

# Executive Report

June 13, 2007

## Report from the OHA

### OHA President and CEO to Retire in December 2007

On June 13, 2007, *Ruthe-Anne Conyngham*, Chair of the Ontario Hospital Association's (OHA) Board of Directors, announced that OHA President and CEO *Hilary Short* will retire in December 2007.

"When Hilary became President and CEO five years ago, the OHA was facing a number of serious challenges as an organization, and Ontario's hospital and health care systems were on the cusp of the most significant period of transition in a generation," said Conyngham. "Under Hilary's leadership, the OHA today has the people, the plan and the resources it needs to remain one of North America's premier advocacy associations, and Ontario's hospital system is well-positioned to meet the challenges of the future."

Hilary Short joined the OHA in 1973 as a junior member of its communications staff, and went on to serve as Vice President, Policy and Public Affairs and Chief Operating Officer, before being appointed Acting President and CEO in 2002. Short was confirmed as the OHA's President and CEO in 2003.

"It has been my privilege to serve Ontario's hospitals - places where miracles happen - through the OHA," said Short. "My years with the OHA have been challenging and deeply fulfilling from both a professional and personal perspective, and I would like to thank the OHA's Board of Directors, Members and staff for their friendship and support."

Since becoming President and CEO, Short has led:

- The development of "Inspiring the Future," the OHA's new strategic directions
- The re-orientation of the OHA's internal human resources strategies and programs to make the OHA an employer of choice
- The renewal and transformation of The Change Foundation (TCF), the OHA-affiliated health research foundation
- The creation of the OHAfrica project, which provides anti-retroviral drug treatments in the African Kingdom of Lesotho, a nation with the third-highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the world
- The publication of "*Inspiring Ideas and Innovation*," a forward-looking set of ideas designed to contribute to and influence the ongoing health policy debate in Ontario

In addition to her responsibilities at the OHA, Short serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of COTA Health, a provider of community-based home care and mental health services, and is a member of the Board of the Hospice Association of Ontario. Short is also actively involved with the Canadian Healthcare Association and is a Certified Health Executive with the Canadian College of Health Service Executives.

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# Report from the OHA (continued)

Short will remain with the OHA until December in order to advocate strongly on behalf of hospitals and patients through the 2007 Ontario General Election and to help advance key patient safety, quality and governance initiatives.

The OHA's Board of Directors will undertake an executive search for a new President and CEO. More information about that process will be made available in the weeks ahead.

## OHA Preparing 2007 e-Health Adoption Survey

The OHA is preparing its annual *Ontario Hospitals Connected for Care: e-Health Adoption Survey* for distribution later this month. Given the survey's success over the past two years and the increasingly prominent role of e-Health in Ontario, all hospitals are encouraged to participate.

A key component of Ontario's e-Health vision is establishing shareable electronic data to improve the quality, access, accountability, and coordination of health services. To support this, the OHA has developed the e-Health survey to measure hospitals' level of readiness for e-Health adoption. The survey will enable the OHA to evaluate the progress of Ontario's hospitals from year to year and to analyze the possible causes for gaps in Ontario's e-Health adoption.

For participating hospitals, the survey will provide an opportunity to evaluate the level of e-Health adoption in relation to other hospitals; identify strengths and vulnerabilities for individual organizations in foundational e-Health areas; and, allow hospitals to learn from and leverage the successes of peer organizations. The information from the survey will also help the OHA better assist struggling hospitals to realize the benefits of e-Health.

This year, the OHA has implemented a customized online survey tool that will allow for easy completion by various respondents within an organization, as well as the ability to print responses. The OHA has also applied previous hospital feedback that will enhance the reporting of the survey results. This year's analysis will be more concise and practical, with a focus on e-Health and how it relates to Patient Safety and Integration of Care. Survey results and additional high-level analysis will also be highlighted and expanded on in the new OHA e-Health newsletter, *Interface*.

In preparation for the online launch of the survey at the end of June 2007, identified survey coordinators from previous surveys were contacted in early May to confirm their contact information.

For further information, contact Martha Murray at [mmurray@oha.com](mailto:mmurray@oha.com) or 416-205-1312.

