



Ruth Volpato  
IPNIG Policy & Practice

Dear Independent Practice Nurse Colleagues,

I am writing you today as an experienced registered nurse in private practice that specializes in health needs for catastrophic and non-catastrophic injuries, to ensure client maximum medical recovery. It is my experience that every self-employed Nurse requires the right support systems to practice. So on behalf of all independent practice nurses group, I asked RNAO to detail their many membership benefits. Please read how RNAO and IPNIG membership can support your practice and protect you as a professional.

Click on the [blue color links](#) to view a host of benefits ranging from specialty certification, legal protection, continuous learning and professional development, networking opportunities, financial savings and a "voice" to speak out for improvements in health care system and nursing policy.

Currently 35,000 nurses and nursing students have chosen to get involved with RNAO to have a proactive association working for them that provides many worthwhile membership benefits.

### **SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION**

RNAO members are part of the Canadian Nurses Association, and are eligible to save \$233.91 on initial examination fee for [certification in Occupational Health](#). CNA offers certification in 20 specialties/areas of nursing practice. **Specialty Areas of Nursing Practice**. RNAO is also currently negotiating with the [Canadian Occupational Health Nurses Association](#) to provide group rates for this national body for all our members.

### **LEGAL PROTECTIONS**

As a benefit of RNAO membership, you are eligible for professional liability protection from the [CANADIAN NURSES PROTECTIVE SOCIETY \(CNPS\)](#). By adding \$64.57 to your membership to enroll in the [LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \(LAP\)](#), you are eligible for legal assistance with employment related matters including wrongful dismissals and complaints to CNO; making your protection more comprehensive.

RNAO provides benefits that are designed by nurses for nurses. Depending on your needs, your membership in RNAO, LAP and IPNIG can cost under \$350/year, which is much less than what other associations charge.

## **CONTINUOUS LEARNING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Independent Practice Nurses Interest Group IPNIG is a provincial interest group of within Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) ...[click here for more information](#) IPNIG acts as the voice and forum for registered nurses who provide professional nursing services, as a proprietor of a business, through direct patient care, education, research, administration or consultation. IPNIG offers professional resources, practice guidelines, education opportunities, research and networking with colleagues. [www.ipnig.ca](http://www.ipnig.ca)

Members can take advantage of [career counseling](#), [online workshops](#), [educational guides](#), [loans](#) and scholarships. RNAO/IPNIG members save up to 40% off registration for RNAO conferences & workshops and can apply education hours towards their Reflective Practice participation. With such huge savings, members can recover most of the cost of their fee.

## **STAYING CONNECTED & INFORMED**

As a RNAO member, you can take membership with the [Canadian Nurses Association \(CNA\)](#); receiving free subscriptions to both the Canadian Nurse & award winning [Registered Nurse Journal](#) as well as the [NurseOne](#) website.

## **FINANCIAL SAVINGS**

Enjoy members-only group discounts on insurance programs for [home](#), [auto](#), [extended health](#), [dental](#), and [long term disability](#). We also have [group rates for small business owners](#) through our NurseInsure program.

## **SPEAKING OUT**

Be a voice in shaping health care and nursing policies. RNAO and IPNIG work to educate the public and other nurses on the work Independent Practice Nurses perform. View the specialized nursing career profiled by RNAO "Careers in Nursing! A World of Opportunity!" ... [click here to read](#).

By joining RNAO and IPNIG, you're asserting your professionalism both as a Registered Nurse and for your work in the community as a client centered Independent practice nurse health care services provider.

To sign up with RNAO and IPNIG, visit <https://www.joinrnao.org> or give our Membership and Services team a call at 1-800-268-7199.

IPNIG looks forward to welcoming you on board. If you have any questions about the work of the IPNIG or RNAO, please drop me a line at [rvolpato@ipnig.ca](mailto:rvolpato@ipnig.ca)

Warm regards,

Ruth Volpato RN

Policy and Practices Leader Independent Practice Nurses Interest Group IPNIG