

HPC Connect



The TCPCN is a network comprised of healthcare members, from across the hospice palliative care continuum, who share a common vision:

A full range of high quality hospice palliative care services will be available to the people of Toronto Central and their families across all care settings.

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Chair's & Executive Director's Corner

The fiscal year will soon be drawing to a close. This issue is focused on all the key activities that the Network has undertaken to meet its own strategic plan deliverables. You will discover that the Network has been hard at work addressing such issues as integration, education in hospice palliative care, access issues and systems performance.

It has been a productive and busy year for the Network and its members, and this has helped to further drive the need for collaboration and partnership. You will read about a number examples in this issue.

Keep posted as we report back to you on the outcome of the Network's Steering Committee meeting on March 19, 2010 and the second annual State of the Union event which will focus on regional hospice palliative care services integration.

We continue to welcome contributions from our Network members and partners. Our next issue will be sent mid-May 2010. Deadline for the Summer issue is May 1.

Sincerely,

Larry Librach,
Chair &
Siu Mee Cheng,
Executive Director



Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne du cancer

Canadian Cancer Society

From Helen Taylor, Canadian Cancer Society

On a daily basis the Canadian Cancer Society is an important source of information and support for cancer patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals. The Society's Cancer Information Service can provide reliable and accurate information about cancer, its treatment and local support services, while the Society's Peer Support program helps match patients and caregivers with volunteers who have had a similar cancer experience.

By calling the toll-free number or through email, cancer patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals can obtain confidential answers to their questions – in English and French – five days a week. The Service is also available to callers who are deaf, deafened or hard of hearing and provides live translation through an interpreter in more than 100 other languages.

Callers can also receive printed information about cancer or help with accessing what they need online at www.cancer.ca. On the Society's website, people can source information about many types of cancer. The online encyclopedia contains up-to-date, detailed information including access to materials in several languages. As well, the community Services Locator is an in-depth database that is easily searched to find other essential services in ones your community.

In fact the Society made over 4,000 referrals to various community organizations within the Greater Toronto Area in the first half of 2009 alone. This included numerous referrals to hospice and palliative care. The Society recognizes the importance of accessing the right service at the right time and does its utmost to help facilitate and address this need.

Just as importantly the Society recognizes the needs of patients and caregivers to talk with someone who shares some similar experiences. On a daily basis the Peer Support program brings understanding, comfort and hope to those dealing with cancer. Clients of the program are matched on a variety of criteria that is important to them, e.g. type of cancer, gender, marital status, approximate age.

The Society is fortunate that a number of our peer support volunteers have also taken part in the Hospice Training, giving them additional skills and resources when supporting a caregiver whose loved one is palliative.

To access the Canadian Cancer Society's Cancer Information Service and Peer Support program, please call toll-free 1 888 939-3333 (TTY 1 866 786-3934), email info@cis.cancer.ca or visit cancer.ca.

TCPCN Activity Updates

Integration and Planning Sub-Committee

Members: Ray Berry (Chair), Kim Pearson, Sandy Buchman, Jean Jackson, Lawrence Librach, Dena Maule, Jamie Meuser, Jeff Myers, Angela Xavier, Martha Wyatt, Camilla Zimmerman, James Meuser. **Guests:** Karina Wulf.

Update: The Committee has developed its draft Integration Blueprint and Plan. Stakeholder input and feedback is being sought until March 3, 2010. If you wish to review the report and provide feedback please contact support@tpcn.ca. The final report will be presented to the TCPCN Steering Committee March 19, 2010 meeting.

Mapping and Projections Sub-Committee

Members: Jeff Myers (Chair), Matt Krepicz, Lisa Kronenberg, Belinda Marchese, Wanda McColl, Mindy Shiel, Camilla Zimmerman.

Update: The Mapping and Projections Sub-Committee has finalized a draft of an Asset Map that lists Hospice Palliative Care services offered and the means to access services within the TC LHIN region. This will be presented to Committee on March 19, 2010, and made publicly available in late Spring/Summer.

Single Point of Access Committee

Members: Maggie Bruneau (Chair), Wanda McColl, Tamra Laughlin, Ron Lirette, Karen Emsig, Dena Maule, Maria Rugg, Bill O'Neill, Rauni Salminen, Kim Pearson, Jane Sanders, Marcie Flynn Post, Mary Kay McCarthy.

Update: A list of key characteristics necessary for a single point of access (SPOA) within the TC LHIN regional hospice palliative care committee has been developed. A list of possible SPOA candidates has also been developed. This will be viewed on March 19. Membership is currently under review.