## Hospitals Receive Funding Increase

Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care George Smitherman announced last Friday that the government is renewing public health care with a 28.3 per cent increase in funding that will enable hospitals to deliver shorter wait times, increase access to doctors and nurses, and provide more critical health services to Ontarians. Hospitals will receive \$14.1 billion in operating funding this fiscal year, an increase of \$495 million or 3.7 per cent over last year. The OHA plans to advocate strongly for the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) to continue multi-year funding in the coming months.

For further information, contact Christopher McPherson at [cmcpherson@oha.com](mailto:cmcpherson@oha.com) or 416-205-1305.

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# Report from the OHA (continued)



## 2007 Leading Practices Display – Call for Submissions

OHA HealthAchieve2007, in cooperation with *Healthcare Quarterly*, invites submissions for Leading Practices Displays. The guidelines for the Leading Practices Displays (formerly known as International Best Practices) have been revised for 2007. Submissions should focus on the patient experience and will no longer be a poster display, but an electronic presentation.

The electronic Leading Practices Displays offer provinces, regions, hospitals, health care institutions and health management organizations – locally and abroad – the opportunity to share what they have done to improve the “patient experience” in health care. For patients, the definitive experience is a response to their needs as they define them; it typically includes the promotion of their safety and well-being, access to quality care, helpful information and the right to choose, be heard and collaborate with health professionals in a comfortable and functional environment. The environment includes facilities that are easy to find, reach and navigate and that offer appetizing food, clean linen, fine housekeeping, privacy, comfort, dignity, and a culture of wellness and healing.

The deadline for submissions is Friday, July 20, 2007. Visit the HealthAchieve2007 website at [www.ohahealthachieve.com/leadingpractices](http://www.ohahealthachieve.com/leadingpractices) for complete details and an online submission form. For further information, contact Lina Pallotta at [lpallotta@oha.com](mailto:lpallotta@oha.com) or 416-205-1357.

## 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

## Study Reviews Risks Associated with Antipsychotic Drugs

A new study by the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) shows that the use of newer atypical antipsychotics appears to be associated with an increased risk of death in older Ontarians with dementia.

Investigators tracked all Ontario residents 66 years of age and older with dementia between April 1997 and March 2003. The risk of death was determined at 30, 60, 120 and 180 days following the initial use of either typical or atypical antipsychotics in seniors who lived in the community, as well as those who lived in long-term care homes.

New use of atypical antipsychotic medications was associated with an increased risk of death at 30 days, relative to no antipsychotic use in both community-dwelling seniors and long-term care residents. This risk appeared to persist to 180 days in both groups. The study, “*Antipsychotic drug use and mortality among older adults with dementia*,” was supported by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) and the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC); it is in the June 5, 2007 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

## CHEO Surpasses Last Year’s Donations

The Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) held its 24th annual Telethon June 2 and 3, 2007 in conjunction with the Children’s Miracle Network telethons across North America. The grand total raised was \$5,382,140, surpassing last year’s total. Since 1984, the Telethon has raised over \$53 million. The money raised helps fund research, purchase new equipment, train staff, create a more child- and youth-friendly environment, enhance the paediatric nature of the hospital, and assist families in crisis.

## MHA Celebrates New Diabetes Education Centre

Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) Four Counties site recently held an open house to welcome guests to its newly renovated and expanded Diabetes Education Centre.

The MHA’s Diabetes Education Centre has locations at both the Four Counties and Strathroy sites and is staffed by Diabetes Educators, who are registered nurses and registered dietitians.

According to Dr. Phil Vandewalle, MHA’s medical advisor to the centre, the Diabetes Education Centre at Four Counties Health Services experienced a significant increase in patient visits during the last year.

## Southlake Regional Health Centre Hosts 2007 Golf Tournament

Southlake Regional Health Centre is pleased to host the 2007 OHA Golf Tournament at the Club at Bond Head golf course near Bradford on Wednesday, August 11, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. This year, an added special feature will be offered in which 20 keen golfers will be selected to participate in an early bird 9-hole event with an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start. Registration for this event is separate. Foursomes will be selected using a random draw. This tournament tends to fill quickly, so register soon to avoid disappointment. Requests will be honoured on a first come, first served basis. To guarantee your participation, receipt of your registration form accompanied by full payment (\$300/participant for OHA members; \$325/participant for non-OHA members) is required.

