History Book

1980 – 2013

Revised
November, 2013
Acknowledgements

The history of the Canadian Occupational Health Nurses Association/Association Canadienne des Infirmieres et infirmiers en Sante du Travail (COHNA/ACIIST) was compiled by the following members:

- Sharon L. Chadwick – Alberta
- Louise Giacomazzi – Alberta
- Carole Hunter – Alberta
- Jeannette E. Combes – Nova Scotia
- Karen Mazerolle – New Brunswick

This is a living document – in its beginning stages – to be updated as the information is obtained. If you have information to complete this record of the history of COHNA/ACIIST, please forward it to your COHNA/ACIIST representative.
# Table of Contents

**Introduction** .................................................................................................................. 4

**Overview** ......................................................................................................................... 5

  Occupational Health Nursing in Canada 2006-2013 .......................................................... 6
  Occupational Health Nursing in Canada 1980-2005 .......................................................... 6
  CCOHN/CCIIST .................................................................................................................. 6
  NAOHN/ANIIST ................................................................................................................ 7
  COHNA/ACIIST ................................................................................................................ 7

**2013 Mission Statement** ................................................................................................... 8

**Previous Objectives** ....................................................................................................... 8

**Membership** .................................................................................................................... 9

  COHNA-ACIIST Executive and Board of Directors ............................................................ 10

**Annual Meetings** .......................................................................................................... 18

**Educational Conferences** ................................................................................................. 20

**Certification** .................................................................................................................... 21

**Awards** ........................................................................................................................... 22

  COHNA/ACIIST Recognition Awards for Canadian Occupational Health Nurses .... 23
  Business Recognition Awards ......................................................................................... 24

**Appendix A: Membership Summary** .............................................................................. 25

**Appendix B: Logos** ........................................................................................................ 27
**Introduction**

Occupational Health Nurses from across Canada have been meeting informally since 1980. The formal association was founded in 1984 and incorporated in 1994. The Canadian Occupational Health Nurses’ Association / Association Canadienne des Infirmières et Infirmiers en Santé du Travail Incorporated (COHNA/ACIIST) continues to evolve and be the voice of occupational health nurses in Canada.

This history book was originally compiled to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Association and updated in November, 2013.
Overview

Occupational Health Nurses practice in the speciality of Occupational Health Safety, Wellness and Environmental Nursing, delivering integrated occupational health and safety services to individual workers and worker populations. Occupational health nursing encompasses the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health and the prevention of illness and injury.

In Canada, Occupational Health Nurses are registered nurses holding a diploma or degree in nursing as well as a variety of additional qualifications and experience. Occupational Health Nurses may also have a certificate, diploma or degree in Occupational Health and Safety from a community college or university. Nurses who are certified in occupational health nursing have met specific eligibility requirements, passed a written exam and have met a national standard of competency in Occupational Health. In Canada, expertise unique to this speciality is recognized with the initials COHN(C), granted by the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA). The initials COHN or COHN –S recognize US certification through the American Board for Occupational Health Nurses (ABOHN). These initials are marks of distinction for occupational health nursing excellence.

Occupational Health Nurses must be licensed to practice in their respective provinces and are guided by the Standards of Occupational Health Nursing Practice in Canada and by various Acts within the provincial licensing association. Occupational Health Nurses are held accountable in practice by their provincial licensing association.
Occupational Health Nursing in Canada 2006-2013

The Canadian Occupational Health Nurses Association continues to meet regularly by teleconference call and face-to-face, annually at the National Education Day. In 2009, the Quebec Occupational Health Nurses Association folded in would have been their 30th anniversary. In 2012, the Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association withdrew their membership to COHNA/ACIIST. Despite these turbulent times, the association moved ahead with national conferences, new Disability Management Practice Standards for Occupational Health Nurses in 2012, and established the first National Occupational Health Nurses Week in October of 2012.

In 2013, a new mission statement was created and work continues on updating the Policies and Procedures, completing the financial review for 2006-2013 and re-writing the bylaws to meet the new criteria under the Canada Not-for profit Corporations Act which comes into law in October, 2014.

COHNA/ACIIST continues to represent Canada as the National Association for Occupational Health Nurses with an updated website and the COHNA nursing list serve which is moderated by an occupational health nurse and is free to nurses across the nation and globally.

