We**RPN**

Registered Practical Nurses
Association of Ontario

Research Advisory Council member – RPN member representative
Role Description

The **RPN member representative** is a key voting position on WeRPN's 12-member Research Advisory Council (RAC) which oversees WeRPN's research program and provides guidance to achieve the WeRPN research mandate. The role of the RPN member represents the voice of the profession providing advice on WeRPN's strategic research direction, research priorities, annual work plan, processes, and policies, based on RPN lived experience, professional expertise, and collaborative network connections.

The **WeRPN research mandate** is to equip WeRPN with jurisdictional and category specific RPN evidence that will guide health system decisions, nursing research excellence, and knowledge mobilization to be used to:

o   build upon and expand the current RPN research evidence,
o   initiate and pursue meaningful health system and workforce policy changes, and
o   implement novel and innovative nursing practice/intervention protocols, and collaborative interprofessional models of care.

Terms of Commitment

The voluntary 2-year term voting position is commensurate with July 1 of the fiscal year. Attendance is required at quarterly meetings, scheduled by consensus. Some exceptions apply.

Time Requirements (estimated)

- Virtual Meetings: 1 hour, 4 times per year
- Annual General Meeting: 2 hours, once per year
- Participation in RAC activities: 1-research day, 7 hours, once per year plus travel (if applicable)

Duties of Research Advisory Council members include:

o   Establishing relevant research topic areas/ideas,
o   Advising on how to capture WeRPN members' opinions, e.g., focus groups, survey, about essential research topics,
o   Ensuring research priorities are aligned with the strategic plan drivers of impact,
o   Prioritizing, recommending, and promoting RPN research priorities,
o   Approving priority areas and project description included in annual Call for proposals (academic research and fellowships grants)
o   Establishing a researcher network to support the identification of collaborative opportunities (e.g., Supporting Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) – Ontario SPOR Support unit (OSSU) and access to specific areas of expertise (e.g., research methods, data analysis),

- o   Reviewing WeRPN Calls for Academic Research Proposals, fellowship applications, external participant recruitment requests, and research partnership requests,
- o   Evaluating and recommending research and fellowship grant applications for funding,
- o   Providing recommendations to the WeRPN Executive leadership regarding research initiatives,
- o   Evaluating the nominations for the Awards of Excellence in research,
- o   Establish and maintain a RPN literature database including a review, summary, and ranking of RPN-specific research publications,
- o   Monitoring research expenditures and investments,
- o   Evaluating the research strategy outcomes, and
- o   Identifying and recommending new Research Advisory Council members, as necessary.