

# BC History of Nursing Society **NEVSLETTER**

FALL 2016 VOLUME 27 ISSUE 3





St Paul's Hospital

CAHN President Lydia Wytenbroek & Past President Margaret Scaia

Lynn Kirkwood and Alice Baumgart

## BRAINS, GUTS & GUMPTION:

Historical Perspectives on Nursing Education, Practice and Entrepreneurship: CAHN Conference Update!

Thanks: Lydia Wytenbroek, Catherine Haney and Sheila Zerr for contributing to this report

The Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing (CAHN/ACHN) took place in June, in Vancouver, British Columbia. BCHNS was one of the sponsors of the conference which was held at St. Paul's Hospital, an acute care hospital in Vancouver. The original hospital was founded by the Catholic Sisters of Providence in the 1890s. This was a fantastic venue for the conference as attendees were able to explore the hospital's history through a guided tour. One area of the acute care building had hallways lined with nursing graduation photographs dating back to 1911!

The conference had a strong international representation with five nurse educators from several universities in Spain, several registrants from the U.S., and two attendees from the UK's Centre for the History of Nursing and Midwifery (one of whom, Tommy Dickinson, was the 2015 winner of the AAHN Lavinia L. Dock Research Award). In total, there were 68 registrants, including 12 students and 1 post-doctoral fellow.

The Hannah Lecture, sponsored by Associated Medical Services, was delivered by Linda Bryder, a medical historian at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. She spoke about the ways that her focus on nurses has enabled her to employ a social historical lens to her research on tuberculosis, public health and women's health. The conference also featured an opening panel on Aboriginal Health History which was held in acknowledgement of the publication of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee reports in December 2015.



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### newsletter committee

Lynne Esson (chair), Beth Fitzpatrick, Ethel Warbinek, Sheila Zerr, Naomi Miller, Glennis Zilm, Lenore Radom. The BC History of Nursing Society Newsletter is published 3 times per year.

#### SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOME.

Deadline for the Winter Issue is Nov 30, 2016. Please send submissions to: Lynne Esson: lynne.esson@nursing.ubc.ca

## INTRODUCING OUR *new* WEBSITE



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Following the very successful CAHN Conference held in Vancouver in June, some members of the History of Nursing Society took a break over the summer months.

The Archives and Artifacts Committee is one group that carried on. Marjorie Ralston completed over 6 years of faithful service as the Chair and member of this active committee. The Society is very appreciative of all the work that she accomplished.

Francis Mansbridge, our part time archivist for the past five years, has also completed many projects to make the Archives and Artifacts an outstanding resource. He will be reducing his hours at this time but will continue with the work he has accomplished to date.

Also through the summer, the Website Committee has been working with Anita Petersen, our website manager, to revise and improve our BC History of Nursing website. Beth Fitzpat-

rick and Lenore Radom are the diligent committee members and we are most appreciative of their time and talent. As a result of the change in the provincial Societies Act, our group is working through the transition of our current Bylaws to the new model. This has provided an opportunity to review the society operations.

It is anticipated that the placement of the Ethel Johns plaque in the new garden near UBC hospital will occur soon. It has been a long process to have the first Director of the UBC School of Nursing recognized.

Future meetings of the Executive are posted on the BCHNS website. Any member is welcome to attend the meetings which are held at the CRNBC building.



# EDITOR'S DESK

In a small paragraph I want to introduce myself to the readers of the Fall edition of the BCHNS newsletter. First, I want to thank the Society for their support through Scholarship Award to my study of the North American humanitarian nurses and their relief work during and after the Armenian Genocide. I come from a family deeply rooted in Armenian tradition, have been in Vancouver since 2012 and currently am in the MSN program at the University of British Columbia. As a student member of the Society, I value all the work this wonderful group of nurses do when they come together during their meetings.

In this edition of the newsletter, we cover BCHNS members' participation in the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing conference which took place in Vancouver. We also cover a variety of news including member news and the launch of the new website of the BCHNS. Please continue sending your news and articles for our next edition of the newsletter. Wishing you warmth and joy in this wonderful season, happy Fall!



Breakfast at the conference



Breakfast at the conference



Lydia Wytenbroek and Marie-Pier Page

### One of the new innovative features of the conference this year was a live interview!

Lynn Kirkwood interviewed Alice Baumgart about her incredible experiences as a nurse leader. It was a fantastic conversation and innovation!