Occupational Health Nursing in Canada 1980-2005

Occupational Health Nurses from across Canada have been meeting informally since 1980. Since that time, three national occupational health nursing groups have existed in Canada:

- The Canadian Council for Occupational Health Nurses Incorporated /Conseil Canadien des Infirmieres et Infirmiers en Sante du Travail, Incorporated (CCOHN/CCIIST)
- The National Association of Occupational Health Nurses Incorporated/Association Nationale des Infirmieres et Infirmiers en Sante du Travail (NAOHN/ANIIST)

CCOHN/CCIIST

The Canadian Council for Occupational Health Nurses Incorporated /Conseil Canadien des Infirmieres et Infirmiers en Sante du Travail, Incorporated (CCOHN/CCIIST) was inspired by the Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association (OOHNA). It was established as a certifying body in 1981, by Canadian occupational health nurses. The aim of the Association was to increase recognition of occupational health nursing as a specialty area through the
development of a certification examination for experienced occupational health nurses. CCOHN worked with the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) Testing Service to develop and refine the examination, which was based on a conceptual framework developed by occupational health nurses working with Dr. Marion McGee, Dean, University of Ottawa School of Nursing. The first national occupational health nursing certification examination was established in 1984 and earned international recognition. Other nursing specialties soon began to follow CCOHN's lead and CNA established a certification program offering the first specialty examination to Neuroscience Nurses in 1991. In 1992, the CCOHN certification process was transferred to the jurisdiction of the Canadian Nurses Association for one dollar. This agreement ensured that CNA would oversee the certification process together with the other nursing specialties.

NAOHN/ANIIST

In 1980, an informal gathering of provincial occupational health nursing presidents organized by some members of OOHNA had the desire to create a national association of occupational health nurses. This group met for several years prior to forming an ad hoc committee to study the terms of reference for a national association. In 1984, the National Association of Occupational Health Nurses /Association Nationale des Infirmières et Infirmiers en Sante de Travail (NAOHN/ANIIST) was formed. The Association was comprised of an executive committee and a Board of Directors representing the occupational health nursing population of nine provinces. The objectives were to: support the concept of establishing and maintaining standards of occupational health nursing practice; provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and concerns of occupational health nurses nationally; raise the profile of occupational health nurses at both the provincial or territorial and national levels; and speak with a national voice on issues of occupational health and occupational health nursing. The Constitution and By-laws were ratified in 1987. In 1992, there were approximately 2650 members. NAOHN/ANIIST remained an independent body until 1992, when a name change was proposed to facilitate international identification and incorporation.

COHNA/ACIIST

At a national meeting in September 1994, NAOHN/ANIIST was dissolved when the Board of Directors formalized by-laws and incorporated the Canadian Occupational Health Nurses Association Inc/Association Canadienne des Infirmières et Infirmiers En Sante Du Travail (COHNA/ACIIST). National Practice Standards for Occupational Health Nurses were approved in 1995.
2013 Mission Statement

The Canadian Association for Occupational Health Nurses is committed to promoting excellence in the practice of occupational health nursing and advancing health, wellness and safety practices in the workplace by:

- Developing national standards and guidelines;
- Fostering working relationships between Provincial/Territorial Associations;
- Providing a forum for members to network, exchange knowledge and share expertise;
- Influencing legislation and regulations to improve the health and safety of workers; and
- Promoting the diverse role of the occupational health nurse to business, community, government and professional affiliates at every opportunity.

Previous Objectives

Previous objectives of COHNA/ACIIST were:

- Improve health and safety of workers by speaking with a national voice to influence health and safety regulations legislation.
- Advance the profession by providing a national forum for the exchange of ideas and concerns.
- Promote national standards for Occupational Health Nurses.
- Enhance the profile of Occupational Health Nurses at provincial, territorial, national and international levels.
- Contribute to the health of the community by providing quality health services to workers.
- Encourage continuing education and ensure the certification process meets COHNA/ACIIST standards.
Membership

The Canadian Occupational Health Nurses Association is a national organization made up of provincial occupational health nursing associations who choose to be members of COHNA/ACIIST. Each association pays an annual membership fee to COHNA/ACIIST and selects one voting delegate to represent their association on the board of directors. An overview of the membership by province is attached in Appendix A.
COHNA-ACIIST Executive and Board of Directors

2013
Executive
President: Roxanne McKendry (AB)
Vice President: Heather Temple (MB)
Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Mazerolle (NB)
Administrator: Denise Jeffrey (AB)