For registration forms or for more information, contact Terry Kuula at [tkuula@southlakeregional.org](mailto:tkuula@southlakeregional.org) or 905-895-4521, ext. 2260.



# Executive Announcements

The Board of Directors for the Ontario Association of Community Care Access Centres (OACCAC) is delighted to announce that **Margaret Mottershead** has been appointed CEO of the OACCAC. Ms. Mottershead will assume full responsibility as CEO immediately.

**Cheryl Englander** has stepped down as chair of the Credit Valley Hospital Board. Taking her place is **Geoff Watson**, who has been a member of the hospital Board for seven years. His term as Board Chair is for two years.

The Middlesex Hospital Alliance is pleased to announce that it has appointed **Dr. Paul G. Ferner** as the new Chief of Staff at its Strathroy Middlesex site.

The MOHLTC has appointed **Mark Rochon**, President and CEO of Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, as supervisor at Stevenson Memorial Hospital in Alliston to help the hospital better meet the health care needs of the local community.

## Report from Queen's Park

### Ontario Government Supports Trillium Health Centre

Last week, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced that the government is speeding up access to health care for people in Etobicoke and Mississauga by supporting the expansion of the Trillium Health Centre. Premier McGuinty joined hospital staff, community members and local officials to kick off construction at Trillium's Mississauga location. The government is supporting expansion projects at Trillium's Mississauga and West Toronto sites. The total cost of the redevelopment is \$146.4 million.

The new wing of Trillium Health Centre-Mississauga will include expanded cardiac care services, intensive care and coronary beds, as well as diagnostic and support services. The Trillium Health Centre-West Toronto project includes expansion of ambulatory surgical care facilities, redevelopment and expansion of the Urgent Care Centre, creation of a cancer detection and treatment facility, creation of healing gardens and expansion of a new south entrance.

Trillium Health Centre's redevelopment will help to improve health care by increasing access to cardiac catheterizations and cardiac surgeries.

### Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy Continues to Strengthen

The Government of Ontario recently celebrated the one-year anniversary of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, which came into effect on May 31, 2006.

The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and enclosed public places to protect workers and the public from the hazards of second-hand smoke.

The act is a major component of the provincial government's *Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy*, which has led to an 18.7 per cent reduction in tobacco consumption since 2003.

On May 31, 2008 the final phase of the act will take effect with a complete ban on the retail display of tobacco products.

Smoking kills an average of 16,000 people in Ontario each year. Tobacco-related diseases cost the Ontario health care system approximately \$1.6 billion a year, accounts for at least 500,000 hospital days each year and results in about \$4.4 billion in productivity losses.



# OHA Conferences

## Leading Innovations in Supply Chain Integration

June 18, 2007

Renaissance Toronto Hotel Downtown  
One Blue Jays Way, Toronto

This year's conference will focus on promoting quality health care through leading innovations in supply chain integration. Topics will feature today's leading practices, health care supply chain standards, pandemic planning, provincial audits of capital equipment, standardization of physician acceptance, e-Commerce, transaction standards and performance metrics. Participants will have the opportunity to pre-select from four concurrent sessions and take part in roundtable discussions. Participants will also enjoy presentations from speakers representing a variety of areas, including the MOHLTC, Ontario hospitals and supply chain management organizations. For further information, contact Sara Simone at [simone@oha.com](mailto:simone@oha.com) or 416-205-1314.

## Capital Planning Conference: 21st Century Planning and Project Delivery

June 22, 2007

Holiday Inn on King  
370 King St. W., Toronto

This year's conference will focus on 21st century planning and project delivery. Topics include:

- Next phase of the Renew Ontario plan
- Status of financing options
- Planning: Governance under the new project delivery model
  - Dealing with multiple partners, stakeholders and advisors
  - Lessons learned from the Niagara Health System
- 21st century planning and design: What will the structures of the future look like?
- Planning your AFP hospital: Challenges and early lessons learned
- Generic Output Specifications (GOS) - Planning, approval and procurement process

Participants will learn about the latest developments in capital planning and project delivery from speakers representing a

variety of perspectives including government, hospitals, architects, and Infrastructure Ontario. For further information, contact Sara Simone at [simone@oha.com](mailto:simone@oha.com) or 416-205-1314.

