

## **International Cooperation Committee Update February 2007**

The following is an update of the international work CHPCA has been engaged in since the last update in May 2006.

The last teleconference of the committee was held on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

The CHPCA's international cooperation workplan is divided into three main areas:

- Knowledge Transfer
- Twinning
- Advocacy

### **Knowledge Transfer**

There are many workplan items that can fall into multiple areas so we have made some arbitrary decisions of where to list items. Knowledge transfer is implicit in twinning work and will be more evident in this section.

#### ***Website Development***

This was slow to develop but now has the workplan/committee notes, ICAD Twinning Guide, Edmonton PowerPoint presentation, International Commons and tools that were developed. We should consider linking with the Africa Palliative Care Association (APCA).

#### ***Norms***

Copies of the norms have been distributed upon request.

#### ***ICAD Twinning Guide***

CHPCA distributed this excellent guide at the Edmonton conference and have advertised it on a number of monthly e-mail updates. NHPCO through their Hospice Foundation for Sub-Saharan Africa has now produced guidelines. This is available on the NHPCO website.

NHPCO has produced a guide for working in Africa – we should consider listing this on our web site and link to their order forms.

#### ***International Congress on Care of the Terminally Ill - 2006 and 2008***

The Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance took the lead and worked with the Congress organizers to produce a great satellite meeting in Montreal. Help the Hospices, the secretariat of the WPCA is working with the Congress Planning Committee on a broader, more dynamic program for 2008.

#### ***2007 Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Conference***

The conference program committee has included an international stream for the 2007 conference. Sharon Baxter and Faith Mwangi-Powell have submitted an abstract on the CHPCA/APCA twinning project.

The abstract submission process is now complete. If necessary CHPCA will solicit additional workshops for the program. Bernard Lapointe is the chair of the committee and Sharon Baxter is active on the committee. More news coming soon.

### ***South Africa-Canada Project***

This project was funded in November 2005. The lead organization in South Africa is the Hospice Palliative Care Association of South Africa (HPCASA). This project is for 5 years and is funded at \$4.75 million dollars.

The project has three main streams of work including:

- Home Support Training
- Master's level certificate in hospice palliative care
- Primary Health Care Training.

CHPCA has reached out to the association in SA and hope to have an update from them soon.

### ***Ukraine***

CHPCA has been receiving e-mails from the Ukraine national hospice palliative care group interested in developing national standards. The office continues to respond to concrete requests but due to limited time and resources have not reached out further to this group.

### ***Haiti***

Sharon Baxter met with NHPCO regarding projects in Haiti and as much as we have an interest in doing more, they feel it is currently unsafe to do much work there. The NHPCO has essentially ended work in Haiti and have re-focused their efforts on Africa. CHPCA met with both Health Canada and CIDA on the Haiti file and both were somewhat interested in CHPCA doing something in Haiti, but they were cautious also. Without financial support CHPCA is severely limited in this area.

## **Twinning**

### ***APCA twinning – National and Regional***

CHPCA submitted a proposal to the ICAD/CSIH call for proposals. The proposal was accepted and we started work with the APCA in late August. The proposal and progress report are available upon request. A lead article regarding the project appeared on the front page of the Winter issue of AVISO (Feb 2007).

### ***Circulation of Twinning Guide – ICAD***

Please see description above.

### ***Highlight Partnerships around Canada***

To date CHPCA has not highlighted partnerships around Canada. This is an area to work on both within the hospice palliative care community and the development and HIV/AIDS communities.

### ***Grassroots work across Canada***

CHPCA has started to encourage and connect some grassroots work. Most have started independently and may not need much support from CHPCA but there is likely a networking role for the association.

## **Advocacy**

### ***Toronto 2006 World AIDS Conference Profile***

The Advocacy Committee (Sharon Baxter is the chair) of the WPCA has identified two main goals, they are:

- Access to hospice palliative care programs and services worldwide
- Access to pain and symptom management including opioid worldwide

This committee identified a number of events and opportunities to try to extend their influence in 2006. The main event identified was the World AIDS Conference which took place in Toronto, Ontario in August 2006. In Bangkok (2004) there were only 20 of 10,000 abstracts on the topic of hospice palliative care, with no workshops and no plenaries on this topic. The Advocacy Committee pushed for a plenary workshop and was successful. Sharon Baxter chaired the session with representatives from England, South Africa and Uganda.

The WPCA held a press conference, produced press materials and had some media interest.

CHPCA secured a booth in the exhibit hall and had over 2,000 visitors. We handed out Canadian and International materials in three languages (English, French and Spanish).

We are pleased that hospice palliative care had a much higher profile at the 2006 conference and hope to achieve more profile for the 2008 conference.

### ***Mexico City 2008***

The WPCA is actively pursuing positions on committees, plenaries and a much higher profile. Letters have been written to the organizers.

The WPCA secretariat is currently looking for names of possible hospice palliative care key presenters for Mexico City. The current goal is to have half a dozen possible options on hand for submissions.

### ***Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance***

Sharon Baxter is on the steering committee representing Canada and is also the chair of the Advocacy Committee. This alliance will continue to be informal in nature with no membership fees. The alliance is non-duplicative with other international organizations. The next meeting of the WPCA will be held in 2007 in Africa – at that time the proposal for the formal formation of the Alliance will be presented.

## **Suggestions for the CHPCA International Cooperation Committee Workplan 2007-2008**

1. Create a pan-Canadian international list serve managed by CHPCA. Encourage our members both individuals and organizations to join and post information and questions. *Timelines for completion: March 2007*
2. Create an inventory of Canadians working on hospice palliative care initiatives in other areas of the world. This inventory will be posted on the CHPCA website. An on-line survey will be developed and distributed through our members e-mail updates in the late spring 2007. *Timelines for completion: August 2007*
3. Look for project funding to create a job bank of Canadians willing to work for short-term placements across the world. We would need to develop this after extensive consultation with groups like the APCA. They have approached us with this idea. This might need additional funding. *Timelines for completion: December 2007*
4. Look at possibility of working with Dr. Frank Ferris regarding the CHPCA Norms of Practice and international uptake. *Timelines: Ongoing*
5. Palliative Care Foundation of Canada (PCFC) development. We have been approached by the APCA to consider a long-term strategy of raising Canadian dollars that would then be dispersed to hospice palliative care programs and projects overseas. This is possible but some preliminary work on the Foundation is needed including the development of a strategic plan for the Foundation. This will utilize resources over the next year. The CHPCA Board of Directors is interested in mobilizing the Foundation over the next year or two. The NHPCO has asked if they could fundraise for their Foundation in Canada and to date the CHPCA has said no. More intense discussion is needed on this issue. If this committee thinks this is an interesting concept it might be good for the CHPCA Board of Directors and the PCFC Board to hear from this committee.

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