Board
Cathy Dormody (NL)
Brenda Marsh (NS)
Eva Clegg (BC)
Rhonda Warrener (SK)

2012
Executive
President: Karen Mazerolle (NB)
Vice President: Laura Standford-Martin (NL)
Secretary/Treasurer: Jeannette Combes (NS)
Administrator: Allison Moore (ON)

Board
Rhonda Warrener (SK)
Heather Temple (MB)
Roxanne McKendry (AB)
BC and ON not members of COHNA

2011
Executive
President: Karen Mazerolle (NB)
Vice President: Laura Standford-Martin (NL)
Secretary/Treasurer: Jeannette Combes (NS)
Administrator: Allison Moore (ON)

Board
Drew Sousa (ON)
Doreen Yanick (BC)
Valerie Adrian (SK)
Heather Temple (MB)
Ellen Coe (AB)

2010
Executive
President: Ellen Coe (AB)
Vice President: Karen Mazerolle (NB)
Secretary/Treasurer: Marg Creen (ON)
Administrator: Frances MacCusworth (ON)

Board
Donna Langille/ Jeannette Combes (NS)
Valerie Adrian (SK)
Eva Clegg (BC)
Heather Temple (MB)
Laura Standford Martin (NL)

2009
Executive
President: Valerie Adrian (SK)
Vice President: Ellen Coe (AB)
Secretary/Treasurer: Marg Creen (ON)
Administrator: Frances MacCusworth (ON)

Board
Eva Clegg (BC)
Donna Langille (NS)
Karen Mazerolle (NB)
Laura Standford Martin (NL)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Executive</th>
<th>Board</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 2008 | President: Valerie Adrian (SK)  
Vice President: Ellen Coe (AB)  
Secretary/Treasurer: Marg Creen (ON)  
Administrator: Frances MacCusworth (ON) | Eva Clegg (BC)  
Donna Langille (NS)  
Karen Mazerolle (NB) |
| 2007 | President: Valerie Adrian (SK)  
Vice President: Marianne Pawlyshyn (MB)  
Secretary: Anita Volk (AB)  
Treasurer: Marg Creen (ON) | Kathryn Henderson (NB)  
Donna Langille (NS)  
Natalie Decker (NL)  
Denise Boudreau (QB)  
Eva Clegg (BC) |
| 2006 | President: Natalie Decker (NL)  
Vice President: Marianne Pawlyshyn (MB)  
Secretary: Anita Volk (AB)  
Treasurer: Donna Rickard (ON) | Jane Deters (SK)  
Jeannette Combes (NS)  
Stephanie Boucher (QB)  
Kathryn Henderson (NB)  
Elayne Preston (BC) |
| 2005 | President: Natalie Decker (NL)  
Vice-President: Marianne Pawlyshyn (MB)  
Secretary: Jane Deters (SK)  
Treasurer: Donna Rickard (ON) | Anita Volk (AB)  
Lenore Anderson (BC)  
Cecile Gosselin (QB)  
Jeannette Combes (NS)  
Margaret Sheehan (NB) |
| 2004 | President: Sharon L. Chadwick (AB)  
Vice-President: Natalie Decker (NL)  
Secretary: Jane Deters (SK)  
Treasurer: Eleanor Gilding (BC) | Marianne Pawlyshyn (MB)  
Donna Richard (ON)  
Cecile Gosselin (QB)  
Jeannette Combes (NS)  
Margaret Sheehan (NB) |
2003 
Executive
President: Sharon L. Chadwick (AB)
Vice-President: Brenda Marsh (NS)
Secretary: Alexis Lloyd (MB)
Treasurer: Eleanor Gilding (BC)

Board
Jane Deters (SK)
Jane Lemke (ON)
Lise Brassard (QB)
Natalie Decker (NL)
Manon Legresley (NB)

2002 
Executive
President: Sharon L. Chadwick (AB)
Vice-President: Brenda Marsh (NS)
Secretary: Alexis Lloyd (MB)
Treasurer: Eleanor Gilding (BC)

Board
Deborah Fedoruk (SK)
Edith Hodges (ON)
Lise Brassard (QB)
Natalie Decker (NL)
Manon Legresley (NB)

2001 
Executive
President: Brenda Greenslade (NL)
Vice-President: Sharon L. Chadwick (AB)
Secretary: Brenda Marsh (NS)
Treasurer: Eleanor Gilding (BC)

