



CANO/ACIO

Council of Chapters and External Representatives Reports

2009-2010

Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO)
Association canadienne des infirmières en oncologie (ACIO)
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CHAPTERS REPORTS

Alberta Chapter – ONIGA South

Executive:

President: Stephanie Hubbard

Past President: Tracy Powell

Treasurer: Linda Juse

Secretary: Sydney Phillips

Educator: Linda Watson

Member at Large/Go to Girl: Marie Casey

The 2009/2010 year has had an extremely exciting list of events to support the development of student and practicing nurses in southern Alberta. In the fall, Fiona Garforth-Bles, an RN from the Tom Baker Cancer Centre (TBCC) chemotherapy outpatient unit spoke to the group about her experiences working with patients receiving chemotherapy under dismal conditions in Uganda. She has gone on to additional international studies in her pursuit of this wonderful cause. Well done Fiona! Following this presentation, two novice TBCC nurses provided an update on nursing care for GI malignancies. Sydney Phillips and Jamie Guedo have subsequently had this talk accepted for presentation at CANO 2010. We are all very proud of their work and commitment to the profession.

Dr. Nicole Culos Reed from the Faculty of Kinesiology gave an enlightening talk at our regular meeting regarding the research on exercise and cancer care. This was a practice transforming lecture for many who attended. Oncology Nursing Day was celebrated with the annual gathering of our members at Fort Calgary. A wonderful dinner was served and Dr. Paul Varella, Associate Professor Strategy and Organizational Studies from the Mount Royal University gave a lecture on organizational change speaking directly to the present challenges we are experiencing with the profound changes associated within Alberta Health Services.

ONIGA South assisted nursing educational services at TBCC this year with the Oncology Nursing Spring update which was held on April 16th and 17th at Fort Calgary. This two day educational event for oncology nurses is held annually and provides numerous educational experiences for nurses. This years topics included spirituality, humour, updates on the treatments of lung, gynecological, melanoma and sarcoma malignancies. ONIGA South looks forward to even more active involvement with this event in the future.

The year came to a momentous end with an intimate gathering of ONIGA South members discussing the psychosocial distress screening national initiative with Dr. Deborah Macleod. All members present participated in meaningful debate about the skill set of oncology nurses and the impact they have on patient experiences.

Our Executive would like to thank all of the new and old members who have attended all our educational events over the last year. We would like to also thank the Past President, Tracy Powell, who presently works at Mount Royal University and has encouraged numerous nursing students to attend our educational events. We believe her efforts will have long term benefits, inspiring student nurses to enter into the specialized area of Oncology Nursing.

Overall, it was a busy year for all members of the Executive Board. The group have worked effectively together to carry the load. We are looking forward to next year.

Alberta Chapter – ONIGA North

Executive:

President- Carole Szwajkowski

Secretary- Wayne Enders

Treasurer- Karen Hough

Member at Large- Miriam Dobson

Janet Bates

Kathryn Calder

The Oncology Nurses Interest Group of Alberta North priority continues to focus on increasing our membership.

We are thrilled to be hosting CANO 2010 in Edmonton. It will be held at the Shaw conference Center from Sept 12-15, 2010. The Power of One- The Potential of Together will focus on Leadership. The Local Planning Committee is working hard to make it a successful conference. The social event will be at our new Alberta Art Gallery.

We continue to hold educational events for our chapter. One successful evening had three speakers from the Cross Cancer Institute. Edie Pituskin NP presented the historical perspective of Nursing at the Cross Cancer Institute. Krista Rawson NP talked about nursing and communication and Kathryn Calder MN Clinical research Nurse introduced the members to Lost in Translation: Nursing Roles in Translational Research. The second educational event was presented by our guest speaker Kelly Enders RN. The topic was on "Women's Health: Urinary Incontinence and Promoting Pelvic Floor Health". These evenings are an opportunity to learn, network and we conclude the evening with a wine and cheese.

We held our 4th annual Oncology Nurses Day breakfast at the Cross Cancer Institute. Our chapter hosts a continental breakfast for all the staff. We fed more than 300 staff. We also sponsored a CANO table and promoted our association. We proudly showcased the Mayor's proclamation at the breakfast. We also sponsored a lab coat and uniform sale at the breakfast. This is the best form of advertising for

CANO and our chapter. The staff looks forward to this every year. The nurses within our region were given OND pens.

ONIGA North has collaborated with the Nursing Education Department at Cross Cancer Institute to host the annual Oncology Nursing Spring Update in May. It was a successful weekend event with 100 nurses attending.

The challenge for the current executive is to continue to promote membership and fill the executive positions that will be open with the next elections. We are optimistic that the CANO conference we are hosting will spark interest.

Submitted by Carole Sz wajkowski RN BScN CON(C)

Nova Scotia Chapter

Executive Team

Karen Woodworth- Co-President

Jo-Ann Edwards- Co-President

Joy Tarasuk- Past President

Joanne Cumming- Education Chair

Vivienne Hudson- Treasurer

Wavey Gosse - Secretary

Anne McCormick- Cape Breton Representative

Charlene Porter- GASHA_District Representative (Guysborough, Antigonish, Strait Area_Health Authority)

Group Characteristics

Our membership consists of oncology nurses from a variety of practice areas across the province, including inpatient and ambulatory areas; adult and pediatric populations; cancer patient navigators , clinical practice, education, administration and research.

We currently have 32 members, and are actively recruiting.

Mandate

- Provide oncology nurses across the province with an opportunity to learn and share with their fellow colleagues.
- Promote nursing leadership in oncology.
- Increase the awareness of CANO.
- Increase the membership of CANO members within Nova Scotia.

Key Initiatives Over the Past Year

- A number of CANO NS members were able to attend the CANO national conference in Montreal in October 2009. Our NS Chapter member, Joan Hamilton, CNS, ,Capital Health Cancer Care Program conducted a very informative 2 hour workshop on cancer & sexuality.
- The Nova Scotia Chapter of CANO hosted a spring workshop on Saturday, April 24, 2010. The topic: "I've Got Cancer, Why Stop Smoking ? : Helping Patients Move Towards A Health Behavior Change". Presenters ; Dan Steeves, B.Ed, Stop Smoking Specialist & Scott Janssen, MSW, Clinical Team Leader, Addiction Prevention and Treatment Services, Capital Health, Halifax. This informative 8 hour workshop was a complete success and attended by 23 participants. This educational initiative was made possible through CANO Chapter Grant Funding !
- CANO NS Chapter Executive continues to meet on a monthly to bi-monthly basis at our hospital worksite in Halifax . We are currently searching for CANO members who are interested in sitting on the Executive Committee for the 2011-2013 term.

