

BROAD REPORT FOR 2008-2009

The MNU Board consists of the President, Sandi Mowatt, the Vice President, Val Wotton, the Secretary-Treasurer, Fern Beasse, and 23 Board Members. The Board members are elected by their regions for a 2 year term. Board meetings are held 4 times a year followed by the Provincial AGM in April. Most Board meetings are held in Winnipeg at the Union Center.

This year has seen many changes throughout the year. The first being Maureen announcing her retirement effective Sept.1, 2008. This was followed by Irene's announcement of her retirement as well.

The 33rd AGM was held on April 28&29 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. Attendance again was overwhelming with 485 members, staff and guest attending. A total of 114 local/worksites were represented. The big event at this year's AGM was the election of a new President. Three candidates had the opportunity to speak to the delegates at the end of the first day. The voting took place the following day with Sandi Mowatt being elected as the new President. The Keynote speaker for the day was Sister Elizabeth Davis who spoke of a better and healthier Canada. An evening of fun and entertainment was had by all when St. Boniface and Victoria Nurses host the banquet. Once again the Brandon Nurses proved that they knew how to get in the spirit of the theme and won for best costumes. A tribute to Maureen for all her hard work as President was presented. The second day of meetings started with greetings from CFNU President, Linda Silas as well as greetings from CLC rep, David Winter. Gail Fones, former President of CRNM, then spoke of her work in Uganda in the prevention of Malaria. A motion was carried that MNU donate \$2500 to the "Buy a Net Program". Following this motion, an overwhelming number of locals also pledged donations. Several resolutions were discussed. Some of the resolutions that were carried were for donations in excess of \$25,000 be brought back to membership, PCBC members receive an honorarium, paid travel time be taken back to Finance Committee to review, lobbying Gov't to open more Nursing Facilities in urban and rural areas, as well as many more. The meetings ended with presentation of Retiring Board Certificates and Yellow Ribbon Awards.

The Education Day was held the next day with Barb Fry as the presenter.

The May Board meeting saw the elections of Board members to different committees. As well, the election of a new Vice President was held. Three candidates were given the opportunity to address the members and following a vote, Val Wotton was declared the winner. Val will serve for the term from Sept.1, 2008 – April 30, 2009. Election for the following term will take place at this year's AGM.

At the September Board meeting an evening to honor Irene was held. Many friends and foes attended to wish Irene a great retirement.

CLC TRIENNIAL – was held in Toronto from May 26-30, 2008. The Executive Committee and two Senior Managers attended. CFNU had a large and very visible presence there.

CFNU – The next Biennium will be held in June 8-12, 2009 in Vancouver, BC. All Board members will be funded to attend. CFNU purchased 1000 bed nets for the Buy a Net Program. As well they donated \$10,000 to CAN to support the Ghana RN Association. Another donation of \$1,000 went to Acorn. This is an organization that mobilizes low and moderate income families around social justice issues.

NURSES RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION FUND – continues to meet regularly. Review of the Personal Care Home Grant was done. LPN previously excluded from receiving this grant are now eligible. As well an announcement that another \$1,000 for each nurse was available.

LIASON MEETINGS – Meetings continue to occur between the three Colleges. Issues discussed include Internationally Educated Nurses, Workplace Violence and Staffing Guidelines for PCH.

CANADIAN NURSES ASSOCIATION – Biennium was held June 15-18, 2008 in Ottawa. This Convention marked the 100th Anniversary of CAN. Karen Neufeld from Manitoba will be serving as President for the next 2 years.

MEETINGS WITH MINISTER OF HEALTH – Regular meetings are to be scheduled. Topics discussed were Pandemic Preparedness. MNU was asked for their input. Vaccines will not be mandated for nurses. They will be offered on a voluntary basis.

PCBC – Wanda Zolinski remains as your Rep. and will be gearing up for the next round of negotiations. Contract was finally negotiated in the end of March which saw MNU in the 4th place in wages across Canada.

LABOUR SCHOOL – Held in Gimli in Sept. Again this year the turn out was great and a lot of new members attended.

BRASS SEMINAR – Held in November and once again there was a good turnout. Bob Romphf presented Retirement in a Nutshell and Benefits and Dan Kushneryk and Zenon Lisakowski presented Addictions Awareness.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

April 27 & 28 – 34th AGM Victoria Inn Winnipeg

April 29 -- Education Day

May 27 ----- Board Meeting in ~~Russell~~ Dauphin.

June 3rd (?) ----- Golf Tournament

June 8 – 12 ----- CFNU Vancouver, B.C.

Sept. ----- Board Meeting

Sept. ----- Labour School

Nov. ----- Board Meeting

Nov. ----- Brass Labour School

Dates TBA

Submitted By

Elsie Karnes

Sherie Tomiski