## The ALC Challenge - Making the Most of a Difficult Situation

June 22, 2007

InterContinental Toronto Centre  
225 Front St. W., Toronto

Ontario hospitals increasingly face challenges with discharging patients in need of alternate levels of care (ALC) in a timely fashion. This important new OHA conference will address the challenge of transitioning ALC patients to a more appropriate level of care by focusing on the problem as a capacity issue from a system-wide perspective.

Health care system leaders, planners, managers and providers are invited to attend, not only to obtain an understanding of the scale and scope of ALC challenges that lie ahead, but also to share the lessons learned through the many collaborative efforts and research initiatives already underway. During this one-day conference, participants will learn how to leverage system resources to achieve short-term solutions and to plan long-term strategies. For further information, contact Shannon Byck Munday at [sbyckmunday@oha.com](mailto:sbyckmunday@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 with remarkable results. Join us for our second annual conference about advancing the culture of family and patient centred care, organizational leadership, the quality of work-life and patient centred care, family presence, and the patient perspective. Among a number of presentations, participants will also hear from noted social activists, Michele Landsberg and Dr. Pat Straw, the Head of Patient and Public Partnership at Lothian University Hospitals NHS Trust in Edinburgh. For further information, contact Lina Pallotta at [lpallotta@oha.com](mailto:lpallotta@oha.com) or 416-205-1306.

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# OHA Conferences (continued)

## Leadership Certificate for Hospital Board Chairs

September 11 & 12, 2007,  
Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel  
Concluding on November 3, 2007  
Room 206, Metro Toronto Convention Centre

This three-day certificate course is designed for incoming and/or existing board chairs to prepare them for their leadership roles. Day one and two modules include: changes in the health care landscape; board mandate and accountability; the role of the board chair; building your board; relationship management; quality, financial and enterprise risk governance; meeting management; managing performance issues; governance renewal; and, providing performance feedback. The objective of day three is to apply the context and skills covered in the first two days to a series of integrated case scenarios. Insights from current board chairs and other governance experts on the tough issues hospital board chairs face will be incorporated into the case discussions. For more information, contact Josie Mazzola [jmazzola@oha.com](mailto:jmazzola@oha.com) or 416-205-1356.

## Leading Management Through Exemplary Leadership Level I Course

September 24, 25 and 26, 2007  
Holiday Inn on King  
370 King Street West, Toronto

The health care system is currently in a busy time of role clarification, relationship determination and system integration, and leaders must know how to motivate and inspire staff. This course will outline the latest thinking on how leaders can delegate, organize, guide and monitor workflow, and make more effective decisions through lectures and group discussions. The course's lessons will lead to practical steps for the participant to follow in developing systemized approaches for their management styles. For further information, contact Marisa Bavaro at [mbavaro@oha.com](mailto:mbavaro@oha.com) or 416-205-1309.

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

This in-depth, multi-stakeholder conference will highlight opportunities and success stories of integration and coordination among providers of health care in the north. The event will highlight human resources planning and skills development, cultural sensitivity training for caregivers, governance models, updates on current policy directions, live telemedicine demonstration, patient and child safety, and storytelling circles hosted by Native Elders. This event will also feature a poster display showcasing innovation and best practices in Aboriginal health care. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna [jgrzywna@oha.com](mailto:jgrzywna@oha.com) or 416-205-1341.

## OHA Region 2 Annual Meeting and Educational Conference Achieving Excellence through Leadership and Change: Strategies for Success October 11 & 12, 2007, Ottawa

In today's health care environment, many changes are constantly taking place with new demands for health care professionals and board members. Recognizing these challenges, this year's Region 2 conference will highlight ways in which performance improvement methodologies, such as Lean and Six Sigma, can improve the face of modern health care delivery. Additional conference topics include hospital boards, medical and community relationships, hospital and trustee breakout sessions, guiding change and building leadership capacity, and an update on LHINs. For further information, contact Joanne Grzywna [jgrzywna@oha.com](mailto:jgrzywna@oha.com) or 416-205-1341.



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