



Mary Furlan RPN

I want to serve on Council (CNO's board of directors), a board whose only role is to uphold patient safety, because: As the practice of nursing evolves and the duties and expectations of roles change, the public deserves to receive the very best nursing care, regardless of regulatory and educational changes. The only way to realize this goal is to elect individuals who are well-rounded, responsible and adept at translating evidence to practice.

In my practice as an RPN, the most recent example of putting the interests of others ahead of my own was when the long-term care home I was working at declared an outbreak of COVID-19. I was a new staff to the home and did not have committed shifts on other home areas. With that in mind, I was asked to work with the residents who had tested positive. This required me to isolate myself from my family, and to rapidly adjust my assessment and critical thinking skills in the face of an unknown illness that was rapidly affecting the residents.

As a member of Council, I would bring these skills to the board: I have experience in patient rights, with experience in a variety of roles in long-term care for more than 7 years where I was known for putting the needs and rights of the Residents at the center of the circle of care. I have also worked at a telemedicine walk-in clinic where I advocated for and with patients to access services within the community. As a member of the management team at a 128 bed long-term care home and at a telemedicine walk-in clinic company, I developed skills in health care sector and human resources leadership. Additionally, as a 3rd year BScN student, I have an in depth understanding of the educational system and its relationship with the College of Nurses.

In addition to patient-centered nursing, I have a unique ability to engage and communicate with staff and stakeholders especially with respect to knowledge translation and change management. As part of my role in long term care, I was involved in strategic direction planning, designing and implementing quality improvement projects and planning the scaling-up of QI projects across a network of long-term care homes. As part of a role at a telemedicine walk-in clinic company, I developed and nurtured community relationships across rural and urban and settings.

As a member of Council, I would bring these attributes to the board: Above all, I am proponent of inclusiveness and equitable access to health care. Perspective matters regardless of the issue and all individuals have the right to receive health care when they need it, from whom they want it and where they want to access it. With this in mind, I am an innovative and dynamic problem solver, adaptable, constructive and a life-long learner.