Lynn Kirkwood interviews Alice Baumgart

The banquet was a great opportunity to connect and re-connect with friends and

**Colleagues.** The dinner featured an Opera performance.



BCHNS Member Glennis Zilm with Nurse Scholars & Educators from Spain

# The door prize at the elegant CAHN conference opera dinner was a porcelain portrait miniature doll of Edith Cavell dressed in her military uniform.

The doll was designed and dressed by BCHNS member Sheila Zerr. Edith Cavell (1865-1915), a British nurse, is celebrated for saving the lives of many while nursing soldiers from both sides of the war in German-occupied Belgium. She is credited with helping some 200 Allied soldiers escape. She was accused of treason, found guilty, sentenced to death and shot by a German firing squad. The doll was won by Dr Luisa Diaz Martinez from the Universidad Autónoma Madrid who participated in the conference.



CAHN President, Lydia Wytenbroek, and Past President, Margaret Scaia



Dr Luisa Diaz Martinez and Sheila Zerr

# Thanks to BCHNS Member Glennis Zilm who organized this year's book sale at the CAHN conference with huge success.

During the book launch at the Conference Centre, Linda Bryder (Keynote speaker) presented her book: The Rise and Fall of National Women's Hospital, A History (Auckland University Press, 2014).

In addition, the following books were launched:

- Christine Hallett's Nurse Writers of the Great War (Manchester University Press, 2016);
- Carol Harrison's Miller Bay Indian Hospital: Life in a TB Sanitorium (in press);
- Alexandre Klein and Séverine Parayre's Histoire de la santé (XVIIIe-XXe siècles). Nouvelles recherches francophones, Québec (Presses de l'Université Laval, 2015);
- Andrea McKenzie's War-Torn Exchanges: The Lives and Letters of Nursing Sisters Laura Holland and Mildred Forbes (UBC Press, 2016);
- Isabelle Perreault and Marie-Claude Thifault's Récits inachevés. Réflexions sur la recherche qualitative en sciences humaines et sociales (Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa, 2016);
- Carmen Sellán's "La profesión va por dentro": Elementos para una historia de la Enfermeria Española Contemporánea (2nd ed. in press);
- Hazel J. (Schattschneider) Magnussen's Go North Young Woman Go North (Wembley Publishing, 2012);
- Frank Stahnisch and Diane Mansell's Bedside to Community: Fifty Years of Contribution to the Health of Albertans by the University of Calgary (in press, University of Calgary Press, 2017);
- Cynthia Toman's Sister Soldiers of the Great War: The Nurses of the Canadian Army Medical Corps (in press, UBC Press) and
- Tommy Dickinson's "Curing Queers" Mental Nurses and their patients 1935-1974 (Manchester University Press, 2015).

The closing panel on nursing in the context of war and peace was another highlight of the conference and it featured Andrea McKenzie, Susan Armstrong-Reid and Christine Hallett.



Soprano Nicole Brooks, Tenor Matthew Gaskin and Pianist Michael Onwood



Conference Co-Organizers: Geertje Boschma and Catherine Haney

#### The Canadian Society for the History of Medicine and the Canadian Association for the History

**of Nursing** will hold a joint conference on May 27 to 29 at Ryerson University (Toronto, ON) in conjunction with the 2017 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The Programme Committee calls for papers that address the theme of this year's Congress: "From Far and Wide: The Next 150." Scholars are invited to mark Canada's sesquicentennial by presenting research that draws on histories of medicine, healing, health, and disease to illuminate the individual and collective experiences of its past and future.



### REVELSTOKE revisited BC Historical Federation (BCHF) Annual Conference May 26 to May 28, 2016, Revelstoke, B.C.

BY: Nan Martin (Archives Chair this year and Happy Traveller)



Revelstoke is an interesting and historic town in British Columbia known for railways, forestry, ski hills and bears. Congratulations are due to the 2016 Conference Committee at Revelstoke, headed by Cathy English, Manager/Curator of the Revelstoke Museum and Archives. She and her resourceful team of volunteers pulled together an impressive event.

Glennis Zilm and I attended the full three-day conference, starting off on the first afternoon with a session on the New Societies Act that will come into effect on November 28, 2016.

Thursday evening found us at the Welcome Reception in the Revelstoke Museum & Archives where wonderful exhibits keep alive the history and heritage of Revelstoke and District.

