

## Complex Humanitarian Emergencies the Focus of New Nursing Network

The first-ever international disaster response network for nurses has been launched by the International Council of Nurses (ICN), aiming to strengthen the response to the health needs of disaster-stricken populations. The network held its first meeting at the ICN Conference in Yokohama, Japan on June 1, 2007. This first meeting was intended to raise awareness of disaster-response issues and develop stress management techniques for emergency situations.

The ICN Position Statement on Nurses and Disaster Preparedness can be accessed at [www.icn.ch/psdisasterprep01.htm](http://www.icn.ch/psdisasterprep01.htm), and a special section of the ICN website is specifically devoted to disaster preparedness ([www.icn.ch/disasterprep.htm](http://www.icn.ch/disasterprep.htm)) to better inform nurses. ICN is also developing disaster nurse competencies and is interested in supporting this work with educational and accreditation programs.

## American Nurses Association Launches New and Improved Website

The American Nurses Association (ANA) has launched a new and improved website, NursingWorld.org. NursingWorld has all the content nurses come to rely on, but with a fresh look and easier navigation that makes everything the ANA has to offer easy to find. ANA's redesigned website is a rich resource, provid-

ing information about the association and the profession as well as nursing and healthcare news. The new site will have several new major features, including:

- single sign-on, reducing the number of passwords required for accessing protected sections of the site

- member personalization, so that members can update their profile or indicate current preferences
- a robust search engine that returns more relevant results and offers content as well as links to related publications, events and other resources
- member profiles, a new section on the Members Only home page that features the profiles of ANA members on a rotating basis, plus other special content and services for members
- key issues that affect ANA, to be featured in "ANA SmartBrief," along with exclusive content from ANA.

## New Canada–China Norman Bethune Health Research Scholarships Program

The Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Health, and Dr. Alan Bernstein, President of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), recently announced at Gravenhurst's Bethune Memorial House the creation of a scholarship program that will attract top young Chinese students to Canada to study and advance health research.

The Canada–China Norman Bethune Health Research Scholarships Program will offer up to 30 scholarships annually to top students from China to pursue PhDs at Canadian

universities and their affiliated institutions. The scholarships are for tenures of four or five years, and the first recipients are scheduled to start their training this fall.

CIHR will offer the scholarships through its Strategic Training Initiative in Health Research (STIHR). Through the STIHR, CIHR funds with partners almost 90 Research Training Programs across Canada in virtually every area of health research. Each training program consists of a group of health research mentors/educators who work collaboratively to offer research training to trainees at one or multiple sites across Canada.



## CNA Recognizes Employers Committed to Supporting Nursing Knowledge

As nurses face increasingly complex cases in their practice, the need for continuing education has never been stronger. Annually, the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) recognizes employers who support registered nurses in their pursuit of national certification in nursing specialties. The recipient of the 2006–2007 Employer Recognition Award is Saint Elizabeth Health Care in Toronto.

Saint Elizabeth Health Care is recognized for embedding the national practice standards and their associated nursing specialty competencies into the practice infrastructure of the organization, allocating time to the development of the preparation courses and reimbursing examination and renewal fees. Saint Elizabeth Health Care, which provides community-based health services, will receive \$1,000 from the Canadian Nurses Foundation to help support ongoing activities related to CNA certification and CNA certification renewal.

## Northwest Territories Community Services Agency Wins United Nations Award

The Tlicho Community Services Agency (TCSA) has been honoured with the 2007 United Nations Public Service Award in the category of fostering participation in policy-making decisions through innovative mechanisms. The award recognizes organizations that demonstrate excellence in serving the public interest and making a significant contribution to the improvement of public administration.

The TCSA's dedication and innovation are making a difference to improve the health and well-being of all residents in the Tlicho region, and its emphasis on educational achievement has contributed to both increased high school graduation rates and post-secondary enrolment.

## Employee Mapping Aids Emergency Response

An innovative employee mapping process developed by the BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) will help ensure ambulance response is available in times of major emergencies. Employee

mapping uses high-tech databases and location technology to give the BC Ambulance Service the ability to identify precisely where employees live in a given geographic location. This information allows the BC Ambulance Service to contact employees proactively in at-risk areas and offer support and information, such as links to the Provincial Emergency Program and resources to monitor the risk.

