

# Executive Report

November 12, 2008

## Report from the OHA

### OHA Board Announces New Chair

Wally Wiwchar is the newly appointed Chair of the Ontario Hospital Association's (OHA) Board of Directors, announced at this year's HealthAchieve. Wally offers a wealth of health care experience as past Chair of the Timmins and District Hospital, a board he has served on for 20 years.

Wally was first elected to the OHA Board in 2002 and became 1st Vice Chair in November 2007. He was also OHA Board Treasurer from 2004-2006 and has since served on a number of board committees. He most recently chaired the OHA's 2008 Advocacy Priorities Working Group.

Wally will serve as OHA Board Chair for 2008-2009. The OHA is extremely fortunate to have someone with such experience and commitment to health care guiding its priorities in the year ahead.

To access OHA Board Member biographies, visit [www.oha.com](http://www.oha.com), under "About OHA - OHA Board of Directors and Executive Team." For further information, contact Lorraine Ladha at 416-205-1330 or [lladha@oha.com](mailto:lladha@oha.com).

### Consultation on Revised *Guideline C-4 - The Management of Medical Biomedical Waste in Ontario*

On October 23, 2008, the Ministry of the Environment proposed revisions to *Guideline C-4, the Management of Medical Biomedical Waste in Ontario*, (Guideline C-4), published in 1994. The proposed changes seek to make Guideline C-4 consistent with revised federal guidelines, standards and regulations dealing with biomedical waste management, as well as current medical practices. The purpose

of the revised Guideline C-4 is to provide clear direction to generators, carriers and receivers of biomedical waste about best management practices, thus helping ensure the proper management of biomedical waste to protect human health and the environment.

The draft Guideline C-4 can be accessed on the Ministry of the Environment's website at [www.ontario.ca/environment](http://www.ontario.ca/environment) by choosing "Environmental Registry" on the Ministry home page, and entering "010-3864" into the EBR Registry Number Field. The draft Guideline C-4 has been posted for a 60-day public review and comment which concludes on **December 22, 2008**. Comments can be submitted online by following the process set out above. For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at 416-205-1322 or [mradolli@oha.com](mailto:mradolli@oha.com).

### Call for Submissions: Award of Excellence in Patient Safety

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has announced a call for submissions for the *Dr. William Sibbald Award for Excellence in Patient Safety*. The purpose of the award is to recognize excellence and innovation in the development and implementation of successful patient safety initiatives across the health care system.

Evaluation of submissions will be based upon rigorous criteria such as: the success of the project in generating clear and measurable outcomes that can be used to track system improvement; the extent to which the project can be applied across the health care system; the size of the applicant organization relative to other applicants; and the degree to

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# Report from the OHA (continued)

which the project addresses system innovation, knowledge translation, engagement, and research. There are two \$25,000, and five \$5,000 awards to be granted. Each organization may submit only one application. A link to the submission guidelines is available through this week's *Executive Update* newsletter. For further information, contact Dominique Taylor at 416-205-1372 or [dtaylor@oha.com](mailto:dtaylor@oha.com).

## Exchange Prioritization Category Added to LTC Regulations

On November 8, 2008, amendments to Regulation 69 under the *Charitable Institutions Act* were published in the *Ontario Gazette*. The amendments, which were in effect beginning October 24, will enable residents in different long-term care (LTC) homes to exchange places if the move is mutually desired. The amendments give highest priority to LTC residents seeking to be reunited with a spouse or partner, and second priority to residents seeking admission to an LTC home that serves persons of their religion, ethnicity or language.

Similar amendments were also introduced under Regulation 637 to the *Homes for the Aged and Rest Homes Act* and Regulation 832 of the *Nursing Homes Act*. A copy of the amendments can be found at [www.gov.on.ca](http://www.gov.on.ca), under "Resources - Laws - Ontario Gazette - Recent Issues - Saturday, November 8, 2008." For further information, contact Melissa Radolli at 416-205-1322 or [mradolli@oha.com](mailto:mradolli@oha.com).

## OHA By-law 1 Approved

OHA By-law 1 was approved at the Annual Meeting of Members on November 2, 2008. A copy of the By-law is available to members on the OHA website at [www.oha.com](http://www.oha.com) (requires login and password). If you are interested in receiving a hard copy, contact Felicia Bigford at 416-205-1326 or [fbigford@oha.com](mailto:fbigford@oha.com).

