



History of the Quebec PeriAnesthesia Nurses Association

It started with this letter...



L'Hôpital de Montréal pour Enfants The Montreal Children's Hospital

UN HOPITAL D'ENSEIGNEMENT • MCGILL UNIVERSITY • A TEACHING HOSPITAL

May 02, 1991

Dear Colleague,

I have just returned from a conference of Post Anesthesia and Ambulatory Surgery nurses in Cincinnati, Ohio. It is very encouraging to note that the 1,500 participants from all over the United States and Canada share the same issues and concerns in Post Anesthesia Nursing.

I am very interested in sharing my experience with you and your staff. Please see the enclosed invitation. This could be the start of our own Post Anesthesia Nurses Network.

Sincerely,

Elvie Parayno

Mrs. Elvie Parayno
Head Nurse
Post Anesthesia Care Unit
and Day Surgery Center

With this invitation...

**Mcgill University Teaching Hospitals
Montreal Children's Hospital
Post Anesthesia
Nurses' Network**

Date: June 17, 1991

Time: 3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Place: MONTREAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
2300 TUPPER ST., MONTREAL, H3H 1P3

ROSS LOUNGE

R.S.V.P. before May 24, 1991
With names of people attending

AGENDA TO FOLLOW

For more info – Please call Elvie Parayno
or Sue McDonnell at 934-4400 local 2984

With this accompanying agenda...

**Network of PACU
Mcgill University Teaching Hospitals
Montreal Children's Hospital
ROSS LOUNGE**

Date: June 17, 1991

Time: 3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

AGENDA

Registration and Refreshments

Welcome: Elvie Parayno, N.

Address: Gwen Olivier - *Associate Director of Nursing, MCH*

Address: Diane Borisov, N., *Facilitator*

Surprises: – Sue McDonnell, N.

And with this welcome address...

I thank you all for coming. Did everybody just come from work? I know that you are probably all tired, but I hope this meeting will pick you up and energize you.

Two years ago, I almost quit the profession. At that time, there were many changes happening in Nursing and of course, that did not exclude the recovery room. The nursing shortage, budget cuts, challenges of modern technology, lack of equipment and differences in values between nurses and physicians, had all contributed to that seemingly insurmountable crisis.

During this crisis, and throughout my career, our Associate Director of Nursing, Ms. Gwen Olivier has been very supportive of me. She encouraged me to network with the Recovery Room nurses of the Jewish General Hospital (JGH). Their director, Mrs. Ann Robinson, who is here with us today, came to the Children's and we were able to address our concerns together. This sharing had happened over two years ago and I can still vividly recall how relieved and optimistic I felt afterwards, I hope that after today, you will leave this meeting with that same feeling.

Some of you are familiar with the American Society of Post Anesthesia Nurses (ASPAN). This association was formed ten years ago. Since then, it has become a powerful association of 8000 members from all over the United States and Canada. ASPAN has been instrumental in my decision to transform our recovery room to a Post Anesthesia Care Unit. I am sure you will agree with me that this name is very reflective of our specialty as a critical care area.

In 1989, I had the opportunity to attend ASPAN's 8th annual conference in Orlando, Florida. This was facilitated by my alliance with nurses from the JGH. As we all know, it is not easy to get funding for conferences, but because we shared accommodation, it became more affordable. This conference had reassured me just how powerful we are as a group. It motivated me to initiate changes. After working through the proper channels, we held an Open House to introduce the concept of Post Anesthesia Care Unit to our hospital community.

Having just returned from ASPAN's 10th annual conference, I feel much empowered that we, as a group, can form the same kind of association. Let us unite as Post Anesthesia and Ambulatory Surgery Nurses and develop standards of care and promote professional growth. We can generate more ideas during our subsequent meetings in order to solidify our group to benefit all PACU nurses, our patients and their families.

So on behalf of my staff, I welcome all of you and keep in mind that you've got a friend – a fellow P.A.C.U. nurse.

(Welcome address delivered by Mrs. Elvie Parayno during the QPANA inaugural meeting June 17, 1991. Present at that meeting were Joanne Desrochers, Monique Perazelli, Nadia Coffin, Susan Sides, Gloria Lutchman, Areve Topalian, Ann Robinson, Betty Gonzales, Joan Adam, Louise Collaci, Donna Fitzgerald, Maureen Keho, Sue McDonnell, Berta Perez, Sharon Brissette, Angie Ogerio, Hanna Rene de Cotret, Alice Rabago, Mavis Terrode, Thao Le, Diane Borisov, and Gwen Olivier)