Developed as part of its emergency flood planning program in the Lower Mainland, BCAS hopes the new tool can now be utilized for future emergency planning events for fire, earthquake or other disaster preparedness.



## Alberta at Forefront of Hip and Knee Care – More Surgeries Completed and Albertans Waiting Less Time

Alberta is leading the way nationally on hip and knee care thanks to a successful pilot project that resulted in an 85% reduction in wait times. The current non-pilot wait time of 145 days was reduced to 21 days, from accepted referral to first orthopaedic consultation.

The Calgary-based Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute will receive \$6.3 million to help roll out the program province-wide. The institute will develop evidence-based guidelines and new care models for bone and joint conditions, evaluate bone and joint protocols and programs and develop a sustainability model for hip and knee joint replacements.

The Alberta Hip and Knee Replacement pilot project tested a new care path to provide 1,200 hip and knee surgeries through central assessment clinics in the Capital, Calgary and David Thompson Health Regions. Patients in the \$20-million pilot were provided care by a multi-disciplinary team of health professionals from pre-surgery assessment to recovery after surgery. The pilot began in April 2005.

The *Alberta Hip and Knee Joint Replacement Project (Evaluation Report)* and the *Alberta Hip and Knee Replacement Pilot Project: Scientific Evaluation Report* are available online at [www.health.gov.ab.ca/resources/publications.html](http://www.health.gov.ab.ca/resources/publications.html).

## Another Boost in Training for Health Professionals

The Government of Saskatchewan has committed to invest another \$18.4 million annually to provide 112 new education and training opportunities for health professionals. An additional \$2.4 million will be invested immediately to cover one-time capital costs. Upon full implementation, \$13.1 million will be provided annually to increase the number of training opportunities for physicians by 16. In addition, \$5.3 million will be provided to boost opportunities for nursing and medical diagnostic professionals by 96.

The investment is part of the government of Saskatchewan's effort to establish a number of long-term, sustainable strategies to address labour market issues in the health sector – and ultimately to ensure that there is an adequate number of health providers to meet the needs of Saskatchewan residents. Other initiatives focus on recruitment and retention of these valuable members of the healthcare team. The province's retention efforts for health professionals also appear to be bearing fruit. According to the recent follow-up survey of 2005 post-secondary graduates, 86.1% of graduates from healthcare-related programs have remained in Saskatchewan.

## Manitoba Invests \$2 Million in New Primary Care Initiative to Help Physicians Enhance Services, Better Manage Patients' Care Needs

Manitoba Health and family doctors in the province have developed a team approach to improve the tracking of patient information and treatment and to connect Manitobans with the healthcare professionals they need, ranging from physicians to nurses and dietitians.

The Physician Integrated Network (PIN) initiative will focus on family physicians who work together and focus on specific areas of care. For example, if diabetes is prevalent within a clinic's patient base, a team approach would focus on this particular area of care. It may include the use of non-physician healthcare professionals such as registered dietitians and nurses to assist family physicians with different aspects of testing, screening, education and follow-up with patients.



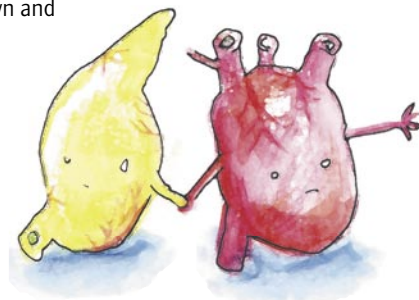
## Boosting Organ Donations, Saving Lives

The Ontario government is investing \$4 million in a comprehensive new plan to boost organ donations and save lives. The government's organ donation strategy will

- help connect living donors with compatible recipients with a new living-donor database
- improve public awareness through investments in public education, including a youth-focused campaign
- provide funding to reimburse living donors for pre-approved expenses, such as accommodation, meals, travel and lost income, and
- provide hospitals with information identifying people who wish to donate their organs after death. This will help ensure that those individuals' organ donation wishes are known and respected.

The new organ donation strategy is guided by recommendations made by the Citizens Panel on Increasing Organ Donations.

The McGuinty government established the panel in 2006 to survey the public on their views about organ donation and ways to improve and increase organ donation. The panel released its final report in April 2007.



