



## MURIEL SHEWCHUK LEADERSHIP AWARD

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Muriel began her nursing career as a Registered Nurse from the University of Alberta in 1962. Alberta born, raised and employed, her 44 years of nursing experienced include: staff RN, Educator, Manager, Charge Nurse (urology, plastics, ophthalmology & neuro), School of Nursing Instructor, and OR Techniques Instructor, assistant director, and director in Alberta's two largest acute care teaching health care centers – the University of Alberta Hospital in Edmonton, the Foothills Medical Centre and the Calgary Health Region in Calgary. Prior to her retirement in 2005, Ms. Shewchuk spent 19 years as the Director of Surgical Suites and successfully led the regionalization of surgical suites in seven hospitals. This included the closure of three adult hospitals and the consolidation of all 47 operating theatres to three adult sites. Muriel had managed a budget of over 95 million and over 850 staff providing surgical theatres for over 325 surgeons in operating rooms and clinics. Ms. Shewchuk exemplifies leadership.

Muriel was instrumental in the formation of ORNAC in 1983 and you'll find her name within the history of the Association many times as a Board Member, chair of the first Awards Committee and co-author of the first Communiqué', (1965-1991) . She also designed an ORNAC Awards plaque and pin. She has also been actively involved with her home province perioperative organization as well as the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses (AARN) regarding competencies and standards.

Perioperative practice caused Muriel to have an avid interest in sterilization so she obtained her certificate in Sterilization and has taught many classes, given many lectures and instructed in processing, as well. Muriel has helped to set standards and achieved them for herself, her staff, ORNAC, processing, hospitals, RN's and physicians.

The following are a few highlights of her outstanding perioperative nursing career:

- ◆ 1984 – Chair of the first National Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC) Conference in Jasper, AB
- ◆ In the early 1980's, Muriel worked very closely with Agnes Foster to create the *Canadian Operating Room Nurses Journal (CORNJ)* – please note that she continues to write for the journal in the CORL Corral!
- ◆ 1986 – designed ORNAA pin
- ◆ 1988 – assisted in creating ORNAC Post Basic course review program & curriculum
- ◆ 1988 – was front & center in the creation of the first ORNAC Standards
- ◆ 1990 – 1992 – ORNAC Secretary
- ◆ 1991 – Chair of exhibitors for the ORNAC National Conference, Banff, AB
- ◆ 1991 – received the Isabelle Adams Excellence in Perioperative Nursing Award
- ◆ 1995 – assisted in the creation of the perioperative certification (CPN(C)) with the CNA & has maintained her certification
- ◆ 2001 – recipient of the ORNAC/Johnson & Johnson Drake-Thompson Writing Award

- ◆ represented perioperative nursing practice for many years with the Canadian Standards Association
- ◆ Co-Chair and founding member of the Canadian Operating Room Leaders Network (CORL)

Ms. Shewchuk, also a part time consultant, provides expertise in surgical nursing practice, administration, planning and surgical suite design, work flow, legal issues, administrative issues and problem resolution. Muriel has consulted in twenty hospitals over seven provinces and two territories as well as Puerto Rico and London, England. In addition she has provided consultation to private sector physicians for design, development and operations of non-hospital surgical suites. Muriel is also an advisor to the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons for standards and monitoring of private sector surgical suites.

Ms. Shewchuk is one of three original authors for the (1986), *Professional, Technical and Competency Standards* for ORNAC. She has been a presenter at 6 world OR conferences and is a frequent speaker at national and provincial OR and leadership conferences. Leadership articles, written by Muriel, are regularly published in the *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal (CORNJ)*. The *CORNJ* is now known as the *ORNAC Journal*.

Ms. Shewchuk is acknowledged at the local, provincial and national level for excellence in practice, education, and leadership. She has been the recipient of many awards including: Isabelle Adams Excellence in Perioperative Nursing Award – ORNAC; Lifetime Achievement – Alberta Association of Registered Nurses; and the ORNAC/Johnson & Johnson Drake-Thompson Writing Award.

Ms. Shewchuk was a co-presenter with her longtime pal Gloria Stephens at the 25<sup>th</sup> National ORNAC Conference, *Harnessing Our Power* in Niagara Falls, ON. In 2017. This was a plenary session on Monday, May 1, 2017, *Evolution of ORNAC Standards of Practice, Competencies and Certification, "Perseverance to Professional Excellence"*, which was then published in the December 2017, *ORNAC Journal* as an article. This presentation with her "pal" Gloria Stephens and the subsequent submission of their presentation as an article were the last two contributions Muriel made to ORNAC and perioperative nursing. She will be missed by her family and friends

Ms Shewchuk passed away May 11, 2017 in Calgary AB. She will be missed by the global perioperative nursing community and by her "nursing" families. One of the most moving tributes to a perioperative nurse was the honour guard formed to salute Muriel prior to her final resting place; it was "her" perioperative nurses from Calgary who dressed in OR attire lined the path from funeral to hearse. A truly moving tribute and a very fitting finish to her life, career in nursing and ceremony.