Special Recognition: Leslie McLean, BA, BScN, MN was the NS Chapter of CANO recipient of the Chapter Nurse Acknowledgment Award for 2010. Leslie is an APN and Project Manager with the Capital Health Cancer Care Program and an Adjunct Professor with the Dalhousie University School of Nursing. She has been an active member of CANO for 20 years.

Brenda Sabo, NS Chapter member, holds the national position as Vice-President, CANO Board of Directors for the 2009-2011 term.

Work Plan for Next Year

- Nova Scotia Chapter of CANO will be hosting the national CANO conference in Halifax from September 10-14th, 2011. The Local Planning Committee has been actively participating in the planning process over the past year. The NS Chapter anticipates that the conference will become our main focus over the next 16 months.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Woodworth RN, BN, CON(c)

Head & Neck Oncology Case Manager, Capital Health Cancer Care Program

Jo-Ann Edwards NP, MN, CON (c)

Nurse Practitioner, Capital Health BMT Program

Co-Presidents, CANO-Nova Scotia Chapter

Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter

Executive:

Sharon D. Pippy (President) spippy@nl.rogers.com
Carol Mackey (Treasurer) camackey@nl.rogers.com
Charlene Downey (Secretary) Charlene.downey@easternhealth.ca

Highlights of the Year

To represent and promote the goals and initiatives of the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO), we have actively pursued members through membership drives in the spring 2009, during the 2009 ARNNL AGM and in March 2010. CANO-NL funded three members to the National CANO Conference in Montreal, October 2009. A total of four nurses attended from NL.

The 2009 Provincial Conference was cancelled due to the roll-out of the H1N1 vaccine. This prompted a review of our educational programming. The program for 2010 – 2011 will likely include teleconference offerings via ARNNL. The first education session of 2010 addressed Colorectal Cancer, and introduced to the audience Dr. Betty Dicks and the new CRC Genetic Screening Program.

We have ready for the fall semester a Student Nurse Lectureship Award of \$500. The successful candidate will present at a CANO-NL education session. We will begin the fall season with cancer nurse promotion sessions at local nursing schools using the template developed by CANO National.

Work on updating Terms of Reference and Bylaws is ongoing but should be available to include in the chapter section of the CANO Website in the fall.

Prepared on behalf of CANO-NL by Sharon D Pippy, President

Ontario – Central West

Executive:

President: Nancy Knox RN BScN CON Juravinski Cancer Centre
Treasurer: Sharon Mountain RN CON Juravinski Cancer Centre
Secretary: Caroline Elliott RN BScN CON CHPCN Juravinski Hospital

Membership:

In our chapter, at present we have approximately 40 members in the Central West Region. We would like to see this number increased to at least 100 members. At our last executive meeting we talked about amalgamating with the Kitchener-Waterloo region but have been unable to contact the president of that chapter.

We would still like to amalgamate with another chapter in Ontario. Perhaps the London region might be interested. Our membership numbers are low.

Mandate: To provide yearly educational events for oncology nurses and to share information arising from the CANO Annual Conference with the members in the fall or spring meeting.

Key Initiatives: We will work on our web page and have that ready by the conference.

We hosted a dinner meeting in May of 2010. We had a very dynamic motivational nurse speaker talking about engaging in "Nursing Research". The number of attendees was somewhat disappointing. We're still struggling to keep the chapter active.

Recruitment Information: We will provide nurses with opportunities to become a CANO member at each meeting by providing membership forms.

We will be looking for CANO members across the Central West region to promote CANO at their various workplaces by providing membership forms and acting as a resource for their workplace.

Submitted by Nancy Knox, President Central West Chapter

Ontario - Champlain Chapter

We had a busy & successful year here in Ottawa and Champlain region! We have begun the process of rejuvenating our local chapter, with many new members on the local chapter executive and various chapter subcommittees. Additionally, we pulled together a very enthusiastic volunteer planning committee for the 2012 National Conference which we will be hosting in Ottawa/Champlain!

At the start of this year we applied for and were successful in receiving a Chapter Grant to offer a number of local educational and networking events. The first event was a successful wine and cheese for CANO members, in celebration of Oncology Nurses Day. Our guest speaker was Debbie Gravel, an APN in palliative care in this region, who is also well known within CANO. Debbie was invited to speak about her recent experiences as part of a delegation that visited China to learn about and share perspectives on palliative care. The next educational session will be attached to our chapter AGM which is planned for this fall. This educational session will focus on Adventure Therapy in adolescents and young adults with cancer.

We anticipate several more educational activities in the upcoming year, as well as concerted efforts at recruitment and retention to our chapter. There will be lots of buzz and activity in relation to starting the planning process for the 2012 national conference. We have started to post information on the CANO Chapters website, and encourage all Champlain Chapter members to check it out!

*Pat McCarthy & Kelly Ann Baines,
Co chairs, Champlain Chapter*

Ontario - London Chapter

Executive: Susan Collins: President
Pat Stalker: Treasurer
Adrienne Fulford: Secretary/ VP

After a couple of years of struggling with the loss of valued members, LONIG has had a busy schedule. In April we held an all day conference: **Promoting the Spirit of Survivorship** which was well attended. We were fortunate to have Jennifer Wiernikowski as our keynote speaker and all speakers and topics were well received. Our most valued door prize was a membership to CANO, given in memory of Wendy Gillis.

Oncology Nursing Day was celebrated with luncheons for nurses where CANO pens and pins were presented.

This September we plan to assist two CANO members to attend and to present for the first time at the conference in Edmonton.

We still struggle to increase membership and participation at the local level. Our mandate, like others, is to promote Oncology Nursing through educational sessions and our conferences, held every 18 months. We encourage membership in CANO and support nurses to share their projects and presentations at the local and national levels

Ontario - Northeastern Chapter

<u>Executive/Leadership:</u>	Suzanne Levesque	-	President
	Janice Romanko	-	Past-President
	Micheline Lapierre	-	President-Elect
	Margaux Lachance	-	Fundraising
	Carole Chamberland	-	Fundraising
	Barbara Ballantyne	-	Secretary
	Nicole McDonald	-	Treasurer

We are currently 25 members.

