



Registered Practical Nurses
Association of Ontario

Research Advisory Council member – RPN
Role Description
2024-2028

The **RPN representative** is a voting position on WeRPN’s Research Advisory Council (RAC). The RAC oversees WeRPN’s research program and provides guidance to achieve the WeRPN research mandate. The role of the RPN representative is to provide 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
- Participation in RAC activities: 1-research day, 7 hours, once per year plus travel (if applicable)

Duties of Research Advisory Council members include:

- o Attend and participate regularly in quarterly meetings (*cameras turned on during virtual meetings*)
- o Monitor trends and issues for matters related to RPNs to identify new knowledge, information or gaps
- o Review and provide feedback related to research processes (e.g., external requests, grants, fellowships and awards)
- o Review processes and offer guidance for identifying important research topic areas/ideas,
- o Capture membership opinions, e.g., focus groups, survey, about essential research topics,
- o Ensure research priorities are aligned with the strategic plan drivers of impact,
- o Prioritize, recommend, and promote RPN research priorities,

- Establish a researcher network to support the identification of collaborative opportunities and access to specific areas of expertise (e.g., research methods, data analysis),
- Evaluate research grants proposals, fellowship proposal, award nominations, and external requests to recommend WeRPN funding, sponsorship, or collaborations
- Make recommendations to the WeRPN leadership regarding research initiatives,
- Recommend RPN-focused/inclusive literature to include within the WeRPN elibrary
- Monitor research expenditures and investments,
- Advise on knowledge mobilization initiatives
- Conduct an evaluation of the research strategy, and
- Identify and recommend new Research Advisory Council members, as necessary.