

THE NURSES' CHRONICLES

The official newsletter of the Filipino Nurses' Association of Quebec, Inc.



YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE TERM 2022-2024

For her second term, Mary Grace Ocampo was officially acclaimed to lead this term’s Executive Board (EB). Several EBs from the previous term have been re-acclaimed for this term: Ma. Cristina de Luna as Secretary, Maria Eloisa Dee as Auditor, Joyce Cotiangco as Director of Membership, Aryanna Kassandra Perbillo as Director of Communications & PRO, Arts/ Graphics/Logistics, Aiza Allam as Director of Continuing Education & Program, Corazon Abdon as Ex-Officio, and the then-Vice President Milagros Gobeil as Director of Finance & Fundraising. The newcomers who are joining the team are the following: Reman Altar as Vice President, Mary-Caroline Rada as Treasurer, Ma. Paola Piccio as Director of Membership, Thomas Odin Sta. Ana as Director of Constitution & Bylaws, Ethics & Standards of Nursing Practice, and Thesalonica Rapio as Director of Continuing Education & Program. The set of EB are comprised of nurses and nurse clinicians working in different hospitals across Montreal, retired nurses, as well as nurse educators. They were officially acclaimed last 27th of March, 2022 at the Centre socio-communautaire. After the absence of the previous term’s acclamation program due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the 2022-2024 term’s acclamation was done in-person.

WANT TO BE A MEMBER?



Join us by either registering through our website or by communicating with our Directors of Membership. Visit our website (www.fnaq.org) for more details.

THANK YOU, MME. TREMBLAY!

After several terms of being one of the advisors of the association, we bid farewell to Madame Lucie Tremblay. The former OIIQ President will start a new position as the associate CEO of the CIUSSS du Centre-Ouest-de l’île de Montréal. The FNAQ wishes good luck and great success to Mme. Tremblay’s new endeavours in her career and our sincerest gratitude for your contributions to our association. We wish you great success to this great milestone in your nursing career and we are very honoured that you had been a big part of our association!



Credit: <https://ciuss360.ca/en/tag/lucie-tremblay/>

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW NURSES!

We would like to extend our greetings to the following members who passed the OIIQ examination last 28th of March, 2022:

- * Harpreet Kaur Baht
- * Franz Chang
- * Brigitte Chua
- * Janice Maramag
- * Kenneth Polinar
- * April Rafael Santos
- * Mary Chirs Seville
- * Manisha Sharma
- * Sunita Sunita

We are delighted to see your hard work has paid off and good luck to your nursing career here in Quebec, colleagues!

FNAQ AS ONE OF THE CHANGE MAKERS



Our association was invited to be a part of the QNA's (Quebec Nurses' Association) Annual Conference and AGM held last 17th of September, 2022 at McIntyre Medical Science Building in McGill University. Our PRO and Director of Communications Aryanna Perbillo represented our association in a French panel discussion. She was among the panelists with representatives from various nursing organizations in Montreal. They discussed about becoming change makers in the nursing profession, how to be nurse advocates in our society, as well as social issues faced by each organization.

STAKEHOLDER'S MEETING WITH THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY

The Embassy of the Philippines in Ottawa, in collaboration with the FNAQ held a productive meeting last 14th of August, where the Credentials Recognition in Canada (CRC) Project was formally launched. This joint project by the Philippine Embassy and its consulates across Canada targets mainly nurses educated in the Philippines. The said project collects data and resources of nursing regulatory requirements and credential recognitions from each province and territory. It was attended by newly-immigrated nurses, practicing nurses and nurses clinician in Quebec, and some of the FNAQ Executive Board. Issues regarding the Quebec process of equivalency for internationally-educated nurses, as well as personal experiences by Filipino nurses currently practicing in Quebec.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to all my colleagues!

It's been over 2 years since COVID-19 attacked us. A lot of us are victims of it. It is sad but we are strong and able to fight on.

One of my goals for this term 2022-2024 is to increase international nurses' integration in Montreal, Quebec. This goal can be reached with the teamwork of our FNAQ executive board term 2022-2024. Last August 14, we conducted a stakeholder meeting in the Philippine Embassy in the Ramada hotel for Credential Recognition in Canada (CRC). We invited 50 members of FNAQ who are International Experience Nurses (IEN). Filipino nurses from the Philippines, Filipino nurses who are waiting for their documents from l'Ordre des infirmiers et infirmières du Québec (OIIQ), Filipino nurses who are waiting for John Abbott College (JAC) registration, and all experienced international nurses who are successful and able to pursue their nursing careers here in Montreal, Quebec. I remembered those days when I started to be integrated here in Quebec. It was not easy but with patience, hard work, and a positive-thinking attitude. This is a key to my success!

