

PARTNERS

Welcome to *PARTNERS*



Bill Innes,
NSM CCAC
Executive
Director

This is the first edition of a new publication from North Simcoe Muskoka Community Care Access Centre (NSM CCAC) which has been created for the purpose of sharing information that assists all of us to work together for the benefit of those we serve.

We hope you find it informative and will provide us with your comments and any information you would like to see in future editions.

Our initial plan is to publish "PARTNERS" quarterly. However, if there is demand, we will increase the frequency accordingly. Please feel free to share "PARTNERS" with anyone you feel would benefit.

Together, we will make "Progress through Partnerships".

Crisis Brings Community Together with Caring and Compassion

It is now a pile of rubble and ash, but it serves as a reminder of the night that the Rowanwood Retirement Residence burned to the ground, and the Huntsville-area community pitched in together to help their neighbours.

The 56 residents and three Rowanwood staff are now safe and sound, along with a cat and a parrot that shared their home. Despite the efforts of the 75 volunteer firefighters from three area stations, the home was declared a total loss with an estimated value of \$4 million.

Two police officers on their way to Huntsville have been credited with spotting the flames and helping staff safely and quickly evacuate the building in the middle of the night. No one was injured.

The Huntsville community have been actively soliciting and collecting donations for the residents who have lost everything. To date, several rooms full of donations have been gathered and distributed, including dentures, mobility equipment such as Rollators, clothing and personal belongings.

While temporary accommodations have been provided at the Hidden Valley Resort or with family members, alternate arrangements are being made for housing and provision of services in new locations.

North Simcoe Muskoka Community Care Access Centre case managers and placement services coordinators have been actively reassessing client needs, coordinating services at alternate sites, locating alternate living arrangements including Long Term Care Home beds, and discussing the situation for available beds with local and non-local long-term care agencies. Team assistants are pitching in to process additional work to help their community members. They also fielded calls from those directly impacted by the tragedy and those trying to lessen the burden of the impact.

While staff and residents try to deal with the loss of their home and belongings and to adjust to their new surroundings, they are all thankful for a community that pulled together when it counted, for the care and compassion they received, and for the fact that not a single life was lost in a fire that totally destroyed their home.



Questions or Comments? [Click here.](#)

To be added to, or removed from our mailing list, or to update your contact information, please call NSM CCAC Communications at (705)726.0039 ext. 2210 or email the [Editor](#).

Clinical Integration is front and centre at NSM Conference

Front-line staff and their managers in North Simcoe Muskoka were focused on clinical integration at a recent conference sponsored by the NSM Local Health Integration Network, the Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA), Health Canada, and NSM CCAC, held at the Hawk Ridge Golf & Country Club.



Mike Hindmarsh, presents findings from his work with chronic disease prevention and management.

The event brought many representative points of view on integration of health care to the forefront and included speakers from the CHCA, experts in chronic disease care, and the LHINs, who are tasked with a legislated mandate to integrate the health care system.

"Work toward integration is occurring simultaneously across many organizations— we need to ensure that this work contributes to a cohesive whole and not just a new set of silos."



NSM LHIN CIO Rodney Burns, Senior. Planning & Integration Consultant, Debbie Roberts and Marilyn Clark take a moment to chat during the Workshop.

Getting Connected

The North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (NSM LHIN) organized an inter-sectoral e-Health Advisory Committee in 2006 to help guide the LHIN in its priority setting around e-Health projects that support its Integrated Health Service Plan. The three-year NSM LHIN e-Health Strategic Implementation Plan that resulted identified "secure e-mail" as one of the top priorities to help address the security required when Health Service Providers share personal health information between each other.

Secure e-mail requires e-mail services that are encrypted and run over a secure network – something that most health service providers can not afford on their own. Fortunately, there is help out there!

Smart Systems for Health Agency (SSHA), formed and funded by the Ontario government is the enabling force behind a province-wide information technology world-leading e-Health solutions. SSHA was created in 2003 to electronically connect health care professionals to each other and to patient information – across the health care system. More reliable and quicker access to information means better care for all of us.