## Canadian Nurses Leading the Way with Academic–Practice Partnership

Home and community care leader, Saint Elizabeth Health Care (SEHC), is partnering with Queen's University Joanna Briggs Collaboration (QJBC) to establish the first Evidence Translation Group in North America as part of a prestigious international health research network.

As an Evidence Translation Group, SEHC will conduct systematic reviews of nursing research from a community perspective in areas such as chronic disease management, palliative care, IV therapy and healthy work environments. With ongoing mentorship and support from QJBC, nurses will then synthesize their findings into a succinct statement that describes the current

state of knowledge in a particular area of practice.

Established in 1996 by the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the University of Adelaide in Australia, the Joanna Briggs Institute is a prestigious international health research organization that brings together a range of practice-oriented research activities to improve the effectiveness of nursing practice and healthcare outcomes. The Queen's Joanna Briggs Collaboration is based at and supported by Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. The QJBC is a unique Canadian initiative that provides leadership and support in evidence-based practice through knowledge translation, knowledge transfer and knowledge utilization.

### PEI Government Reinstates Health Recruiter Position

The health recruiter position that was abolished by a previous government two years ago is being reinstated as a full-time position within the Department of Health. The health recruiter will focus on recruiting health professionals in areas



in which shortages exist such as nursing, radiation therapy, medical laboratory technology and diagnostic imaging. The position will also support the Department of Health's broader recruitment initiatives, such as the Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy, and will complement existing physician recruitment programs.

### Applications Being Accepted for Health Bursaries

Online applications are now being accepted for the 2007–2008 New Brunswick Health Bursary

Program aimed at recruiting allied health professionals. Since being implemented in 2005, the program has been successful in hiring close to 40 new health professionals from various hard-to-recruit professions.

To be eligible, candidates must be Canadian citizens and enrolled in an accredited health program. Other details on the New Brunswick Health Bursary Program and the online application form can be found at <http://www.gnb.ca/0051/Allied-Health/bursary-e.asp>. The deadline to receive all online applications is September 28, 2007.

### New Website Provides Information on Cancer Wait Times

The first phase of the New Brunswick Cancer Network (NBCN) website was recently launched. The site, which can be found online, includes information on

- Prevention and Screening
- Benchmarks and Wait Times
- Paediatric Oncology
- Resources for Families
- Research and Epidemiology

The NBCN is responsible for the coordination, facilitation and evaluation of cancer control in the province. It works with stakeholders to develop and implement evidence-based plans, strategies and policies for cancer control.

An eight-week radiation therapy guarantee will be established in three years' time, after a pilot program is completed. Under this program, wait time management practices and tools, information systems, processes and protocols will be developed to implement and test this guarantee. These initiatives will also be supported by the Government of Canada through the 2004 Health Accord and the 2007 federal budget.

### Rural Nursing Program to Improve Care and Recruitment

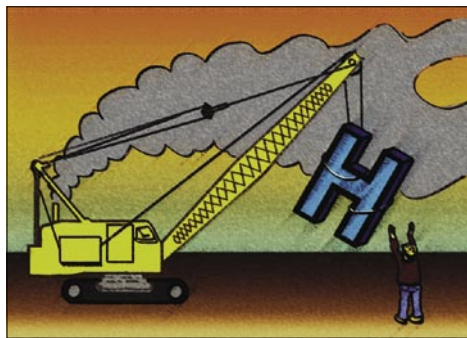
Communities in rural Nova Scotia will benefit from a new training opportunity for registered nurses. The Rural Nursing Program is a pilot project funded by the province's Department of Health and delivered by the Registered Nurses Professional Development Centre. The program was created to provide nurses with the skills

they need to practise nursing in rural communities. It will also help boost recruitment and retention efforts in rural areas.

Today's nurse must deal with increasingly complex cases. Nurses in rural settings often face unique opportunities and challenges as a result of seeing a broad range of patients with a variety of healthcare needs. The Rural Nursing Program was developed to address the unique demands placed on rural nurses. It is a part-time distance program that will run over one year, allowing nurses to continue to work and study at home. The program explores the care and treatment of a number of healthcare issues across the patient's life span.

### Province and Capital Health Unveil Plans for New Emergency Department

Visitors to the QEII Health Sciences Centre (NS) can look forward to shorter wait times, and healthcare workers will have improved work conditions, as a result of the \$17-million construction of a new emergency department.



