



**Report from the Leadership Team  
June 2010**

**Client Centred Care**

**Provincial Diabetes Strategy**

As a result of Provincial Diabetes Strategy funding, a full new team (Registered Nurse and Registered Dietitian) has been added to Diabetes Health Thunder Bay, as well as a part time receptionist. There was also a MOHLTC announcement by Josh Tepper, ADM of Health Human Resources Strategy that the Northern Diabetes Health Network will continue in its current coordinating role.

**Temporary Transitional Bed Service (Low Intensity/Long Duration)**

St. Joseph's Care Group has agreed to extend the 3-month Low Intensity/Long Duration (LILD) Pilot Program on 4 South for one year at the request of the North West LHIN. The pilot was initiated as a strategy to help address client "flo" issues affecting the ER wait times at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC).

**Neurology Day Program**

The Neurology Day Program team started a trial implementation of the Graded Repetitive Arm Supplementary Program (GRASP) for stroke clients. The staff co-presented their experience to date with Esmé French at April Rehab Rounds.

**Improving Access to Seating Clinic**

In an effort to manage the increasing number of Seating Clinic referrals and to reduce wait times, the Seating Clinic has implemented a Scooter Clinic on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month.

**MOST Program Update (Moving On After Stroke)**

The contract with Baycrest to continue delivering the program for the Fiscal Year 2010-11 has been signed. The January-April group completed a successful session and Red Lake has come on board as a new site with their physiotherapist agreeing to be site coordinator.

**Falls Prevention**

A falls prevention program has been developed in compliance with Accreditation Canada's required organizational practice. A Falls Prevention Tool Kit was created containing a falls prevention policy/procedure, risk assessment tool, falls prevention pathway and strategies to guide health care practitioners in assessing and managing individuals who are at risk of falling in an inpatient setting. Staff training related to the tool kit has taken place in preparation for full implementation of the program on June 14. Work is currently underway to adopt a similar program for St. Joseph's Care Group outpatient and community programs.

**EDP Dressing Room Project**

In collaboration with Janice Piper of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, Karen Degagne, Regional Resource Coordinator for the Regional Outreach Eating Disorders Program, presented the Dressing Room Project to Grade 7 and 8 students in seven communities across the NW Region. This project is designed to increase awareness of media messaging and promote healthy body image and self esteem among young people. The feedback has been very positive. This initiative was featured in an article of the Ontario News North newsletter this month. The article can be found at [www.OntarioNewsNorth.com](http://www.OntarioNewsNorth.com).

**Teen Challenge**

In partnership with the Salvation Army, Youth Addiction Programs of the Sister Margaret Smith Centre will be participating in this year's Teen Survival Challenge, which will be held on June 5, 2010 at Boulevard Lake. This event increases youth awareness of the challenges of living on their own without family support.

## **Our People**

### **General Rehabilitation Program Physician**

We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Cheryl Everall to the role of Most Responsible Physician (MRP) for the General Rehabilitation inpatient orthopedic clients.

### **Pulmonary Rehabilitation**

Shelley Prevost, Respiratory Therapist's poster presentation entitled *Mechanical Insufflation Exsufflation: Practice patterns among respiratory therapists in Ontario* was presented at 3 different conferences which took place in Toronto, Halifax and St. John's.

### **Wellness Incentive Program**

All regular part-time and full-time employees were invited to apply for the Wellness Incentive Program during the month of May. The Wellness Incentive Program is a monetary reimbursement of 50% up to a maximum of \$100 for permanent full-time and part-time employees wanting to commit to self well-being, work life balance and fitness activities.

### **Northwestern Ontario Regional Stroke Champion Award**

Congratulations to Brenda Mason, Aboriginal Spiritual Care Worker in the Mental Health Outpatient Program, who was recognized for her work with the stroke network, and was presented the *Northwestern Ontario Regional Stroke Champion Award* at the Northwestern Ontario Stroke Forum on May the 19th, 2010.

## **Collaboration**

### **Polyarthritis Assessment Course**

The Rheumatic Disease Program team in collaboration with the Arthritis Society offered the Polyarthritis Assessment Course locally on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The course was filled to capacity, and the intent is to run the same course in Sioux Lookout in the fall. Course expenses were supported by a donation from Bristol Myers Squibb.

### **Age Friendly Thunder Bay**

The Age Friendly Thunder Bay Committee is made up of stakeholders from various organizations and community groups – Day Hospital Social Workers Tanya Shute and then Melissa Berry sat on the Committee as St. Joseph's Care Group representatives. On May 10<sup>th</sup> the Age Friendly Thunder Bay Stakeholder Committee presented a literature review summary to Thunder Bay City Council and the city endorsed the project. Council agreed to commit to a three-year action plan to gain the World Health Organization's (WHO) recognition as an Age Friendly City. Thanks to both Melissa and Tanya Shute for all their efforts on our behalf in this valuable project.