Board
Alexis Lloyd (MB)
Suzanne Gumpert (ON)
Lise Brassard (QB)
Debbie Federko (SK)
Manon Legresley (NB)

2000 
Executive
President: Brenda Greenslade (NL)
Vice-President: Carol Bailey (BC)
Secretary: Brenda Marsh (NS)
Treasurer: Judy Wagner (SK)

Board
Alexis Lloyd (MB)
Suzanne Gumpert (ON)
Louise Guerin (QB)
Diane Crane (NB)
Sharon L. Chadwick (AB)

1999 
Executive
President: Kay Godden (ON)
Vice-President: Carol Bailey (BC)
Secretary: Brenda Greenslade (NL)
Treasurer: Louise Giacomazzi (AB)

Board
Brenda Marsh (NS)
Diane Crane (NB)
Judy Wagner (SK)
Louise Guertin (QC)
Alexis Lloyd (MB)
### 1998
**Executive**
- President: Elaine Farrah (NB)
- Vice-President: Kay Godden (ON)
- Secretary: Brenda Greenslade (NL)
- Treasurer: Louise Giacomazzi (AB)

**Board**
- Carol Bailey (BC)
- Judy Wagner (SK)
- Brenda Marsh (NS)
- Louise Marie Thibault (QC)
- Brenda Kennedy (MB)

### 1997
**Executive**
- President: Sharon Blaney (BC)
- Vice-President: Elaine Farrah (NB)
- Secretary: Valerie Adams (SK)
- Treasurer: Mary Morris (NS)

**Board**
- Louise Giacomazzi (AB)
- Brenda Kennedy (MB)
- Kay Godden (ON)
- Louise Marie Thibault (QC)
- Brenda Greenslade (NL)

### 1996
**Executive**
- President: Sharon Blaney (BC)
- Vice-President: Elaine Farrah (NB)
- Secretary: Valerie Adams (SK)
- Treasurer: Mary Morris (NS)

**Board**
- Louise Giacomazzi (AB)
- Brenda Kennedy (MB)
- Kay Godden (ON)
- Louise Marie Thibault (QC)
- Brenda Greenslade (NL)

### 1995
**Executive**
- President: Sharon Blaney (BC)
- Vice-President: Elaine Farrah (NB)
- Secretary: Gale Frame (SK)
- Treasurer: Mary Morris (NS)

**Board**
- Bev Dockrill/Louise Giacomazzi (AB)
- Lynne Allen/Valerie Adams (SK)
- Brenda Greenslade (NL)
- Louise Marie Thibault (QC)
- Ontario not members of COHNA

---

1994 (NAOHN/ANIIST was dissolved and COHNA/ACIIST was formed)
1994
**Executive**
- President: Sharon Blaney (BC)
- Vice-President: Gladys Connely (NB)
- Secretary: Gale Frame (SK)
- Treasurer: Mary Morris (NS)
- Past President: Carole Hunter (AB)

**Board**
- Bev Dockrill (AB)
- Lynne Allen (SK)
- Brian Verrall (ON)
- Louise Marie Thibault (QC)
- Carole Taylor (BC)

1993
**Executive**
- President: Sharon Blaney (BC) Acting
- Vice-President: Bev Dockrill (AB)
- Secretary: Mary Morris (NS)
- Treasurer: Susan Linton (NB)
- Past President: Carole Hunter (AB)

**Board**
- Gail Frame (MB)
- Brian Verrall (ON)
- Louise Thibault (QB)
- Lynne Allen (SK)
- Gladys Connell – Delegate (NB)

1992
**Executive**
- President: Sharon Blaney (BC)
- Vice-President: Vacant
- Secretary: Mary Morris (NS)
- Treasurer: Susan Linton (NB)
- Past President: Carole Hunter (AB)
- Ontario not members of COHNA

**Board**
- Rosemarie Lemuire (SK)
- Jan Gate-Shamsky (MB)
- Susan McWillian (NS)
- Louise Thibault (QB)
- Gladys Connell – Delegate (NB)
- Carole Taylor – Delegate (BC)

1991
**Executive**
- President: Carole Hunter (AB)
- Vice-President: Enid Donaldson (ON)
- Secretary: Harriet Doyle (NL)
- Treasurer: Sharon Lawrence (BC)
- Past President: Susan Linton (NB)
- Ex-Officio, CCOHN/CCIST Inc: Gai Thomas (NS)

