

OHCA Symposium highlights growing trend to collect and use evidence

May 14, 2010 – *Showcasing our Best* was the theme of the Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA) Symposium held in Mississauga yesterday. Participants declared the event a “rousing success” citing the diversity and knowledge of the lecturers, poster presenters and exhibitors.

The importance of evidence was a theme throughout all the sessions starting with Dr. John Hirdes, Ontario Home Care Research and Knowledge Exchange Chair, who spoke to the need for “new constellations of care” that comprehensively and effectively support people to remain at home for as long as safely possible. Issues of safety, health human resource competencies and shifting toward a focus on outcomes were some of the topics presented and discussed. The day ended with a discussion on new models of home care being explored through Ontario’s Integrated Client Care Project.

The theme of the OHCA Symposium reflects the Association’s mandate to demonstrate the potential of the home care sector and highlight the ways in which home care best supports our health system to realize the expectations of Ontarians,” said Sue VanderBent, Executive Director.

Newly elected OHCA President, Stuart Cottrelle concurred. “Home care is an important option that will help the government to realize its system goals related to right service at the right time and in the right place by the right provider”, said Cottrelle.

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About the OHCA

The Ontario Home Care Association (OHCA), *the voice of home care in Ontario™*, is an organization of home health and social care service providers. Association members deliver nursing care, home support services, personal care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, dietetics, speech language therapy and medical equipment and supplies in the home to individuals of all ages. OHCA members are contracted by all three levels of government, Community Care Access Centres, insurance companies, institutions, corporations and private individuals. OHCA members are accredited through the Accreditation Canada and/or the International Standards Association (ISO).

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