

Executive Report

August 8, 2007

Report from the OHA

Amendments to Health Protection and Promotion Act now in force

On August 7, 2007, a number of the provisions of Schedule F of the *Health System Improvements Act*, which amends the *Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA)*, were proclaimed into force. Provisions in force include a new Part VI.I of the HPPA, which sets out the provincial public health powers and provides public health officials with the authority to prevent an immediate risk to human health, such as a public health emergency, through the issuance of orders. This new Part includes:

- the ability of the Minister to designate temporary isolation facilities;
- order-making powers related to the emergency procurement of medication and supplies;
- directives to health care providers for procedures and precautions to be followed;
- the collection of laboratory specimens; and
- the creation of the position of the Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health.

In addition to the sections which are in force as of August 7, a number of later proclamation dates have also been announced. The provisions dealing with an outbreak of a communicable disease at a public hospital or other institutions, and the order making powers of a medical officer of health associated with such an outbreak, come into force on January 1, 2008. The provisions related to proceedings to prohibit contravention of an order will also come into force on January 1, 2008. A number of backgrounders, which outline the amendments set out in the *Health System Improvements Act*, can be found on the Ontario Hospital Association's (OHA) website at www.oha.com under "Communications – Legislative Issues and Analysis."

For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at mradolli@oha.com or 416-205-1322.

Mandatory Blood Testing Act Proclaimed in Force

On August 10, 2007, the *Mandatory Blood Testing Act, 2006* will become law. The Act, which received Royal Assent in December, 2006, repeals and replaces section 22.1 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.

The current provisions set out the process by which certain prescribed persons who may have come into contact with a bodily substance of another person can apply to have blood samples taken from that individual to determine if they have been infected with a prescribed disease. The new provisions shorten the length of time for the entire process (from the time of initial application to the time an order is given), from approximately 70 days, in some instances, to 19 days. The period for voluntary compliance to give a blood sample is reduced from seven to two days.

The bill will also transfer the power to make an order from the medical officer of health to the Consent and Capacity Board (CCB). The CCB is required to hold and conclude a hearing within seven days after an application is referred to it (unless the parties agree otherwise). The CCB is required to give its decision within one day and the decision of the CCB is final and not subject to appeal.

A backgrounder summarizing the bill will be available on the OHA's website under "Communications – Legislative Issues and Analysis."

For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at mradolli@oha.com or 416-205-1322.

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Report from the OHA (continued)

MOHLTC's Survey on N95 Respirators Extended until August 17th

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) would like to thank all hospitals who have completed the Pandemic Stockpile survey on N95 respirators, fit-testing, and fit-testing results to date. For those hospitals who have not yet submitted their response to the survey, there is still an opportunity to do so, as the date has been extended to August 17, 2007. The purpose of the survey is to support the MOHLTC in making an informed decision as they plan for the provincial pandemic stockpile.

The survey is to be filled out at an organizational level rather than an individual level and should take into account all staff in your organization - i.e. full-time, part-time, contract, casual, and those such as doctors who may not have employee status. Please note that all information will remain confidential and only be shared in aggregate form.

A link to the survey was included in this week's OHA Executive Update email; a member login is required.

For further information, contact Karen Sequeira at ksequeira@oha.com or 416-205-1328.

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 before **Friday, September 14, 2007**, delegates can take advantage of the early registration discount and save \$100. Register online at 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.

Report on Health Care

New Partnership Formed to Encourage Resource Sharing

The Western Ontario Health Knowledge Network (WOHKN) is an exciting new partnership that has been formed by Western Libraries at the University of Western Ontario and the following University of Western Ontario affiliated hospitals: Grey Bruce Health Services, Shared Library Services Member Hospitals, London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care London.

WOHKN was created to facilitate the provision of excellent library services by enhancing education, research, and evidence-based clinical practice at the WOHKN partner sites. A key objective of this initiative is to share resources, coordinate and align services, and facilitate electronic access to evidence-based health information as a cost-neutral quality endeavour. WOHKN is a voluntary partnership and a cost neutral initiative that has not been mandated or externally funded.

New Research Coalition Formed

In consultation with six other research institutes/centres in Ontario, the Elisabeth Bruyère Research Institute will be part of the new Ontario Coalition of Research Institutes/Centres on Health and Aging. The Coalition has been established to promote the maintenance of critical masses of researchers, contribute to overall capacity for research on health and aging, and stimulate and facilitate the creation of partnerships of institutes/centres to work on priority research topics on health and aging in Ontario.

The Coalition's ultimate mission is to increase knowledge to promote successful aging, prevent or delay the expression of the components of frailty and its harmful consequences, and improve care and the organization of health services for older adults including those living in long-term care homes.