**Board**
- Bonnie Mazerolle (MB)
- Peggy Szumlas (AB)
- Suzanne Arnold (ON)
- Louise Thibault (QB)
- Bonnie Walker (NS)
- Mary Morris (NS)
- Sharon Blaney (BC)
- Margaret-Ann McMullin (NB)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Executive</th>
<th>Board</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>President: Carole Hunter (AB)</td>
<td>Beverley Cann (MB)</td>
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<td>Vice-President: Enid Donaldson (ON)</td>
<td>Connie Lupescu (SK)</td>
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<td>Secretary: Harriet Doyle (NL)</td>
<td>Margaret-Ann McMullin (NB)</td>
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<td>Treasurer: Sharon Lawrence (BC)</td>
<td>Louise Thibault (QB)</td>
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<td>Past President: Susan Linton (NB)</td>
<td>Bonnie Walker / Joanne MacDonald (NS)</td>
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<td>Observer: President CCOHN/CCIIST, Gai Thomas (NS)</td>
<td>Jean Granston (BC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>President: Susan Linton (NB)</td>
<td>Judith Hope (ON)</td>
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<td>Vice-President: Carole Hunter (AB)</td>
<td>Harriet Doyle (NL)/ Ruth Baker (NL)</td>
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<td>Secretary: Bev Harris (ON)</td>
<td>Denyse Bourlay (NB)</td>
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<td>Past President: Louise Thibeault (QC)</td>
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<td>Ruth Baker (NL)</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>President: Susan Linton (NB)</td>
<td>Julie Diakiw (MB)</td>
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<td>Marion Johnstone (AB)</td>
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<td>1987</td>
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<td>President:</td>
<td>Julie Diakiw (MB)</td>
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<td>Vice President:</td>
<td>Judith Hope (ON)</td>
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<td>Sharon Lawrence (BC)</td>
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<td>Marion Johnstone (AB)</td>
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</tbody>
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1986

Executive
President: Louise Thibeault (QB)
Secretary/Treasurer: Gai Thomas (NS)

Board
Marilyn Fiscer (ON)
Susan Martin (NB)
Carole Hunter (AB)
Marilyn Dumoret (BC)
Marilyn Reddy (SK)

1985

Executive
President: Louise Thibeault (QB)
President-Elect: Sue Martin (NB)
Secretary/Treasurer: Gai Thomas (NS)

Board
Bonnie Mazerolle (MB)
Marilyn Fisher (NS)
Carol Hunter (AB)
Catherine Breen (NL)
Janet Fleming (SK)
Marilyn Reddy (SK)
Mary Breen/Bev Harris (ON)

1984 (NAOHN/ANIIST Formed)

1984

Executive
President: Marilyn Reddy (SK)
Secretary/Treasurer: Sharon Blaney (BC)

Board
Carole Hunter/Marge Olson (AB)
Irene Rudder (SK)
Marilyn Fisher (ON)
Louise Thibeault (QB)
Janice Cruikshank (NS)
Mary Breen (NB)

1983

Executive
President: Marilyn Reddy (SK)
Secretary/Treasurer:

Board
Carole Hunter (AB)
Marilyn Fisher (ON)
Louise Thibeault (QB)
Janice Cruikshank (NS)
Sue Martin (NB)
Marilyn Reddy (SK)
Fay Redstone (BC)
1982
Executive
President: Mona Dooley (NL)
Secretary/Treasurer: Joan Callaghan (BC)

Board
Marilyn Reddy (SK)
Marilyn Fisher (ON)
Jean Nickerson (NS)
Maxine Imbeau (AB)

1981
Executive
President:
Vice-President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:

Interest Group Meeting:

1980
Norma Busby (MB)
Marilyn Fisher (elected chair (ON)
Louise Thibault (elected co-chair) (QC)
Jean Nickerson (NS)
Sue Martin (NB)
Joan Callaghan (BC)
Elizabeth Butler (AB)
Marilyn Reddy (SK)
Mona Dooley (NFLD)
### Annual Meetings

