

ICcer Newsletter - August 2016

Notes from ICcer

Hello everyone. It's been a long, busy summer for ICcer!

AHS released a call for proposals for projects related to person-centred care initiatives for persons with dementia. We were able to pull together a team and submit a proposal to Canadianize, pilot, and evaluate a dementia activity toolkit that has been developed in Scotland. Eight of our member organizations were involved in developing the proposal (St. Michael's, CapitalCare, Carewest, Lifestyle Options, Wing Kei, Shepherd's Care, plus the UofA and NorQuest to lead the evaluation). Fingers crossed that we get it!

We also looked at submitting a proposal related to music care, however, we decided instead to form a Community of Practice (COP) to discuss some of the issues around music care. There are so many decision points an organization has to consider (e.g. active vs passive music care; if instrumental, where to store instruments, how to clean instruments) that we need to develop a decision tool for organizations to use when planning music care for their residents. The first discussion of the Music Care COP was on August 17th. If you or your staff are interested in joining in, let Emily know at emily@iccer.ca.

Sandra Woodhead Lyons, PHEc
Executive Director, ICcer

Out & About with ICcer

Health Care Aide Conference

NorQuest College is hosting the *2016 Health Care Aide Conference* on September 30th in Sherwood Park.

ICCER is sponsoring the Conference at the Bronze level. This gives us a free registration. We held a draw of ICCER members and *Shepherd's Care* has received the free registration for one of their staff members! We hope they enjoy the day!

Alberta Continuing Care Association Conference

ACCA is hosting its *Inspiring Quality Conference: Today's Reality, Tomorrow's Vision* on September 14th and 15th in Edmonton. ICCER will be joining Bow Valley College at their display booth. Be sure to come and say 'hello!' to both BVC and ICCER. You can check out our new display banner while you are there.



Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG) Annual Conference

ICCER will be making two presentations at *CAG 2016: Fostering Innovation in Research on Aging* in Montreal from October 20th to 22nd.



Sandra Woodhead Lyons will be presenting a poster, *Development of a meaningful staff development resource as a participatory activity in continuing care* (Authors: Sharla King, UofA; Steven Friesen, Bethany Care Society; Sandra Woodhead Lyons, ICCER), and a paper, *Community engagement to identify continuing care issues in rural Alberta* (Authors: Lars Hallstrom, Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities, UofA; Sandra Woodhead Lyons, ICCER; Emily Dymchuk, ICCER).

Meet Our Members

ICCER Steering Committee

For the August issue, we are profiling two of ICCER's newest Steering Committee representatives, Dwight Nelson (COO, Carewest) and Kathy Fortunat (CNO & Director of Care, Sherwood Care).



Dwight Nelson is a graduate of the University of Calgary (BA) and also holds the professional designations of Chartered Accountant (CPA/CA) and Certified Health Executive (CHE).

- What do you find most challenging about working in continuing care (CC)?

The population we serve is increasingly complex and the age-range is getting much broader. It's a more diverse clientele than historically seen in traditional LTC. Family and resident expectations are increasing. All of this has significant implications for our

workforce and our other resources.

- *What changes would you like to see in CC over the next 5 years?*

A CC plan that is truly strategic rather than just reactive. Let's look at what our clients' needs will be, not simply what they've been in the past. And let's make sure our workforce is ready to meet the future through education, experience and collaboration.

- *What do you wish other people knew about ICCER?*

First, that it exists! ICCER is a tremendous resource that may be a bit quiet or humble about what it does. It's an amazing network of providers and educators committed to using research and evidence to improve practice in CC. ICCER has an important story to tell and could "sell" itself more forcefully.

- *Tell us a little about yourself:*

I've lived and worked in both Saskatchewan and Alberta over my career. Both are great places. However, I love downhill skiing and do find Alberta to be a bit better for that!

- *What might your fellow Steering Committee members be surprised to know about you?*

I had the privilege of becoming the youngest RHA CEO in Canada in 1994 when Alberta regionalized its health services. I'm not nearly so young now, as the greying hair attests!



Kathy Fortunat has been a Nurse in Alberta's health care system for over 30 years. Her experience includes critical care, home care, and most recently, LTC.

