

Canadian Association of Wound Care News

2008 is the biggest year for wound care that Canada has ever seen, and the CAWC is using the opportunity to expand and connect to the wound-care community in a way that will move wound care forward like never before. Join the CAWC this year as our S-series and special theme meetings take us on a unique coast-to-coast-and-everywhere-in-between tour. If virtual travel is more your style, the Internet will have lots on offer too. No matter where you live, or what your interest in wound care is, there is something for you this year!

CAWC 2008 Theme Meetings “Bringing the World’s Best to You”

Because of the CAWC’s commitment as a hosting society of the World Union of Wound Healing Societies (WUWHS) congress, the CAWC is foregoing its annual conference. However, we wanted to continue to produce a great program in our usual fall time slot and have created our most exciting and unique educational event to date. This year, the CAWC is presenting two “theme meetings,” which will be smaller meetings with a maximum of 350 delegates each that will bring the latest knowledge from the Toronto WUWHS congress in June to Canadian wound healers. The meetings will be held in two of Canada’s most beautiful locations: Victoria, BC, October 24-26, 2008, and Halifax, NS, November 7-9, 2008. The meetings have a unique agenda and format with lots of great choices that have been derived from recent needs assessments, requests, feedback and, of course, the hottest information from the World Union.

To get this information, the CAWC will be deploying a team of specialists at the WUWHS congress to monitor all sessions and compile the most important, new and leading-edge information from around the world. We will then create comprehensive sessions based on the best of the WUWHS congress and deliver it to Canadian wound healers at the 2008 theme meetings. We will also be inviting the top poster presenters from the WUWHS to display their work at the theme meetings.

The heart of the agenda will be four smaller-group interactive sessions focused on venous leg ulcers, pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, and the patient visit, including dressing selection.

The agenda has been specially designed so that all delegates will be able to attend each of these smaller-group sessions. In addition, there will be a comprehensive plenary session on wound bed prepa-

ration as well as a broad range of concurrent sessions.

Regardless of your level of expertise, these theme meetings offer a range of interactive sessions, didactic sessions and satellite symposia as well as great social and networking events, Canada’s premier annual wound-care trade show and the top posters from the World Union—all in a smaller, more intimate and interactive format than our regular national conference.

Enrollment is limited, so pick one of the meetings, mark the date on your calendar, and visit the CAWC Web site for details. Complete information and online registration will be posted on www.cawc.net by April 1. Registration fees are only \$275 for CAWC members and \$325 for non-members.

Great meetings, in great places, at a great price. See you there!

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Key Features

- workbook for each participant
- core sessions on key topics: diabetic foot ulcers, venous leg ulcers, pressure ulcers, plus the patient visit, including dressing selection
- smaller-group, case-based interactive learning
- sessions on hot topics from the WUWHS congress linked to the evidence base on the WUWHS Web site
- excellent networking and social activities
- the top posters from WUWHS congress
- product information and education at the wound-care trade show
- taking place in two of Canada’s top destinations

CAWC 2008 Theme Meetings

“Bringing The World’s Best to You”

➤ **October 24–26 in Victoria, BC**

➤ **November 7–9 in Halifax, NS**

What is happening with the annual CAWC conference this year?

As a hosting society of the World Union (WUWHS) congress taking place in Toronto in 2008, the Canadian Association of Wound Care will be foregoing its 2008 national conference and instead will offer two very special theme meetings. These three-day meetings will incorporate all of the best CAWC conference features, including a great day of satellite symposia, Canada’s premier wound-care trade show, social and networking events, and will feature the hot information and latest knowledge from the June 2008 World Union congress.

What will the agenda include?

The agenda will be based on four very special, interactive, smaller-group sessions predicated on the latest and greatest from the World Union proceedings, including a distillation of the newest information regarding pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, wound bed preparation and venous stasis ulcers. Concurrent sessions will focus on the hot topics and information requested in recent CAWC needs assessments.

Where will it take place?

The meetings will be held in two of Canada’s most beautiful and desirable destinations: **Victoria, October 24–26, 2008** and **Halifax, November 7–9, 2008**.

Who should attend?

