN diploma from Sir Sandford Fleming College in 1988 and then went to the University of Windsor to complete a Diploma in Public Health Nursing and attain some credits toward my bachelor's degree. My first job as a Registered Nurse was in the ICU at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. I was fortunate enough to arrive when Judith Shamian was the VP of Nursing and was shaping the voice and role of Nursing at Sinai and across the country. Judith was an inspiring Nursing leader who encouraged front line staff to engage in professional practice activities, and who supported many opportunities for leadership at a staff nurse level. I was fortunate to meet Lynn Nagle through these opportunities, and it was Lynn who invested in me and introduced me to the world of clinical informatics. I worked at Mount Sinai for close to 30 years, first at the bedside, then in progressive positions within the Nursing / Informatics department, and most recently as a digital healthcare consultant at Deloitte.

What was your first role in informatics?

In the mid 90's I was seconded from the Emergency Department by Lynn Nagle to support some projects in Informatics that were actively moving forward. My first role was to show the Managers across Mount Sinai how to use a PC because they were imminently going to be rolled out and installed across all office spaces. Yes, it was me who invited them to a tiny training room and showed them the basics (maximize, minimize and close) and of course, how to play solitaire and click and drag. I also supported the roll out of the GRASP Nursing workload system which first introduced me to data and the value of that information if it is complete and accurate!

What is your current role and what is the focus of the role?

After working at Mount Sinai for almost 30 years, I wanted to try something different and see what the world looked like outside of a single organization, so I joined Deloitte as a Digital Care Consultant. This experience has given me the opportunity to grow as a leader and see problems through a different lens. I really enjoy working with different clients and trying to help them solve issues they are experiencing. Through my role at Deloitte I have had the opportunity to successfully lead health care organizations through large, complex transformational change projects enabled by technology.

What key messages do you have for nurses interested in working in the informatics field?

Get involved! I would encourage you to look for new projects or opportunities that you can be involved at your organization. Get to know the leaders at your organization and put your hand up to support different committees or continuous quality improvement projects. Informatics is a regular part of everyone's role in organizations today, so almost any project you get involved with will have an informatics component to it.

Upcoming Webinar: Identifying Improvement Areas for Nursing Documentation Efficiency

CNIA Webinar - March 30, 2022 at 3:00pm EST

Title: Identifying Improvement Areas for Nursing Documentation Efficiency

Presenter: Heather Laird RN MN, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto ON

Description: SickKids implemented a new EHR June 2018, ensuring complete electronic documentation across the entire organization. Following stabilization of the system a project was undertaken to assess the state of nursing documentation and to make recommendations for improving efficiencies. This presentation will review the data gathered, the methods used for collection and analysis, the findings and the associated recommendations.

Bio: Heather Laird has worked as an RN at SickKids for more than 10 years, primarily in Medical Specialties/Transplant. She worked as a Trainer during the EHR implementation and recently has taken on the role of Clinical Technology Nurse on the Physiological Monitor Replacement Project. Heather completed the nursing documentation assessment as part of her MN practicum.

Reminder: Webinars are open to CNIA members only, as a benefit of membership.

Click here for [Registration](#)

Upcoming: CNIA Award for Diversifying & Strengthening Nursing Informatics / Prix CNIA pour la

diversification et renforcement de l'informatique infirmière

Please keep an eye on your inboxes over the next few weeks, for a new award that we're launching as part of our efforts to diversify and strengthen nursing informatics. CNIA membership is not required to apply, but we encourage all applicants to join CNIA (remember – student membership is free!). The award will include a monetary component, as well as free conference registration.

Veillez garder un œil sur vos boîtes de réception au cours des prochaines semaines, pour un nouveau prix que nous lançons dans le cadre de nos efforts pour diversifier et renforcer l'informatique infirmière. L'adhésion à la CNIA n'est pas obligatoire pour postuler, mais nous encourageons tous les candidats à rejoindre (souvenez-vous - l'adhésion étudiante est gratuite!). Le prix comprendra une composante monétaire, ainsi qu'une inscription gratuite à la conférence.



This year's virtual conference theme celebrates the incredible advancements and innovative solutions that enable and optimize the quality of nursing practice and digitized care across Canada. From the impacts associated with the pandemic, to patient/resident isolation from family and care settings, to the increasing demand for digital health enablement initiatives; nurses' contributions to quality-driven care is transforming. Please join us in bringing together Canada's nursing informatics community to learn and network, as we continue to transform nursing practice.

Conference Tracks:

1. Knowledge to Action: Data Informed Practice, Process, & Decision Making

This track creates opportunities for conference participants to learn about research and/or project initiatives associated with how nursing documentation, interdisciplinary care team data, and clinical decision support tools support/optimize:

- clinical decision making at the point of care
- care planning
- patient outcome measurement

2. Human Factors: Use & Usability, Integrating Technology & EHR Design

This track creates opportunities for conference participants to learn about research and/or project initiatives associated with how the integration of computing, and biomedical technologies intersects with and safely optimizes:

- the quality of nursing practice and workflow (clinical standards)
- EHR design
- digital automation of nursing documentation

3. Nurses Leading Emerging Technology Use & Innovation

This track creates opportunities for conference participants to learn about research and/or project initiatives associated with how nurses have creatively integrated the use of telephony, virtual health, computing, and bio-medical technologies to drive new evidenced based practices and workflows that enhance the quality of care.

4. Quality & Safety: Communication & Collaboration Across Transitions of Care

This track creates opportunities for conference participants to learn about research and/or project initiatives associated with how nurses interact with care team members to establish comprehensive and complete digital documentation and workflows to enable the safe transfer of patients; inter-unit, across care venues, and/or discharge to home.

The **Call for Abstracts** is now open - visit the [Conference Page](#).

Registration is coming soon!

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with the conference, please contact president-elect@cnia.ca. Activities include Planning Committee member, Virtual Room lead, Social Media assistance and more!

Please direct any questions to communications@cnia.ca



Follow the CNIA LinkedIn Group

Check out our new [LinkedIn group](#) - one more way to keep up with all the CNIA news and connect with others interested in nursing informatics. Add your thoughts and share your ideas, projects, interests!



UNIVERSITY
OF VICTORIA

Want to improve the sharing of patient information across systems? The University of Victoria Health Terminology Standards Graduate Certificate Program is now accepting applications for its fall 2022 cohort. This is a 1-year part-time online program with weekly evening classes, a 2.5-day virtual workshop and a capstone project. Nurses interested in how EHRs, clinical documentation and health information exchange can enhance patient care should consider this program. Graduates are eligible for the Certified Terminology Standards Specialist credential from the Canadian College of Health Information Management. **The application deadline is June 1, 2022 for September 2022 entry.** For more information, contact Dr. Francis Lau at fylau@uvic.ca or visit <https://www.uvic.ca/hsd/hinf/graduate/certificate/index.php>.



Virtual Conference + Tradeshow • June 1st + 2nd

Early Bird tickets are now on sale - Save 20% until Wednesday, March 30, 2022.

The eHealth VIRTUAL Conference and Tradeshow happens June 1st and 2nd.

[Buy Tickets Now](#) to receive 20% off the ticket price.

Have an informatics item of interest to our members or subscribers?

Send it along to: communications@cni.ca

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