Mandate:

To promote oncology nursing through meetings, educational sessions as well as promoting the national organization.

Key Initiatives:

- To date, we have hosted two major educational events. Dr. Fadel Ishak, ENT Surgeon, presented on head and neck cancer. Dr. John Mazurka, Gynae-oncologist, presented on endometrial cancer. We had approximately 50 attendees for each event. Our third major event is planned for late May, when Dr. Charles Kettle, Plastic Surgeon, will be presenting on breast reconstruction
- We participated in our local Oncology Conference held in October, 2009, by displaying a chapter poster which outlined information on CANO and NEOCON
- We received a grant from CANO for Oncology Nursing Day. These dollars will be used for the Breast Reconstruction presentation. This event is open to all nursing staff
- We have had a presentation from Lissa Gagnon and Dr. Debra Bakker regarding nurse autonomy
- Linda Masko, one of our members, has been instrumental in promoting the CANO student initiatives. She provided a Powerpoint presentation to our local chapter and gave a presentation to nursing students at Nipissing University
- For Oncology Nursing Day, we set up a display at the Regional Cancer Program illustrating the positive comments nurses have received from patients and their families. This served to demonstrate the good work we do. We also displayed in the cafeteria of the regional hospital a poster board which outlined the various roles we play as nurses in oncology, for example, stem cell, radiation, medical oncology as well as inpatient oncology nursing

- Fundraising was successful again this year. We have generated funds with an Easter Bake Sale, a raffle for a Christmas basket, contents of which are donated by members, as well as sale of donated books
- Revenue is used to support NEOCON members to attend the annual CANO conference; three awards of \$1,000 each were granted to members to attend
- Roche Pharmaceuticals sponsored a social breakfast for oncology nurses during Oncology Nurses' Day
- Members submitted three abstracts for this year's annual general meeting

Plans for 2010/2011:

- Increase CANO membership by promoting and encouraging students, surgical and medical nurses
- Educational presentation to include paediatric oncology
- Develop poster presentation as a local executive

Suzanne Levesque, RN, CON (C), CVAA (C)
President

Ontario - Toronto Chapter

Executive

- Corsita Garraway – President
- Simonne Simon – Treasurer
- Katrina Longfield – Secretary
- Karen Lock – MAL/CANO Website Manager
- Diana Incekol – MAL/Newsletter Committee
- Kelly McGuigan – MAL
- Philiz Goh – Student Member/MAL

Membership:

The Toronto Chapter of Oncology Nurses has 132 members representing oncology nurses throughout the greater Toronto area. TCON continues to promote CANO and the benefits of membership oncology nurses.

Mandate:

To continue to offer educational events and networking opportunities in the evening without additional costs to membership, while maintaining low costs to non-members; and increasing CANO membership.

Key Initiatives:

Among our Continuing Education evenings in conjunction with our Pharmaceutical partners, members (and non-members) received up-to-date information about: Optimizing Patient Outcomes with Cetuximab.

TCON collaborated with the Princess Margaret Systemic Therapy Professional Nursing Council this year to Co-host The 2nd Annual Oncology Nursing Education Day: Sex, Drugs & HPV: Dispelling the Myths and Highlighting the Issues was held on June 18th, 2010 at the Old Mill Inn & Spa. The event provided the over 160 members and non-members with exciting educational experiences, networking opportunities, and 6 CE hours. The Keynote Speaker was Sue Johanson, host of the “Sunday Night Sex Show”. Another highlight of this successful collaboration, was a presentation by Dr. Nancy Durand, Women’s Health Guest expert on Citytv’s Cityline Show entitled “Let’s Talk about HPV”, who highlighted a number positive reasons for HPV Vaccines and in fact dispelled a number of myths.

TCON launched an online newsletter in the fall of 2009 with the intent to make a quarterly offering. Our inaugural publication featured Cathy Kitley – CANO Board of Directors, as a nurse to know. Philiz Goh, a Nursing Student at U of T who has been working closely with TCON, and holds the first student nurse position on our executive was also featured.

Oncology Nursing Day: Where challenge Meets Opportunity was celebrated with a dinner symposium, which provided updates in Improving Outcomes For Your Cancer Patients: Treatment for Renal Cell Carcinoma. TCON was successful in obtaining a Mayoral Proclamation for this day.

Special Recognition:

Congratulations to all oncology nurses who obtained CNA certification this past year, particularly Oncology and Hospice and Palliative Care. Numerous TCON Members received Awards this past year; among them are:

CANO Awards:

- **Lifetime Achievement**– Esther Green
- **Schering Plough Lectureship** – Sherrol Palmer Wickham, Kathy Beattie, Angela Boudreau and Marg Fitch
- **Helene Hudson Memorial Lectureship Award** –Laura Rashleigh and Charissa Cordon
- **Pfizer Awards of Excellence**

- Clinical Practice – Corsita Garraway
- Education – Angela Leahey
- **Oncology Nursing Day Award** – Shawne Gray

Nightingale Award – Carole Veenema

Frank Gerstein Charitable Advanced Education Award for Palliative Care Nursing at Princess Margaret Hospital – Simonne Simon

York University Master’s Science in Nursing:

- Academic Excellence – Laura Rashleigh
- Major Research Paper Award – Laura Rashleigh

Oncology Nursing Research Award (University Health Network) – Jacquie Galica et al

Leadership Excellence in Clinical Practice Award (University Health Network) – Charissa Cordon

de Souza Institute Scholarship – Diana Incekol

Work Plan for 2010-2011

AGM in October with intent to elect new executive members on the board. We will continue to provide continuing educational opportunities for our membership, and strive to increase CANO membership from our non-members.

Outgoing Executive: Devi Ahuja – MAL has resigned her position after over seven years. We extend our sincerest gratitude to her for her commitment over the years, and wish her luck in her future endeavours.

