

## LPN Association Annual General Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2019

Meeting start time: 1800  
Location: Whistlebend Place

Meeting wrap up: 2010

### In Attendance:

Sean Hopkins (ED YRNA), Keri Moore (Chairperson; president YLPNA), Karen Gilbert (director), Jessie Rushant (minutes), Teresa Beaudouin (Treasurer), Karen Gilbert, Kelly Prokopchuk, Kendra Sallis, Diana Toma,  
Late: Adam Mackie (Director), SherylAnn Wasson (director), Maribel Mamis, Chris Paldy, Janeen Piliszanski (VP)

No additions or deletions were made to the agenda  
Minutes from the 2018 AGM were approved.

### Review of finances

Our greatest cost of the year was liability insurance at \$7750. This is lower than we have previously paid. There was discussion around looking into whether or we can obtain liability insurance via CNA (Canadian Nurses Association) as they have recently passed a motion to allow LPNs to join as members. The CNA purchases the liability portion via the CNPS (Canadian Nurses Protective Society). Keri will be enquiring with the CNA. The added benefit of CNA and CNPS is the additional education component and 24hr legal advice available as well as a larger amount of coverage

YLPNA membership numbers were up for the 2018-2019 year however we are currently sitting at low membership numbers for the 2019-2020 year. There was discussion around the need to encourage membership so that the association continues to have the money to pay for insurance in July.

There was discussion around possible yearly events the YLPNA could take part in, such as job fairs and the need for money to take part in these events. In order to do so we also need people willing to take the lead on these projects such as the small team we have are already maximizing the time they have available. There was also discussion around needing manpower for things such as seeking out funding, applying for grants etc.

### Where are we now, what's happened in the past year

On a national level, the Canadian Nurses Association has created a task force: The Principal Nursing Advisory Task Force. It has 3 main goals:

1. Pan Canadian regulatory nursing framework
2. Integrating entry level education
3. Optimizing scope of practice

This confirms that our plans for a merge are in line with both Provincial and National trends.

### Where are we headed, what do we need to focus on moving forward

The main focus of the YLPNA in the upcoming year will be on supporting and working toward a collaboration between the YLPNA and YRNA. Other than that, the main goal of the YLPNA will be to maintain the YLPNA and liability insurance for the territory's LPNs. There was discussion had around the need for people to work on sub committees and/or take on specific projects.

### Quest Speaker: Sean Hopkins, Executive Director of YRNA

Sean has been an RN for 30 plus years, mainly in the nursing field of psychiatric mental health and substance use disorders. He took over this summer as ED of YRNA.

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A current goal of YRNA is of one regulatory body for all nurses in the territory (RPN, NP, RN, LPN). At this point, this goal would encompass nearly 800 nurses practicing in the territory. If they become regulated, this could also include Health Care Aids and Midwives in this body. To work toward this goal, YRNA has submitted a business case to Pauline Frost (minister of health) and John Strieker (minister of community services):

The business proposal requests 2 LPNs be added to the YRNA staff.

Short term goals:

An online registration system.

A better office (Accessible)

Medium term goals:

2 LPN staff

Costs:

2 staff members (\$200,000).

Long Term Goal:

Sustainable funding for now to perpetuity

There has been no funding change since YRNA started in the 1980s.

Advantages to a merger:

- YRNA has an office and a paid staff and therefore have greater time and resources to make things happen than our current association which is made up of volunteers. The majority of this income is generated through registration fees.
- Access to education funds. YRNA currently receives money from the government for the CNEF (Community Nurses Education Fund). They have an education committee that approves funding requests (80% up to \$2000). More nurses in the group would enable YRNA to request more education funding. From an LPN perspective, the merger would make education funding more feasible both because it is easier to get money for established funds/associations than for new and because of the paid staff with time available to pursue the funds.
- Strength in numbers. With the number of nurses in the territory reaching 800 plus, we will have a stronger voice if we stand united.
- Increased access to government funds.
- Access to greater liability coverage with insurance.
- Keeping with national trends. Ontario, BC, and areas of the country are merging so we have established models to work from.

Reasons the merger is likely to be supported by the government:

- The LPN regulating body, Consumer Affairs, is saddled with a great deal of work with the increasing number of LPNs in the territory. They have expressed no feeling of possessiveness over our licensing.
- Minister Frost is currently doing a comprehensive review on health care in the Yukon so now is a relevant time to bring our proposals forward.

The process of merging will not be a fast one due to a number of factors. Time and consideration has to be given regarding how best to protect the public, the nurse and the client/patient. Numerous Acts will need to be opened (LPN Act, Health Care Act...) and these

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requests will likely go to the premier level, jockeying for priority with anything else the government may be pursuing.

The YRNA is at the stage where the business proposal has been submitted and parties are meeting with politicians. Due to the need to present a united front a member of each nursing group (LPN, RPN, RN, NP) will be invited to attend these meetings.

As the process evolves, there will be need for people to sit on numerous subcommittees. More information will be provided as it is available.

### **Upcoming LPN license renewal for 2020**

Reminders to renew licenses will be arriving via email by November 1<sup>st</sup> at the latest.

Remember that it can be a time-consuming process with education audits, etc. Your job can be put on hold if your license is not in yet.

If you are needing education hours, The Canadian Nursing Association is a resource for free continuing education.

### **Executive Team elections**

Theresa spoke to all who attended about the importance of joining the association to help keep momentum and discussed what we could be possible if we had greater involvement.

New members were encouraged to join.

All current board members have agreed to stay on.

Heidi Foley put her name forward as a Director and was opted in.