

# Executive Report

January 25, 2007

## Report from the OHA

### Records Retention Guidelines Now Available

The Ontario Hospital Association's (OHA) *Records Retention Guidelines* - developed to familiarize hospitals with their legal obligations in retaining hospital records - will be available for purchase on Friday, January 26, 2007.

Prepared for the OHA by Borden Ladner Gervais, LLP, the guidelines set out both the required and recommended retention periods for corporate, financial, human resources, and patient care hospital records. In addition, the guidelines include a concise, easy-to-read table that provides users quick reference with the legal basis and rationales for the outlined retention periods.

Additional copies of the *Records Retention Guidelines* can be purchased through the OHA website under "Communications - Publications for Sale."

For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at [mradolli@oha.com](mailto:mradolli@oha.com) or 416-205-1322.

### Hospital Perspectives Spring 2007 Edition - Call for Submissions

The next edition of the OHA's *Hospital Perspectives* publication will be distributed in April 2007. This spring edition 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 in mental health services. Articles should demonstrate the significant value and the successes of mental health care that improve 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](mailto: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.

### Reminder for Alternate-Level-of-Care Surveys

The OHA has been involved in a number of ongoing initiatives to monitor the Alternate-Level-of-Care (ALC) issues occurring throughout Ontario hospitals. For the past two-years, the OHA has been part of a multi-stakeholder group that has provided advice to government and worked on a strategy to address ALC issues. The OHA has also been communicating with senior Ministry officials to assist in developing both immediate and long-term solutions to this serious problem. The OHA's goal is to continue providing advice and constructive suggestions based on the valuable feedback hospitals provide.

Last week, the OHA sent out an urgent survey to hospital CEOs in an effort to gather the most accurate facts and evidence that will assist with assessing the levels of ALC patients at Ontario hospitals and provide estimations for any unused bed capacity that may exist in the system. CEOs are asked to return completed surveys to [ohadata@oha.com](mailto:ohadata@oha.com) by January 25, 2007. For further information, contact Lou Reidel at [lreidel@oha.com](mailto:lreidel@oha.com) or 416-205-1320.

### New Report on LHIN Funding

The OHA released a report on January 24, 2007 that examines new options for funding Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and hospitals. The report entitled, "Shaping the Future through Funding Strategies," comes at a critical juncture in the development of LHIN funding policies by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. LHINs are slated to assume funding authority from the Ministry later this year.

The report outlines the OHA's preferred method for determining the size of LHIN budgets and determining how LHINs will allocate their budgets among providers, considering tools like service-based funding.

A copy of the report can be found on the OHA website at [www.oha.com](http://www.oha.com), "Communications - Reports & Studies."

For further information, contact Andrea Gabber at [agabber@oha.com](mailto:agabber@oha.com) or 416-205-1303.

# Report on Health Care

## New Emergency Department Opens in Niagara Falls

The Jeff Morgan Emergency Department officially opened its doors on January 16, 2007, offering enhanced and new services to the residents of Niagara Falls and surrounding area in a larger, modern facility that is a model for Canada.

The new emergency department, built onto the front of the Greater Niagara General (GNG) site of the Niagara Health System (NHS), replaces the previous 8,700 sq. ft. department that could no longer accommodate the 50,000 emergency visits GNG receives each year. The new 18,000-square-foot emergency department was built with future needs in mind and can accommodate 65,000 patient visits per year.

“Our health-care team at the Greater Niagara General Site now has access to the latest facilities and equipment they require to provide quality care to our patients,” says **Debbie Sevenpifer**, NHS President and Chief Executive Officer.

## The Ottawa Hospital Pilots New Wait Time Information System

**Dr. Alan Hudson**, head of Ontario’s Wait Time Strategy, visited The Ottawa Hospital on January 16, 2007 to showcase the new Wait Time Information System.

The new system allows doctors and administrators to monitor the number of patients waiting for a specific procedure and to adjust schedules so that patients are treated in the most timely manner possible.

## Inter-Professional Guide Now Available

The Federation of Health Regulatory Colleges of Ontario (FHRCO) Practice Standards Working Group has developed a guide to address the complex questions and variances related to the use of orders – both direct orders and medical directives –

among the different professions and practice settings in the province. The guide facilitates inter-professional care (in accordance with regulatory and legislative requirements) and is designed to assist professionals fulfill the guidelines and regulations developed by health profession colleges.

The guide is based on a framework of the fundamental cornerstones of health professional practice: public protection and

patient safety achieved through regulated health professions done independently and interdependently and in accordance with the expectations of professional practice.