- *What do you find most challenging about working in continuing care (CC)?*

Continuing care is a remarkable, dynamic environment that is richly complex due to the changing needs of our population. Preparing organization and care teams for the constantly evolving system is both exciting and challenging.

- *What changes would you like to see in CC over the next 5 years?*

Unfortunately there are still barriers to accessing full service and care for our CC clients, regardless of their needs. Programs and services often have limitations that exclude many residents, and the "silos" in our health care

system do not promote quality person-centered care for everyone. We need to think of the complete health care system as senior-friendly and accessible, regardless of living arrangements or needs.

- *What would you tell someone who is thinking about joining ICCER?*

As a new member to ICCER, I am just beginning to appreciate the wealth of information and knowledge collectively represented in this organization. I had heard about ICCER from respected colleagues, who gave glowing reports about the educational opportunities and research being done. Sherwood Care is a small organization and to be relevant and current, this was both a good business decision and a great opportunity to expand networks and knowledge to our care staff.

- *Tell us a little about yourself:*

I read every morning while walking on my treadmill and have managed to read numerous books this year. My most recent read is "When the body says no: The cost of hidden stress" by Gabor Mate. Excellent read! I enjoy gardening, walking, visiting with friends over coffee and my time spent volunteering at the Hope Mission.



Register Now!

Networking Events

Registration is now open for ICCER Networking Events in Calgary and Edmonton! Registration is free for ICCER member organizations. Non-members will be charged \$25 to attend.

26 September 2016

Calgary Networking Event - *How do we make Person-Centred Care more than just a task?*

[*Click here!*](#)

6 October 2016

Edmonton Speed Networking Event - *How do we make Person-Centred Care more than just a task?*

[*Click here!*](#)

Collaborative Practice Discussions

Registration is now open for ICCER's first Collaborative Practice Discussion sessions in Calgary and Edmonton. The topic of discussion will be on implementing the new Continuing Care Health Service Standards. These sessions are only open to ICCER members. *Please note: a maximum of 5 staff*

members per organization can register to attend each session!

27 September 2016

Collaborative Practice Discussion
Session - Calgary

[Click here!](#)

5 October 2016

Collaborative Practice Discussion
Session - Edmonton

[Click here!](#)

Education/Training Opportunity

Room 217 is offering the *Music Care Certificate Program (MCCP)* - Level 1 course in Edmonton on September 23-24th and in Calgary on October 22-23rd. The MCCP is a 3-level program that prepares caregivers to use music in their care practice. It is suitable for health care providers, family, and volunteers who would like to increase their knowledge and practical applications of music care! There is no experience required for Level 1.



Level 2 courses are also scheduled for November 12-13th in Calgary! Completion of the Level 1 course is required.

[Click here for more information and course listings!](#)

Interesting Resources

Each month we will highlight new research, policies, reports, etc. that are applicable to continuing care. If you come across materials you would like to share, please send the links to Emily (emily@iccer.ca).

- The American College of Surgeons released an updated edition of their best practice guidelines for perioperative care of geriatric patients in early 2016. The guideline was created in collaboration by the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program and the American Geriatrics Society's Geriatrics-for-Specialists Initiative. The new guideline addressed the perioperative care of all surgical patients 65-years-old and older. Included in the guidelines are specific recommendations regarding care transitions from acute care facilities to personal residences or long-term care facilities post-

surgery.

<http://bit.ly/299LN1v>

- The Manitoba Provincial Health Ethics Network has developed a series of reference guides (Ethics Issue Reference Guides). They have developed a guide discussing ethical considerations involved in caring for a bariatric patient. The four-page guide includes a quick summary, a list of ethical considerations, ethical principles, a framework for decision-making in situations where these considerations and principles are relevant. <http://bit.ly/1VG89a8>

Webinars



Webinars can be an effective way of learning new information. Here are links to two groups who run regular webinars that are of interest to the CC sector. Both groups post copies of the webinar on their website.

- [brainXchange](#)
- [Canadian Frailty Network](#)

Interested in learning more about the research projects ICCER has been involved in?

Invite Sandra Woodhead Lyons (sandra@iccer.ca) or Emily Dymchuk (emily@iccer.ca) to come and talk to your staff!



Connect with us on social media!