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>29 September</td>
<td>29 April</td>
<td>30 September</td>
<td>08 June</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Hilton Hotel Saint John, NB</td>
<td>Matrix Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td>St John's Hotel &amp; Conference Centre, 120 New Gower St, St John's NL Placentia Bay Room</td>
<td>Board Room 620, Ottawa, ON. Marriott Hotel, 100 Kent Street, Ottawa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>06 October</td>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>23-24 June</td>
<td>29-30 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Delta Bessborough Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</td>
<td>Greenwood Inn, Calgary. AB</td>
<td>Niagara on the Lake, Ontario. No quorum at the May 20, 2008</td>
<td>Niagara on the Lake, Ontario</td>
<td>Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia</td>
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<td>14-15 May</td>
<td>September</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2-3 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Fantasy Land Hotel Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td>Moncton, New Brunswick</td>
<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
<td>Montreal, Quebec</td>
<td>Delta Bessborough Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>23-24 September</td>
<td>4-5 June</td>
<td>20-21 June</td>
<td>22-23 June</td>
<td>20-21 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Delta Hotel St. John’s, Newfoundland &amp; Labrador</td>
<td>Chateau Lacombe Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td>Delta Chelsea Toronto, Ontario</td>
<td>Clarion Villa Hotel Burnaby, British Columbia</td>
<td>Sheraton Hotel Halifax, Nova Scotia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>22 September</td>
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<td>19-20 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>St. Johns, NF</td>
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<td>Niagara Falls, Ontario</td>
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<td>Hamilton, Ontario</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>September 30 - October 1</td>
<td>Hilton Hotel Saint John, NB</td>
<td>“Workplace Wellness Solutions”</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>April 30, May 1, 2</td>
<td>Matrix Hotel Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td>&quot;Charting the Course for Workplace Health&quot;</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>October 1, 2, 3</td>
<td>St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador</td>
<td>&quot;Talk on the Rock, Prevention of Occupational Diseases&quot;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>June 6-7</td>
<td>Ottawa Marriott Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td>OOHNA Annual Conference</td>
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<td>October 4-5</td>
<td>Delta Bessbrough Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</td>
<td>&quot;Advancing Occupational Health Nursing&quot; in collaboration with OMEC</td>
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<td>May 27-29</td>
<td>Greenwood Inn, Calgary</td>
<td>&quot;Education, Expertise, Empowerment&quot;</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>May 21-22</td>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>&quot;Violence in the Workplace&quot; OOHNA Annual Conference</td>
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<td>May 11, 12, 13,</td>
<td>Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td>“Occupational Health Potpourri – A Little Bit of Everything”</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>September 24</td>
<td>Moncton, New Brunswick</td>
<td>“Setting Sail for a Balanced Journey”</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
<td>“Wellness Strategies in the Workplace: How to determine what you need and How to evaluate the program’s effectiveness.”</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Montreal, Quebec</td>
<td>“Aging Workforce”</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. John’s Newfoundland &amp; Labrador</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Chateau Lacombe Edmonton, Alberta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Delta Chelsea Toronto Ontario</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Occupational Health Nursing Certification

The Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association (OOHNA) began the project in 1978 with a feasibility study; A Report on the Feasibility of Establishing a Post Registration Designation or Certification Program for Occupational Health Nurses in Ontario, which was published in June 22, 1979. CNA encouraged and assured OOHNA that the certification process was appropriate. In September, 1980, OOHNA met with Canadian Nurses Association Testing Services (CNATS) not only because of the body’s knowledge and experience in exam development but also because it’s credibility and Canadian nursing orientation. An ad hoc Certification Committee was formed and chaired by Margaret Godin, Ontario Ministry of Labour. The Committee determined the definition and purposes of certification and made independent recommendations which included:

- The Certification Program should be national in scope;
- Reciprocity with ABOHN be investigated once the Canadian Certification Program was fully established;
- Credit be given for specified post-basic educational preparation (at the certificate, diploma or degree level) by reducing by one year, the number of years of experience required to become eligible for certification;
- Mandatory continuing education should be a part of the Program;
- The CNA should develop and score the certification examination;
- Initially, a Grandfather Clause would be established;
- A case study should be required for those applying for certification under the Grandfather Clause;
- There should be a system to determine equivalency with the current ABOHN certification; and
- The Program should be administered by an independent certification board to be known as the Canadian Council for Occupational Health Nurses.

The Canadian Council of Occupational Health Nurses (CCOHN) was incorporated August 25, 1981. Examination development consisted of three major phases: the establishment of a working relationship between OOHNA, CNA and CNATS; the creation of the examination; and the provision of a case study for Candidates seeking certification under the Grandfather Clause. The first item-writing workshop was held February 5-7, 1982 in Toronto, attended by nurse educators and occupational health nurses from across Canada. The project was completed when the first certification exam was written October, 1984. On October 27, 1984, the first Canadian examination in a nursing specialty was written by 106 Candidates at six sites across the country: Burnaby, Calgary, Winnipeg, Windsor, Montreal and Halifax. Of these candidates 94 were successful. A further 149 occupational health nurses obtained their credential either through the Grandfather Clause or ABOHN equivalency.

