

Executive Report

April 25, 2007

Report from the OHA

Public Hearings on Bill 171

The Standing Committee on Social Policy held afternoon public hearings on April 23 and 24, 2007 for Bill 171, the *Health System Improvements Act, 2006*. Thirty presenters were permitted to make an oral presentation.

The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA), in consultation with its members, provided a written submission to the Standing Committee, outlining its concerns with the proposed legislation and providing suggestions for amendment. The OHA's written submission, which addresses concerns pertaining primarily to Schedule F (Amendments to the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*) and Schedule M (Amendments to the *Regulated Health Professions Act*) is available on the OHA website, www.oha.com, under "Communications - Legislative Issues and Analysis." For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at mradolli@oha.com or 416-205-1322.

New Pertussis Protocol

The Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols Committee (CDSPC) is a collaborative initiative between the OHA and its members, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). Committee membership includes physicians and nurses with expertise in infectious diseases, as well as specialists in occupational health, microbiology and public health. The CDSPC's mandate is to develop communicable disease surveillance protocols (in accordance with Regulation 965, Section 4 of the *Public Hospitals Act*) that apply to all persons carrying out activities within hospitals.

In February 2007, a protocol for Pertussis was developed by the CDSPC. This protocol is available on the OHA website under "Programs - Health and Safety - Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols." For further information, contact Terry Siriska at tsiriska@oha.com or 416-205-1397.

OHA Supports Asthma Month

May is National Asthma Awareness Month and the OHA, in

partnership with the Lung Association and the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario, will be showcasing a number of initiatives to draw attention to this increasingly prevalent chronic disease.

Nearly 60 percent of asthma sufferers lack sufficient control of their condition. This translates into a serious but preventable health risk to nearly one million Ontario residents.

Asthma month is also an ideal time to introduce a unique new OHA program that will help clinicians provide asthma sufferers with care tailored to their condition. The OHA, with funding from the MOHLTC, has developed a multidisciplinary Asthma Care Pathway for the treatment of emergency department adult asthma patients. The pathway will be rolled out to all EDs this summer, with implementation supported by the OHA.



Call for Papers

OHA HealthAchieve is issuing a Call for Papers for its 2007 event, which last year, drew over 8,300 health care professionals. The Call for Papers provides an opportunity for OHA member organizations to showcase innovative initiatives that have helped them successfully manage change in today's rapidly evolving health care environment. Member institutions and health care-related groups are encouraged to showcase various programs or initiatives that demonstrate positive outcomes as they relate to the OHA HealthAchieve2007 theme, *Inspiring Ideas & Innovation*. The Call for Papers guidelines can be accessed online at www.ohahealthachieve.com. The Call closes on May 31, 2007. For further information, contact Susan Jacobs at sjacobs@oha.com or 416-205-1364.

Report on Health Care

First CCIS Goes “Live”

The development and implementation of a Critical Care Information System (CCIS) is being led by a multi-disciplinary group of critical care providers, planners and administrators. The system provides information on intensive care resource utilization, helps determine deficiencies, measures impact and utilization patterns of Critical Care Response Teams (CCRTs), and provides reports that will support hospital, Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), and MOHLTC decision-making. The CCIS also provides real-time dashboards and integrates with hospitals’ existing ADT systems; allowing patient demographic information to pass to the CCIS in a secure, seamless way.

As part of Ontario’s Critical Care Strategy, the CCIS has gone “live” in nine lead sites across the province, making Ontario the first jurisdiction in Canada to implement a critical care information management and performance measurement tool.

Mt. Sinai Hospital, University Health Network, London Health Sciences Centre, Hotel Dieu Windsor, Windsor Regional Hospital, Sudbury Regional Hospital, Grand River Hospital, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, and The Ottawa Hospital are now entering adult medical/surgical ICU and Critical Care Response Team (CCRT) data into the system.

Implementation of the CCIS is mandatory for all hospitals operating an adult medical/surgical ICU. Province-wide implementation is scheduled to take place in three waves, throughout 2007/08, beginning with those hospitals that operate a Level 3 ICU and/or a CCRT. Roll-out to Level 2 hospitals will take place in 2008/09. Planning for the expansion of the scope of the CCIS to include specialty ICU patients is also underway.

