

# Executive Report

August 1, 2007

## Report from the OHA

Release of Report by Health Quality Council of Alberta

The Health Quality Council of Alberta has released its review findings and recommendations related to infection prevention and control and sterilization practices in acute care facilities operated by the East Central Health Region. The review was requested by Alberta Health and Wellness as a result of a March 16, 2007 order by the Medical Officer of Health. The report makes seventy-six recommendations for improvement in system safety and quality, with a focus on sterilization practices and infection prevention and control. To review the Health Quality Council of Alberta's report of the findings and recommendations, visit [www.hqca.ca](http://www.hqca.ca) and click on "Reports and Publications."

For further information, contact Carrie-Lynn Haines at [chaines@oha.com](mailto:chaines@oha.com) or 416-205-1458.

### OHA Conducting August ALC Survey

The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) is conducting a series of surveys related to the alternate-levels-of-care (ALC) issue facing Ontario hospitals. A link for the August 2007 survey will be sent via email to all hospital Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) shortly. The purpose of the survey is to collect timely information on ALC-challenged hospitals. The results will support the OHA's ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and government. Members are asked to complete the survey by no later than 4:00 p.m. on August 17, 2007.

If you have any questions, or for further information, contact Lou Reidel at [lreidel@oha.com](mailto:lreidel@oha.com) or 416-205-1320.

 OHA HealthAchieve2007

### Register Early and Save

OHA HealthAchieve2007 will take place on November 5, 6, and 7, 2007 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. By booking early, delegates can take advantage of the early registration discount and save \$100. Register online at [www.ohahealthachieve.com](http://www.ohahealthachieve.com).

### Book Hotel Accommodations for OHA HealthAchieve2007

Book your accommodations for OHA HealthAchieve early to ensure your choice of hotel during your stay in Toronto! When making hotel reservations, please identify yourself as a delegate attending OHA HealthAchieve2007 to qualify for special hotel rates.

For more information regarding registration and hotel accommodations, call 416-205-1361 or 416-205-1362, or email [healthachieve@oha.com](mailto:healthachieve@oha.com).

# Report on Health Care

## ICES Study Looks at Wait Times Comparisons

New findings from a joint study involving participants from the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) in Ontario and funded by the Commonwealth Fund from New York City, confirms access to health care around the world is a challenge, but some countries do better than others.

The report titled, “*Measuring and Reducing Waiting Times: A Cross-National Comparison of Strategies*,” compares five countries: Australia, England, New Zealand, Wales, and Canada. The study examines government commitments on waiting times and the broad strategies used to manage waiting times and their results by analyzing key literature and government reports between 2000 and 2005 in the five countries, each having universal health insurance.

The study suggests that Canada, England, and New Zealand have shown a strong commitment to addressing the problem. However, whatever strengths Canada has are limited by the existence of sizeable geographic variation and different approaches to waiting times reductions across the ten provinces as compared to a consistent national approach used in England. The study, “*Measuring and Reducing Waiting Times: A Cross-National Comparison of Strategies*”, is available in the July/August 2007 issue of *Health Affairs*.

## CNA Recognizes Employers Committed to Supporting Nursing Knowledge

Each year, the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) recognizes employers who support registered nurses in their pursuit of national certification in nursing specialties. This year, a number of Ontario health care providers were recognized for their support of nursing certification and education.

St. Elizabeth Health Care in Toronto won the 2006-2007 Employer Recognition Award for imbedding the national practice standards and their associated nursing specialty competencies into the practice infrastructure of the organization. Toronto’s Humber River Regional Hospital and the Leamington District Memorial Hospital each won an Employer

Recognition Program Award for Innovation thanks to their innovative activities in support of certified nurses. And, Providence Continuing Care Centre in Kingston received an honourable mention for their support and encouragement of nurses pursuing certification.

## Federal Government Supports Molecular Medicine

The Molecular Medicine Research Centre (MMRC), a unique cross-Ontario collaboration involving Sunnybrook Research Institute, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Lakehead University, and Philips Medical Systems, received a \$14.7 million investment from the Government of Canada on Monday, July 30, 2007. This investment matches provincial support for MMRC and complements more than \$10 million of municipal support.

The MMRC will conduct research merging biology, physics and engineering towards the development of new molecular imaging technology and imaging guided diagnostics and treatment for cancer. Discovery and translational research conducted at MMRC will establish new standards for best clinical care and ultimately improve national cancer prevention and outcomes.