### **Northwest Health Alliance**

The Northwest Health Alliance, the shared services corporation that was established by 12 of the 13 hospitals in NW Ontario, is now fully operational. The necessary project and customer agreements have been put in place, insurance coverage has been obtained and an eHealth advisory committee is actively engaged. The Alliance is now operating our shared PACS and Meditech systems and is seeking suggestions on other shared services that may benefit from this structure.

### **ORMED**

At the end of April the new administrative systems project (Ormed) was officially closed as an IS project. There is some outstanding work and some additional modules that will be implemented in the future by the end user departments. This includes an analysis of the functionality of the applications available within the human resources module. A closure report on the project is being prepared to identify lessons learned.

### **Long-Term Care Knowledge Sharing**

Staff from Wilson Memorial Hospital (Marathon) spent a half-day with the Manager of Long-Term Care at Bethammi Nursing Home, for assistance creating a long-term care unit in Marathon. Knowledge sharing included MOHLTC compliance, environmental design, and staffing patterns.

The Housing Manager, P. R. Cook Apartments is assisting Nipissing District Housing Corporation in establishing a Tenant Advisory Committee in their portfolio.

A team from Rainycrest Long-Term Care Home in Fort Frances visited Hogarth Riverview Manor and met with our long-term care home management team. There was discussion on our practice experiences and information was shared on policies, job descriptions, staffing ratios and operating data.

### **Closure of Frank Murphy Community Centre**

Discussions are ongoing with City of Thunder Bay Aquatics staff regarding the July 1<sup>st</sup> closure of FMCC, and the potential aquatic program alternatives that can be offered. A follow-up public information session has been scheduled.

### **Transitional Housing Project**

The Manager, Long-Term Care Community Support Programs, is working with the North West LHIN and Northwest CCAC to implement the Transitional Housing Project at McKellar Place, where 75 transitional supportive housing units will meet the urgent needs in the community on a temporary basis, prior to the opening of the Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors Services.

## **Communication & Advocacy**

### **Corporate DVD Update**

For the past few months, Tracy Buckler, President & CEO, St. Joseph's Care Group, has been presenting the corporate DVD and power point presentation to a number of community leaders and stakeholders. Feedback has been very positive with many groups appreciating the updates on our capital projects. On May 10<sup>th</sup>, Tracy presented at Thunder Bay City Council and answered questions about the new Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services (CEISS) and Mental Health Rehabilitation Program (MHRP). Councillors welcomed the information on these 'good news' projects in the community.

In June, Tracy will visit both internal and external audiences including several St. Joseph's Care Group Advisory Committees and the North West Local Health Integration Network Board of Directors. Presentations will continue in the fall with Tracy providing updates about St. Joseph's Care Group to the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce, the Thunder Bay Economic Development Commission, as well as other community partners.

The Corporate DVD package, including the DVD and an information brochure on our capital projects has been mailed to key stakeholders throughout the Province and is also available on our website ([www.sjcg.net](http://www.sjcg.net)).

## **Teaching & Research Identities**

### **Speech Presentation**

Tami Ross, Speech-Language Pathologist, did a presentation to the staff of the School House Playcare Centre on "Speech, Language and Social Communication".

### **Physiotherapy Presentation**

Fiona Maclean, Physiotherapist, made a presentation to the TBRHSC Rehabilitation Department and the Stroke Team on April 8<sup>th</sup> summarizing the Interurban Stroke Conference she attended in Toronto in January.

### **Research Initiative - Strength-Based Resiliency Models of Care**

Dr. Edward Rawana of Lakehead University is leading the Youth Addiction Residential Intensive Treatment research initiative on Strength-based Resiliency models of care in partnership with the Centre of Excellence of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, and has been accepted to present at an International Conference in Australia in the fall of 2010.

## **Capital Project Updates**

### **Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors Services (CEISS)**

The CEISS project is underway on the Hogarth Riverview Manor site, with the pilings being placed for the 132-unit Supportive Housing building. The next step is finalization of the development agreement for the Long-Term Care building that will house residents from Dawson Court, Grandview Lodge, and Bethammi Nursing Home.

### **East Wing Addition - Mental Health Rehabilitation Program**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) continue to review the Master Program and Master Plan components of the East Wing Addition. This review needs to be finalized before we can proceed to submission of the detailed design. Planning continues for demolition of the old Sister Margaret Smith Centre (SMSC) in the fall/winter of this year.