The following quote is from an article published in the first edition of the *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal (CORNJ)*, which Muriel wrote. It is as true today as it was in 1983! The quote is from her editorial *Gold Fish in a Bowl*.

"It behooves every operating room nurse to strive to be the bright shiny gold fish in a bowl because of the tremendous overall effect on everyone including the patient".

Please feel free to read the tribute to Muriel and her article *Gold Fish in a Bowl* published in the September 2017 ORNAC Journal the article was based on tributes offered at Muriel's funeral May 17, 2017 in Calgary.

**NOTE :** *Gold Fish in a Bowl* was December 2017 ORNAC Journal in loving memory of Muriel Shewchuk (October 11, 1940-May 11, 2017).

#### References

Mary Knight & Margaret Farley, (2017). Tribute to Muriel Shewchuk, *ORNAC Journal*, 35(3):50-52

Stephens, Gloria & Shewchuk, Muriel, (2017). Evolution of ORNAC standards of practice, competencies and certification, "Perseverance to professional excellence", *ORNAC Journal*, 35(4):70-74.

Shewchuk, Muriel (1983). Gold fish in a bowl, *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal*, 1(1):13-14.

Shewchuk, Muriel (2017). (Reprint) Gold fish in a bowl, *ORNAC Journal*, 35(3): 53-54.

And republished in the December 2017 ORNAC Journal in loving memory of Muriel Shewchuk October 11, 1940-May 11, 2017.

Quote from Muriel's article, Gold fish in a bowl

"It behooves every operating room nurse to strive to be the bright shiny gold fish in a bowl because of the tremendous overall effect on everyone including the patient" (p. 53).

# MURIEL SHEWCHUK AWARD CRITERIA

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## **AWARD DESCRIPTION**

The Muriel Shewchuk Leadership Award is presented by ORNAC to a perioperative registered nurse whose leadership has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of perioperative nursing at the local, provincial/territorial, national or international level. The recipient of the Award shall receive \$2500, a certificate, and an Award pin.

## **POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

1. The Awards Chair shall advertise the Award in the Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal, on the ORNAC Website, and through the members of the ORNAC Executive and Board of Directors.
2. Nomination forms shall be available for downloading from the ORNAC Website. Completed nominations shall be submitted to the ORNAC Awards Chair no later than **January 15<sup>th</sup>** of a National Conference year.
3. The Awards Chair shall review the nominations for completeness, and also to determine if any of the nominees are members of the Awards Committee. Incomplete submissions will not be considered. If a nominee is a member of the Awards Committee, the Awards Chair shall contact that nominee and request him/her to make one of the following choices:
  - 3.1 withdraw as a member of the selection committee and allow the nomination to stand; or
  - 3.2 remain as a member of the selection committee and decline the nomination.

**Note:** The Awards Chair shall not be eligible for nomination during the term of office as Chair.

4. Nominees must:
  - 4.1 Be a perioperative nursing leader – formal or informal
  - 4.2 Be a current ORNAC member in good standing
  - 4.3 Have nomination be supported by at least two (2) colleagues/associates
5. The Awards Chair shall remove the identifying names and addresses on the nomination forms and assign a code number to each.
6. The Awards Chair shall duplicate the nomination papers and forward to the Awards Committee members along with the guidelines for selection and the score sheets **by January 31<sup>st</sup>** of the National Conference year.
7. Members of the Awards Committee shall use the selection process approved by the ORNAC Board:

**Scoring:**

- 7.1 The minimum number of points necessary to be considered for the award shall be 75/100.
- 7.2 The Awards Committee shall retain the right to recommend that the award not be given, in the event that insufficient points are awarded to the nominees. The Awards Committee must agree by a majority that the points received are insufficient to determine an award.
- 7.3 All points shall be totaled by the Awards Chair, and the nominee with the highest score shall be deemed the recipient of the Award.
- 7.4 In the event of a tie the President of ORNAC will break the tie to select the winner.
8. Score sheets shall be completed and returned to the Awards Chair for compilation by **February 15<sup>th</sup>**.
9. All nomination papers, except those of the successful nominee, shall be destroyed at the completion of the selection process.
10. All nominations shall remain confidential. Only the recipient of the award will be announced.
11. Recipients of the Award are not eligible for nomination in subsequent years.
12. Profiles of nominees that were not selected may be resubmitted in subsequent years, with a new submission each time.
13. If possible, the award recipient should not be notified in advance of the successful nomination. The Awards Chair and the President of ORNAC shall assess the situation, and if necessary, notify the recipient so that he/she can choose to attend the National Conference to receive the award.
14. The presentation of the award shall be done at an Executive approved time at the National Conference. The Awards Chair will inform the President of ORNAC of the name of the award recipient, and will make arrangements with the Conference Chair for the awards presentation. If the recipient does not attend the conference, arrangements may be made by the provincial board members to present the award at a provincial event.
15. The Awards Chair will act as Master of Ceremonies for the awards presentations, but may request the award be presented by a Shewchuk family representative, the ORNAC President, or a past award recipient.
16. The Award recipient shall receive \$2500 from ORNAC, an award pin, and an ORNAC certificate. An additional \$2500 will be donated to promote perioperative registered nursing education to the provincial/territorial local/regional work site education fund selected by the recipient in consultation with the ORNAC Awards Committee – or – the recipient may choose to attend the CORL conference.
17. The Awards Chair will make arrangements for photographs to be taken at the presentation whenever possible.