# Executive Announcements

St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital (STEGH) is pleased to announce that **Dr. Lori Teeple** will serve as Vice President Medical Affairs, effective September 1, 2007.

Chatham-Kent Health Alliance Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, **Rick Cooper**, has accepted an appointment as Vice President and CFO of the Sault Area Hospital effective October 29, 2007.

York Central Hospital's Board of Trustees is proud to announce the appointments of **David**

**Bannister** as Board Chair, effective June 21, 2007.

**Bernie D. Schmidt** has left his position as President and CEO of Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, effective July 27, 2007. As the search for a new CEO begins, **Dr. Don Atkinson** will act as CEO on a temporary basis and **Dr. Maarten Reinders** will act as Chief of Staff. Also, **David Hughes**, CFO and **Aileen Ashman**, Vice President of Human Resources and Organizational Development left their positions at the hospital on July 27th.

Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital in Windsor welcomes **Dr. Pankaj Kapoor** to its Department of Neurosciences.

On May 8, 2007, Humber River Regional Hospital appointed **Dr. John Hagen** (Head of General Surgery) as Medical Director of Bariatric Surgery.

**Robert Chambers** has been appointed Chair of the 2007-2008 Board of Directors for St. Joseph's Care Group, Thunder Bay.

## Report from Queen's Park

### Supervisor Appointed for TSH

On July 30, 2007, Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care **George Smitherman** announced that **Rob Devitt**, CEO of Toronto East General Hospital had been appointed as supervisor for The Scarborough Hospital (TSH) to help the hospital continue meeting the health care needs of the community. The goal is to assist TSH in managing the governance and board composition issues it has been experiencing.

As a supervisor, Mr. Devitt will assume full responsibilities of the hospital board that governs the hospital, the hospital corporation and its officers. Additionally, Mr. Devitt will recommend and oversee the implementation of required changes to the governance of TSH, including the functioning, composition and membership of the board, and will recommend and oversee solutions for administrative, management, operations and medical issues. In this role, he will work

closely with senior hospital officials and the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and will report directly to the MOHLTC.

### MOHLTC to Redevelop Long-Term Care Beds

In an announcement on July 31, 2007, Minister Smitherman announced that in 2008, the government plans to start redeveloping about 3,500 beds annually over the next ten years, allowing for the overall redevelopment of 35,000 older long-term care beds. The plan, in an effort to ensure equitable access to quality long-term care accommodation, will pay particular attention to the unique needs of small homes and non-profit groups. The province's 14 LHINs, together with the MOHLTC, will be prioritizing which projects go forward for renewal each year.



# OHA Conferences

## Administrative Professionals Conference August 19 (evening) and August 20, 2007 Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

Join your colleagues at the OHA Region 1 North West Sub-Region Administrative Professionals Conference. This one-day workshop is designed to help health care administrative professionals from large or small organizations, who report to any level of administration, to improve their skill set, boost productivity and bring their best to work and life. The program, geared to hospitals, LHINs, and Community Care Access Centres (CCACs), will feature a mix of presentations, interactive discussions and opportunities to share ideas and challenges with fellow colleagues. Topics will include diversity in health care, minute-taking, e-mailing, office yoga, and ergonomics in the workplace. For those arriving the day before, a tour of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre has been scheduled. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna at [jgrzywna@oha.com](mailto:jgrzywna@oha.com) or 416-205-1341.

## Certificate for Implementing the Guide to Good Governance - Fall 2007 Windsor and Timmins

This one-day certificate program is designed to give participants a deeper understanding of the factors influencing good governance. Participants will identify areas for improvement in the functioning of their boards and develop a board governance development plan. This program will be of particular benefit if attended by the Board Chair together with the Chair of the Governance Committee and the Corporate Secretary/administrative support to the board. Topics include: Overview of Effective Governance; Discussion of Board Successes; Legal Aspects of Governance Practices and; Improving Board Performance. The program will take place in Windsor on September 25 at the Windsor Regional Hospital, 1995 Lens Avenue, and in Timmins on September 28 at the Cedar Meadows Resort, 1000 Norman Street. For further information, contact Josie Mazzola [jmazzola@oha.com](mailto:jmazzola@oha.com) or 416-205-1356.