For more information on the CCIS and Ontario’s Critical Care Strategy, visit www.health.gov.on.ca/criticalcare or contact Robert McKay, Manager, Critical Care Secretariat at Robert.McKay@moh.gov.on.ca.

Helping Patients with Lab Test Preparations

The Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) recently introduced measures that Canadians can take to ensure their laboratory test results are more accurate. Kurt Davis, CSMLS Executive Director, says there is a direct link between patients’ proper preparation for a laboratory test and their likelihood of receiving an accurate and speedy diagnosis of an illness.

The Society recommends Canadians follow the Lab Test Checklist available on the CSMLS website, www.csmls.org, before going in for a lab test. The checklist provides questions to ask doctors and medical lab professionals before a test is conducted.



“In a time where wait times are such a crucial issue in our hospitals,” said Davis, “preparing effectively for lab tests is one important step Canadians can take to ensure proper and timely diagnosis and treatment.”

For more information, visit www.csmls.org

Report from Queen's Park

Ontario Releases First Pre-Election Report on Ontario's Finances

The Ontario Government has released the first-ever *Pre-Election Report on Ontario's Finances*. The report, which will be reviewed by the Auditor General, is designed to inform Ontarians about the province's fiscal plan.

The 2007 *Pre-Election Report on Ontario's Finances* follows the recommendations made by the former provincial auditor, Erik Peters, who reviewed the fiscal outlook presented by the previous government on the eve of the last general election in 2003 and noted that rather than a balanced budget, a deficit of \$5.6 billion was likely to be incurred.

Following this review, the *Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act* was passed in 2004 to ensure a new level of transparency and accountability in Ontario and to make it mandatory for the government to publish a pre-election financial statement reviewed by the Auditor General.

It is expected that the Auditor General will release the results of his review in June 2007.

Combating Elder Abuse

The Honourable Jim Bradley, Ontario's Minister Responsible for Seniors, recently announced a government investment of more

than \$1.6 million to be spent over the next two years on combating elder abuse and neglect.

Ontario's Elder Abuse Strategy, the first of its kind in Canada, focuses on three priorities: co-ordination of community services, training for front-line staff, and raising public awareness about this important issue. The funding will go to the Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (ONPEA) to support its regional elder abuse consultants for another two years. The consultants have helped support more than 50 elder abuse networks or coordinating committees across the province.

The Ontario Seniors' Secretariat (OSS), ONPEA and the Ministry of the Attorney General joined forces five years ago to initiate the province's Elder Abuse Strategy.

According to experts in the field, elder abuse has many forms including financial, physical and verbal abuse, and neglect of older persons.

ONPEA estimates that between 65,000 and 130,000 Ontario seniors suffer some form of elder abuse.



OHA Conferences

Current Issues in Health Care Governance

May 11, 2007

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel

901 Dixon Rd., Toronto

This one-day learning opportunity is specially designed to help board members enhance their abilities in serving their organizations and communities.

Featuring a host of guest speakers who will address topics ranging from collaborative governance and CEO evaluation to patient safety and physician credentialing, conference participants will garner useful strategies to assist with their hospital governance roles. Participants will learn about Hospital Accountability Agreements, how to evaluate organizational performance, and the current governance challenges in Ontario hospitals. For more information, contact Josie Mazzola jmazzola@oha.com or 416-205-1356.

Cancer Services in Ontario

May 15, 2007

Holiday Inn on King

370 King St. W., Toronto

Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in Ontario. With the growing burden of cancer, Ontarians require a seamless health care system that ensures integrated regional strategies are in place. Addressing cancer services across Ontario, this one-day conference, planned in partnership with Cancer Care Ontario, will focus on the strengths and weaknesses in the current cancer system and will provide an opportunity to review innovations in cancer treatment. For more information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at sbyckmunday@oha.com or 416-205-1357.

