## Quarterly Change

#### 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.



## 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 longterm 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 healthcarerelated programs have remained in Saskatchewan.

## Alberta at Forefront of Hip and Knee Care

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 orthopedic consultation.

The Calgary-based Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute will receive \$6.3 million to help roll out the program provincewide. 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 \$20million pilot were provided care by a multidisciplinary 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.

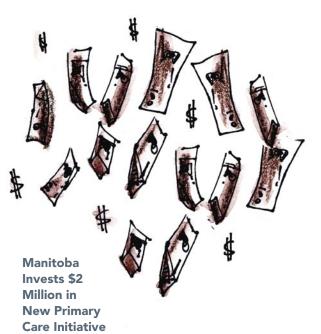
#### **Employee Mapping Aids Emergency Response**

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 hightechnological databases and location technology to give BCAS the ability to identify precisely where employees live in a given geographic location. This information allows BCAS to proactively contact employees in areas identified as at risk and offer support and information, such as links to the Provincial Emergency Program and resources to monitor the risk.

Developed as part of the BCAS emergency flood planning in the Lower Mainland, BCAS hopes the new tool can now be utilized for future emergency

> planning events such as fires, earthquakes or other disasters.





to Help Physicians Enhance Services, **Better Manage Patients' Care Needs** 

Manitoba Health and family doctors in the province have developed a team approach to better track patient information and treatment and to connect Manitobans with the healthcare professionals they need, ranging from physicians to nurses to dieti-

The Physician Integrated Network 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 medical professionals such as registered dietitians and nurses to assist family physicians with different aspects of testing, screening, education and followup with patients.

#### **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 further complement existing physician recruitment programs.

#### **New Cancer Screening Program**

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, in collaboration with Cancer Care Ontario, is implementing a province-wide screening program aimed at reducing mortality from colorectal cancer by increasing early detection. The program, the first of its kind in North America, targets men and women, 50 years of age and older.

Key features of the program include the following:

- Increased funding for screening colonoscopies (in May 2007, the Ontario government allocated \$11 million to 54 hospitals, allowing approximately 34,000 more Ontarians to have access to colonoscopies during 2007-2008)
- New quality standards for colonoscopy
- Primary care provider and public awareness campaigns
- Broad distribution of fecal occult blood test (FOBT) kits in 2008 through family physicians, pharmacists and Telehealth Ontario
- Monitoring and evaluation supported by an information management system

For more information about Ontario's new Colorectal Cancer Screening Program, go to www.cancercare.on.ca.

## Boosting Organ Donations, Saving Lives

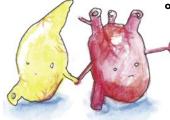
The Ontario government is investing \$4 million in a comprehensive new plan to boost organ donations and save lives. The government's organ donation strategy will do the following:

- 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
- Provide hospitals with information identifying people who wish to donate their organs after death - this will help ensure 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.



#### **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.

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

## New Website Provides Information on Cancer **Wait Times**

The first phase of the New Brunswick Cancer Network (NBCN) website was recently launched. The site includes information on prevention and screening, benchmarks and wait times, pediatric oncology, resources for families and 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 quarantee. These initiatives will also be supported by the Government of Canada through the 2004 Health Accord and the 2007 federal budget.

#### 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, intravenous 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 practiceoriented research activities to improve the effectiveness of nursing practice and healthcare outcomes. QJBC is based at and supported by Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. QJBC is a unique Canadian initiative that provides leadership and support in evidence-based practice through knowledge translation, knowledge transfer and knowledge utilization.

#### **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.

### 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 distanced 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 a patient's lifespan.



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

Visitors to the QEII Health Sciences Centre can look forward to shorter wait times, and healthcare workers will have improved work conditions as a result of the \$17million construction of a new emergency department. The new QEII emergency department will allow patients to be seen more quickly and provide a modern, state-ofthe-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 provides 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, which has resulted in longer waits and overcrowding for some patients.



## CSPE Excellence in Medical Leadership (Chris Carruthers) Award

The Canadian Society of Physician Executives (CSPE) presented its 2007 Excellence in Medical Leadership Award to Dr. Charmaine Roye. The highest honour that the CSPE can bestow on one of its members, this award is given to those who have made an outstanding contribution to the development and mentorship of medical leaders in the field of health services leadership and management.