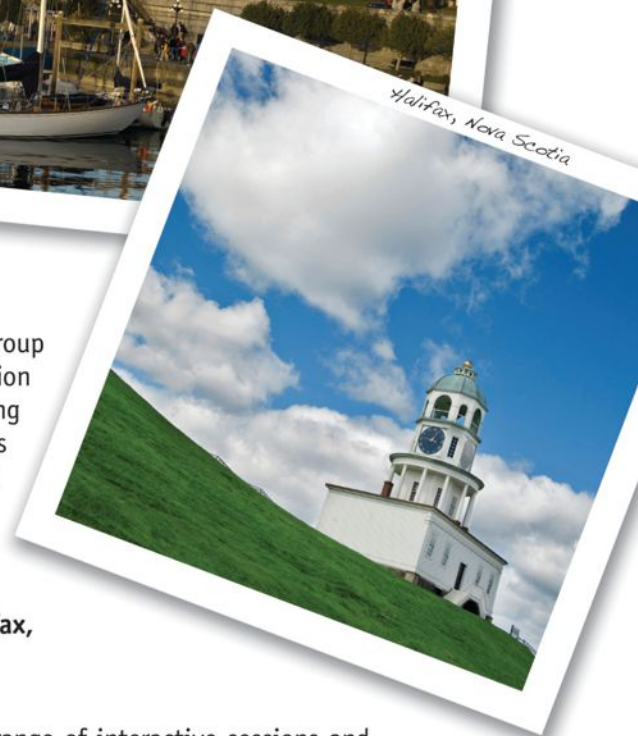
Regardless of your level of expertise, these theme meetings will offer a range of interactive sessions and leading-edge information that will enhance any practice.

How do I find out more?

Complete information and online registration will be posted on www.cawc.net by April 1st.

Register Now!

The proceedings at each event will be identical and attendance will be limited to 350 delegates each, so mark your calendars, pick your location and register now! 2008 registration fees have been reduced to \$275 for CAWC members and \$325 for non-members.



Great meetings, in great places, at a great price!

Canadian Association
of Wound Care



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World of WWW Getting Wider

The CAWC connects to the wound-care community via the Internet to members and other professionals in the wound-care field through regular e-mail blasts and two separate Web sites: www.cawc.net and www.preventpressureulcers.ca. Here's what's new:

PUAP Web Site: The PUAP site is relatively new, and it contains information for clinicians, patients who might be at risk for developing a pressure ulcer, and people caring for those at risk. In addition to being a source of information that will help your practice, the site is a good tool for patients and their families.

CAWC Web Site: For the CAWC site, launched in 2001, the time has come for some renovation. During 2008, the CAWC team will be updating the look, organization and content of the www.cawc.net site.

Directories: In fact, the CAWC Web site has already been updated by the addition of two exciting new directories: a private one for

CAWC members and one that's open to the public that contains information on clinics.

Clinic Directory: The new clinic directory will be an important tool for improving patient outcomes, as many patients don't know where to turn when they have a wound that won't heal. Many non-wound-care specialists need information on where to refer such patients as well. The clinic directory will contain location information as well as listings of the type of services offered, accessibility, referral information, contact details and more. Please visit the members-only section of the CAWC Web site to input your clinic information. As the directory will be available in a public area of the Web site, we'll need permission from your clinic director to post the information. Help us connect you to the people who most need your help!

CAWC Member Directory: The CAWC is expanding the member directory, a great membership benefit, and making it easier

for you to input information and to access information on other members in your field of interest or geographical location.

For new or existing members who are renewing their membership we ask you to fill out fields containing the relevant information for the directory. Please take the time to complete the entire form. You can go back any time and add or change information, so if you renewed before January 2008, please take a few minutes to update your account. You can choose to opt out of the directory any time if you don't want the information made available to other members. To join, renew or update your account go to www.cawc.net/open/membership/information.html. To access the member directory go to the members-only section of the CAWC Web site at www.cawc.net and click on the member directory link. You'll be able to see the entire listing or use the search feature to select a particular person or group of persons. The directory is a great way to keep in touch with your colleagues around the country.