## Report Provides Recommendations for Geriatric and LTC Populations

The Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario has released the 18th *Annual Report of the Geriatric and Long-Term Care Review Committee*. The committee reviewed a total of 17 coroner's cases referred to them, which involved residents of LTC homes, and the elderly.

The committee generated a total of 25 recommendations aimed at preventing similar future deaths by building awareness and

recognition surrounding issues affecting the geriatric population, and LTC communities within Ontario. This report reveals that approximately 45% of all cases reviewed resulted in recommendations based on medical/nurse management issues such as constipation and obstipation, prevention and management of bedsores, and management of the elderly in the acute care setting.

To access the complete report, visit [www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca](http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca), under "Public Safety - Office of the Chief Coroner - Publications and Reports." For further information, contact Dominique Taylor at 416-205-1372 or [dtaylor@oha.com](mailto:dtaylor@oha.com).

## OAHPP Call for Nominations

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) is seeking to strike a strategic planning sub-committee of the board which will be responsible for providing advice on the content and priorities of the OAHPP's rolling, three-year strategic plan.

To access the call for nominations/members, visit [www.oahpp.ca](http://www.oahpp.ca), under "What's New." The deadline for submissions is **December 3, 2008**. For further information, contact Karen Sequeira at 416-205-1328 or [ksequeira@oha.com](mailto:ksequeira@oha.com).

## New Look for OHA's "Publications for Sale" Site

The OHA has redesigned the "Publications for Sale" section of its [www.oha.com](http://www.oha.com) website. The new section, renamed "Knowledge Centre," is more visually appealing and much easier to navigate using publication categories including guides, toolkits, hospital management resources, surveys, policy papers, and newsletters.

The Knowledge Centre is one way the OHA is delivering on its commitment to provide practical tools for leaders and others who need to stay well-informed while meeting the ever-changing demands of the health care system. Discover innovative solutions to some of the most pressing challenges affecting health care today, including governance, legislation, leadership, pandemic planning, organizational performance, and research. To learn more or to purchase OHA publications, visit [www.oha.com/knowledgecentre](http://www.oha.com/knowledgecentre) or contact Eric Pinto at 416-205-1418 or [epinto@oha.com](mailto:epinto@oha.com).

# Report on Health Care

## BCH Opens After Hours Urgent Care Clinic

William Osler Health Centre (WOHC) announced that, in addition to the 24-hour, full-service emergency department (ED), a new after hours urgent care clinic is now open every evening at Brampton Civic Hospital (BCH). The clinic is the latest in a series of initiatives focused on improving wait times and enhancing the patient experience in the ED.

Since opening on October 7th, the new clinic has already had a positive impact. On average, 30 patients are seen in the clinic each evening who otherwise would have been treated in the ED. Early indications are that the clinic has already had an impact on wait times and has helped free up capacity to care for the most acutely ill emergency patients by diverting those with less serious injuries or conditions from the ED and treating them in an appropriate urgent care setting.

## SJCG Showcases Applied Health Research

The Research Department at St. Joseph's Care Group (SJCG) in Thunder Bay is inviting applied health researchers to showcase their work at the fourth annual *Making a Difference: 2009 Showcase of Applied Health Research*. This event provides a unique forum for researchers to disseminate their work. Moreover, health care providers and students are exposed to cutting-edge research that can be incorporated into clinical practice.

Applied health research is extremely vibrant in northwestern Ontario and hundreds of researchers and clinicians have taken part in the previous three conferences.

The objectives of the event are:

- To showcase research relevant to the programs and services provided by SJCG;
- To provide a forum for the dissemination of research findings;
- To facilitate research uptake in clinical practice; and
- To foster the opportunity for networking and research partnerships.

All researchers are invited to submit abstracts. The deadline for submission is **December 12, 2008**.

The conference will take place on **Friday, February 6, 2009**. For further information or to receive a copy of the call for abstracts, contact Carrie Gibbons, Research Coordinator at 807-343-4300, ext. 4404 or [gibbonsc@tbh.net](mailto:gibbonsc@tbh.net).

## New Hospital Opens in Mattawa

After many years of planning, approvals and advocacy, the all-new Hôpital de Mattawa Hospital celebrated its official grand opening on Saturday, October 25, 2008. Over 600 people attended the guided tours of the new 19-bed facility and took part in the grand opening ceremony. Patients were relocated to the new site on October 29, and regular operations commenced on October 30.