It is a great achievement to be a successful registered nurse here in Montreal, Quebec. It is a wonderful place to work. In addition, I have learned to speak French and am able to express myself in speech and writing. As you all know, it is a by-law to have to pass your french exam to be a RN here in Quebec. It is an interesting language. It is important to know because it will help you to assess, communicate with and care for your French patients who are not able to speak English. I adopted it easily because I love my profession and because my children inspire me to do it as well.

I wish you all a successful career! Thank you for being a part of our Filipino Nurses Association in Quebec, Inc. (FNAQ).

FNAQ IN YOUR AREA: COMMUNITY'S FIRST AID RESPONDERS



From left, clockwise: Director of CBL & ESNP Mr. Sta Ana comforting a child while cleaning her wound [photo posted with permission]; the EBs with Hon. Anthony Housefather (MP of Mont-Royal), Ms. Michelle Vargas Lao (organizer of various Filipino community events in Montreal), councilors Hon. Sonny Moroz (Snowdon district) and Hon. Stéphanie Valenzuela (Darlington district) [photo credit from Anthony Housefather Twitter account]; the EBs showing their first-aid responder T-shirts, courtesy of Filipino Association of Montreal and Suburbs (FAMAS); Secretary Ms. de Luna taking a woman's blood pressure; the EBs with TV host Michael Davantes of Pinoy Pa Rin from ICI Television; EBs and members posing in front of the FNAQ First Aid Booth.

Nurses may be exhausted from their respective jobs, but the FNAQ makes sure to be involved with the community while sharing the fun with the people. Every June of the year, the Filipino communities across Canada celebrate the Filipino Heritage Month where in this recognition is celebrated until the month of July. Some of the EBs and FNAQ members volunteered to be first aid responders in such event. On these events held in Parc Mackenzie-King (celebration of 124th Philippines Independence Day, Canada Day, Pista sa Nayon, and Montreal Fiesta Extravaganza), they made sure the safety of the audience like doing wound dressings, taking blood pressures, as well as disseminating health information.

50TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND EB TERM 2022-2024 ACCLAMATION

Every June of the year, the Filipino communities celebrate the Filipino Heritage Month. Some of the EBs and FNAQ members volunteered to be first aid responders during two separate occasions. After two years of facing the pandemic crisis, one of FNAQ's very important event had been celebrated in-person. The Executive Board for the term 2022-2024 was officially acclaimed last 27th of March, 2022 by the NOMELEC under the leadership of Ms. Linda Espallardo. Together with the acclamation of the current EB term is the 50th General Assembly of the association. Among the invited guests for this event were Cote-des-Neiges Notre-Dame-de-Grace Mayor and fellow nurse Gracia Kasoki Katahwa and Snowdon district councilor Sonny Moroz. In addition to the event held at a physical venue, this was also simultaneously livestreamed via Zoom.



From left to right: The Executive Board (EB) members for the term 2022-2024 on taking their oaths; Cote-des-Neiges Notre-Dame-de-Grace Mayor and fellow nurse Gracia Kasoki Katahwa during her inspirational speech; Amidst the pandemic crisis and the COVID-19 restrictions, a number of FNAQ members participated in this event



FNAQ EB MEMBER HEADED IN OTTAWA AS A FOUNDING DIRECTOR

FNAQ President Ms. Mary Grace Ocampo joined other representatives from across nation to partake in the Canada-Philippines Interparliamentary Friendship Group event. The said event was held last 9th of June, 2022 in Ottawa. Ms. Ocampo is one of the founding directors of the newly-established Filipino Canadian National Congress (FCNC). As part of the establishment of the association, they were invited inside the House of Commons and witnessed how parliamentary meetings in the Parliament are conducted.

ADVISORY BOARD 2022-2024



MS. LYNE DE PALMA
John Abbott College



MS. PATRICIA O'CONNOR
Healthcare Excellence Canada (Consultant)



DR. LAURIE GOTTLIEB
McGill University Health Centre



MR. ALEJANDRO ROBLES
Vanier College



MS. GEORGIA NIARCHOS
Montreal Neurological Institute
& Hospital



MR. FRUAN TABAMO
CIUSSS West-Central Montreal

REVIEW CLASSES RESUME VIRTUALLY

Despite the loosening of the restrictions regarding the COVID-19 protocol in the province, FNAQ decided to continue conducting review classes for the OIIQ examination and the John Abbott College (JAC) entrance examination. This is to aim more members to participate in such review classes at their most accessibility. The recent OIIQ review class was done via Zoom last 20th of September, 2022 with Klarence-Yap Lu Sia as the guest reviewer.

COMING SOON TO FNAQ *French Simulation Activity
*FNAQ Gala



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