

Executive Report

February 8, 2007

Report from the OHA

OHA HealthAchieve2007 Underway Planning

The official hotels of the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) HealthAchieve2007 (taking place November 5, 6, and 7, 2007 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre) have been arranged. Mark your calendars to attend the exciting conference and book your hotel accommodations today! Rooms are available on a first come, first served basis. Participants are encouraged to book early to ensure their choice of hotel. When making hotel reservations, be sure to identify yourself as a delegate attending OHA HealthAchieve2007 to qualify for the special hotel rates. A list of official hotels can be found on the HealthAchieve2007 website under “Event Details – Hotel Information.”

For more information, visit www.ohahealthachieve.com, or contact Kumanie Perera at kperera@oha.com or 416-205-1361.

Introducing OHA’s New e-Health Leadership Council

Building from its strategic plan, the OHA has created an e-Health Leadership Council. The OHA is committed to e-Health as an important enabler of integrated patient care and strengthened health system performance. The e-Health Leadership Council will assist the OHA as it champions lasting health system partnerships, drives innovation and advances health policy solutions. The e-Health Leadership Council replaces the previous government-funded Hospital e-Health Council and is now more closely linked to the OHA’s CEO and Board of Directors. By assuming full management of the e-Health Leadership Council, the OHA is better positioned to effectively and proactively pursue its renewed strategic directions. The arrangement also serves to strengthen the OHA’s e-Health department and its contribution to OHA public affairs.

The e-Health Leadership Council is led by Chair Pat Campbell, President and CEO of Grey Bruce Health Services, and Vice Chair Sam Marafioti, Vice President, Corporate Strategy and Development and CIO at Sunnybrook Health Sciences. In addition to senior hospital representatives, the Council’s membership reflects the Council’s mandate to support integration

by including partners throughout the health care sector.

For further information, contact Anthony Jonker at ajonker@oha.com or 416-205-1601.

Reminder *Hospital Perspectives* Call for Submissions

As mentioned in an earlier edition of the *Executive Report*, the OHA plans to distribute the spring edition of *Hospital Perspectives* in April 2007. The publication will focus on mental health, mental illness and addiction services. The OHA is seeking stories that showcase the initiatives, accomplishments and strides care providers across Ontario are achieving with their mental health programs. Articles should demonstrate the significant value and success of mental health care in improving quality of life for patients.

If you are an OHA member and would like to submit an article about mental health care achievements in your area, contact Amy Ouellette at aouellette@oha.com or 416-205-1433.

Submissions should not exceed 800 words and should be accompanied with high resolution photographs. The submission deadline is February 23, 2007.

OHA Election Document Available for Members

In keeping with its strategic direction and as a means for positively influencing the province’s health policy agenda over the next five years, the OHA has developed a plan to engage in direct policy advocacy leading up to and during the 2007 Ontario General Election. The centrepiece of the OHA’s plan is *Inspiring Health Care Innovation: Policy Ideas for Ontario’s Health Care System* developed from extensive consultation with OHA members. The plan is intended to be a meaningful contribution to the discussion of health care policy options leading up to the 2007 provincial elections.

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Report from the OHA

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Copies of the plan were sent directly by mail to Hospital CEOs and Board Chairs in January. The plan will soon be made available to OHA members at www.oha.com. In following weeks, the plan will also become publicly available and will be used to engage key decision-makers within Ontario's mainstream political parties and among the media to both showcase and advance the ideas for system-level reforms and investments embedded throughout the plan.

The OHA remains committed to health system reform and will use the plan to encourage better integration, safety and responsiveness for the patients we serve.

For further information, contact Anthony Dale at adale@oha.com or 416-205-1348.

Farewell to a Friend

With great sadness, the health care sector says goodbye to a dear friend and colleague, Mr. Peter Carruthers. Mr. Carruthers, who passed away on February 2, 2007, was a distinguished health care administrator and consultant for many years in Winnipeg and throughout Ontario. He served as Chair of the Board of the Ontario Hospital Association during 1983-84.

Report on Health Care

Laparoscopic Bariatric Program Becomes First Medical Centre of Excellence in Ontario

On Friday February 2, 2007, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, George Smitherman announced that Humber River Regional Hospital's (HRRH) Laparoscopic Bariatric Program has been designated the province's first medical centre of excellence. Under the announcement, HRRH will increase its access to bariatric surgery from 48 cases annually to 273 cases. The hospital will also assume the lead role in managing the province's wait list for this vital medical procedure and will build on its existing partnership with the University of Toronto in training more Ontario surgeons in laparoscopic surgical techniques.

Toronto International Symposium on Critical Care re-Launches as the Critical Care Canada Forum.

The Toronto International Symposium on Critical Care announced that it has changed its name to the Critical Care Canada Forum.

The new name is intended to reflect the growth in critical care medicine that has occurred over the past ten years across the country.

