

## NOTES FROM ICCER

After a very busy April, I am off looking for puffins in the Orkney Islands and Iceland. I hope to see some of you in June at our next Collaborative Practice Discussions in Edmonton and Calgary. In the meantime, we are taking a break from introducing our Steering Committee members and this month we are featuring ICCER's Program Coordinator, Emily Dymchuk (see page 2).

Sandra Woodhead Lyons, PHEc  
Executive Director, ICCER



**Reminder that as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, individuals not associated with an ICCER member organization can join the ICCER network for \$150/year.** If you are employed by one of ICCER's member organizations, you are already considered a member and are eligible for all member benefits!

Individual memberships will run April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Please note that refunds will not be provided under any circumstance. All payments will be through our [automated payment system](#).

[Click here for more details on what's included in an individual membership!](#)

## OUT & ABOUT WITH ICCER

On **May 1<sup>st</sup>** ICCER had the privilege of presenting a panel discussion, [ICCER: An academic/community collaboration to enhance Alberta's continuing care sector](#), at the [Colleges & Institutes of Canada 2017 Conference](#) in Ottawa. The panel included (photographed from left to right) Dorthe Flauer (Lifestyle Options), Erika Goble (NorQuest College), Nora MacLachlan (Bow Valley College), and Sandra Woodhead Lyons (ICCER). They shared insights into how ICCER builds applied research capacity among members, generates new opportunities for students, supports innovative practices, and positively contributes to the quality of life of those in the continuing care system.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

We are hosting two Collaborative Practice Discussions in June for ICCER member organizations.

On **June 13, 2017** ICCER will be hosting a Collaborative Practice Discussion in Edmonton at Heritage Hall. The same session will then be held on **June 14<sup>th</sup>** in Calgary (location TBA). The sessions will focus on resident-family engagement in continuing care facilities. Discussions will be led by two ICCER Steering Committee members, Dr. Sharla King (University of Alberta) and Steven Friesen (Bethany Care Society). Both sessions will be from 1:00 to 3:30 PM. **Collaborative Practice Discussions are only open to ICCER member organizations!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D

ICCER is partnering with [Room 217 Foundation](#) and the [Winspear Centre](#) to offer the **2017 Music Care Conference** in Edmonton on **November 6, 2017!**

The one-day Conference brings together a variety of community stakeholders in music and care to provide information and inspiration through common themes and issues using music across the care spectrum.



Following our Keynote speakers in the morning, the afternoon will feature a variety of interesting and engaging workshops, including *Music Therapy for Your Emotional Health* led by **Jennifer Buchanan**. Jennifer is a certified Music Therapist (MTA), Past-President of the Canadian Association for Music Therapy, author and owner of [JB Music Therapy](#). She is instrumental in the implementation of hundreds of music therapy programs with her company currently serving over 1,800 clients, ranging from 2 months to

104 years old. [Learn more about Jennifer on her website.](#)

Don't miss your opportunity to hear Jennifer and our other speakers and performers on November 6<sup>th</sup>! **Early bird registration now open!**

[Click here to go to the Conference website!](#)

## #MCCAlberta2017

## MEET OUR PROGRAM COORDINATOR



This month, we are featuring ICCER's Program Coordinator, Emily Dymchuk. Emily has been with ICCER since June 2014, following completion of a BSc Human Ecology at the University of Alberta. Emily earned her title as Professional Human Ecologist (PHEc) in September 2015 and is a volunteer member of the Alberta Human Ecology & Home Economics Association (AHEA).

***What has surprised you most about working with ICCER?***

The opportunity to be a part of so many aspects of what ICCER does, from offering education sessions, involvement in research projects, and facilitating community consultations across the province, has been invaluable as a young professional. I feel fortunate to be able to gain experience in such a variety of areas as well as learn from ICCER's Executive Director and Steering Committee members.

***What would you tell someone who is thinking about joining ICCER?***

The collaboration and networking opportunities ICCER offers its members is truly unique. All of our members are very passionate about improving the continuing care sector and ICCER provides a platform for key players from provider organizations, post-secondary institutions and regulatory bodies to connect on a variety of issues.

