

## My Membership Story



**Karen Milley, St. John's, NL**

**Area(s) of Practice:** Home Health & Public Health

**How long have you been a member of CHNC?** 15 years

Karen Milley works in home health & public health in St. John's, Newfoundland. She has been a member of CHNC for more than 15 years and is a past Newfoundland & Labrador representative on the Board of Directors. She continues to be involved in a number of CHNC committees.

**How did you first hear of CHNC?**

I first heard about CHNC from Rosemarie Goodyear (Past-President CHNC), who was at that time VP of Nursing Services for the health unit where I worked. She spoke with great enthusiasm about the immense work that was being accomplished through the association and the benefits of being part of a national network that focused on community health nursing.

**What or who inspired you to join?**

Her enthusiasm inspired me to join. I had spent most of my career working as a community health nurse and I wanted to become a member of a group that was making a significant contribution to the profession of community health nursing.

**Why do you think CHNC membership is a benefit to Community Health Nurses?**

Membership in CHNC is valuable because it gives you the opportunity to be part of a grassroots organization that is making an important difference in community health nursing. The research and development that are identified and supported by a mostly volunteer group of community health nurses is noteworthy. This association is responsible for the development of the Canadian Community Health Nursing Standards of Practice, the Public Health Nursing Specific Competencies, Home Health Nursing Specific Competencies, numerous documents and research, literature reviews and much more. In addition, the association has held an annual national conference since 2007 and was instrumental in having community health nursing identified as one of 19 specialties in the Canadian Nurses Association allowing for community health nursing certification. All of this work is building a foundation for evidence informed practice and standards that span the many roles of community health nursing across the geography and diversity of this great country.

**What are the benefits for you as a member of CHNC?**

For me, membership gives me an opportunity to be involved in this worthwhile association, network with members from across the country, share what I learn with my colleagues at home and contribute in some small way through committees, surveys and dialogue to strengthening the role of community health nursing. CHNC is shining the spotlight on Community Health Nursing and I am proud to be a member.