## MURIEL SHEWCHUK AWARD NOMINEE PROFILE

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Please include information from the following four sections not to exceed 5 pages. Additional supporting pages/resume may be added.

**I. EDUCATION (15 points)**

*Describe in detail, education to date.*

**II. YEARS OF OPERATING ROOM EXPERIENCE (15 points)** *Describe work experience and position held.*

**III. COMMITMENT/LEADERSHIP (40 points)**

*Comment on the key strengths, including: knowledge, practice, skills, expertise, role model, standards, contribution to work settling, teaching and leadership. Comment on the nature of the candidates leadership qualities and how they contribute to perioperative nursing.*

**IV. AWARDS / ACTIVITIES (30 points)**

*Describe nursing/Non-nursing awards received, national and provincial association memberships and positions held. Include: committee work, speaking activities, executive position, publications, special events and all O.R. Association work at local, provincial, national and international level.*

Nominee profile, nomination form, and two (2) letters of support must be completed by colleagues/students who are nominating the candidate (without the knowledge of that candidate). The letters of support may follow the four nominee profile sections and should explain why the candidate is exceptional giving specific examples of how the candidate meets the criteria.

Nominee profile submission and letters of support must be typed.

The name of the nominee **must be on the cover page only** to ensure anonymity during selection process.

# MURIEL SHEWCHUK AWARD NOMINATION FORM

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1. Award Title:
2. Name of Nominee:  
Provincial Perioperative Group  
Membership Number  
Provincial Professional Association and/or Licensing Body  
Membership Number
3. Mailing Address:
4. Email Contact and Phone Number:
5. Place of Employment/Position:
6. Phone Number:
7. Nominated by:
8. Mailing Address:
9. Email Contact and Phone Number:
10. References (Please include name and contact information):

(ORNAC Use Only)	
Code #: _____	Date Received: ___/___/___ yy mm dd
Awards Chairperson: _____	
Date Submitted: ___/___/___	(signature) Approved for selection: YES / NO

## **MURIEL SHEWCHUK AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA GUIDELINES**

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The following distribution of points is to be utilized by those members making a selection for the Muriel Shewchuk Award, to encourage consistency and provide a base measure that represents the intent of the Award. Note: partial marks may be awarded in any sub-category.

### **I. EDUCATION 15/100 POINTS**

- (5) Post Basic Perioperative Course
- (5) Baccalaureate Degree
- (5) Masters Degree \*
- (5) Doctoral Degree \*

\*Note: Credit only highest degree obtained.

### **II. YEARS OF O.R. EXPERIENCE 15/100 POINTS**

(Include only those years that fall into the ORNAC definition of Perioperative Nursing.)

- (5) 0 to 10 Years
- (10) 11 to 20 Years
- (15) 21 plus years

### **III. COMMITMENT/LEADERSHIP 40/100 POINTS**

- (10) Demonstrates a commitment to ongoing professional development
- (15) Practice/Contribution to Work Setting
  - Key advocate for patient care.
  - Key positions that have been held.
  - Has had major impact on the direction of perioperative nursing and the work place functions in the context of the ORNAC Professional and Clinical Standards.
- (10) Skills/Expertise - Outline skills or expertise acquired that relate to perioperative nursing leadership.
- (5) Teaching/Leadership Roles are not limited to but may include:
  - Orientation of new staff Role      Committee Work
  - Model/Mentor In-service          Resource Nurse
  - Education/Lectures

**IV. AWARDS / ACTIVITIES**

**30/100 POINTS**

(10) 1. Nursing Awards/Recognition/Activities

- Workplace (3)
- Provincial Professional Nursing Association (3)
- Provincial or Association (3)

2. Community Award/Activity (1)

(20) 3. ORNAC - Include positions held, special contributions, committee work, presentations, speaking activities, executive positions, committee chair, major development work for O.R. nursing, publications, etc.

- ORNAC Board Member (3)
- ORNAC Executive Officer (5)
- Committee Chair (4)
- National/International Presenter (4)
- Published Author (4)

**TOTAL: /100**