

# OHCA 2009/2010 Activity Highlights



- **Advocating for funding and expansion** for the home care sector
- Reinforcing OHCA's message that provincial resources be used to **support a strong home care system that is procured through a process that is fair, equitable and transparent**
- Representing members' interests at the Community Providers Association Committee (CPAC) – comprising of the OACCAC, OCSA and OHCA to address issues relating to procurement of home care services; information technology and health human resources
- Educating the public and other stakeholders about **the role and value of OHCA member providers as a quality choice in home care** through our website; electronic newsletter – House Calls; formal presentations at conferences and public consultations
- Taking industry perspective to government on province-wide issues such as the **H1N1 Pandemic planning, employment standards, information technology plans, workplace violence, needlestick program, health human resources strategy, family caregiver strategy, HST, the School Health Services review, aging at home strategy and chronic disease strategy**
- Conducting a **political campaign** targeted at MPPS in order to ensure that they understand the ramifications of the HST on seniors and their families who purchase home care services
- **Ensuring the government honours its contractual obligations related to material changes in contract**
- **Participating on the MOHLTC Integrated Client Care Project**
- **Partnering with the Change Foundation on its Integrating Service Delivery research**
- **Contributing to an economic analysis of the value of home and community care**
- Participating on the **Ministry of Labour Section 21 Committee** to ensure that the occupational health challenges inherent in delivering care in the home are understood.
- **Representing members** at numerous functions including **political functions, conferences**
- Presenting at the **Ontario Pre-Budget Consultation** sessions to advocate for funding for the home and community care sector
- Commenting on policy and legislation that impacts home care through media releases, position statements, presentations and review of documents
- Maintaining strong linkages to the **Home Care Research and Knowledge Exchange Chair**; and monitoring and supporting **research relevant to home care** industry and ensuring that the Ontario Home Care Association's members are given equal opportunity to participate
- Working with the provincial **Nursing Secretariat** to ensure home care representation on the **new graduate nursing initiative, PDA project** and the 'my home care nurse education' site
- Maintaining **relationships with LHINs, CCACs, OCFP, OHA, CHCA**
- Representing home care across the health system – **including, mental health, acute care, primary care, palliative care, pediatric care, chronic disease management and cancer care**
- Providing vital statistical information about home care in Ontario through **surveying and polling of our members**
- Undertaking a review of OHCA governance, policies and procedures (please see attached summary)

*"Helping the people of Ontario access the appropriate level of quality home and community health care."*

**The Ontario Home Care Association also provides members a number of other benefits, such as:**

- Offering **preferential rates** for employee benefits
- Offering **discounts to members** for workshops, conferences, publications
- Offering **fee reduction** for members seeking accreditation through **Accreditation Canada**
- Creating an **Ontario Home Care Association Balanced Scorecard Report to the Community** based on the Association's Standards for Home Health Care Service Agencies and Quality Template. This gives credibility to the sector and its pursuit of excellence in care delivery
- Being a source of information about government activities that can affect member operations such as the MOHLTC restructuring, CCAC alignment, Ontario E-health strategy and the primary health care strategy. **Opportunities to ensure that any government funding is directed to Association members is always explored**
- Providing web linkages to key health care sites including the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care, Ontario Hospital Association, Ontario Medical Association portal pages, LHINs, CCACs; and sites that impact home care providers through the members only resource pages
- Providing **members' only access** to a wide range of information within human resources; operations; research; education; government/policy; information management
- Promoting member services through a customized search on our website for the purpose of finding a home care provider; finding a home care employer; and, a recent addition, the **Home Care and Me** information page geared toward the general public - **Only Association members have a direct links to the consumer or prospective employee**
- Providing members with **networking opportunities** and access to health care leaders and decision makers
- **Publishing Association position statements and papers** independently and in collaboration with other sectors within health care
- Producing a bi-monthly Executive Director's report which **highlights and analyzes new and emerging issues that can help members position themselves within the health care community**
- Providing packages of **current and relevant information affecting health care providers**
- Producing a **weekly electronic news update** that reaches a wide spectrum of health care providers, government and the public
- **Marketing members' services** to referral sources
- .....and much more.



## OHCA Governance Review

**On behalf of the Board of Directors of the OHCA, we are pleased to advise that a review of the Association's governance has been completed. The Board will be bringing a number of by-law changes to the membership at the Annual General Meeting on May 13, 2010.**

### Background

The Governance Working Group was established in the fall of 2008 to make recommendations on matters related to Board governance, specifically, 1) the AGM process, 2) membership guidelines and 3) Board representation. The Working Group consisted of:

- Martha Russel, Integracare, Chair
- Sally Harding, Nightingale Nursing
- Dwight Winfield, CarePartners
- OHCA Staff

Influencing the approach to the governance review was an awareness of the changes in home care in Ontario – the sector is becoming larger, more complex and integrated into the broader health care system. Accordingly, the OHCA has broadened its scope and as the *“voice of home care in Ontario”* is called upon to participate and comment on an ever increasing range of health care issues. The Working Group recognized that new models of care and service delivery will emerge and that its recommendations had to reflect the anticipated changes of the future. Membership and an active Board enable the work of the Association and while member queries initiated the work, the key driver was to develop an approach that will responsibly serve the sector into the future.

### Proposed Changes

The proposed by-law changes for consideration will be formally presented to the membership in accordance with current requirements. The following summary is intended to provide you with an overview of the recommendations.

#### 1) AGM Process

- Clarification of the nomination process which will include profiling candidates on the web and electronic voting
- A transition process for departing and new Board members

#### 2) Membership Guidelines

- Clarification that membership includes all home care revenue from related entities in Ontario that are not deemed to be at ‘arm’s length’ – with some exemptions
- The establishment of a ‘member in transition’ in order to accommodate OHCA members whose organizational structure changes to include a non-member home care entity
- The establishment of a Committee of the Board responsible for reviewing and recommending applications and matters pertaining to membership (Committee members will NOT have access to any confidential information)

#### 3) Board Representation

- The establishment of succession planning for the Board presidency
- The introduction of terms of office for Board members and for officer positions
- An increase in the size of the Board to a range of 10-14 which reflecting specific constituencies

**OHCA staff are currently working with legal counsel to prepare the specific motions that will be brought to the AGM. Please stay tuned for more updates!**