Each of the health profession colleges will review the guide for approval and will make it available to members at each college’s discretion. Health professionals should check with their individual colleges about the availability of the guide. [For further information about the guide, visit www.medicaldirectives-delegation.com.](http://www.medicaldirectives-delegation.com)

## Chief Privacy Officer One of the First to be Accredited

**Marnie Fletcher**, Chief Privacy Officer at St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton, has become one of the first in the Canadian hospital sector to be credentialed as a Certified Information Privacy Professional.

The International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), the largest association of privacy professionals in the world, recently



developed the first international certification for Canada. The Certified Information Privacy Professional/Canada (CIPP/C) is a credential that combines international privacy considerations with the needs of Canadian privacy professionals.

Ms. Fletcher was one of more than 300 people who wrote the examination at the IAPP Conference held in Toronto in October of 2006.

# Executive Announcements

**Cheryl Englander**, Chair of the Board of Directors for The Credit Valley Hospital, announced the extension of **Wayne Fyffe's** contract as President and CEO. Mr. Fyffe agreed to delay his retirement for one year and will retire on August 31, 2008.

The Boards of Directors of Groves Memorial Community Hospital and North Wellington Health Care welcome **Mr. Jerome Quenneville** as President and Chief Executive Officer of the

Wellington Health Care Alliance. Mr. Quenneville assumes his position on February 5, 2007.

**Dr. Paul Eisenbarth** is returning to the Hanover area to fill the newly created post of Chief of Emergency at the Hanover and District Hospital. The new chief of the Emergency Room (ER) will work full time in emergency, alleviating a staff shortage problem that has been plaguing the ER for some time.

The Board of Directors of Rouge Valley Health System is pleased to announce the appointment of **Rik Ganderton** as Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of Rouge Valley Health System. Mr. Ganderton will act as Interim President and CEO until a permanent replacement is named. **Natalie Bubela**, who was appointed acting CEO on November 28, 2006, will return to her role as Vice President of Programs and Support Services.

## Report from Queen's Park

### Evaluation of New Cancer Treatment Receives Funding

The Government of Ontario will fund a two-year evaluation of photopheresis, a new cancer treatment that will benefit some bone marrow transplant patients or people with an advanced form of lymph node cancer, Health and Long-Term Care Minister **George Smitherman** announced last week.

Photopheresis will specifically benefit bone marrow transplant patients who have chronic graft-versus-host-disease and have not benefited from other treatments. It will also benefit patients with advanced treatment-resistant Cutaneous T Cell Lymphoma.

Based on recommendations from the Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee, the government is providing the University Health Network (UHN) with more than \$5.1 million in funding to conduct a field evaluation. The hospital began accepting patients this month and it's expected that approximately 50 patients will be treated each year.

### Ministry Announces Colorectal Cancer Screening Funding

The Ontario government is launching a screening program that will assist in the early detection of colorectal cancer, Health and Long-Term Care Minister **George Smitherman** announced January 23, 2007.

Over the next five years, the Ontario government will implement Canada's first province-wide screening program, which was developed in collaboration with Cancer Care Ontario, to provide early detection of colorectal cancer - an initiative that will help save the lives of Ontarians who may be at risk. Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of death from cancer in Canadian men and women, yet it is one of the most preventable cancers.



# OHA Conferences

Cancer Services in Ontario  
February 22, 2007  
Holiday Inn on King,  
370 King Street West, Toronto

Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in Ontario. The growing burden of cancer requires a cancer system that is seamless and ensures integrated regional strategies are in place. This one day conference will focus on the strengths and weaknesses in the cancer system and will review system performance and innovations in cancer treatment. This conference is planned in partnership with Cancer Care Ontario. For further information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at [sbyckmunday@oha.com](mailto:sbyckmunday@oha.com) or 416-205-1357.

Improving Access to Emergency Care  
March 26, 2007  
Holiday Inn on King,  
370 King Street West, Toronto

This timely conference will explore the latest tools and methods for optimizing emergency department efficiency. The lecturers bring enthusiasm and vision to the topics of improved Emergency Room (ER) quality and efficiency, re-structuring the ER environment and patient care systems, and processes that improve patient outcomes and reduce lengths of stay. The conference will address a variety of key issues including assessing and improving the ER department environment for better flow and shorter length of stay, patient flow and surge

capacity protocols, and the future of automating triage. The session will review the first made-in-Canada electronic triage tool designed around the 2004 CTAS Revisions.

For further information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at [sbyckmunday@oha.com](mailto: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 the development, promotion, implementation and evaluation of safety components is essential for the delivery of 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 LHINs update. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna at [jgrzywna@oha.com](mailto:jgrzywna@oha.com) or 416-205-1341 or 1-800-598-8002 ext. 1341



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