



The Morning Report

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Hilltop Manor RPN Andrea Brissette poses with resident Myna Dykes. Brissette is a winner of a Nursing Leadership Award.

Nursing Leadership Award winner challenged herself by pursuing a change

Andrea Brissette spent 17 years in hospital setting before moving to LTC

Tuesday November 1, 2011 -- Deb Bartlett

One of the Ontario Long Term Care Association's Nursing Leadership Award winners is a veteran nurse who is new to the sector.

Andrea Brissette became a nurse at 19, and spent 17 years working in acute care. She moved to a retirement setting for a couple of years, and now works as assistant director of resident care at peopleCare Hilltop Manor Cambridge, where her outstanding leadership is valued by her colleagues.

"As a registered practical nurse (RPN) I had enhanced my skills over those 17 years but I wasn't going to be able to do anything other than just working on the floor. I wanted to challenge myself so I pursued a change," says Brissette.

She is happy working in long-term care where she thinks she makes a difference every day with the staff and the residents.

Brissette says she feels she's making a difference with her co-workers because, "I work alongside them."

One of her strengths is that she likes to problem-solve with them, "not decide things and roll it out. I like their input as well. I try to do different things to keep them

What is The Morning Report?

Morning Report is an independently written and produced on-line news service.

Everyday it brings visitors to the OLTC web-site news on the people, activities, events and issues in OLTC member homes. The stories are researched, written and posted by [Axiom News Service](#) without prior editorial approval from either the individual home or OLTC.

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Please be sure to include the idea, a contact name and whether or not you also have or will be able to get photos that might be used to illustrate the article.

Morning Report is interested in your events, activities, programs, milestones, staff and resident profiles and any other information that you feel people should know about who you are, how you feel, what you do and how you do it.

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engaged.”

Brissette says she thinks working alongside her colleagues helps her do her job better because “I understand the roles of the staff. Being hands-on is how a lot of health care people learn and I think that it’s important to work alongside the staff and problem solve. Their input is very important.”

Her position involves advocating for nursing staff, but she works with other departments too “because everybody looks after our residents.” She sees herself as someone who “bridges the gap between departments.”

Brissette says Hilltop Manor looks after the resident as a whole, so that involves everybody that works in the home.

Throughout her nomination form, reference was made to celebration and having fun. Brissette says she’s always liked to work that way.

“It’s positive and people want to do good things if you do positive things to reward them. And I think people want to have fun at work.”

Brissette says it’s an honour to be nominated for a Nursing Leadership Award, and an honour to work at peopleCare.

In the nomination form, her colleagues noted that Brissette’s hands-on approach has led to several improved practices in the homes that have included several departments.

She has also involved all departments in improving infection control by helping them understand their role in outbreak management.

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