Friday was a full day with excellent presentations in the morning:

- A Poignant Welcome Address from the Sinixt Nation.
- Keynote Address by Dr. John Woods "Land of Thundering Snow – Avalanche: History & Research in Canada."
- BCHF Website Preview of their new website; and
- "The Romance of the Big Bend" by Cathy English.

Friday afternoon saw us off on bus and walking tours – Glennis joined the Downtown Heritage Walk while I enjoyed a fascinating bus tour to Rogers Pass made more interesting in the company of Dr. John Woods who provided an excellent account of the history of railways and avalanche dramas affecting the residents of Revelstoke.

Friday evening, we attended the unveiling of the innovative stainless steel monument for surveyor Walter Moberly at the Revelstoke Railway Museum. Trails and Sites members, Tom Lymbery and John Whittaker spent years waiting and working towards this moment. Saturday morning was spent at the Annual General meeting where I presented a "One Minute" report on the activities of our society. My full one-page report was also on view for members. Our BC History of Nursing Society is always held in high regard by the Federation.

Saturday evening, we travelled by bus to Revelation Lodge at Revelstoke Mountain Resort for a delightful banquet where BCHF Awards were presented. The Honourable Lieutenant- Governor, Judith Guichon, was in attendance and awarded the Lieutenant- Governor's Medal for Historical Writing and a cheque for \$2,500 to Ronald A. Greene for Carlo Gentile, Gold Rush Photographer, 1863 – 1866.

To view photos and find more information, please view the BCHF website: www.bchistory.ca

The destination for the 2017 Annual Conference is Chilliwack, B.C. On our way home, we travelled through the Rockies via Golden and Radium to arrive at the home of one of our Honorary members, Naomi Miller. It was a delight for us to share time with Naomi. She welcomed us with open arms and was an excellent hostess. Thank you, Naomi!

My thanks also go to Glennis for arranging stops at archives and museums along the way!

# Thank You Marjory



Marjory Ralston has resigned from our Archives Committee. She joined our group in 2006 and was approached to join the Archives Committee. Her first job was working on our textile collection such as sorting through the various uniforms. She became chair in 2010 and when Francis Mansbridge was hired as our archivist, they began to set up an archival system. Work proceeded on completing an inventory of our entire collection. Archival supplies were purchased such as acid free folders, envelopes and boxes for correct preservation. A finding aid was established, lists and descriptions of archival items were placed on our computer and printed copies placed in binders for easy access. Nan Martin joined the committee and started working on the various artifacts.

The archives room in the UBC School of Nursing is small and there was a dire need for additional space for the artifacts. Marjory approached Bob Wilson – UBC SON- who secured a storage room for us. What a challenge as it was chockfull of all sorts of items the School had not used for years! With Bob's help the room was cleared and is now used for our artifacts and display items. Marjory also requested a book case to house the UBC SON Historical Collection.

Thanks to Marjory, Francis and her committee our collection is organized and professional. It is used by students and others conducting historical research.

Marjory and Nan became co-chairs in 2015 and Marjory resigned in April 2016. When we look back over the past 6 years and remember the state of our archives many years ago, we thank Marjory for her dedication and work in ensuring our nursing archives is one of the best in Canada particularly now that we have extensive oral history and biographical collections.

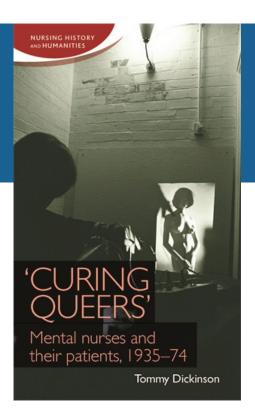
Thank you Marjory!

Health History Lecture Series: Consortium for Nursing History Inquiry at the University of British Columbia School of Nursing

On June 14, The Consortium hosted Dr. Tommy Dickinson who presented his work "Curing Queers" Mental nurses and their patients 1935-1974. Drawing on a rich array of source materials including previously unseen, fascinating (and often quite moving) oral histories, archival and news media sources, this paper examines the plight of men who were institutionalised in British mental hospitals to receive 'treatment' for homosexuality and transvestism, and the perceptions and actions of the men and women who nursed them.

Tommy Dickinson, PhD, RN, is Senior Lecturer (Nursing) at the University of Manchester, UK. He recently published "Curing Queers," winning the prestigious American Association for the History of Nursing Lavinia L. Dock Research Award for the book.