## Annual OHA/OHIMA Health Information Management Conference September 12, 2007 InterContinental Toronto Centre 225 Front St. W., Toronto

The OHA, in conjunction with the Ontario Health Information Management Association (OHIMA), is pleased to present its annual conference for Health Information Management

Professionals. This year's program will focus on a number of key issues, including:

- The future role of Health Information Management professionals
- Standards: Where are we now and what is ahead?
- Innovative approaches to facilitate decision-making
- Continuity of care from Health Information Management perspectives

Participants will have the opportunity to network, listen to presentations, and take part in dynamic question and answer periods. Peggy Grall, The Change Coach, will kick off the day with a keynote presentation entitled "*Leading Change...and Living to Tell About it!*" The day will end with a panel on "continuity of care" from CCACs, LHINs, hospitals and physicians. For further information, contact Sara Simone at [ssimone@oha.com](mailto:ssimone@oha.com) or 416-205-1314.

## Healthy Hospitals: Beyond Measurement, Towards Integration, Engagement and Action September 14, 2007 InterContinental Toronto Centre 225 Front St. W., Toronto

Are your employees engaged? Are they satisfied that their employer cares about the quality of work life and organizational culture? As an employer looking for answers to these questions, it is important to carefully consider exactly what it is you wish to measure. Subsequently, how do you make the most impact once you obtain those measures? Join us to learn about the tools and resources you can use when determining what it is your organization should be measuring and how this can be accomplished.

Participants will hear success stories from hospitals that have used the Healthy Hospital Employee Survey with the OHA's partner, the Brock Workplace Health Research Laboratory, how these organizations implemented their specific action plans, and the results they have observed following implementation of their targeted actions. For further information, contact Sara Simone at [ssimone@oha.com](mailto:ssimone@oha.com) or 416-205-1314.

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# OHA Conferences (continued)

## Region 4 Annual Meeting and Educational Conference September 20 & 21, 2007 Niagara Falls

New and exciting changes have been made to the format of the OHA's annual Region 4 Educational Conference. With even more time dedicated to discussion and networking throughout the sessions, delegates will have an unprecedented opportunity to work with their colleagues to identify the challenges facing their hospitals and discuss how these challenges can be met. Session topics have been tailored to focus on the timely issues of governance and community engagement, LHINs, ALC challenges, and e-Health strategies. Short keynote presentations from industry experts about these issues will be followed by round table discussions.

This two-day conference promises to be interactive and dynamic, offering delegates a unique educational experience that blends learning with information-sharing. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywina [jgrzywina@oha.com](mailto:jgrzywina@oha.com) or 416-205-1341.

## OHA Region 1 Northwest Sub-Region Aboriginal Health Care Conference Building Collaborative Partnerships for Health Prosperity September 25, 26 & 27, 2007 Thunder Bay

Over the past few years, there has been an improved awareness and understanding of the importance of blending traditional healings and contemporary medicine into the provision of health care for Aboriginal peoples. This in-depth, multi-stakeholder conference will highlight opportunities and success stories of integration and coordination among providers of health care in the north.

This year's event will highlight: human resources planning and skills development; cultural sensitivity training for caregivers;

updates on current policy directions; a live telemedicine demonstration; patient and child safety; and, storytelling circles hosted by Native Elders. The closing keynote speaker will be award-winning Aboriginal singer-songwriter, Susan Aglukark. This event will also feature a poster display showcasing innovation and best practices in Aboriginal health care. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywina at [jgrzywina@oha.com](mailto:jgrzywina@oha.com) or 416-205-1341.

## Energy Monitoring, Targeting and Reporting: A New Way of Managing Health Care September 27 & 28 (Morning), 2007 CN Tower 301 Front St. W., Toronto

The OHA, in conjunction with Enbridge Gas Distribution and Union Gas, is pleased to present a new expanded version of Monitoring, Targeting and Reporting: A New Way of Managing Health Care (MT&R). MT&R is a powerful technique for managing the consumption of energy downward. It involves ongoing analysis of energy use in view of the key consumption drivers, such as weather and activity indicators, and is the basis for integrating energy efficiency into your organization's management structure. In this two-day, highly interactive and hands-on workshop, participants will gain a working knowledge of the principles and analytic methods as well as practical skills needed to implement MT&R in their organizations. After completing the course, participants will be in a position to make reasoned choices about the various commercial energy information management tools available in today's marketplace. For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at [mbavaro@oha.com](mailto:mbavaro@oha.com) or 416-205-1309.



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