SSHA is helping improve health care delivery by securely and reliably providing systems and solutions that connect doctors, nurses, hospitals, community-based health services, pharmacies and laboratories to each other and to patient information. The "Ontario Network for e-Health" (ONE) is the brand name for a collection of products and services provided by SSHA to health service providers.

The NSM LHIN and NSM CCAC foresee a day when this will be the expected foundation that all HSPs will use. SSHA ONE network circuits and secure e-mail services are provided free of charge to eligible Health Service Providers. Most HSPs in the NSM LHIN are entitled to use these resources to help deliver their services. Many have already made the shift and have been able to reduce their costs for Internet service and e-mail using SSHA services.

For more information on what SSHA is and how it can help support your organization's e-Health journey, go to www.ssha.on.ca or contact Rod Burns, Regional Chief Information Officer and NSM LHIN e-Health Lead at (705) 326.7750 x 209 or by e-mail at sheila.winegarden@lhins.on.ca.

Who Uses SSHA ONE Network, ONE Mail?

- 100% Ontario hospitals
- 100% Ontario Public Health Units
- 100% Ontario CCACs
- 100% Ontario retail chain pharmacies
- 100% Ontario Local Health Integration Networks
- Provincial wait list services: Cancer Care Ontario, Cardiac Care Network, Trillium Gift of Life Network
- Ontario Telemedicine Network
- A growing number of physician offices, long-term care facilities and publicly-funded community-based health care providers.

This article was written by Rodney J. Burns, CHE, CPHIMS, the Regional Chief Information Officer and the North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network e-Health Lead.

Partnerships:

The Foundation of a Vibrant Community Health Care Sector

We believe that active, meaningful involvement of all community partners is critical to success for both today and tomorrow.

We would appreciate your feedback on the needs of the population we collectively serve.

All responses will be received by Survey Monkey to ensure respondent confidentiality. The results of the survey will always be reported in group form and only aggregate data will be used in publications and presentations.

As a partner, your views are important! Simply click on [Needs Assessment Survey](#) to participate. This survey will be available until Tuesday, May 13th.

NSM CCAC Launches CSS/MIS Partnership Project

On January 1st, 2008 the North Simcoe Muskoka Community Care Access Centre (NSM CCAC) took on the role of mentor for the Community Support Services (CSS) organizations.

CSS Providers in the NSM LHIN have been mandated to become MIS (Management Information Systems) compliant by the end of this year. This will result in standard definitions and terminology for financial and statistical data and will provide comparable data within the sector based on standard account codes – all CSS agencies will be using the same method of reporting.

In what began as a pilot project in 2007 involving several CSS agencies across the province including 10 agencies from the NSM LHIN, the project now includes 27 agencies in the NSM LHIN area including Canadian Red Cross, CNIB, Alzheimer Society and VON. NSM CCAC's role is to provide support and assistance during the implementation of MIS Guidelines and the new Dynamics GP software application.

Allison Bayes, NSM CCAC Financial Analyst, works with the NSM LHIN and the CSS Providers as Project Coordinator; using her significant experience and exposure to MIS Reporting and Great Plains software to do project planning, training, and Chart of Accounts development. She ensures that all CSS organizations successfully complete the MIS Trial Balance submission process and meet deadlines, as well as coordinating an MIS Advisory Working Group, and providing weekly updates to the LHIN.

In the next few months, the CSS agencies will be receiving software training, implementing their new software, setting up their new databases, and preparing for their first Trial Balance submission.

Presented by the Canadian Diabetes Association

Live Smart Diabetes Expo: Your recommended serving of healthy lifestyle information

Every day you are bombarded with so much information about your health that it's hard to know what to believe. That's where the Live Smart Diabetes Expo can help. A consumer tradeshow and educational program, this day-long event draws together products, resources, speakers and experts to show how you can help prevent and manage diabetes, while improving your overall health.

When: Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Where: Georgian College, 1 Georgian Drive, Barrie, Ontario
How: Registration is now open. \$13.00 online or \$15.00 by phone 1-800-BANTING (226-8464)

For more information on the schedule for this event, please visit: <http://www.diabetes.ca/expos/expo-barrie.asp>

See the North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC website at www.nsm.ccac-ont.ca