

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 1 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Susan Rushton BSN, RN, MHSA, CHE



Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself. I was born at Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) No. 3 Fighter Wing Zweibrücken, Germany where my father was a jet fighter pilot, my mother a Nursing Sister. Affiliation with the RCAF brought opportunity to live in various locations:

Germany, Tyndall United States Air Force Base Florida, rural Quebec, Montreal Quebec, and Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada. Living in different locales meant meeting people of varied backgrounds while learning about, appreciating and enjoying diverse cultures.

I'm seeking election to the position of North America Region 1 Coordinator. I've been an active member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing since my induction almost 27 years ago. Internationally, I served as an elected member of the Governance Committee for six years: from 2013-2017 and from 2017-2019. I currently serve as an appointed member of the Nurse Leader Review Committee, a position held since 2015. Regionally, I've been active with the Region 1 Conference Committee since 2013. In 2017 I chaired the very successful Regional Conference held in Vancouver that year.

Locally, I've held various chapter leadership roles assuming progressive levels of responsibility: president (current), president-elect, treasurer, secretary, plus governance, induction and finance committee chairs. Our chapter is at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and the University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. I attended the 2012, 2014 and 2020 (virtual) Leadership Forums in Indianapolis and have been a delegate at the 2013, 2015 (and 2021) Biennial Conventions. My participation in the society locally, regionally and internationally has broadened my abilities, talents and knowledge base to better meet the needs and requirements of membership and stakeholders.

I've a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of British Columbia, and a Master of Health Services Administration from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. I'm an executive member of the Canadian College of Health Leaders holding Certified Health Executive designation.

My commitment to continuous professional development has been supported by my volunteer work with a variety of health care and community service organizations:

- President (past)—Soroptimist International, Downtown Vancouver Club, Vancouver, British Columbia
- Treasurer (past) –Nurse Administrators' Association of British Columbia.
- Vice-President (past)-Health Labour Relations Association of British Columbia, North West District Council
- Secretary-Treasurer (past) - local chapter of the Registered Nurses' Association of British Columbia.

As a senior health services administrator, I've experience in a variety of health care settings— isolated communities and large city centres, including chief multi-site responsibilities. My ability to prioritize, and organize enables me to work tirelessly under pressure.

My leadership style is one of inclusiveness, recognizing and respecting differences. If elected to office, I'll collaborate on issues before the region working towards identified outcomes while respecting the unique qualities and abilities of each member involved.

My experiences with governance, leadership, teamwork and service all showcase my skills and enthusiasm to execute the society's mission as we collectively aim to improve global health. I hope this brief shows my commitment to humanism, science and ongoing learning—all supporting Sigma's vision and mission.