Corsita Garraway

President

Toronto Chapter of Oncology Nurses (TCOON)

Prince Edward Island Chapter

Executive

President- Katherine Grant-Smith RN, BScN, CON(C)

Vice President- Megan Smallwood RN, BScN, MN, CON(C)

Treasurer-Elaine Smith RN

Secretary- Cathie Bernard RN, BN, CON(C)

Current Membership: 14(significant increase from last year)

Mandate

Our goal is to support the advancement of oncology nurses in P.E.I by promoting and developing excellence in oncology nursing and to share our expertise with other Registered Nurses across the Island involved in the care of oncology patients and their families. To promote new membership and to encourage past members to renew.

Key Initiatives

To promote education. We fund raise throughout the year to support our members in attending local, regional and national education sessions and conferences. This year we will support at least two and hopefully three members to attend the 2010 CANO Annual Conference.

Special Recognition

For oncology nurses day we celebrated our profession with dinner, followed by a chapter Meeting

Work Plan for 2010-2011

-We are in the process of planning for our annual fall provincial conference. The topic this year is Multiple Myeloma, speakers include: Jo Ann Edwards NP Nurse Practitioner in Hematology QEII Health Sciences Centre, Halifax NS

Dr. Wanda Hasegawa: Specialty, Myeloma Bone Marrow Transplants QEII Health Sciences Centre, Halifax NS

Teresa Micelli: RN BSN CON, Mayo Clinic, Member of the Nurse Leadership Board of the International Myeloma Foundation

We continue to promote CANO membership, education and national certification.

Recruitment Information

Katherine Grant-Smith

kmgrant@ihis.org

Quebec Chapter/ Association québécoise des infirmières en oncologie (AQIO)

Executive:

- President – Sylvie Bélanger
- Vice President – Linda Hershon
- Treasurer – Jacinthe Brodeur
- Secretary – Sonia Joannette

Board Members:

- Onco-Nursing Journal: Sylvie Croteau (Editor), Nicole Tremblay, Linda Hershon, Nathalie Filion
- Translation Committee: Marie de Serres
- Communication and Website: Lise Lavasseur,
- AQIO Representative to CANO: Marika Swidzinski
- Education Committee: Maryse Carignan, Lucie Tardif
- AQIO Annual Conference: Jacinthe Brodeur

Group Characteristics:

The Quebec Chapter has a membership of 143 nurses.

Mandate:

AQIO recognizes the responsibilities and the role of nurses in Quebec in promoting and assuring quality care to individuals diagnosed with cancer or those at risk of developing cancer and their family. A cancer diagnosis is an event, which changes the life not only of individuals who are diagnosed with cancer but also their loved ones. In this life experience, nurses consider families or significant others as partners in care and also as individuals who are in need of support, information and counseling towards the resolution of problems.

Oncology Care encompasses prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, long-term survival, palliative care and end-of-life care. Nurses recognize the knowledge and skills required to assure competence in the complex needs of individuals diagnosed with cancer. In order to accomplish this, AQIO is implicated in the consolidation and development of quality evidence-based oncology nursing practice.

Objectives:

- Establish a communication network among nurses in Quebec with an interest in Oncology.
- Promote the exchange of knowledge, information and ideas in order to enrich the quality oncology care in Quebec.
- To support the development of specialized oncology nursing education.

- Promote oncology-nursing research in Quebec.
- Assure that oncology nurses are represented in organizations implicated in the fight against cancer at the provincial and national levels.
- Work collaboratively with the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology.

Key Initiatives:

AQIO is an associate member of the Secrétariat international des infirmières et infirmiers de l'espace francophone (SIDIEF). The mission of this organization is to contribute to collaborative nursing practise amongst Francophone nurses worldwide. This past year members of the Quebec Chapter developed a symposium related to the standards of care in oncology nursing for the 4th Annual International Conference in Marrakech, Morocco held June 7th to 11th. A partnership between AQIO and Amgen has resulted in the awarding of several travel bursaries to the participants. The symposium included the two following presentations. Sylvie Bélanger, Andréanne Saucier and Lise Lavasseur presented, Les nouveaux rôles infirmiers en oncologie: défis et opportunités pour une intégration professionnelle réussie. A workshop entitled, Des normes de pratique pour les infirmiers en oncologie: un cadre de référence pour intervention au cœur de l'action was presented by Sylvie Belanger, Astrid Bazile, Jacinthe Brodeur, Andreanne Saucier and Anne Plante.

AQIO was also asked to participate in a collaborative forum between SIDIEF and the Association des médecines de langue française du Canada (AMLFC). Karine Bilodeau, Claudette Foucault and Anne Plante represented the Quebec Chapter.

AQIO was able to grant financial support to two Quebec Chapter members: Karine Godbout and Veronique Lebel who both presented abstracts at the conference..

Over the past year AQIO has sponsored two Educational Evening Dinner Conferences. In order to promote the advantages of becoming a CANO/ACIO member, once again this year, members were able to attend the educational evenings without a registration fee.

The first conference focused on sharing the highlights of numerous presentations from the 4th Annual World Conference of Francophone Nurses held in Marrakech Morocco from June 7th to 11th. Over 55 nurses attended the evening. Presenters included Karine Bilodeau (Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal); Claudette Foucault (CSSS Laval); Karine Godbout (McGill University Health Center); Khadija Khabzi (CSSS Cœur de l'île) ; and Anne Plante (Hôpital Charles Lemoyne). AQIO would like to express their sincere gratitude to Amgen Canada for supporting this educational session.

The second educational evening sponsored by Novartis Pharma Canada on March 24th provided 33 oncology nurses with a presentation related to Metastatic Renal Cancer by Dr. Pierre Karakiewicz from Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal

Once again, prior to this year's Annual Provincial Conference, AQIO, in collaboration with la Direction de la lutte contre le cancer, was able to organize the 5th annual pre-conference seminar for the *infirmières pivots en oncologie (IPO)*. 126 IPOs attended the conference, Développer son pouvoir d'influence dans son rôle IPO: pourquoi et comment, presented by Dr. Nicole Cote psychologist.

April 23rd 2009 was the date of AQIO's Annual Provincial Conference entitled *Évolution et complexité des soins en oncologie : préparons l'avenir*. Over 190 nurses attended the conference. The conference provided oncology nurses throughout the province with an occasion to network with other health care professionals, and colleagues at several different workshops.

