

Leader to Watch

Sylvain Trepanier, DNP, RN, CENP

Laura J. Caramanica, PhD, RN, CENP, FACHE, FAAN



It is always great when an opportunity for nurse leaders to learn from others in the field presents itself, and this issue of *Nurse Leader* is no exception. Born and raised in Montreal, Canada, Sylvain Trepanier, DNP, RN, CENP began his nursing career in the United States as a clinical nurse at Bayonet Point Regional Medical Center in Florida. We are all fortunate to have this former “travel nurse” actively guide his career tra-

jectory to being an accomplished nurse leader in this country! Dr. Trepanier is a talented nursing executive, with expertise in leadership, quality improvement, succession planning, nurse leader mentoring, organizational transformation, system standardization, and nursing research. His current position is in the inaugural position of system vice-president for Premier Health based in Dayton, Ohio.

LJC: When did you decide to become a nurse and what influenced your decision?

ST: My father was diagnosed with type I diabetes when I was 7 years old, and this had a deep and lasting impact on my family. When he was hospitalized, he dramatically lost weight, and I was truly impressed with how the nurses cared for him. Seeing the influence that nurses had on my father's care certainly helped me to decide to become a nurse. At a young age, I knew I wanted to make a difference in the lives of others. I was always looking for ways to become involved in efforts to help and care for others. I also evidenced leadership tendencies from a young age. As a student in elementary school, I convinced my classmates to stay in at recess to practice for the school play, and in high school, I organized numerous events and class projects as well. It has always been my passion to step up and enlist others to initiate and achieve our combined goals. To me, nursing is one of the best ways to do this as a career for the greater good of the human race.

LJC: You grew up and were educated in Canada. What drew you to be a nurse in the United States?

ST: I grew up in Canada and went to the University of Montreal to become a nurse. My parents, family, and friends were extremely supportive of my choices and entering nursing school was no different. Like in the United States, nursing was not a popular choice for males at the time. If I remember correctly there were about six of us in a class of a little more than 100 students.

Upon graduation with my baccalaureate degree in nursing in Canada, I went to a recruitment fair held in Montreal then interviewed for and accepted my first position as a nurse for Bayonet Point Regional Medical Center in Florida. I enjoyed working as a nurse there, and it did not take long for me to realize that I wanted to continue my education and get my master's degree. However, the cost of graduate school in the United States was astronomical for me as a foreign student, so I went back to Canada to get my master's degree in nursing.

Early in my career I knew that my long-term goal was to be a chief

nursing officer. I observed the role of leaders while I was practicing, and I gravitated to being involved in influencing the systems of care beyond the bedside. I wanted to empower others to practice in an environment that would simultaneously support and stretch them beyond their perceived, self-imposed limits as a nurse. I sensed back then that there were better ways to do what we were doing, and even now this feeling continues as healthcare was—and is—changing in so many ways. I always want to be part of this evolution. My passion is in both business and nursing, so being a chief nurse seemed a perfect fit for me. Shortly after obtaining my master's in nursing, I came back to the United States. What drew me back was my desire to assume a nursing leadership position in a country like the United States that has a complex and varied funding source for healthcare. I find the free-market healthcare environment to be intriguing. I was used to the less varied socialized health insurance financial model that existed in Canada that was part of my com-



Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/2670394>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/2670394>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)