



DOROTHY M. WYLIE NURSING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Spring 2005

Greetings Colleagues!

We are delighted to report that the Leadership Institute is continuing to grow and develop. At the CNA/CHA conference this past February, the Dorothy M. Wylie Nursing Leadership Institute was referred to as a "National Treasure" by the Canadian Nurses Association! And we know why! It is because the Institute continues to attract talented, dynamic and committed nurse leaders from across the country.

We were pleased to be able to host our second alumni event at the **NLN.ON Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario** Conference in Toronto this past March. We had networking, good discussion, some laughter and a great dinner. On the same day we presented a paper titled **Nursing Leadership in Turbulent Times – the Science and Applicability of Complex Adaptive Systems** to a packed audience of nurse leaders.

Institute #8 (May 2005) and **Institute - #9** (October 2005) **are sold out**. **We are taking reservations for #10**, so if you know people who are hoping to attend please contact Doug or Monica at info@firststageinc.com.

In the News

Congratulations to **Sue Munroe** (Institute #2), and **Jane Merkley**, Director of Professional Nursing Practice and Education at St. Michael's Hospital (Institute #6) for their recent awards. Sue won the RNAO Award of Merit. Jane received the Sigma Theta Tau, Lambda Pi-At-Large Award of Excellence in Nursing Administration. **Barbara Oke** (Institute #5) has recently accepted the position of Executive Director, Office of Nursing Services, First Nations & Inuit Health Board, Health Canada. **Nancy Fram** (Institute #5) has been promoted to Vice President Professional Affairs and Chief Nursing Executive Hamilton Health Sciences Centre. A big congratulations to our own **Judith Skelton-Green**, who received the RNAO Honourary Life Membership award. All of you who have spent time with Judy will certainly agree that this is well deserved.

If you or a colleague who has attended the Institute has something noteworthy to announce please let us know and we will include it in our next newsletter!

Home Based Project Database

We are in the process of developing a database of home based projects – which will be on our website shortly. You will be able to identify organizations and individuals that have embarked on projects of interest to you. If you are *not willing* to have your name and the organization you were working with at the time you attended the Institute in the database, please let us know.

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DWNLI Research Study

We are pleased to announce that the longitudinal research study has begun. The purpose of the study is to determine if changes in self-report leadership behaviors occur over time, to follow the career paths of nurses who attended the DMWNLI over time and to obtain feedback on the extent to which the DMWNLI realized its goals. **Dr. Linda O'Brien-Pallas** of the Nursing Health Services Research Unit at the University of Toronto is the principal researcher and **Raquel Meyer**, a PhD student working with Linda is Project Manager. Graduates of the DMW-NLI will be surveyed on-line, annually for three years, beginning approximately one year after completion of the follow-up weekend. Exception: Data collection for the first and second cohorts has begun at three and two years post-Institute respectively. We hope that as many of you as possible will participate. This research will help assure that the DMWNLI evolves in the best possible ways to serve the country's future nurse leaders.

New Territory for Bev, Judy and Julia

Bev, Judy and Julia are embarking into new territory. In response to our changing landscape and numerous requests, we are hosting the first ever multidisciplinary leadership Institute, to be held in November 2005. Stay tuned for more details!

**Best Wishes for continued success in your leadership journey
Bev, Judy, Julia**

The Pear Tree

There was a man who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things too quickly. So, he sent them each on a quest, in turn, to go and look at a pear tree that was a great distance away. The first son went in the winter, the second in the spring, the third in summer, and the youngest son in the fall. When they had all gone and come back, he called them together to describe what they had seen. The first son said the tree was ugly, bent and twisted. The second son said, no, it was covered with green buds and full of promise. The third son disagreed. He said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful. It was the most graceful thing he had ever seen. The last son disagreed with all of them. He said it was ripe and drooping with fruit, full of life and fulfillment. The man then explained to his sons they were all correct, because they had each seen but only one season in the tree's life. He told them not to judge a tree, or a person, by only one season and that the essence of who they are...and the pleasure, joy and love that come from that life...can only be measured at the end, when all of the seasons are complete. If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the beauty of your summer, the fulfillment of your fall. Don't let the pain of one season destroy the joy of all the rest; don't judge life by one difficult season. Persevere throughout the difficult patches and better times are sure to come, sometime or later.

— *Author Unknown*

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