AQIO would like to take the opportunity to thank the conference committee for their commitment in once again developing an Annual Provincial Conference which continues to be a great success: Jacinthe Brodeur, Lucie Laporte, Lise Deslandes, Caroline Mathieu, Nathalie Moreau, Johanne Brodeur, Murielle Tremblay-Leblanc, Sophie Berger, Karine Bilodeau, Karine Lepage and Antoinette Ehrler.

Group Outputs:

The 21st annual CANO/ACIO conference was held in Montreal, October 25-28, 2009. This was the first time the conference was held in Montreal. Five hundred and thirty-seven (537) delegates attended the conference under the theme of, Hope, meaning and Resilience in the Spirit of Survivorship. The Quebec Chapter, AQIO Board of Directors acted as the Local Planning Committee. Linda Hershon and Marika Swidzinski were the co-chairs for this conference. The scientific Planning Committee was co-chaired by Myriam Skrutkowski and Maryse Carignan. Special recognition to Lucie Tardif for her organization of the volunteers required for this conference.

The AQIO web site (www.aqio.org) continues to provide oncology nurses in Quebec and beyond with information and a venue to promote networking with colleagues. We would like to extend an invitation to everyone to visit our web site.

Our journal Onco-Nursing provides oncology nurses in Quebec with the opportunity to share their knowledge with their colleagues. The journal now offers a bilingual article to our Anglophone members.

Special Recognition:

This year, AQIO honoured Louise Courchesne, IPO in Breast Cancer from Centre hospitalier régional de Trois-Rivières with the *AQIO prix d'excellence* for her dedication in oncology nursing in Quebec.

It is with great sadness that AQIO shares the news of the retirement of Marie de Serres. Marie has been an active member of the Quebec Chapter and has been on the Board of Directors of AQIO for over 15 years. AQIO wishes Marie all the best in her new endeavours.

AQIO also would like to recognize Dr. Andrea Maria Laizner for receiving the Prix Florence in the category of Nursing Research by the Order of Nurses of Quebec (OIIQ).

Work Plan for Next Year:

AQIO's goals for the upcoming year include the following objectives:

- Continue to increase the membership in Quebec.
- Encourage nurses to submit articles, conference summaries, educational articles for publishing in our journal Onco-Nursing.
- Continue to offer educational opportunities for oncology nurses minimally twice a year as well as our Annual Provincial Conference.
- Develop a strategic plan for oncology nursing in Quebec in conjunction with the OIIQ and La direction de lutte contre le cancer.
- Promote nursing research in oncology in Quebec.
- Assure that oncology nurses are represented in provincial and national committees, which are implicated in the fight against cancer.

Submitted by:

Marika Swidzinski, RN., B.A., MEd., CON(C)

Quebec Chapter, AQIO Representative to CANO

Nurse Manager Hematology Oncology Services

McGill University Health Centre, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal

EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology (CAPO)

2009-2010 CAPO Executive

Tom Hack, PhD (President)

Deborah McLeod, PhD,,R.N., (Vice-President)

Maureen Parkinson, MEd, C.C.R.C. (Treasurer)

Mary Jane Esplen, PhD, RN (Past-President)

Membership

Regular members of CAPO include anyone with a university degree or registration, certification or other accreditation in a recognized profession who is involved in or interested in psychosocial oncology. CAPO also offers student memberships.

Mandate

The purpose of CAPO is to foster and encourage interdisciplinary excellence in psychosocial research, education and clinical practice in oncology.

Key Initiatives in 2009-2010

CAPO has been involved in a number of key initiatives over the past year including:

1. New Resources

a) CAPO's Standards of Psychosocial Health Services for Persons with Cancer and their Families

These standards are the result of extensive consultation and provide a vital reference tool in the provision of health services. The Standards are now available on the CAPO website.

b) Pan-Canadian Clinical Practice Guideline: Assessment of Psychosocial Health Care Needs of the Adult Cancer Patient

CAPO, in collaboration with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) and other key partners, is leading initiatives to develop and disseminate national psychosocial oncology clinical practice guidelines. This guideline on assessment of psychosocial health care needs of adult cancer patients was completed and is now available in English and French on the CAPO website. The guideline will also be included in the CPAC – Cancer Journey Action Group *Person- Centred Care Toolkit* (a compilation of resources that offer support to people living with cancer, and to advocates, health-care teams and others working in cancer care). CAPO is the custodian of this guideline, responsible for ensuring dissemination and timely review.

The completed guidelines and standards will make a significant contribution to cancer care in Canada, as well as serve as a model to influence other nations as they continue to develop their cancer care

programs and national strategies. CAPO is working collaboratively with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer – Cancer Journey Action Group on the development of other tools to support effective practice.

2. Launch of CPOP Online – a Website for Psychosocial Oncology Partners”

With a CPAC-funded grant (Rebalance Focus Action Group – Education Subgroup), Dr. Lynne Robinson and Dr. Mary Jane Esplen along with other CAPO representatives launched the **Canadian Psychosocial Oncology Partners (CPOP)** website in April 2010 to provide a forum for CAPO members, health care professionals and community-based organization to connect, collaborate, create and share information. In order to access to this site go to Cancer View Canada’s registration page to create an account: www.cancerview.ca/registration

3. Education

The Interdisciplinary Psychosocial Oncology Distance Education Project (IPODE) is now in its fourth year under the leadership of Drs. Deborah McLeod and Serge Dumont. Two interprofessional, web-based courses are now offered, with a third course in development. In addition, a self guided web-based learning resource to support screening for distress was developed. The courses include:

- a) Interprofessional Psychosocial Oncology: Introduction to Theory and Practice (offered each Fall)
- b) Relational Practices with Families in Oncology & Palliative Care (offered each winter)
- c) Sexual Health Counseling (Part I & Part II – available 2010-2011)

These courses have been made possible through financial support from: Health Canada, IECPCP Initiative (2006-2008); the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (2008-2009; 2009-2010) and the de Souza Institute (2009-2011). Further information and updates can be found on the CAPO website:

www.capo.ca

4. Conferences

- CAPO hosted a joint CAPO and IPOS conference in Quebec City on May 25 – 29, 2010. The conference theme was *Hope, Meaning and Science for Quality of Care in Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative care*. This meeting was the 25th annual CAPO conference. During the World Congress, the inaugural CAPO President’s Award was presented to the Honorable Steven Fletcher, in recognition of his contributions to the creation of the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control, and later the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC), a \$500 million federal government initiative that has advanced the delivery of quality cancer care service in Canada.