## Correction Notice: *Angel Ball Gala 2008*

Please note that in last week's issue, it was published that the St. Michael's Hospital's *Angel Ball Gala 2008* raised \$5.5-million through the help of personal donations amounting to \$10 million each from Mildred and Bernie Syron; Bob, Linda, Mark and Stacey Krembil of the Krembil Foundation; and Toni Danisi and David Young. The personal donation amount should have read, "\$1-million each."

## Ministry-LHIN Effectiveness Review Available

The MOHLTC and the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) completed an effectiveness review conducted by third-party consultants KPMG. The purpose of the review was to evaluate the efficacy of the transition and devolution of authority from the MOHLTC to the LHINs and also sought input from provincial associations and a sample of health service providers.

Through December 2008 and January 2009, a MOHLTC/LHIN committee will develop an action plan to address the recommendations in the report. To view a copy of the report, visit [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca), under "LHIN."

# Executive Announcements

Humber River Regional Hospital is pleased to announce **Dr. David Morgenthau** as the new Chief of Medicine, effective September 1, 2008.

**Sarah Kramer** has been appointed to lead the new eHealth Ontario agency, effective October 31, 2008.

St. Joseph's Health Centre, Toronto, has won a platinum *Corporate Image* award for its three branding videos at The MarCom Awards.

**Sue Matthews** will join the Niagara Health System in January 2009 as Vice President, Patient Services and Chief Nursing Executive.

## Report from Queen's Park

### Nursing Research Fund Call for Proposals

In 2000, based on the recommendations of a 1999 Nursing Task Force, funding directed at nursing research was announced by the MOHLTC. The Nursing Research Fund (NRF) provides funding for studies that focus on the management, organization and effectiveness of nursing human resources and services. In addition, the research aids the development, implementation and evaluation of the initiatives that support Ontario's comprehensive Nursing Strategy and the HealthForceOntario mandate which is to ensure that Ontario has the right mix and supply of appropriately educated health professionals to care for its residents. The research supports the priorities of the Nursing Secretariat, builds capacity, encourages evidence-based decision-making and facilitates collaboration among researchers and decision-makers.

In 2007/2008, the Nursing Secretariat launched a call for proposals and successfully funded nine projects that will contribute new knowledge in nursing while fostering collaboration among researchers. Due to the success of the 2007 call, a new call for nursing research is being launched in 2008 with a broadened scope beyond individual projects.

Building on the momentum of the first call, to engage a greater number of researchers from across the province and strengthen nursing research capacity in Ontario, this call invites proposals for research projects, programs, networks and individual career awards.

For details on the various research priorities and instructions on how to apply for funding, please refer to the *Nursing Research Fund Call for Proposals Guidelines* document at [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca), under "Health Care Providers - Research and Grants - MOHLTC Research Program - Research Competitions - 2008 Nursing Research Fund."

For further information, contact **Kristine Lee**, Nursing Secretariat at 416-327-9690 or [kristine.lee@ontario.ca](mailto:kristine.lee@ontario.ca), or **Esther Terner**, Research Unit at 416-327-8365 or [esther.terner@ontario.ca](mailto:esther.terner@ontario.ca).



# OHA Conferences

## Conference for Corporate Secretaries November 21, 2008 Toronto

Corporate Secretaries play a critical role supporting health care boards in carrying out their governance responsibilities and in providing senior management with support to help ensure effective board oversight.

This year's conference will bring together experienced speakers who will offer practical advice on how to handle the many responsibilities of the corporate secretarial position. Topics addressed include: the board's role in quality, meeting management, roles and relationships, and stakeholder relationship/community engagement. The role of Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) versus the MOHLTC will also be discussed. For further information, contact Josie Mazzola at 416-205-1356 or [jmazzola@oha.com](mailto:jmazzola@oha.com).

## Essentials Certificate in Health Care Governance for New Trustees November 27, 2008 Toronto

This one-day certificate program is designed to help delegates strengthen their leadership skills, as well as orient them to the important role of trustees within health care organizations. Topics covered will focus on increasing delegates' understanding of health care governance, and the challenges and opportunities presented by the complexities of hospital operations. The program will help delegates identify questions to ask, ensuring trustees have the information to perform their roles effectively. Delegates will also be encouraged to begin forming their own development plans and long-term goals for success. While the focus of the program will be on hospital governance, those assuming board roles in related health care organizations will also benefit by attending. For further information, contact Josie Mazzola at 416-205-1356 or [jmazzola@oha.com](mailto:jmazzola@oha.com).