Bridgepoint's Redevelopment Project Continues to Gain Momentum

The Bridgepoint Health redevelopment project is gaining momentum with its architect company now in place to lead the planning, design and compliance aspects of the project. The redevelopment plan calls for the building of a complex care and complex rehabilitation hospital specially designed for patients affected by diseases and disabilities such as multiple sclerosis, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, acquired brain injury, stroke, cancer, end stage kidney disease, and other complex illnesses. It will also provide improved rehabilitation capacity for important procedures like hip and knee surgeries and other treatments required by an aging population. Once complete, the Bridgepoint redevelopment project will allow the hospital to provide 21st century health care to the fastest growing segment of health system users - people with complex chronic disease and disability.

Executive Announcements

Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC) President and CEO **Paul Darby** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Sheila Hamilton** to the position of Vice President, Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Officer and the promotion of **Lisa Ruston** to the position of Corporate Director, Surgical Services & Quality Lead. They will begin their new roles March 5, 2007.

Carrie Hayward has been appointed Director of the new Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Liaison Branch in the Health System Accountability and Performance Division of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. In her new role, Ms. Hayward will provide leadership in formalizing the relationship between the ministry and the 14 LHINs.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care announced last week that **Pier Falotico** has been appointed Director of the new Financial Management Branch in the Corporate and Direct Services Division. Mr. Falotico will be responsible for the financial management and processing of transactions of with the LHINs and other programs retained by the ministry.

Report from Parliament Hill

Health Council of Canada Reports Difficulty in Evaluating Health Care Renewal Progress

The Health Council of Canada concluded in its annual report to Canadians that while federal, provincial and territorial governments are making gains on some commitments to renew health care, Canadians are still not getting the detailed information they need to measure progress in improving health care.

The Health Council's third annual report to Canadians was released February 1, 2007 and tracks the progress governments have made in meeting commitments such as reforming primary

health care, reducing wait times and health inequalities, modernizing health information systems, and improving drug coverage. While there is good news to share, the Health Council was struck by the lack of comparable data and the prevalence of inconsistent reporting across the country.

The Council will be working closely in the coming months with governments, stakeholders, and the policy and research communities to develop a clearer picture of health care renewal.



OHA Conferences

Certificate for Implementing the Guide to Good Governance - March 29, 2007

Ontario Hospital Association,
200 Front Street West, Toronto, ON

This one-day certificate program is designed for governance committee chairs, board chairs or individuals entering those roles. It will give participants a deeper understanding of the factors influencing good governance. Participants will identify areas for

improvement in the functioning of their boards and in creating governance development plans. This program will be particularly beneficial if attended by the Board Chair 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.

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

OHA Conferences (cont'd)

Emergency Preparedness: Responding to CBRN Incidents - March 29 - March 30, 2007 Metro Toronto Convention Centre (North Building), 255 Front Street West, Toronto

The OHA presents the following pre-conference workshop and conference as part of the *Emergency Preparedness* series. The sessions will provide attendees with a forum to learn about leading practices in Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) planning and response from local and international leaders.

Pre-Conference Workshop, March 29, 2007

Attendees have the opportunity to attend a half-day pre-conference workshop to participate in an Emergency Operations Centre table-top exercise and a CBRN Decontamination Simulation. Attendance for this pre-conference workshop is limited and early registration is recommended.

Conference, March 30, 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 Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care'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 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.

A Culture of Safety in Health Care North West Sub-Region Conference, April 11-13, 2007, Thunder Bay

North East/North Central Sub-Region Conference, April 25-27, 2007, North Bay

Issues like SARS and pandemic influenza have moved patient

safety to the forefront of today's health care organizations. Leadership in developing, promoting, implementing and evaluating safety components is essential for delivering effective patient care. Organizations must have established safety programs and procedures not only to recruit and retain staff, but to be leaders in the health care sector. This year's program has been designed to explore the culture of safety that exists in health care today and ways in which your organization can improve and move forward. Topics will include: staff safety, patient safety, trustee and governance issues, accreditation, evaluation of senior executives, labour relation best practices, respect and safety in the workplace, and a LHINs update. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna at jgrzywna@oha.com or 416-205-1341.

Exploring a New Era in Critical Care Design, Delivery and Evaluation Ontario's Critical Care Strategy - Year One Results - April 25, 2007, Toronto

The demand for critical care is increasing dramatically due to Ontario's growing and aging population. Costs for new pharmaceuticals and technologies are on the rise. Patient expectations are increasing, despite a limited public understanding of the nature of critical care services. As a result, the Ontario Critical Care Steering Committee was formed to review the state of critical care in Ontario and in 2005 released its report, including 33 recommendations for change. Now, one year later, the Critical Care Strategy has made considerable progress. Ministry leaders, Hugh MacLeod, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health System Accountability and Performance Division, and Dr. Bernard Lawless, Provincial Lead, Critical Care and Trauma, remain committed to ongoing dialogue with the field related to the unfolding strategy design. They have partnered with the OHA for a three-part conference series as an opportunity to continue open dialogue. Join us for part one and get an overview on Ontario's Critical Care Strategy. For further information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at sbyckmunday@oha.com or 416-205-1357.



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The Executive Report is a weekly publication of the OHA

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