- The 26th Annual CAPO meeting will be in Toronto, May 4-6, 2011. The theme is “Searching for Wisdom: Bridging clinical practice and research.”

5. CAPO Award of Education Excellence – Presented to Dr. Carmen Loiselle

CAPO presented this award to Dr. Loiselle, Associate Professor in the School of Nursing, McGill University, and Nurse Scientist at the [Centre for Nursing Research](#)/Lady Davis Institute of the SMBD-Jewish General Hospital . This award recognizes an individual who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee and the Board of Directors of CAPO, has made a significant contribution to education and training in psychosocial oncology in Canada. Dr. Loiselle leads the highly successful CIHR funded

research training program, PORT (Psychosocial Oncology Research Training Program). For more information see: www.port.mcgill.ca

Recruitment Information

CAPO is actively seeking new members from all disciplines and would welcome contributions to the Practice Advisory, Education, Research, Awards and Fund Raising Committees. Please visit CAPO at www.capo.ca

Dr. Joan L. Bottorff, Professor, School of Nursing, and Director of the Institute for Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention, University of British Columbia Okanagan, Board of Directors CAPO (2008-)

CPAC - Health Human Resources Action Group (HHR-AG)

Mandate and Group characteristics

The Health Human Resources Action Group project was directed by a committee representing the British Columbia Academic Health Council, the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists, Cancer Care Manitoba, Cancer Care Ontario, Lakehead University, the McGill University Health Centre, the New Brunswick Cancer Network and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Outcomes 2009-2010

1) HHR Workforce Symposium January 25-26, 2010

The symposium, entitled *Inspiring Innovation in Service Delivery: Optimizing the Cancer Workforce*, built on innovations from the Service Delivery Models Project. It provided a national platform to collaboratively explore approaches to delivering care that enhance and optimize the skills, knowledge and contributions of the cancer workforce. The symposium connected over 150 delegates, a diverse group of stakeholders including system planners, administrators, educators, managers, and providers from all regions of the country with a broad range of skills and workplace experiences. Attendees shared common goals: an interest in finding ways to address and overcome the existing and projected deficiencies of health human resources, as well as a commitment to provide quality cancer care to current and future patients.

2) Innovative Service Delivery Models Project

The Service Delivery Models Project was completed by the end of May, 2010. The repository was launched and currently contains models from Canada. The symposium presentations and the service delivery repository can be found on www.cancerview.ca.

Future Initiatives

The repository will be sustained and managed by the Partnership's Portal team over the remainder of the Partnership's mandate. The Partnership is currently reviewing the remaining initiatives under the HHR portfolio.

Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (the Partnership), Cancer Journey Advisory Group

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (the Partnership)

The Cancer Journey Advisory Group: Lead for Guidelines and Standards

Executive

Dr. Margaret I. Fitch, Advisory Group Chair, The Cancer Journey Advisory Group.

There are several working subgroups within Guidelines and Standards each with 10-15 members

Mandate

The overall mandate for The Cancer Journey Advisory Group is concerned with ensuring that patients/families have equitable access to psychosocial and supportive care. I lead the development of pan-Canadian standards and guidelines for person-centred (whole person) care that includes psychosocial, survivorship and palliative care. The output from this group's projects will provide the evidence in a format people can use and apply in practice enabling best practices in psychosocial and supportive care.

Key initiatives

Each of the projects initiated addressed the development, national dissemination and/or implementation of standards and guidelines focused on an aspect of psychosocial and supportive care in a high priority area. The uptake of consistent practice and standards in psychosocial and supportive care supports the mandate of CJAG.

Group outputs

The output from this group's projects will provide the evidence in a format people can use and apply in practice enabling best practices in psychosocial and supportive care.

Based on the gaps identified from the initial environmental scan the following guidelines were identified for development in collaboration with an expert panel and national advisory group.

Guidelines have been developed for:

- A Pan-Canadian Clinical Practice Guideline: Assessment of Psychosocial Health Care Needs of the Adult Cancer Patient
- The Prophylactic tube feeding in Head/Neck patients

Guidelines in process, to be completed in 2010 – 2011:

- A Pan-Canadian Practice Guideline: Screening, Assessment and Care of Psychosocial Distress (Depression, Anxiety) in Adults with Cancer
- A Pan-Canadian Practice Guideline: Screening, Assessment and Care of Psychosocial Distress (Fatigue) in Adults with Cancer
- A Pan-Canadian Practice Guideline: Screening, Assessment and Care of Psychosocial Distress (Sleep Disturbance) in Adults with Cancer
- Pan-Canadian Guidance on Cancer Survivorship Services: Organization and Structure of Services and Psychosocial/Supportive Care Interventions.
- Nutritional Screening Guideline (Author: Karen Biggs). Work partially funded by Cancer Journey.

Work plan for next year

The Network Advisory Group convened in March of 2010 to further define its parameters and determine priority areas for standards and guidelines for psychosocial and supportive care the next two years. Examples of work to be addressed include:

Continued work on the four guides to practice (depression, anxiety, sleep and fatigue) identified for pan-Canadian uptake. These will be completed by March 2011. The guides to practice will ensure relevant action on screening and assessment. Our priority in the next year is to foster the uptake of these guidelines into practice using established knowledge translation methods and develop companion patient guides for all of the developed professional guidelines.

Development of recommendations and reaching consensus on inter-provincial processes regarding guideline sharing and adaptation. The goal is to implement small pilots to test change in practice and patient outcomes from guideline implementation

Submitted by

Doris Howell, RN, PhD

Chair, Oncology Nursing Research

Princess Margaret Hospital

Canadian Association of Nurses Representative to Cancer Journey

CPAC Report

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) is an independent organization funded by the federal government to accelerate action on cancer control. CPAC works with many organizations, patients and survivors to implement Canada's cancer control strategy. CPAC evolved from the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control and in 2007 received \$250 million in government funding for a five year mandate.

CANO/ACIO is one of the many organizations who have been invited to work with and advise the partnership. As a CANO member I am honored to sit on the Cancer Journey Advisory Group. This is a

lively and enthusiastic group consisting of representatives that include patient and survivor representatives, psychosocial oncology/supportive care experts and other organizational representatives such as the Canadian Cancer Society; Canadian Cancer Action Network; Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association and Public Health Agency of Canada.

