



Marley Gregorio, MScN, RN, CNCC(C)

Tell us why you are seeking a Board of Director position:

I hope to add my voice to those of other individuals passionate about critical care and advocate critical care at a national and international level. I hope to provide my unique perspective as a previous bedside critical care nurse who is now a clinical educator for seventeen rural hospitals in Ontario and provide insight into how to best support critical care nurses at all organizations. I'm motivated to continue to learn about critical care advocacy and governance at a higher level and act as a representative for the voices of critical care nurses.

CACCN / Volunteer Involvement:

I have been a member of CACCN since I began working in critical care. Throughout my time as a member, I have greatly enjoyed attending several national conferences, further presenting at the last two. I have also engaged with my local chapter and attended educational events within my region. I joined my local chapter executive last fall and have enjoyed working with my fellow executives to plan, execute, and teach at a spring and a fall education day that was well attended by nurses in the catchment area, as well as nurses outside of the area. In my role as the regional critical care educator for southwestern Ontario, I have been able to draw interest to CACCN events from a large area and advocate for inclusion of nurses from all sizes of critical care units.

Personal Statement:

I have had a passion for critical care since entering this practice area in 2017. I didn't come to the critical care environment with a wealth of acute care knowledge, having practiced in lower acuity areas prior. Despite completing a critical care certificate program prior to entering this practice area, I felt at times that I had stepped into another universe. However, I was extremely fortunate to join a unit where the enthusiasm for practicing critical care at a high level was palpable. I was quickly embraced and mentored by warm and knowledgeable preceptors who patiently taught me, advocated for me, and were constant sources of inspiration to learn more. Our unit also benefitted from a strong Clinical Nurse Specialist who really set the bar for evidence-informed practice. As I grew in my knowledge, skill, and confidence in caring for the critically ill, my passion for continuing

to cultivate this supportive environment also grew. I took on additional responsibilities, acting as a preceptor and mentor to new staff. I also took on the additional role of becoming a critical care response team (CCRT) nurse during this time, extending my knowledge and support to a bigger subset of nurses within the hospital. My role as a CCRT nurse is the role I am most proud of, and really informed my desire to pursue additional education. As a CCRT nurse, I found that I was engaged in a significant number of end-of-life discussions, and really had no training or preparation for this reality. Looking to the literature provided no clarity, as there were very few studies looking at this issue in practice. As a result, I decided to pursue a Master of Science in Nursing and use my thesis work to focus on the circumstances and context surrounding CCRT nurses' involvement in end-of-life discussions. Engaging in this work has been immensely satisfying and has motivated me to continue research into this area. In the past year I have transitioned to a clinical educator role where I travel to rural hospitals in my region to provide education, resources, and support to nurses working in small critical care units. This has really opened my eyes to the disparities rural hospitals face when it comes to access to best practice and continuing education. I like to believe that myself and my fellow regional critical care educators in Ontario have started to fill some of these gaps, but I believe there is significant work to do to engage these individuals in the broader critical care community that CACCN can have a part in. I'm excited at the prospect of joining the Board of Directors. I believe that my commitment to both driving forward clinical practice and research fits with CACCN's mission. I really see the benefit of CACCN's strong voice for critical care in Canada and internationally, and feel that my voice, among other dedicated directors, will support advocacy for critical care nurses and their practice.