President's message

Last year was a productive year for CANO and our 2014 Annual Report is now posted on the website. Please have a look (**http://www.cano-acio.ca/annual_report**). It's a new year and we are celebrating our 30th year anniversary! We are planning a number of activities to further establish and promote the success of our association and members. You will see communications highlighting the anniversary theme throughout 2015.

Activities of the board over the past few months have focused on a number of strategic goals and objectives. The development of radiation standards and competencies is underway through the leadership of Maurene McQuestion and Christine Zywine. Brenda Ross, project leader, is working with the co-leads. Laura Rashleigh, Director-at-Large, Professional Practice, and Tracy Truant, Vice-President, are supporting this work, as representatives of the board. As this initiative shifts from concept to practice, the Directors-at-Large, Education and Research will provide additional support.

In partnership with the national education committee, council of chapters and other core stakeholders, Karyn Perry, Director-at-Large, Education, continues developing CANO's education strategy. Position statements for oncology nursing education and certification are being reviewed and finalized at the board level. In addition to this work, CANO participated in a session in December led by the Canadian Nurses' Association and de Souza Institute exploring how to partner with CNA's strategy that showcases their certification program to employers and nurses across the country. This discussion fitse nicely with CANO's strategic direction.

The *Canadian Oncology Nursing Journal (CONJ)*, under the leadership of Marg Fitch and her team, has included a number of new columns in addition to peer reviewed articles. The intention is to maintain relevancy and value with our membership. Moving to an electronic version is underway, which could make the journal more accessible nationally and internationally.

The development of two new awards has been approved by the board with the goal of increasing the number of awards available to members. One award will recognize a "rising star" in the field and the second award will recognize an oncology nurse of distinction, someone who has made a significant innovative and sustained contribution to oncology nursing practice, education, and/or research. When we have secured industry support for these awards, a formal announcement with a call for nominations will follow.

Oncology Nursing Day is just around the corner: April 7, 2015. It is a time to pause and reflect on how oncology nurses impact the lives of cancer patients and their families. I am so proud of the work that you do and how deeply you are engaged in system transformation across the country. You will be in my thoughts and I wish you a wonderful Oncology Nursing Day!

Barbara Fitzgerald, RN, MScN
CANO President