The MOHLTC has approved annual funding of \$300,000 per year for three years to support the work of the Coalition.

For more information on the Research Coalition, contact Deirdre Luesby at 613-562-4262 ext 1654, or Dr. Larry Chambers at 613-562-4262 ext 4059.

CMHA, Ontario Shares Key Election Issues for Mental Health

The Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario has identified five key mental health messages for the provincial election coming in October and has released fact sheets about each message. CMHA, Ontario is encouraging everyone concerned about mental health issues to use these fact sheets in discussions with local candidates.

The key messages include:

- continue to expand mental health funding;
- raise the Ontario Disability Support Program rates;
- increase affordable and supportive housing;
- improve funding for Consumer Survivor Initiatives; and
- provide dedicated funding for family peer support programs and family organizations.

The fact sheets and the CMHA, Ontario's partnership pre-election document are available online at www.ontario.cmha.ca/election2007.



Executive Announcements

The Board of Directors of the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. David Henry** as President and Chief Executive Officer, beginning September 4, 2007.

Dr. Melanie Crozier, CCFP, EM recently relocated back to Sarnia to begin work as a full-

time emergency doctor at Bluewater Health's – Mitton Site Emergency Department, effective July 1, 2007.

The Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance is pleased to announce the appointment of **Bill Scott** to the Board of Directors, effective June 2007.

Chad Hanna has been appointed as the new President and CEO of the Rouge Valley Health System Foundation, effective August 20, 2007.

At Humber River Regional Hospital, **Dr. Charles Radzinski** replaces **Dr. Jack Barkin** (Chief of Staff) as the new Head of Urology.

Report from Queen's Park

New Provincial Organ Donation Strategy Unveiled

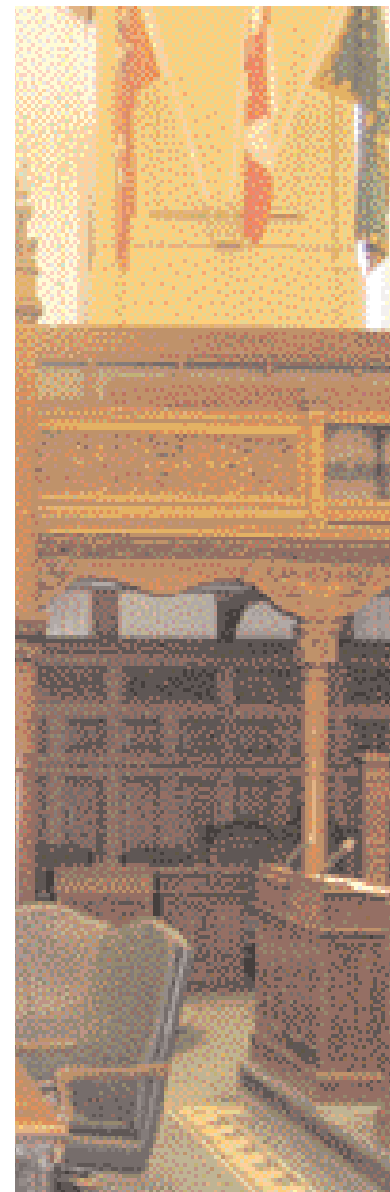
The Government of Ontario has developed a new organ donation strategy that will increase organ donations by encouraging more living donations, educating the general public about organ donation, and ensuring organ donors' wishes are respected. The new strategy involves:

- establishing a fund (managed by the Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN) in conjunction with transplant hospitals) to cover pre-approved living donation-related expenses;
- allowing living donors to be connected with compatible recipients through the creation of a living organ donor database (administered by TGLN and transplant hospitals);
- consulting employer and labour groups on providing job security for living donors with legislative protection;

- improving public awareness;
- making information that identifies people who expressed their wishes to donate their organs after death available to hospitals; and,
- including education material about organ donation and the central database in health care renewal mandates.

The Citizens Panel was established by the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care in 2006. The panel held public meetings and discussion groups in communities across Ontario from November, 2006 to February, 2007. Over 2,000 responses were received, which contributed to the development of the panel's report released in April, 2007.

Ontario currently has 1,743 people on waiting lists for much-needed, life-saving transplants.



