“I have been blessed with a career that has allowed me to be me and which has fulfilled my heart and soul.” Anne McKenzie

Anne McKenzie works as a community nurse at St. Elizabeth Health Care – a role she has held for the past 18 years. Anne says she feels extremely fortunate to be able to provide quality care for her clients in their own homes and believe it’s her responsibility to give back to a profession that has been so very good to her.

Throughout her career, Anne has also dedicated her time and expertise as a preceptor, helping to guide and support many practical nursing students from both Conestoga College and Georgian College. She says this aspect of her career has been particularly rewarding and hopes these experiences have fulfilled her students’ needs as well. A dedicated and passionate supporter of nursing, Anne also supports the profession through her involvement with RPNAO, where she is currently a member on the Board of Directors. Prior to her work with RPNAO, she also held positions on the College of Nurses Board of Directors in 2008-09 as well as being the RPN VP in 2008-09.

Anne graduated from the Toronto Department of Health RPN certificate program 38 years ago. Upon graduation, she began her career as a hospital nurse and remained in that sector for the next two decades. To support her career plan, Anne completed additional courses over the years to help develop her knowledge and skills in areas of nursing she found particularly interesting. She pursued courses in medication, physical assessment, geriatrics, advanced foot care and therapeutic touch, which helped support her transition to new nursing roles. In addition to working in acute care, she also worked in long term care, providing foot care and therapeutic touch.

Anne has been married for 37 years and has four children. She’s also the proud grandmother of 11 (nine grandsons and two adorable granddaughters) and enjoys a busy social life. She supports her community as an Optimist member and was also a former 4H leader. Anne says she and her husband love to travel and, while she is trying to slow down at work, it is somewhat challenging to do so as there’s no one to replace her. After all…community nurses are hard to come by.

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