The Cancer Journey Advisory Group has a mandate to provide leadership directed to “rebalancing the focus” of cancer care. Its mission is to shift cancer care from a predominantly tumour-centered focus to a patient-centered approach that addresses the needs of the whole person (i.e., psychological, social, spiritual, informational, practical, emotional, and physical) during clinical care and treatment and beyond.

At my first meeting I was impressed by the various projects and initiatives that were first developed under the auspices of the ReBalance Focus Group which was renamed Cancer Journey in 2007. The efforts have been in the area of integrated person-centered care though navigation, screening for distress, palliative care and survivorship. I believe that the work being done on the development of web based education programs for screening of distress will be of special interest to oncology nurses. As CPAC looks to evaluate its work and plan for the future oncology nurses will have an opportunity to provide input into the strategic direction required to continue to improve the Cancer Journey! For more information on the work being done by CPAC please visit www.partnershipagainstcancer.ca

Carolyn Tayler RN BN MSA CON (C)

CANO/ACIO representative on the Cancer Journey Advisory Group

National Survivorship Working Group (a sub-committee of the Cancer Journey Action Group of CPAC).

Co-chairs:

David Muise (Cancer survivor and Executive Director of the Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia) and Elisabeth Ross (Chief Executive Officer, Ovarian Cancer Canada, Toronto).

Membership of the committee includes a 12 – 15 individuals representing a wide variety of organizations and associations as well as provincial cancer advocacy groups.

Mandate

To review the seven priorities identified at the 2008 national survivorship workshop and develop action plans for those priorities not being addressed elsewhere in Canada.

Key initiatives

Four projects were funded as a result of the Call for Proposals that went out after the May 2009 meeting. They are:

CancerCare Manitoba

Wellspring

CancerBRIDGES

Young Adult Cancer Canada

All are developing a survivorship care plan with different applications and implementation plans.

Group outputs

The committee met on January 25 and 26, 2010 when the four projects were presented to the committee.

Work plan for next year

There is a possibility of a national meeting in March 2011 to present the final work of the four funded projects but not definite date has been decided.

It is expected that the funded projects will be completed by the end of CPAC's mandate.

International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC)

Background

The International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC), founded in 1984, is an international federation of national cancer nursing societies, regional cancer nursing societies, oncology institutions, and individual cancer nurse practitioners, researchers, and educators. The Mission of ISNCC is to maximize the role of nurses in reducing the global burden of cancer through:

1. Building coalitions and partnerships
2. Influencing health policy and cancer control
3. Advancing knowledge
4. Developing leadership.

The Vision of ISNCC, as a global nursing community, is to improve health through cancer prevention, treatment and support.

Current ISNCC membership includes:

- 30 Full Members (see: http://www.isncc.org/membership/Full_Membership/)
- 18 Associate Members (see: http://www.isncc.org/membership/Associate_Membership/)
- 259 Individual Members (mostly those without national full membership)
- Geographic distribution of members: 7.3% Africa; 29.3% Asia; 12.7% Europe and Middle East; 43.2% North America; and 7.3% South America.

Similar to CANO, ISNCC has a number of Special Interest Groups to meet the needs of members and engage in strategies, and sharing of best practices globally.

Current Work

ISNCC reviewed and revised its Constitution, which was approved, and is in the process of revising the Board structure, in keeping with the revised By-laws. For example, to ensure that the organization meets its strategic directions one of the board positions has responsibility for corporate and philanthropic development; another position will be aligned to support knowledge development and dissemination. Similar to the mandate that many organizations have set, ISNCC is driven to examine how it functions, what core areas of focus are, and what structures and processes need to be developed to meet its Mission and Vision.

CANO and ISNCC have an established relationship agreement that serves both organizations well. CANO and ISNCC collaborated on a presentation related to Competency Standards on Clinical Practice and Professional Development in Oncology Nursing given at the ONS Congress, May 2010. A similar session is planned for presentation at the CANO conference in Edmonton, in September, 2010. CANO, ISNCC, ONS and CAPO collaborated on a panel presentation on Nursing Role in Screening for Distress, given at the International Psycho-oncology Society (IPOS) conference that was held in Quebec City in May, 2010. These are examples of the ways in which CANO and ISNCC collaborate to benefit cancer nursing practice, research and education.

In 2010 the 16th International Conference on Cancer Nursing was held in Atlanta, GA, USA. Nurses from 46 countries participated in this ICCN, presenting oral papers, posters and networking with colleagues around the world. CANO was among the national organizations (Full Members) to discuss issues related to cancer nursing roles and cancer control, through the Member Council meeting. ISNCC looks to its members to engage in dialogue, build partnerships and implement strategies that mutually benefit member organizations' vision.

In 2012 the 17th International Conference on Cancer Nursing will be held in Prague, Czech Republic. We hope many Canadian oncology nurses will participate, present and share their best practices, research and education with colleagues around the world. Come and join us; watch for abstract submission dates; and informational update

Submitted by: Esther Green, ISNCC Board of Directors and Chair, Conference Management Committee

ONS

Since 1979, ONS participation in international conferences, partnership with international organizations, and support of education programs for nurses outside the U.S. has been steady.

We remain committed to working with partner organizations around the world to ensure that our work enhances and supports their work. In 2009, ONS and affiliates approved a statement on sustainable international initiatives.

ONS International Goals

- Expand visibility of ONS outside the U.S.
- Partner with international organizations
- Distribute ONS content and programming to new markets
- Serve the international nursing community
- Build capacity among nurses worldwide
- Learn from colleagues outside the U.S.

Areas of Opportunity

Opportunities exist across all of our identified goals in different geographic regions. We are currently focusing on expanding our reach with existing materials where nurses can benefit from existing, English-language content. At the same time, we are working with partners to translate materials. Existing resources tend to have more value in the developed world, while basic resources in local languages have a greater impact in developing areas.

Printed or downloadable materials for nurses at all levels are in high demand. The challenge is to price marketable resources appropriately to ensure value where markets are stronger, so distribution can be subsidized in places where there is need, but no market. Opportunities to provide educational programming directly and through training of trainers are significant. Helping nurses to build the capacity to educate their peers, and advocate for their profession and their patients will multiply ONS's impact.