Dr. Charmaine Roye has been a long-time member of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada (FMWC) and has served on its board of directors since 1992. She became president of the FMWC in 1998 and, over the last 10 years, has actively mentored many of the current board members. As past president, Dr. Roye took on the job of representing the FMWC on the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) Committee of Affiliates. In 2004, she was chosen chair of the Committee of National Medical Organizations and represents that group at CMA board meetings. Over the past 15 years, Dr. Roye has also served in executive positions at the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, the Ontario Medical Association and the Brantford Hospital. Internationally, she was vice-president for the North American region of the Medical Women's International Association from 2001 to 2004.

#### **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). The nursingatlanticcanada.com website, the first 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 resources such 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.com website as "an innovative, breakthrough site." 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. Due to 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 electronic health record warrants the centre having its own legal structure and arm's-length status. As such, 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 chief executive officer (CEO) of the Ontario Health Quality Council, effective November 1, 2007. Dr. Chan served as Saskatchewan's Health Quality Council's inaugural CEO. 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 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 CEO effective July 3, 2007. "A highly accomplished health service executive who has made a signifi-



cant 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 Is 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 the development and implementation of the Nurse Mentorship Program, a component of the strategy that will help attract and keep nurses in the Yukon.

#### **New CEO at Baycrest**

In Toronto, Dr. William E. Reichman joined Baycrest as its new president and CEO 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 in nursing home settings, he has lectured extensively at major meetings in the United States, 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.

#### **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 CEO. Dr. Jeans has a distinguished career of leadership in health professional education, research and administration. Her clinical and research careers have focused on chronic pain and pain management. A native of Guelph, Ontario, her early professional education was as an RN at 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 of Health Canada and CEO 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.

#### Health Council of Canada **Appoints New CEO**

Dr. Jeanne Besner, chair of the Health Council of Canada, has announced the appointment of Dr. Donald W. M. Juzwishin as CEO effective September 1, 2007. Dr. Juzwishin brings 28 years of leadership and



management experience to the council. 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 the 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.

#### **CIHR President Resigns**

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

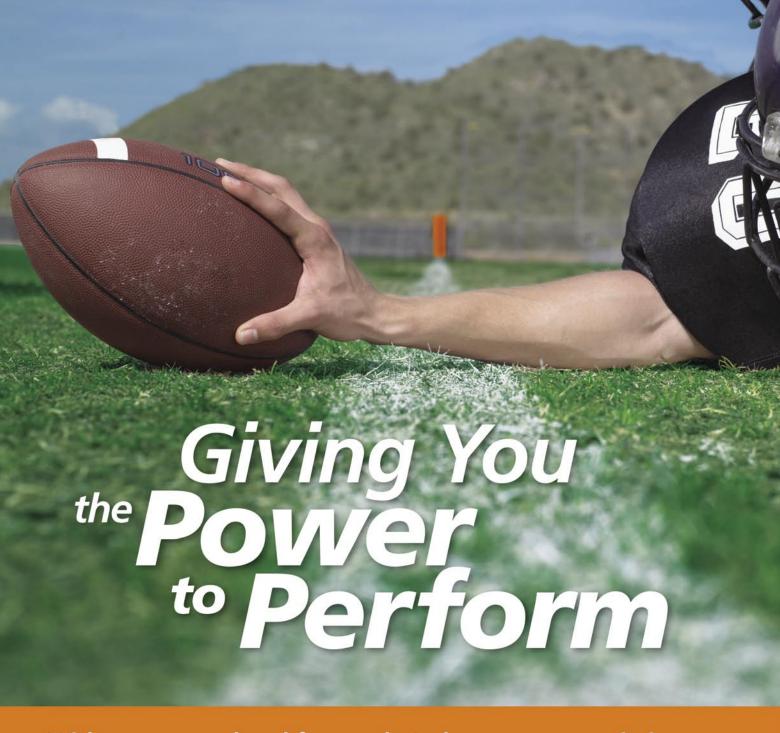
#### New Vice-President of Privacy and Security, **Smart Systems for Health Agency**

Bill Albino, CEO of Smart Systems for Health Agency (SSHA), has announced the appointment of Michael Power as vice-president, Privacy and Security. Power 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 there of chief privacy officer. Prior to that time, 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**

Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) President and CEO Hilary Short will retire in December 2007. After completing a masters' 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.





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