The cost of this project was more than $250,000. Major contributors were the Government of Ontario (Ministry of Labour), Federal Government (Labour Canada), and OOHNA.


NOTE:
Of the original nurses who wrote the first certification exam in 1984, there are 34 who continue to recertify in 2005.

(Source: Suzanne Gumpert, CNA)
Awards

Meeting – October 24, 1981
OOHNA board of Directors with National Representation Re: Certification
Chairman (Facilitator) – Sylvia Matchett – OOHNA Co-ordinator

Certification Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M. Wenman</td>
<td>Board of Directors- OOHNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Arnold</td>
<td>Board of Directors- OOHNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Fischer</td>
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<td>V. Bel</td>
<td>Board of Directors- OOHNA</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Blackwell</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Maginnis</td>
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<td>D. Schwab</td>
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<td>Jean Nickerson</td>
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<td>Harriet Doyle</td>
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<td>Mona Dooley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharon Blaney</td>
<td>British Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazel McLeod</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louise Thibault</td>
<td>Quebec</td>
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<td>Sophie Mandryk</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Dawson</td>
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<td>Susan Martin</td>
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<td>Cathy Craig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evelyn Carroll</td>
<td>RNABC (guest)</td>
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<td>Dr. E. Parrott</td>
<td>CNATS (guest)</td>
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<td>Mae McPhatter</td>
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<td>Bonnie Wright</td>
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Certified Occupational Health Numbers by Province

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COHNA/ACIIST Recognition Awards for Canadian Occupational Health Nurses

In 2003, the COHNA/ACIIST implemented two new awards to recognize the contributions of occupational health nurses at a national level.

- Nurse of the Year
- Exemplary Service

On June 10, 2008, the Nurse of the Year and Exemplary Service Award were combined and renamed the COHNA Award of Excellence.

Award Recipients: Nurse of the Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Province</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Eric Stein</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Brenda Greenslade</td>
<td>Newfoundland &amp; Labrador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Dr. Suzanne Arnold</td>
<td>Ontario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Jeannette E. Combes</td>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Anita Volk</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Not awarded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Not awarded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Not awarded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Sharon Chadwick</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Brenda Marsh</td>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
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## Business Recognition Awards

### Award Recipients

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of Business</th>
<th>Received by</th>
<th>Nominated by</th>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Carewest</td>
<td>Calgary, AB</td>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>Roxanne McKendry</td>
<td>Roxanne McKendry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Scarborough Hospital</td>
<td>Scarborough, Ontario</td>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>Laura Hitchin</td>
<td>Laura Hitchin</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Atlantic Offshore Medical Services</td>
<td>St. John’s, NL</td>
<td>Occupational Health Services</td>
<td>Dr. C. O’Shea</td>
<td>Natalie Dinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Kelly Lutmer &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Calgary, AB</td>
<td>Employee and Family Assistance</td>
<td>Glenys Schick</td>
<td>Sheila Fenwick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The COHNA/ACIIST Business Recognition Award was discontinued as a national initiative in 2009/2010.
### Appendix A: Membership Summary

#### COHNA/ACIIST
MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY
1998 – 2005 (8 years)

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<td>SASKATCHEWAN</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBERS</strong></td>
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<td>1877</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>2048</td>
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In March 1986 the Association requested submissions for the National Association of Occupational Health Nurses/Association Nationale des Infirmieres et Infirmiers en Sante du Travail (NAOHN/ANIIST) requested submissions from the membership for a logo design. Below is just a sample of some of the submissions that were reviewed but not selected.
Appendix B: Logos

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSES

URGENTLY NEEDS YOUR HELP TO DESIGN OUR LOGO:

YOUR DESIGN COULD BE IN THIS SPACE

WHAT SYMBOL/LETTERS OR COMBINATION READILY DEPICTS FOR THE READER OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING ACROSS CANADA?

WHY NOT SEND YOUR IDEAS TO:

GAI THOMAS
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING CONSULTANT
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY DIVISION
NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
P.O. BOX 697, HALIFAX, N.S.
B3J 2T8
The logo that was selected was:

In 2011 the new COHNA logo was adopted.

www.cohna-aciist.ca