Medical Devices: Current Issues

June 4, 2007

Fairmont Royal York Hotel

100 Front St. W., Toronto

This year's conference will review a number of medical device hot topics, including ways to resolve the challenge of differing instruments and manufacturers' guidelines; possibilities for moving towards standardized sterilization cycles; Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) and Health Canada's recommendations on CJD as well as related medical devices; tracking medical devices

and surgical instruments; implications for disclosure; and class action lawsuits among many other relevant topics.

Participants will hear updates from representatives of the Health Canada Scientific Advisory Panel and the Canadian Association for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH). Participants will also benefit from presentations and panel discussions on new strategies and directions from speakers across the health care sector, such as hospitals, the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), the Canadian Services Association of Ontario (CSAO), manufacturers of medical devices and sterilization tools, and legal counsel. For more information, contact Sara Simone at simone@oha.com or 416-205-1314.

Failure Mode and Effects Analysis Workshop (FMEA) - A Tool for Proactively Identifying Risk in Health Care

June 7, 2007

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, Room 202BD

255 Front St. W., Toronto

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada has developed a one-day Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA) workshop and is partnering with the OHA to offer it to Canadian health care agencies.

FMEA has been in use for many years in other high-risk industries such as aerospace, aviation and nuclear power. It is an approach that recommends not waiting until a patient is harmed to make necessary process improvements. FMEA can be applied to processes at all levels of the health care system. For more information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at sbyckmunday@oha.com or 416-205-1357.

OHA Conferences (continued)

Navigating the Waters of Privacy and Security

June 14, 2007

Holiday Inn on King

370 King St. W., Toronto

Privacy and security are significant priorities for any health care organization. This conference will assist participants in developing a heightened understanding of and access to real-life experiences related to the implementation and interpretation of privacy-related policies and procedures.

The conference will discuss the importance of privacy for health-related information and some of the challenges hospitals face when responding to security breaches. Featured panel discussions will further highlight experiences and responses to the *Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA)*.

Other topics for the day include disclosure in electronic records, shared data management systems, how to disclose information to the police, and interpreting orders within the Information and Privacy Commissioner's standards. **For more information, contact Lina Pallotta at lpallotta@oha.com or 416-205-1357.**

Family and Patient Centred Care

June 25, 2007

InterContinental Toronto Centre

225 Front St. W., Toronto

Improving family- and patient-centred care is a multifaceted challenge that many organizations have embraced, achieving remarkable results. Join us for our second annual conference in which we discuss advancing the culture of family and patient centred care, organizational leadership, the quality of work-life and quality patient centred care, family presence, and the patient perspective.

The conference will be chaired by **Beverley John**, Vice President, Patient Care Services at Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital. Confirmed speakers include: **Dr. Mary Ferguson-Paré**, Vice President Professional Affairs and Chief Nurse Executive at University Health Network and **Patrick Conlon**, Member of Mount Sinai Hospital's Multi-Disciplinary Adult CCT.

Presentations will also be provided by noted social activist, **Michele Landsberg** and Head of Patient and Public Partnership at Lothian University Hospitals NHS Trust in Edinburgh, **Dr. Pat Straw**. **For more information, contact Lina Pallotta at lpallotta@oha.com or 416-205-1357.**

Leading Management Through Exemplary Leadership, Level II

June 25, 26, & 27, 2007

Ontario Hospital Association

200 Front St. W., Suite 2800, Toronto

This program will focus on the subject areas of strategic and operational planning, change management, stress management and emotional intelligence. These subject areas are combined with several management topics covered in the Level I program (Motivation, Strategic Leadership, Communications, Perceptions and Listening Teamwork, Team Building and Empowerment). Level II will provide graduates of both programs with an extended, solid base for personal and leadership development. **For more information, contact Marisa Bavaro at mbavaro@oha.com or 416-205-1309.**



200 Front Street West, Ste. 2800
Toronto, ON M5V 3L1

Tel: 416 205 1300
Fax: 416 205 1360

www.oha.com

Executive Report

The Executive Report is a weekly publication of the OHA

Editor:

Amy Ouellette

416 205 1433

aouellette@oha.com