

EDITORIAL

CJNR Bids a Fond Farewell to the Ingram School of Nursing at McGill University

This last issue of *CJNR* (*Canadian Journal of Nursing Research*) published from the Ingram School of Nursing at McGill University goes out to our readers with mixed emotions: sadness, gratitude, hope.

Long-time readers will know that the earliest issues of the Journal, then named *Nursing Papers*, were published by the School at the initiative of Moira Allen, Director of the McGill School of Nursing at that time, 47 years ago. *Nursing Papers* was the only journal of its kind in Canada — one that gave voice to nurses, thus publicly acknowledging the key role played by nurses in the health of society by virtue of their ability to gather, analyze, and use information for the purpose of acting on behalf of patients and communities.

The Journal has evolved tremendously since those early days. Its name was changed from *Nursing Papers* to *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research* — and later abbreviated to *CJNR*. Its frequency of publication was increased from two to four times a year. The editorial board and the structure were greatly altered. The role of nurse scholars across the country was expanded through the introduction of focus issues with guest editors. Production and administration were transformed through the adoption of new technologies. Numerous other changes, both large and small, were instituted to ensure that *CJNR* remained current within the ever-evolving world of scholarly publishing.

Through all of these shifts and changes at the Journal, there has been one constant: the editorial decisions and publishing oversight of *CJNR* have always been based at the McGill School of Nursing — in fact this journal is one of the few still published out of a university. While the loss of this important part of the School's history saddens us deeply, it also fills us with immense gratitude towards those who brought the Journal into being at McGill and those who developed and nurtured and sustained it at the University for so many years.

Forty-seven years for which to be grateful means that, in this brief editorial, we are unable to acknowledge the valuable contributions of everyone who has given generously of their time and talents. We must, however, most enthusiastically acknowledge the dedication, expertise, and

skills of the Journal's successive Editors-in-Chief: Moira Allen (1969–84), Mary Ellen Jeans (1985–92), Laurie N. Gottlieb (1993–2012), Sean P. Clarke (2013–14), and Mary Grossman (January–April 2015).

The members of *CJNR*'s editorial board over the past half century are simply too numerous to list, their important contributions notwithstanding. We are particularly grateful to the senior members of the current editorial board, who have been so heavily involved over the last few years: Jan Angus, University of Toronto; Antonia Arneart, McGill University; Eloise Carr, University of Calgary; Maher El-Masri, University of Windsor; Diana Gustafson, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Louise Racine, University of Saskatchewan; and Souraya Sidani, Ryerson University.

CJNR has had several Managing Editors over its lifetime. The two most recent, Jill Martis and Joanna Toti, in particular, have demonstrated an impressive level of enthusiasm and expertise, as have members of the Journal's production team during the last two decades. *CJNR* would not have been able to function without the commitment and flawless work of Jane Broderick, Copy Editor; Cait Beattie and Jean Louis Martin, responsible for Graphic Design and Layout; and Lou Lamontagne with her team of Translators. Equally indispensable have been the Canadian and international nursing scholars who have served as reviewers — and, of course, our faithful readers.

The enormous contribution of Laurie Gottlieb, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, deserves to be singled out. Having worked with Laurie as Assistant Editor (1998–99), as Associate Editor (2000–03), and, currently, as Acting Director of the Ingram School of Nursing, I can attest to her relentless intellectual pursuit of the best that nursing has to offer. Laurie Gottlieb's service to *CJNR* and to nursing scholarship remains unparalleled, and there are no words to express the profound gratitude of the editorial board, the staff, and all those associated with the Journal, as well as the Ingram School of Nursing and the entire nursing research community.

Joanna Toti, *CJNR*'s Managing Editor for the past 18 years, has been its mainstay. Her level of professionalism is without equal. Joanna's willingness to ever so patiently tutor me in my *CJNR* roles, her readiness to troubleshoot on any and all issues related to the Journal, and her commitment to quality assurance are testament to her fierce dedication to *CJNR*.

Change can, often, mean hope, and this is the case as SAGE Publications Inc. takes the reins of *CJNR* beginning with the next issue. SAGE has a history of publishing quality journals, and there is no reason to believe that *CJNR* will not become part of this tradition.

As the only general nursing research journal in Canada, *CJNR* occupies a special place in the realm of nursing journals, offering Canadian “flavour” while reaching far beyond the country’s borders. Canadian nurse researchers are engaged in responding to issues specific to the communities in which they practise. These issues include being situated in a country in which universal physician and hospital care are guaranteed by law; Aboriginal communities are relatively numerous and are engaged in taking control of their health and its socio-economic and political determinants; the population is more than 20% foreign-born; and a particular cultural mix has resulted from the country’s unique “place” between North America and Europe, particularly France and the United Kingdom. These are just a few of the issues differentiating Canada from other countries and through which Canadian nurse researchers contribute to the worldwide body of nursing knowledge.

I am a firm believer in the idea that change always brings with it something positive. We are being challenged, as Canadian nurse researchers, to ensure that the new knowledge we gain for the benefit of the society in which we live continues to be shared with others, for the benefit of their own communities. We fervently hope that this will occur, at least partially, within the covers of SAGE’s *CJNR*, as well as through all the other means available to us — social media, networks, conferences, other journals. Canadian nurse researchers have much to say. Let us all make sure that our voices continue to be heard.

And let us celebrate new beginnings for *CJNR*.

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