Measurement and Evaluation Committee

Members: Susan Blacker (Co-Chair), Amna Husain (Co-Chair), Tamra Laughlin, Jeff Myers, Jane Sanders.

Update: The Measurement and Evaluation Committee has established a balanced scorecard framework that reports on the regional hospice palliative care system's performance. The final set of performance indicators will be presented to the Steering Committee on March 19. The committee will continue to meet to discuss further improvements and refinement of the measures and the data supporting the reporting. New members are welcome.

Quality of Care Committee

Members: Larry Librach (Chair), Catherine Lacombe, Belinda Marchese, Maggie Bruneau, Martha Wyatt, Susan Blacker, Evelyn Cheung, Esther Isaacs, Bill O'Neil, Ray Berry, Barb Godfrey, Mary Lou Ip.

Update: The Quality of Care Committee has identified development of a framework to conduct clinical rounds in the community which will address such issues as transitions between care settings and equity in access to clinical rounds. Related priorities will include: common definitions and terms and standardized tools. Anyone interested in helping to advance this issue should contact scheng@tpcn.ca.

Education Taskforce

Members: Mary Jane Esplen (Co-Chair), Lesia Wynnachuk (Co-Chair), James Edney, Esther Isaacs, Ron Lirette, Rick Firth, Barb Godfrey, Gary Rodin, Anita Singh, Sandra De Costa, Wendy Corber, David Keselman.

Update: The Education Taskforce has finalized an inventory of hospice palliative care education services available within the Toronto Central LHIN region. In addition, the committee is in the process of finalizing a list of recommendations that will ensure comprehensive, coordinated, and quality HPC education within the region. This list will be presented to the Committee on March 19, 2010.

Events



2nd Annual State of the Union, TCPCN
May 21, 2010
Toronto, ON

The focus of this upcoming State of the Union event will be on hospice palliative care services integration in Toronto Central LHIN region. Open to all. Mark your calendars. Contact support@tpcn.ca or visit the website: www.tpcn.ca



Mindful Meditation on End of Life
February 18, 2010
Toronto, ON

Another rousing and reflective session on life, dying and death! Develop: an understanding of how death informs life, and life -death in an endless cycle of renewal. Hosted by the Traditional Institute of Medicine. <http://www.instituteoftraditionalmedicine.com/events.html>



Hospital for Sick Children Paediatric Hospice Palliative Care Course.
May 7,14,28 & June 4, 2010

This is a 4-day course entitled "**Pediatric Hospice Palliative Care: Offering Excellence Together.**" This is designed for professionals & volunteers in hospitals & the community who care for dying children and their families. <http://hospice.ca/news/2010/02/03 - Flyer - Hospital for Sick Children.pdf>



5th Annual Conference on Palliative & End of Life Care
April 23, 2010
Toronto ON

Title: **Living and dying in multicultural Canada: caring for persons with terminal illness.** Keynote address: *Palliative Care for Patients with Dementia: Indigenous Peoples Perspectives.* <http://www.careconferences.com/>



Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Conference,
October 27-31,
Call for Abstracts due Feb.27,2010.

The foremost national conference in Canada focusing on hospice palliative care. This provides the opportunity to share experience and expertise on a *national platform.* conference.hcp.ca.net



One Vision, One Voice 2010 Conference,
April 18-20, 2010
Toronto, ON

The 2nd annual "One Vision One Voice" conference is a collaboration of the Hospice Association of Ontario & Ontario Palliative Care Association. www.hpcconference.on.ca

Transitions

A warm welcome to the Toronto Central Palliative Care Network's newest member as of February 2010:

- **Leisureworld St. George Long Term Care Home. Contact: Jane Nobel.**

Dan Dempster has been announced as the interim Executive Director for Alliance Hospice.

Karen Fan has recently joined the Network team as the Administrative Coordinator Position. A graduate of University of Toronto's Human Biology (Health & Disease) program with a background in supporting health research, she is very interested in working with the Network and its members in helping to advance hospice palliative care in the region. She can be reached at the support@tpcn.ca.

General News

The Ontario Quality Palliative Care/End of Life Coalition has been established. This coalition represents the three key provincial hospice palliative care forums (Hospice Association of Ontario, Ontario Palliative Care Association and the Provincial End of Life Network), the Ontario College of Family Physicians, Cancer Care Ontario and other key provincial partners. The coalition has identified a number of priorities including the development of a provincial hospice palliative care strategy.

The Toronto Central LHIN has published the Integrated Health Services Plan 2010-13 entitled: Delivering High-Value Local Health Care Through Collaborative Action. The plan details the TC LHIN's regional commitments for the next 3 years. You may access a copy of the plan on their website: www.torontocetrallhin.on.ca.

