

Canadian Association of Wound Care News

Education

Three Key Initiatives for Education Committee

The Education Committee will be focused on three primary initiatives in 2005: completing the S1 and S2 revision, working collaboratively with other Canadian professional organizations toward the creation of Canadian wound-care certification (see *The Last Word*, page 54), and supporting the development of a national pressure-ulcer-prevention awareness program.

The committee continues its work of supporting the delivery and evaluation of high-quality educational programs, including the CAWC's bilingual conference in Montreal this fall.

CAWC Annual Conference

Mark November 12–15 on your calendar, and make plans to be in beautiful Montreal for the 11th Annual CAWC Conference. The theme of this year's conference is Bridging Wound-care Communities. You won't want to miss it!

Conférence annuelle

Inscrivez les dates du 12 au 15 novembre à votre agenda et prévoyez être dans la belle ville de Montréal pour la 11e Conférence annuelle de l'ACSP. Le thème de la conférence de cette année est Réunir les communautés de pratique en soin des plaies, et vous ne voulez pas manquer cela!

Research

Critical Review Tool Available Soon

In a session at the 10th annual CAWC conference, the Critical Review of Articles Presentations tool was used to evaluate a good and a bad abstract. The so-called CRAP tool (*Editor's note*: nothing like a little scatological humour to get the point across!) is a series of questions designed to guide clinicians and readers in their literature and educational review. The committee plans to make the CRAP tool available through *Wound Care Canada* in fall 2005 in the form of either a tear-out sheet or a quick reference guide.

Public Policy

Focus on Pressure Ulcer Prevention

The Public Policy Forum was held at the CAWC's annual meeting in Calgary in November 2004. This year's topic was the release of the Woodbury-Houghton pressure ulcer prevalence study. A panel discussion by the committee members addressed how wound management and funding were supported in each province, leading to an open dialogue among the 100 members in attendance. The take-away message was that there was disparity across the country in how these issues were managed. To increase awareness, the committee will work to support the development and delivery of a national pressure ulcer prevention campaign. The aim of the campaign is to make available information on prevention, best practice guidelines, and education for both clinicians and the public to address pressure ulcers in Canada.

You've Got Questions, We've Got Answers

The CAWC Discussion Forum, at www.cawc.net, is the only place in Canada accessible to every wound-care clinician in the country. It's a great way to tap into a national network of wound-care professionals. Visit it today!

MEMBERS' CORNER



Karen E. Campbell, a Nurse Practitioner in a London-based health-care facility, was recently award-

ed a CAWC educational scholarship. She decided to go back to school and enrol in the PhD program in Rehabilitation Sciences in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Western Ontario (UWO). This doctoral program was established in 1998 and is based on the World Health Organization's (WHO) model of International Classification of Function and Disability (ICF) with fields of study in body structure and function, activity, and participation. Karen shares the classroom with her colleagues from a variety of health-care disciplines, including Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Kinesiology, Speech-language

Pathology, and Audiology.

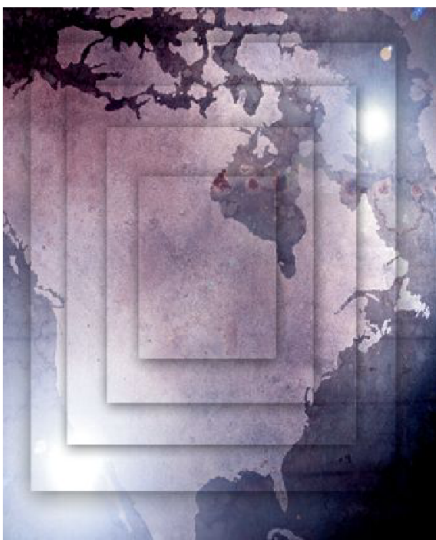
This interdisciplinary PhD program is a thesis-based program with minimal course work. It encourages participants to focus their time on developing the knowledge and skills needed to design and perform clinical research.

Wound care is an ideal area of practice that fits with this interdisciplinary doctoral program; previous topics have included looking at the effectiveness of new wound-care therapies and the development and validation of new wound-assessment tools. Over the next four years or so, Karen will work with the support of advisors Dr. Pamela Houghton and Dr. Gail Woodbury on a doctoral thesis that will focus on implementing best practice guidelines for the prevention of heel ulcers.

Karen is fortunate to have the support

of her program director in the facility in which she works, which will allow her to focus some of her time on her doctoral studies. In return, the facility will benefit from the implementation and evaluation of a wound-care program and from the training of an experienced clinician who, upon completion of the program, will be able to lead her own research program independently. Interdisciplinary PhD programs like the one at UWO will help promote wound care in Canada by providing training of wound-care clinicians in research skills needed to design and conduct high-quality clinical research in this field.

For more information about the doctoral training program, contact Dr. Pamela Houghton at the University of Western Ontario. phoughto@uwo.ca or 519-661-2111 ext. 88862.



International Partnerships

Improving Wound Care in North America

The CAWC hosted the North American Wound Care Council (NAWCC), a group of wound-care affiliated associations and societies, during the CAWC's November 2004 annual conference. Despite the disparate histories, constituencies and mandates of the individual groups, the council quickly came to consensus on a mission and vision. Once the participating associations and societies have ratified the official NAWCC position, it will be published in *Wound Care Canada* and on each NAWCC members' Web

site. NAWCC is a major step forward for wound care in North America.

Along with a representative from Mexico, the participating organizations are

- Association for the Advancement of Wound Care (AAWC) www.aawc1.com
- Canadian Association for Enterostomal Therapy (CAET) www.caet.ca
- Canadian Association of Wound Care (CAWC) www.cawc.net
- National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) www.npuap.org
- Wound Healing Society (WHS) www.woundheal.org
- Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society (WOCN) www.wocn.org

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of Wound Care



Association canadienne
du soin des plaies

CAWC Welcomes New Board Members

The CAWC is pleased to announce that Dr. M. Gail Woodbury has been elected to the CAWC Board of Directors for a three-year term.

CAWC Board Holds Retreat

The CAWC Board held its annual winter retreat in Toronto in January 2005. An education session was held that focused on dealing with the media and presenting a cohesive message. As the Board and its committees move toward raising the public profile of the CAWC and initiating a public awareness campaign on the prevention of pressure ulcers, the valuable lessons learned in this session will be put to good use.