

CNA Annual Meeting of Members
 June 17, 2021

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2021 Elections

In 2021, the following seats on the CNA board of directors are on the election slate for the June 2021 to June 2022 period:

CNSA Member

1. Canadian Nursing Students' Association — 1 seat (2021-2022)

CNNS Member

1. Canadian Network of Nursing Specialties — 1 seat (2021-2022)

Current By-laws and Policies

According to CNA by-laws 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4 — The Board shall consist of the number of Directors specified in the Articles as follows:

- *in each year the Student Members shall elect one individual to serve as a Director for a term of one year;*
- *there shall be two Directors elected by the Nursing Specialty Members. In every year the Nursing Specialty Members shall elect one Director to serve for a term of two years;*

By-law 31 — nomination process — states:

- *The nomination committee of the Board will put forward a slate of individuals for consideration by the Members at the annual meeting; however, Members may nominate additional candidates for Directors from the floor of the annual meeting. In addition to the requirements of the Act, all Directors shall meet the requirements for Directors set out in Board policy.*

Excerpt from board policy:

CRITERIA FOR STUDENT DIRECTOR

Candidates must:

- *be individuals over the age of 18 years who have not been declared incapable by a court and who do not have the status of bankrupt (s.126, Act);*
- *be a nursing student enrolled in an educational program for entry to practice as a nurse who is in good standing with CNSA [Canadian Nursing Students' Association];*
- *not be a current employee or independent contractor of CNSA, CNA, or any other CNA member;*
- *be able to attend three (3) board meetings per year (two days each), in March, June and November, and ad hoc teleconferences, as required.*

CRITERIA FOR CANADIAN NETWORK OF NURSING SPECIALTIES DIRECTOR

Candidates must:

- *be individuals over the age of 18 years who have not been declared incapable by a court and who do not have the status of bankrupt (s.126, Act).*
- *be individuals whose nominating specialty group has paid its CNA annual membership fees.*
- *be a nurse whose licence is in good standing with their provincial/territorial regulatory body and with their nominating member organization of the Canadian Network of Nursing Specialties (Network), and who has paid CNA fees either through their jurisdictional member or as part of the independent nurses group.*

- *not be a current employee or independent contractor of a Network group, CNA or any other CNA member, other than an individual who is paid by a Network group to serve as its president.*
- *be able to attend three (3) board meetings per year (two days each), in March, June and November, and ad hoc teleconferences, as required.*
- *have current or previous experience on a board of directors of a Network organization.*
- *be able to chair quarterly Network meetings/teleconferences.*



Parisa Jamali

Safety and Wellness Advocate, Ryerson University

Statement of Philosophy

I believe that the most important part of any advocative position such as this is to be able to deeply feel and consider the effects of any circumstances on individuals and to be able to speak up and promote the rights of those who may have been suppressed by stigma, injustice, or discriminations. I personally have always been interested in roles that will allow me to give back to the society that raised me. Moreover, as an international student myself, I believe I have a good understanding of the discriminations or issues faced by the minority groups of nursing students. I would like to be the voice of nursing students, who are usually overlooked when situations around nursing or healthcare are being discussed. However, I prefer to be a part of the solution rather than posing

the problems. I would like to be able to establish professional connections and network which will allow me to be the voice of my peers and colleagues and promote their rights and values as one of the most underrepresented members of the nursing society. I hope that you will find these attributes a good fit for the CNA student representative position.

Platform Message

In the battle of healthcare heroes against the coronavirus pandemic, nursing students have been the silent warriors. They have been underrepresented and unappreciated for their contribution to the healthcare system. Students provided care for clients during their placements, and they should be applauded for their efforts despite the circumstances and possible risks. Hence, I believe it is crucial to implement supportive actions and develop policies to advocate for students. I would like to focus on promoting safety strategies for nursing students and implementing policies that will enhance and facilitate their clinical experience. I would also like to focus more on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the quality of education the nursing students have been receiving. I would like to reflect on its long-term effects and develop strategies to improve the nursing students learning experience. I would like to demonstrate a holistic approach towards individuals who study nursing and strive to decrease the anxiety faced by the students regarding their education in the context of the pandemic. It is also important to advocate for inclusivity and diversity in nursing as a science and career. With respect to the efforts done to address systemic racism, sexism, or heteronormativity, I believe that there is still much to do to develop a non-judgmental, diverse, and inclusive society. I would also like to promote nursing as a desirable career for the future generation and to move forward to remove the stereotypes surrounding nursing and appreciate this profession for its true values.