ONS Statement on Sustainable International Initiatives

ONS and its affiliates, ONS Foundation and Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation, respond in a collaborative manner to the need for sustainable programs globally. Sustainable programs are those that help nurses to build the capacity to influence change in their own regions and to improve cancer care through professional development. International efforts are driven by clearly identified needs in areas of the world where we have 1) the opportunity to make an impact and 2) the capability to provide the necessary knowledge and logistical support to succeed. To effectively deliver new or existing programs and resources internationally, such endeavors are deliberate and strategic. We collaborate internally to maximize opportunities where our goals intersect. In addition, we seek external partners in the spirit of shared risk and shared benefit, whose objectives and capabilities complement ours.

2009 Initiatives

Chemotherapy training. Currently, there are nurses in several countries qualified by ONS to give chemotherapy training. Since 2003, more than 1,300 nurses have received chemotherapy training outside the U.S. There is great need for chemotherapy training, including safe handling, in many parts of the world where there is little or no standardization of practices. ONS continues to pursue opportunities

to deliver chemotherapy training and is working to tailor training to the needs of nurses in developing countries.

Train-the-trainer initiatives. We are working with partners in the Middle East to provide trainer programs to more senior, bi-lingual nurses so training can be delivered in local languages. A training program was developed with the U.S.-Middle East Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research for Middle East and North African nurses, funded partially by the U.S. State Department. The course covers many aspects of breast cancer diagnosis and care, and will be available online to senior level nurses and nurse educators in these regions.

Integration of clinical training and leadership development. Developing nurses and equipping them to lead from the positions they are in will enable nurses to influence practice change and introduce practice standards in their institutions and regions. Leadership development is integrated into the clinical content of all our international courses. ONS worked with the Middle East Cancer Consortium to deliver a program focused on pain management in Ankara, Turkey, April 1-3, 2009. This was the third program completed in collaboration with MECC. Previous programs were in Ein Gedi, Israel, in December 2007 and Larnaca, Cyprus in June 2008.

Book distribution. ONS has agreements with distributors covering Canada, Europe, and Asia for sales of existing, English-language ONS books and is actively seeking distributors worldwide.

Partnerships for program delivery. ONS has signed memoranda of understanding with five organizations: International Union Against Cancer (UICC), Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO), European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS), International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC), and Middle East Cancer Consortium (MECC) to develop leadership and clinical programming. In addition, ONS has signed a statement of principles with the Middle East Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research.

Site licensing. ONS offers site licenses through which we provide unlimited online access to ONS journals for multiple users at each site. Licenses range from sites with several users to those with several hundred users. ONS currently services more than 270 site licenses worldwide.

Membership. The International Tiered Member category was approved by ONS members in 2009, and offers parity in membership pricing for nurses from low resource countries, who are able to take advantage of ONS resources and information online. The price structure is based on the World Bank Index.

2010 Plan

With sustainability at the forefront, ONS is focused on consistency and stewardship of resources. 2010 programming is targeted to regions of the world where existing programs and resources can be utilized, changed, localized, or translated, and where common interests and goals within ONS and its affiliates merge. It is imperative that existing partnerships are cultivated, as the time it takes to realize financial sustainability will shorten with consistency and persistency. Partnerships enable programs to be effectively facilitated, adapted, and localized for a specific audience. We often find existing conferences to be good venues for delivery. Opportunities to expand or build opportunities often present themselves as we develop local relationships. In 2010, priority topics include chemotherapy and safe handling of cytotoxic drugs, pain control, breast care, and leadership development.

The following programs are under development for 2010:

Breast Cancer Training of Trainers. A third pilot course is planned for March 15-17, 2010 in Alexandria, Egypt.

Starting From Strength. This leadership and capacity building course is a one-day pre-conference program to be presented to Latin American nursing leaders at the 16th ICCN Conference (http://www.isncc.org/conference/16th_ICCN) in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, March 7, 2010.*

Cancer Pain, Suffering, and Spirituality. This four-day multidisciplinary conference will be conducted in conjunction with MECC, the Turkish Ministry of Health, and the Asian Pacific Organisation for Cancer Prevention, April 3-6, 2010, Istanbul, Turkey.

(<http://www.docguide.com/crc.nsf/congresses/1112C9AA898152368525764D002AB86F>)

Exploring the Impact of Competency Standards on Clinical Practice and Professional Development in Oncology Nursing. International session presented by representatives of ISNCC, CANO, and EONS, to be held at the 35th Annual ONS Congress (<http://www.ons.org/CNECentral/Conferences/Congress/Congress2010>), May 13-16, 2010, in San Diego, California, USA.

Chemotherapy Training. Two-day chemotherapy course to be planned in cooperation with ISNCC at the UICC conference (<http://2010.worldcancercongress.org>), August 18-21, 2010, Shenzhen, China.

The Quality End of Life Care Coalition of Canada

The QELCCC is a coalition of 30 national organizations concerned about quality end-of-life care for all Canadians.

Over the past 10 years, the 30 national organizations that are members of the Quality End-of-Life Care Coalition of Canada (QELCCC) have worked together to improve end-of-life care for all Canadians. Their goals were to improve access to care, increase the number of professionals and volunteers with the skills to provide high quality end-of-life care, promote research that would improve care, support the family members who care for people who are dying, and educate Canadians about their choices at end of life.

The QELCCC has observed some remarkable successes:

- In the last five years, the Canadian Institutes for Health Research have invested \$16.5 million in research on hospice palliative and end-of-life care, which is helping to improve care.
- The number of professionals and volunteers with the skills to provide hospice palliative end-of life care has increased significantly: all 17 medical schools across the country now educate new physicians in palliative care and education programs for nurses, social workers, pharmacists and pastoral care providers include training in end-of-life care.
- The Canadian government introduced the Compassionate Care Benefit to give family caregivers

six weeks of paid leave to care for a loved one at end of life, and some provincial governments have increased access to respite services.

Over the next ten years the priorities as written in Blueprint for action available at www.chpca.ca are:

1. Ensure all Canadians have access to high quality hospice palliative end-of-life care
2. Provide more support for family caregivers
3. Improve the quality and consistency of hospice palliative end-of-life care in Canada
4. Encourage Canadians to discuss and plan for end-of-life

Submitted by D. Gravelle