OHA Conferences

Institute for Health Care Financial Managers
September 10 & 11, 2007
Renaissance Toronto Hotel Airport
801 Dixon Rd., Toronto

Together, the OHA and the Health Care Financial Managers Association have designed a conference to address health care issues, improve business performance and review finance issues in the transformation of the health care system. Featured speakers [Evan Solomon](#) and [Leonard Brody](#) will provide creative approaches to managing the complex challenges of 21st century business leadership, innovation and competitiveness. Other featured speakers include: [Gary Peall](#), [Susan Klein](#), [Stephen Priddle](#), [Don Drummond](#), [Hy Eliasoph](#), [Jim Stonehouse](#), [Dan Wright](#), and [Linda Duxbury](#).

For further information, contact [Shannon Byck Munday](#) at sbyckmunday@oha.com or 416-205-1357.

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](#).

For further information, contact [Joanne Grzywna](#) jgrzywna@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

OHA Annual Nutrition and Food Services
Conference: New Standards, New Strategy
October 1, 2007
Radisson Admiral Hotel
249 Queens Quay W., Toronto

Join us at this annual conference as fellow food and nutrition leaders from across the province explore the latest developments, cutting-edge trends and critical issues facing the health care nutrition and food services industry. Chaired by [Cathy Paroschy Harris](#), Director, Nutrition and Food Services, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, this year's conference will highlight current issues, including Lean Six Sigma, new standards in accreditation, the "Total Green" Kitchen by [William Inman](#) of Inman Foodservice Group, risk management, and service excellence: where we are now and what is ahead? This conference attracts the active participation of our industry service providers and is a great opportunity to network and brainstorm with leaders in the health care food service industry while also learning more about the latest in products or service developments.

For further information, contact [Sara Simone](#) at ssimone@oha.com or 416-205-1314.

Emergency Preparedness: Responding to
CBRN Incidents
October 10 & 11, 2007
Metro Toronto Convention Centre (North)
255 Front St., W., Toronto

Pre-Conference Workshop, October 10, 2007

Attendees have the opportunity to attend a half-day pre-conference workshop to participate in an Emergency Operations Centre tabletop exercise and a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Decontamination Simulation.

Attendance for this pre-conference workshop is limited and early registration is recommended.

Conference, October 11, 2007

Ontario hospitals play a role in responding to the health impacts of CBRN incidents, whether they are natural or deliberate in nature. As part of the MOHLTC's Emergency Preparedness agenda, all Ontario hospitals that provide emergency/urgent care have received CBRN supplies and equipment, and should be in the process of completing their operational level training. The

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OHA Conferences (continued)

principles of the program include ensuring provincial standardization, inter/intra-operability, and consistent training across facilities.

For further information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at sbyckmunday@oha.com or 416-205-1357.

Through the Looking Glass – The Next Frontier of Accountability and Transparency in Health Care

October 15, 2007

Radisson Admiral Hotel

249 Queen's Quay W., Toronto

In a time of high demand for service, limited budgets, increased media coverage, and a more engaged public, everyone involved in health care is being called on to be accountable for the work they do. Recently, transparency and accountability have undergone examination by both federal and provincial quality councils, have been the subject of targeted reviews by the Provincial Auditor and have been the impetus for a number of key legislative initiatives.

This conference promises to be an informative event featuring informed perspectives on transparency and accountability in a publicly-funded health care system. Sessions will provide insight into the most responsible ways to serve Ontario's patients, meet the expectations and obligations of a public hospital system, and plan for what is emerging on Ontario's health care horizon.

For further information, contact Sara Simone at ssimone@oha.com or 416-205-1314.

Patient Safety Course

October 18 & October 19, 2007

Ontario Hospital Association

200 Front St. W, Suite 2800, Toronto

The patient safety movement was significantly spurred by the Institute of Medicine's report, *To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System 1999*, the creation of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute in 2003, the *Canadian Adverse Events Study* (The Baker Norton report) and the development of the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA's) Patient Safety goals in 2005. The goal of this course is to build on this momentum by providing theoretical knowledge by presenting safety principles and evidence-based practices via tools, case studies and examples of applications designed to assist participants to develop their own patient safety programs.

For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at mbavaro@oha.com or 416-205-1309.

Certificate in Leading Board Committees

October 23, 2007

Holiday Inn on King

370 King St. W., Toronto

This one-day certificate course is designed for incoming committee chairs and/or existing chairs to assist them with their leadership roles. The course is a combination of lecture and interactive case studies covering topics such as the current health care landscape, the role of board committees, including that of the committee chair, relationship management, meeting management, risk management, and the skills required to lead high performing committees. Participants will benefit from discussions and insights from both peers and governance experts on how to effectively fulfil their role as leaders and to be effective team members on their boards.

For further information, contact Josie Mazzola at jmazzola@oha.com or 416-205-1356.



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Executive Report

The Executive Report is a weekly publication of the OHA

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