Biography

My name is Parisa Jamali. I identify as a cisgender female, and my pronouns are She/Her. I was born on March 8th, 2001. I am an international student from Iran, and I will start my third year of nursing in fall 2021 at Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario. Since childhood, I have been interested in advocative roles and have always wanted to improve people's quality of life. I am the co-founder of Hamrah Charity at Farzanegan II high school, Tehran, Iran. I was also the co-founder of the FMC-Life project, which designed rehabilitating devices for autistic children, for which I won the RoboCup-

IranOpen award in 2016. I started working as International Peer Ambassador in Ryerson University International Student Support since Fall 2020. I have also been the RNAO student ambassador since Fall 2020. As of March 2021, I have been elected as the Safety and Wellness Advocate of CNSA. I will also hold the position of Student Retention Assistant at Ryerson Student Learning Support from September 2021. I am looking forward to being a part of the CNA as a representative of my peers, and I hope you will find me appropriate for this position. Thank you for your consideration.



Lorelei Gibson

Canadian Federation of Mental Health Nurses

Statement of Philosophy

I believe collaboration, co-construction and reflection are critical to bring clear direction in moving the nursing profession into the future. I embrace the tenets of trauma informed care and strive to see all people from the lens of their experience that has brought them to where they are today, and that strength will lead them forward. I believe the nurses working in specialty practice have opportunity and responsibility to this work. I believe the CNNS is a powerful group of nurses that enlivens this role of leadership and advocacy. The Network brings positions of specialty care to provide guidance on policy, practice and the health care system. I see the Network as an important means of learning from each other and sharing the work we do. I see the need to make the Network a stronger leadership

voice to work with the CNA Board of Directors and to help guide and strengthen CNA in the years ahead. Working together with one voice makes us a stronger agency for Nurses, nursing and our clients/patients and the future of Canada's health-care system.

Platform Message

As your representative, I will utilize my previous broad experience in such capacities to effectively bring the voices of the Network to the CNA Board table. In my role with the Canadian Federation of Mental Health Nurses as past president, I have experience with linking CNA's priorities to the specialty group and practice. I will work with the Network members to ensure the connection of CNA priorities are clearly articulated. Topics such as mental illness, burnout/stress management during the pandemic and beyond, the opioid crisis and overall safety and wellness in the workplace are important to all nurses and Canadians. My role in Mental Health gives me the privilege of working within interprofessional teams that include all the nursing groups (RN, Psychiatric nurses and practical nurses). Each scope of practice compliments the other and is critical in providing the best care for clients/patients and families. I will collaborate with the Network members to connect their practice with the CNA Priorities and new membership structure. I will strive to increase Network member engagement and communication between CNA and the network members. I will engage with the Certification team and certifications groups to find creative solutions for groups whose exams are on the verge of retirement. As well to strategize with the specialty certification groups and the public to articulate the research and relevance of certification on clinical care.

Biographical Information

I bring 30+ years of nursing experience to the Network and previously as a Director representing the Network on the CNA Board of Directors. I have worked in direct care, outpatient services, clinical education, research, professional practice, and policy development. I have many years of local, provincial, and national board experience with my specialty practice group (CFMHN) and in the past, with my provincial association/regulator (NNPBC & BCCNM). I currently sit on the board of directors for the RN Foundation of BC. I also have had specialty certification for 20+ years as I value the importance of life-long learning and professional development within and outside of the workplace. As well, I continue to participate with the Network Advisory Council. I believe this experience will enable me to serve you well as your Network CNA Board representative.