The new QEII emergency department will allow patients to be seen more quickly and provide a modern, state-of-the-art facility for healthcare workers. The facility will also provide enhanced emergency psychiatric services. The QEII emergency department is the provincial trauma and adult tertiary care centre for Nova Scotia. It also offers services to other Atlantic provinces.

The QEII Health Sciences Centre's current emergency department was designed for 35,000 patients per year and is now seeing close to 60,000, an increase that has resulted in longer waits and overcrowding for some patients.

### Provincial Nursing Website Lands National Award of Excellence

A website developed by the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia, to attract internationally educated nurses (IENs) to Atlantic Canada, has won an Award of Excellence from the Canadian Public Relations Society (CPRS).

NursingAtlanticCanada.com, the first website of its kind in Canada, provides a single access point for complete, clear and easily understood information – in six different languages – on how to obtain a licence to practise nursing in Atlantic Canada. It also has links to such resources as Immigration Canada, the Canadian Nurses Association, immigrant settlement organizations, language training centres and other nursing regulatory bodies in Canada.

The CPRS award judges described the NursingAtlanticCanada website as “an innovative breakthrough.” The centrepiece of the website is a series of videos featuring IENs talking in their native languages (Mandarin, Arabic, German, Tagalog, English and Japanese) about their experiences of living and practising nursing in Atlantic Canada. Because of the prevalent use of Spanish worldwide, the College has also translated its documents into Spanish.



### Centre for Health Information Act Proclaimed

Newfoundland and Labrador's Department of Health and Community Services recently announced the proclamation of the *Centre for Health Information Act*. The Act establishes the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information as a statutory corporation responsible to the minister through a board of directors. The evolution of the centre's unique mandate to provide health information and develop the elec-

tronic health record warrants the centre's having its own legal structure and arms-length status. As an arms-length organization, the centre will have enhanced access to federal funding and revenue through private partnerships. This will enable it to attract and obtain additional investment dollars to further develop and implement the provincial health information infrastructure.

## APPOINTMENTS

### Ontario Health Quality Council Appoints New CEO



**Dr. Ben Chan** has been appointed to the position of CEO of the Ontario Health Quality Council, effective November 1, 2007. Dr. Chan served as Saskatchewan's Health Quality Council's inaugural Chief Executive

Officer. He is a former Senior Scientist with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences and Assistant Professor at University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Chan received his BSc and MD from the University of Toronto, a Master of Public Health from Harvard and Master of Public Affairs from Princeton. In 2006, he was named Canada's Outstanding Young Health Executive by the Canadian College of Health Service Executives. Under Dr. Chan's leadership, Saskatchewan's Health Quality Council was awarded that province's Health Excellence Award for its pioneering work in improving chronic disease management, intensive care unit patient safety, drug management in seniors and other areas of care.

### Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Welcomes New CEO

Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Board Vice Chair, Norman Murray, has announced the appointment of **William (Bill) MacLeod** to the position of Chief Executive Officer effective July 3, 2007. "A highly accomplished health service executive who has made a significant impact on the health system over the years, Bill MacLeod brings the right mix of knowledge, stakeholder relations,

financial management and strategy to lead our team in transforming the local health system," says Murray.



MacLeod was most recently with Hamilton Health Sciences as Vice President of Research and Corporate Development, where he played an integral role in physical planning and redevelopment

projects and where he also served as President of the Bay Area Health Trust, an arm's-length entity created to develop revenue-generating opportunities.

### Nurse Mentoring Program Next Phase of Health Human Resource Strategy

The Yukon's Ministry of Health and Social Services recently announced the next step in the \$12.7-million Health Human Resource Strategy for the territory. The department has hired **Priya Chetty** as the nurse mentorship coordinator. Chetty will coordinate development and implementation of the Nurse Mentorship Program. The Nurse Mentorship Program is a component of the \$12.7-million Health Human Resource Strategy that will help attract and keep nurses in Yukon.

### New CEO at Baycrest



In Toronto, **Dr. William E. Reichman** joined Baycrest as its new President and Chief Executive Officer as of July 1, 2007. An internationally known expert in geriatric mental health and dementia,

Dr. Reichman brings with him an outstanding clinical, academic and executive leadership background from the United States. He was most recently Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey, where he also served as Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and President of the Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Group. A noted authority on the delivery of

mental healthcare services in nursing home settings, he has lectured extensively at major meetings in the US, Europe and Asia. His academic activities have focused on the pharmacological treatment of Alzheimer's disease and the associated negative symptoms and apathy in this disorder.

