

THOMPSON, Georgina

Nominated for Premier's Award

# Georgina ready for ultimate challenge

By Henry Bury

The Intelligencer

Georgina Thompson remembers sitting in class in her graduating year at Loyalist College, wondering if she'd ever get a full-time job nursing job.

Well, not only did she land a job, but she subsequently began her own community nursing business in Belleville.

And now she's considering the ultimate challenge — becoming a doctor.

"A lot of days I have to sit back and realize what's happened to me...I can't believe everything that's happened to me for I'm doing the things I love," said the 45-year-old Thompson.

Raised in Dartmouth, N.S., Thompson came to Belleville when her husband, Kenneth, was transferred to CFB Trenton. She was a Registered Nursing Assistant but realized "being a registered nurse gets you so much more involved in patient care and dealing more one-on-one with physicians".

So when her youngest son entered Grade 1, Thompson decided to go back to school too — in the two-year registered nursing program at Loyalist.

She graduated in 1979 and worked for three years on the surgical floor at Belleville General Hospital.

"While at BGH, I decided to get my own community nursing business because there was a need for it," she said.

She started All-Care Health Service in late 1982 in the living room of her Foster Avenue home. She had a staff of 15 RNs, RNAs and homemakers. Over these 20 years, the palliative care business has grown to 420 employees with offices in Belleville, Napanee and Kingston and sub-offices in Madoc and Bancroft.

She's now added physiotherapists to her staff at William Street.

"About 500 people rely on our service and that makes us feel important," she quipped.

Thompson, though, still practices her nursing skills. She's a nursing consultant for Plainfield Children's Home and works one or two days a week in

the emergency department at Trenton Memorial Hospital.

"Doing that for the past six years helps keep me up to date on new technology," she explained.

There aren't enough hours in the day for Thompson to do everything she wants to do and

serve on many community boards.

She's on the executive for Ontario Palliative Care Association and County Hospice Association of Ontario. She started Regional Hospice of Quinte 11 years ago and recently finished her involvement

Today's story is part of a continuing series profiling Loyalist College graduates. Loyalist is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.



Celebrating 25 Years  
1967 - 1992

on the board of Community Care for Seniors and the Belleville and District Chamber of Commerce.

The Thurlow Township councillor is in her fourth year on Loyalist's board of governors.

She's also one of four Loyalist graduates to be nominated for the prestigious Premier's Awards in recognition of the Ontario community college 25-year anniversary.

"My last goal is to go to medical school and end up working in a hospital emergency department. I'm taking some extra credit courses now through Queen's University and I hope to be in medical school sometime in the next five years. That would complete the cycle," said Thompson.

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