## SIGN-UP FOR FUTURE EVENT INVITATIONS!

If you would like to receive future email invitations to ICCER events, click on the link below to be added to our distribution list!

[Click here to subscribe!](#)

## MORE UPCOMING DATES

Here are some additional dates for upcoming events:

- **June 8, 2017:** AAG Provincial & Calgary Chapter AGMs in **Calgary, AB**
- **June 13, 2017:** AAG Edmonton Branch dinner, AGM, & Silent Auction at the University of Alberta
- **September 6-9 2017:** [International Society of Advance Care Planning & End of Life Care Conference](#) in **Banff, AB**. Early bird registration now available!
- **September 27-28, 2017:** ACCA IQ Conference in **Red Deer, AB**. Early bird registration for [IQ 2017: A World of Caring!](#) is now open!

Members have the opportunity to build from one another's knowledge and experiences and be a part of innovative, practical research in the field.

***Tell us a little about yourself. How did you come to where you are today?***

I completed a BSc Human Ecology from the University of Alberta in 2014. I majored in Family Ecology with a minor in Community Nutrition. Prior to my role with ICCER, I worked part-time as a Nutrition Services Worker in a long-term care facility in St. Albert. I worked there for nearly 5 years and really enjoyed getting to know the residents and their family members. I still think about them often. It was this experience as a student that led me to apply for the Program Coordinator position with ICCER. I had never thought I would continue in the continuing care field following graduation, but am very glad I did! I hope to continue to grow as a professional in this sector.

## JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

### Music Care CoP

Many ICCER member organizations have implemented music care programs at their sites, or are interested in doing so. To help ICCER members become more aware of the music care options and resources available to them, we have created a Community of Practice (CoP).

**All ICCER members are welcome to participate in the CoP!** Staff who are interested and willing to participate, please contact Emily Dymchuk ([emily@iccer.ca](mailto:emily@iccer.ca)).

**The next Music Care CoP meeting will be held via teleconference on September 5, 2017 at 10:00 AM.**



## INTERESTING RESOURCES

- *Seniors' Week* - Seniors' Week is held annually during the first full week of June, which is June 5-11, 2017. For ideas on how to celebrate, visit <http://www.seniors-housing.alberta.ca/seniors/seniors-week.html>.
- *Caring for Caregivers* – A series of caregiving resources were prepared by the Forum of Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Seniors. The series includes a short video, fact sheets to encourage discussion about caregiving, as well as tips for employees and their employers when balancing work and caregiving.
- The *17<sup>th</sup> Annual Thinking Qualitatively Workshop Series* takes place in Edmonton from June 19-23, 2017. Five full days with over 40 qualitative and skills-based workshops. Registration is open and popular workshops are filling up fast!
- *Tools for Change* is a resource that was created by the Quality Palliative Care in Long Term Care (QPC-LTC) Alliance to guide long term care homes in Canada that are creating their own formalized palliative care programs.

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### CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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 @ICcer\_AB

 <http://tinyurl.com/p9eabah> (Group)

 <http://tinyurl.com/oo6kjmd> (Company)

## INTERESTING RESOURCES CONT'D

The Alliance members developed a model of care for palliative care in long term care that is supported by multiple quality improvement interventions for implementing education, direct care, community partnerships, policy, and program development.

The toolkit outlines a model of care that was developed using literature on innovative practices and guidelines for providing palliative care and research data, indicating the successes of the four long term care homes that volunteered to be study sites.

In areas where long term care homes choose to do quality improvement, resources are offered to help homes develop or enhance their structures and processes and improve the delivery of palliative care.

The [QPC-LTC Toolkit](#) includes sample brochures, guidelines, organizational self-assessment tools, worker competency requirements, presentations and modules.

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE ICCER NEWSLETTER

Click below to receive future issues of our Newsletter!

[Click here to subscribe!](#)

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*Each month we will highlight new research, policies, reports, etc. that are applicable to continuing care. If you come across materials you would like to share, please send them to Emily ([emily@iccer.ca](mailto:emily@iccer.ca)).*

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