### CIHR President Resigns

**Dr. Alan Bernstein** has informed Federal Minister of Health Tony Clement and the Governing Council of the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) that he will be resigning as President of CIHR, effective October 31, 2007.

### Sunnybrook Announces New President and CEO



Renowned healthcare leader **Dr. Barry McLellan** has been appointed the new President and CEO at Sunnybrook in Toronto. Dr. McLellan, who is currently Chief Coroner for the province of Ontario, will officially

begin his term on September 17, 2007. He will be taking over from Mr. Leo Steven, who has held the position for the past five years and who will be retiring when Dr. McLellan takes over.

### New President and CEO for Associated Medical Services, Inc.

The Board of Directors of Associated Medical Services, Inc. recently announced the appointment of **Dr. Mary Ellen Jeans** as President and Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Jeans has a distinguished career of leadership in health professional education, research and administration. Mary Ellen Jeans's clinical and research career has focused on chronic pain and pain management. A native of Guelph, Ontario, her early professional education was as an RN at the Hamilton General Hospital prior to obtaining her PhD in psychology from McGill University. Dr. Jeans served as the Director of the School of Nursing at McGill University. She held the position of Director General of the National Health Research and Development Program (NHRDP) of

Health Canada and Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Nurses Association. She has also held several hospital and academic appointments. More recently, in her work on health policy and research she has been a member of several federal government advisory committees and an active participant in a number of recent Canada-wide health human resource initiatives. She is widely published and has lectured nationally and internationally.

### New Dean of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan

**Dr. Lorna Butler** became Dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan effective July 1, 2007. Dr. Butler earned a master's degree in medical-surgical nursing in 1987 from Dalhousie University in Halifax and a PhD in statistics and ethics from the University of Toronto in 1995. She joined the School of Nursing at Dalhousie in 1999 and was promoted to full professor in 2004, a position she shared with the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre (QEII). That arrangement allowed Dr. Butler to devote one-third of her time to research in the clinical practice setting and led to her appointment as an assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie for interdisciplinary research and resident training in socio-behavioural research. It also led to what is now a full professorship in the Department of Urology at the QEII.

### New President at the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta

Camrose registered nurse **Joan Petruk** has been voted the new president-elect of the College of Registered Nurses of Alberta, assuming her two-year position on October 1, 2007. Petruk has a wide range of healthcare experience encompassing public health and occupational health. She began her career as a registered nurse in Nova Scotia and has worked in public health nursing in Nova Scotia and Alberta. She is currently the Health and Safety Coordinator for East Central Health and is a nursing instructor in occupational health nursing and disability management at Grant MacEwan College.

## Health Council of Canada Appoints New Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Jeanne Besner, Chair of the Health Council of Canada, has announced the appointment of **Dr. Donald W.M. Juzwishin** as Chief Executive Officer, effective September 1, 2007. Dr. Juzwishin

brings 28 years of leadership and management experience to the Health Council of Canada. His background includes knowledge in healthcare management, policy making, education and research. Most recently a private consultant in healthcare policy in St. Albert, Alberta, Dr. Juzwishin also served as Director of Health Technology Assessment at the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. Prior to that, he was with the Ministry of Health in British Columbia, where he introduced the province's first accountability and performance measures framework to monitor and report on health reform in the province. He has held executive positions at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta and at the Greater Victoria Hospital Society in Victoria, British Columbia.

## New Vice President, Privacy and Security of Smart Systems for Health Agency

Bill Albino, CEO of Smart Systems for Health Agency (SSHA), has announced the appointment of **Michael Power** as Vice President, Privacy and Security. Michael brings over 20 years of legal and policy experience to SSHA. Most recently, he was a partner in the law firm of Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP and also held the position of Chief Privacy Officer there. Prior to that, he was Deputy Director of the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Secretariat at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. He has also worked in various positions at the Federal Department of Justice.

## OHA President and CEO to Retire

OHA President and CEO **Hilary Short** will retire in December 2007. After completing a master's degree in classics at Cambridge University, Hilary Short joined the OHA in 1973 as a junior member of its communications staff. She went on to serve in a number of increasingly senior roles, including 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.

The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers.