It was recently announced that M. Anderson, CEO of the Toronto Central LHIN will be resigning from his position as of March 19, 2010.

The Honourable Sharon Carstairs, P.C. will be hosting roundtable discussions across the country on the future of hospice palliative care in Canada. These discussions will be used to assist her in defining issues to be addressed in her next report on hospice palliative care in Canada set to be released in June 2010.

Regional News



TCPCN met with the Community Navigation and Access Project, CNAP advisory committee to discuss the role and coordination of the regional hospice palliative care sector with this LHIN driven initiative in January 2010. The purpose of the project is to lead the development of infrastructure, tools and processes necessary for a seamless system of care for seniors in the LHIN region, and will impact hospice palliative care services. This project will include components of addressing central client intake and referral to services within the region, "Most Responsible Agency" and "Hubs". The work of the Network's Single-Point-of-Access Committee will align with the TC LHIN direction. Discussions on the incorporation of a list of initial hospice palliative care needs identification questions took place with CNAP. These discussions will continue into the new fiscal year. If you wish to participate in discussions and provide input on this matter, please send an email to support@tpcn.ca

The Homelessness & Palliative Care Committee, chaired by Paddy Bowen, Executive Director of St. Felix Centre had held a Decision-makers Forum on September 10, 2009. The goal of the forum was to identify and create a concrete action plan to advance the agenda on end-of-life care for marginalized populations. A follow up forum was held on January 28, 2010 to discuss key decision and action points to address the issue of hospice palliative care among the homeless.

The National Hospice Palliative Care Week 2010 will be held from May 2-8, 2010 this year. The Network is planning a number of coordinated events across the region as part of its commitment in making the National Hospice Palliative Care Week an annual regional event for the Toronto Central LHIN. A number of Network members, either alone or in partnership, have offered to generously host an event for each day of the week. They are: Princess Margaret Hospital / UHN, Odette Cancer Centre / Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, St. Michael's Hospital, collaboration among Providence Healthcare, Bridgepoint Health and Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, Hospital for Sick Children's in partnership with Philip Aziz Centre; and the partnership of the community and residential hospices sectors. Keep posted and do participate! A list of the events, speakers and locations will be advertised shortly. Any organizations, Network members and partners, interested in collaborating with the Network can contact TCPCN at scheng@tpcn.

A component of the National Hospice Palliative Care Week 2010 is the Hike for Hospice, which will occur on May 2, 2010 at Riverdale Park West (Cabbagetown) at 11:00 AM (hike start). There are two hikes, 2.5K (is a guided hike) inside Cabbagetown and the 5K will follow the Don Valley. There will be food, live music, local community leaders, and activities. It is a fun, relaxing event for the hospice palliative care community, their clients, family and caregivers. The Network is committed to supporting this event as the region's key fundraising and awareness event (Note: the Network does not fundraise). This year, all Network members are being encouraged to actively support and help lead the planning of the hike in the region.

The Network has challenged the organizing committee, Toronto Hike Partners, to exceed its fundraising results from last year. It was estimated that approximately \$88,000 was raised by the organizing committee members collectively in 2009. This year, the Network challenges the organizing committee to raise \$125,000. The committee and participating organizations have taken up the challenge! Good luck!

If you would like to know more about how to be a part of the Hike for Hospice including becoming a Toronto Hike Partner, or would like to promote the event in your organization, please contact: Rosemarie Kenny, 416-385-8885 ext. 46 or email: rkenny@alliancehospice.ca

The Toronto Central Palliative Care Network will be hosting its second State of the Union event on May 21, 2010. Mark your calendars. This year's theme will be on integration of hospice palliative care services in TC LHIN. The Network's integration blueprint and plan will be unveiled. A panel of guest speakers will discuss integration and will include Dr. Mark Dobrow, Cancer Care Ontario and The Toronto Central LHIN. The panel will be followed by a discussion workshop, in which the audience will be active participants in shaping the future actions. Stay tuned! Invitations will be sent out starting in March 2010. Look forward to seeing you there, and DO invite your colleagues, staff and health care partners to this exciting and interactive event! If you wish for more information, please contact support@tpcn.ca

DID YOU KNOW ?

In 2002, the top five chronic diseases that contributed to deaths in Toronto were identified as: cancer, ischemic heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive lung disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and bronchitis/emphysema/asthma. (City of Toronto Public Health Department). Although death rates have been decreasing over time in Toronto, increased number of deaths are expected due to the aging population and lifestyle factors.