

# **Working Group on Education for Care Providers Terms of Reference**

## **Scope**

To encompass formal and informal, paid and unpaid care providers and family caregivers as it relates to providing palliative and end-of-life care. The emphasis will be on a collaborative approach to integrated care.

## **Mandate**

The Working Group will promote, facilitate and coordinate implementation activities, including possibly:

- discussion on education needs for health care professionals delivering palliative and end-of-life care;
- improvement of training and education on the alleviation and/or control of pain;
- partnerships to ensure that teaching curricula covers the complexities and broad spectrum of needs of palliative and end-of-life care patients, their family and loved ones;
- consideration of ethical, spiritual and cultural perspectives within the development of curricula for care providers; and
- development of effective and relevant national education frameworks for service delivery at all levels.

## **Membership**

The Education for Care Providers Working Group will consist of no more than 10 members including 2 co-chairs, to be appointed by Health Canada. The members will represent organizations and associations and will be chosen for their experience and expertise and the resources they can bring to the table. Health Canada will be a member of the Working Group. Other expertise may be brought to the table as needed.

**Suggested potential members**: PALLIUM, Ian Anderson Program, Canadian Association of Palliative Care Physicians, Canadian Association of Social Workers, Association of Canadian Medical Colleges, Canadian Association of University Schools of Nursing, College of Family Physicians, Canadian Association of Rural Physicians, Canadian Nurses Association, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education, Canadian Caregiver Coalition, Volunteer Canada, and Canadian Pharmacists Association.

## **Responsibilities of Members**

- Attend all meetings
- Consult with their respective networks
- Bring resources to the table (e.g. expertise, experience, financial as applicable)
- Coordinate efforts among themselves
- Communicate with one another and with their organizations
- Establish linkages with broader stakeholder networks
- Initiate activities at the organizational level
- Co-chairs are required to provide a progress report to the Coordinating Group by end of

November 2003. This report will include suggestions for future directions for end-of-life care initiatives in Canada, relative to their theme or issue area.

**Budget**

Health Canada will support up to two face-to-face Working Group meetings per year, as well as teleconferences as needed. Members' travel and accommodation expenses will be reimbursed according to Treasury Board guidelines. Given the voluntary nature of the involvement in the Working Group, no honoraria will be paid to members.

**Timeframe**

The Working Group will be put in place until March 31, 2004. The Working Group will assess future directions at that time.