## Conflict Engagement and Disruptive Behaviour December 5, 2008 Toronto

Conflict engagement is a professional competency that is often underrepresented in many organizations. With the increasing

emphasis on addressing unprofessional conduct to improve patient safety and create healthy work environments, it is important that organizations begin to integrate approaches aimed at creating non-adversarial mindsets. Using case-based narratives, skills practice, and dialogue, this interactive session will provide an overview of effective options for addressing these difficult components of the health care culture using techniques that address both individual behavior and system contributions. Shifting toward a collaborative culture requires engagement at deeper levels and well-honed skills for connecting and managing difficult conversations that take place in the health care industry. For further information, contact Sara Simone at 416-205-1314 or [ssimone@oha.com](mailto:ssimone@oha.com).

## Risk Management in Obstetrical Care December 12, 2008 Toronto

Recognizing the challenges of increasing expectations, differing policies and realities, and the resulting implications for health care organizations, the OHA, in conjunction with Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada and Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, is pleased to offer a one-day conference on issues associated with risk management in obstetrical care.

Clinical and legal experts will guide participants through existing knowledge taken from examining obstetrical claims and will provide strategies on how to apply these lessons. The program will review the 2007 Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) guidelines, followed by an expert panel that will provide further insight and will explore the guidelines' impact on health care professionals and their organizations. For further information, contact Kerry Vincent at 416-205-1306 or [kvincent@oha.com](mailto:kvincent@oha.com).

## Preventing Workplace Violence - Addressing and Managing the Risks January 12, 2009 Toronto

Workplace violence has taken on a new urgency and can occur at any organization. The objective of this conference is to arm participants with the information they need to help identify their organization's risk of violence, determine best practices and to offer

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# OHA Conferences (continued)

useful recommendations. Highlights include: a range of perspectives from unions, independent businesses, the public sector, and a cross-section of the private sector; a look into special scenarios such as working alone, cyber-bullying, and dealing with a disruptive person; and a how-to guide for protecting an organization from workplace violence. For further information, contact Linette DeGraaf at 416-205-1455 or [ldegraaf@oha.com](mailto:ldegraaf@oha.com).

## Incident Management System (IMS) for Health Care Facilities January 26, 27 & 28, 2009 Toronto

This course is geared toward hospital staff directly involved in the development and operations of emergency management planning and procedures within their organization. It will be of particular interest to individuals who have direct responsibility for safety and security or emergency procedures, and risk managers, including senior administrators, critical care providers, ED staff and clinical educators. For further information, contact Marisa Violante at 416-205-1309 or [mviolante@oha.com](mailto:mviolante@oha.com).

## Enabling Population-Based Health in Ontario January 30, 2009 Toronto

Population-based health is increasingly impacting policy decisions and care delivery. Health care providers and all levels of government are recognizing the need to look beyond geographic boundaries in order to assess the health needs of specific populations and address them in an integrated and coordinated fashion.

Confirmed speakers include a wide range of leaders who understand how to enable population-based health across the

spectrum, from screening and prevention to complex chronic care. This conference will discuss the latest developments and progress being made, as well as the critical role of primary and community care in driving population-based health initiatives and demonstrate the importance of e-Health as a key enabler at the provincial, regional and local level. Participants will be exposed to current population-based health initiatives including integrated cancer screening and comprehensive diabetes care. For further information, contact Shannon Byck at 416-205-1357 or [sbyck@oha.com](mailto:sbyck@oha.com).

## Creating a Culture of Health and Wellness through Effective Leadership February 2, 3 & 4, 2009 Toronto

This program has been developed by the OHA in cooperation with the Ontario Safety Association for Community and Healthcare (OSACH). Participants will acquire the tools to create a culture of health and wellness in their organization through the development of a comprehensive health and safety management system.

Program objectives include creating an outline for a health and safety management system framework in the health care setting; identifying the legislative requirements of health care organizations to meet their health and safety roles and responsibilities; looking at how to prepare a due diligence defense; describing the processes to reduce health and safety risks through hazard identification, analysis, and control; assisting organizations in the development of a prevention program to reduce occupational injury and disease and Workplace Safety and Insurance Board costs; and identifying contributing factors for healthier and safer workplaces. For further information, contact Marisa Violante at 416-205-1309 or [mviolante@oha.com](mailto:mviolante@oha.com).



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The Executive Report is a weekly publication of the OHA

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