You can watch the recording of this lecture at: https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=1JUco71B\_il



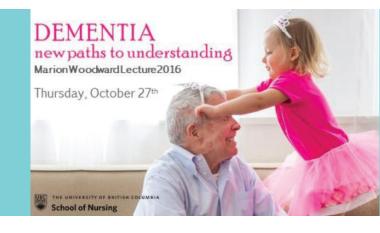
## The Nikkei National Museum



The Museum is pleased to present an important addition to the numerous Japanese Canadian archival records relating to pre-war history and the incarceration of Japanese Canadians that are now available as part of our online database. The general public is invited to explore this history through the Nikkei National Museum's website, nikkeimuseum.org. The museum is pleased to announce the recent digitization and online access of 2000 archival records including photographs and artefacts related the diverse experiences of Japanese Canadians in British Columbia since 1900. Each fonds combines photographs, textual records, artefacts, and illustrates personal stories. This work was made possible by the kind support of the Irving K Barber British Columbia History Digitization Program at the University of British Columbia, the Nikkei National Museum now has the largest resource of online materials related to Japanese Canadians and has a mandate to promote a better understanding and appreciation by all Canadians of Japanese Canadian culture and heritage; awareness by all Canadians of the contribution of Japanese Canadians to Canadian society and to honour, preserve, and share Japanese Canadian history and culture for a better Canada.

More information on this wonderful resource can be found at www. ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca and http://centre.nikkeiplace.org/

**The Marion Woodward Lecture** was held at 7pm on October 27, at the UBC Robson Square Lecture Hall. This year's theme was *"Dementia: New Paths to Understanding"* and was presented by Dr. John Keady, Nursing Professor of Older People's Mental Health, University of Manchester; Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.



# Happy Birthday Nina!



Nina celebrated her 89th birthday in grand style at her home in the South Granville Park Lodge. She is one of the History of Nursing group's most outstanding members. She was a founding member when the group was established and currently is a treasured honorary member. Her many years as treasurer as well as untiring efforts have added to the success of our many programs. Her generous donations are deeply appreciated. Most of all she loved a party as her 89th celebration pictures reveal.

Nina was born in 1927 in what was then Poland, and which is now Belarus. When Nina was age 2 (1930), she "brought her mother to Canada" to join her father, who had immigrated earlier to the Fernie/Cranbrook area of B.C. She is the eldest of four surviving daughters. She graduated from St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing in Vancouver in 1949. She joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in 1951. Her military career took her to Churchill Manitoba (1952-54) when Canada's north was opening up. From here she went to Isherholm Germany with the British Army of the Rhine, then to Lahr Germany. She served with NATO from 1970-72.

Nina completed her Bachelor of Nursing from the University of Toronto. Following retirement from the services, she moved to Vancouver, where she worked on short-term contracts with various agencies.

Nina, in addition to being enthusiastic, energetic, warm, friendly, hard-working, honest, bright, happy (and other positive attributes), can also be described as "feisty". She loves a challenge and will battle for what she believes is right no matter what the odds. In 2006, the history group mounted the Florence Nightingale opera thanks to Nina's belief and determination. She has enriched our group and our lives -this tribute is well deserved.

### Meeting UPDATE!

A celebration of the launch of our revised, new and improved website took place at the October 13th meeting of the BCHNS. Following the business meeting those attending enjoyed a delicious pot luck meal that included tastes of Thanksgiving that had been celebrated the day before. As well, we enjoyed tasting two celebration cakes. One for the website launch, baked and decorated by Lenore Radom, and the other supplied by Glennis Zilm to celebrate Ethel Warbinek's birthday. Lots to celebrate and a good time was had by one and all.

We were honored to have our webmaster, Anita Petersen, join the gathering and present the official launch of the website. Anita walked us through the website showing all the new features and providing a visual display of the changes. This work by Anita and the website committee gave us much cause for celebration!

After the launch the address for the BC History of Nursing Society will be the same as now for the old website.



# Dr. Grypma invited as Keynote Speaker at PUMC in Beijing





In September 2016 Dr. Sonya Grypma was invited to Beijing, China to give the Keynote Address for the 2016 International Nursing Academic Forum at the Peking Union Medical College School of Nursing. The nursing conference, with approximately 500 delegates mostly from different regions of China, was held in honor of the 95th anniversary of PUMC nursing.

Peking Union Medical College was an elite, world-class university established by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1917. The Rockefeller Foundation supported nursing in China through the creation of a first-rate baccalaureate nursing program at PUMC, in 1921, while simultaneously providing nursing fellowships for highly qualified Chinese nurses to study at prestigious universities in the West. The most recognizable nursing leaders in China were graduates of the PUMC.

Dr. Grypma, Dean and Professor of Nursing at Trinity Western University, is recognized for her expertise in China nursing history and Canadian missionary nursing history; interest in the latter led to a research program that has now spanned 13 years. She has published over 50 articles and book chapters and is the author of 2 books on nursing history in China: Healing Henan: Canadian Nurses at the North China Mission, 1888-1947 (University of British Columbia Press, 2008) and China Interrupted: Japanese Internment and the Reshaping of a Canadian Missionary Community (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2012). Her book Healing Henan was translated into Chinese and published in China in 2015. She is currently researching wartime nursing at the Peking Union Medical College School of Nursing.

Dr. Grypma's talk was entitled "Early Development of Nursing in China." It focused on three stages of nursing in China: (1) Introduction of Nursing (1884-1919: Nursing as Christian Service); (2) Professionalization (1914-1937: Developing a Chinese Nursing Elite) and (3) Patriotism (1937-1949: Nursing as Patriotic Service). Although she has spoken extensively internationally, this was her first opportunity to speak to such a large audience of Chinese nursing leaders and students.

"The relationship between China, Canada and the United States is a long one," she notes. "Although western nurses left China when Mao Zedong came to power in 1949, the effect of the deep relationships and transnational networks built in the last century are still felt in professional nursing today.

"It was a privilege to 'bring back' some of the early stories of nursing to Beijing, to an audience that already has an intimate understanding of the persons and places I've been studying all these years ... and to be told afterwards that I helped to bring a new, more comprehensive perspective on the transnational nature of early nursing in China."

### In Memorium: Ingeborg (Inga) Von Maydell

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Inga on July 27, 2016. She is survived by sons Arne and Peter and daughter Cataruna and six grandchildren. Inga was born in Germany, completed her registered nursing training in England in 1958, immigrated to Canada in 1959. She started work at Vancouver General Hospital, then graduated from University of British Columbia with a Bachelor of Sciences degree in 1976 and University of Victoria with a Masters of Public Sector Management degree in 1988. Inga, as we knew her, held the BCHNS secretary position for many years, her memorial service was held on October 1, 2016.





### In Memorium: Francis T. "Frank" Gillespie

We are saddened to hear that Francis T. "Frank" Gillespie passed away on October 13, 2016. Born on September 4, 1951 in Glace Bay, NS. Frank obtained his Bachelor's Degrees of Arts and Education at St. Francis-Xavier University in Antigonish. In 1980, he graduated from Victoria General Hospital in Halifax as a Registered Nurse. He worked as an RN at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, BC, and was a very active member of the B.C.N.U. for 35 years. Frank was also a member of BCHNS. His funeral will be in Moncton, NB and there may be a local celebration of life at a later date.

rchival Corner

Prince Edward Island's Florence Nightingale," Georgina Pope, was recognized for her pioneering role as a Canadian military nurse. The Royal Canadian Mint issue of this 2012 five dollar coin by Canadian artist, Laurie McGaw, in honour of four military nurses, shows Georgina Pope in the foreground.

This beautiful coin is part of our artifacts collection, kindly donated to our archives by Shirley Ridalls, one of our own military nurse members. Georgina Fane Pope was born in Charlottetown, P.E.I. on January 1, 1862, the daughter of a Father of Confederation William Henry Pope.

Nursing Sister Georgina Pope was the first Canadian recipient of the Royal Red Cross in 1903 and the first Matron of the Canadian Army Medical Corps.

She served in Canadian Hospitals in Europe during the First World War and was invalided out in 1918. She died in P.E.I. in 1938 and received a full military funeral.



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Special thanks to all who contributed to this issue of the BCHNS newsletter

Next Meeting: January 12, 2017 | 4:30 PM | CRNBC Articles, news, and ideas for items to be included in the Summer 2016 issue should be sent to Lynne Esson: lynne.esson@nursing.ubc.ca by November 30, 2016.