Pressure Ulcer Awareness Program: Final Pilot Figures Confirm Program's Positive Effect on Care and the Bottom Line

In an earlier issue of *Wound Care Canada* (Volume 5, Number 1, Spring 2007), we outlined some of the preliminary findings of the CAWC's Pressure Ulcer Awareness Program from the sites who participated in the pilot program. These findings included positive changes in practice, knowledge, and facility policy. Recently, the final figures from the pilot program came in, with all facilities showing improvement in the more quantifiable areas of the program, like prevalence and incidence rates. Visit the Web site at www.preventpressureulcers.ca for the details.

Improvements in prevalence and incidence figures weren't the only positive changes reported. Fruan Tabamo, PUAP Champion from Maimonides Geriatric Centre, a long-term care facility in Montreal, said, "Maimonides was able to reduce the cost associated with the treatment

of pressure sores...We were able to significantly reduce the cost of dressings from \$90,000 to \$55,000 following the introduction of the PUAP program." Yes, that's over 40 per cent savings in dressings alone!

The program is now running in acute care and long-term care facilities across the country, with more being signed up every month. In Ontario, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is piloting the program in 20 LTC facilities with an eye to expanding into all LTC facilities in the province.

Two PUAP staffers, Kimberly Stevenson

(National Team Leader) and Rose Raizman (Cohort Team Leader), oversee the program and act as facilitators and coaches for the facility site champions.

With the great results that have been demonstrated so far, it is certain that more facilities will get on board. You can help by getting the process started in your facility. For more information on the program, please visit the PUAP Web site at www.preventpressureulcers.ca or contact Kimberly Stevenson at stevenson@preventpressureulcers.ca. She can help you get the PUAP in your facility. Don't wait. Do it today!

CAWC Bylaws Posted on Web Site

Occasionally over the years, the CAWC has made changes to the organization's bylaws. The consolidated bylaws are now available for viewing on the Web site by any interested members. Visit www.cawc.net and click on the "About the CAWC" button.



S-Series: The Premier Wound-care Education Program in Canada

The S-Series continues to be one of the most popular wound-care programs in the country. Each year, the CAWC presents the three-part educational series in three Canadian cities. The program is based on the four Canadian Best Practice Recommendations for wound management, and provides a sound basis in wound management theory and practice.

If you are looking for a solid grounding in wound-care fundamentals register today for the S1 and S2. If you've already participated in the S-Series, encourage your colleagues who need basic wound-care knowledge to attend either an S-Series or one of this year's theme meetings.

And don't forget about the S3. This "Reflective Learning & Practice Portfolio" provides a framework to help you further identify the knowledge and/or skills required to improve your wound-care practice. If you want to move your career forward, this tool is just what you need!

The 2008 Canadian Wound-care Calendar: A Snapshot of Events

CAWC S-series

Thunder Bay, ON: March 14-15

Edmonton, AB: April 4-5

Quebec City, QC: April 11-12 (presented in French)

Third Congress of the World Union of Wound Healing Societies

Toronto, ON, June 4-8

Special 2008 Theme Meetings:

Bringing the World's Best to You

Victoria, BC: October 24-26

Halifax, NS: November 7-9

Practical Considerations for the Enhancement of Nutrition and Hydration in Patients

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ments are required but not affordable, suggest adding dry milk powder into milk, cereal, pudding, casseroles, cream soups and other foods. Some patients may already be consuming a one-calorie-per-mL liquid nutrition supplement. These supplements often come in an enhanced form with extra calories and protein in the same volume; suggest a switch to an enhanced formula. Some people may be eating "comfort foods" such as hot cereals, cream soups and mashed potatoes. Recipes are available that use nutrient-dense supplements to enhance these savoury comfort foods.

Consider alternate means of nutrition/hydration. Supplemental tube feeding may be considered a valuable tool when other strategies have been attempted yet have failed to meet an individual's nutrition and

hydration needs. If deemed appropriate by the health-care team, the option of enteral nutrition support should be discussed with the patient and/or the designated substitute decision-maker. If a patient is able to eat orally, tube feeding does not preclude oral intake. Tube feeding can be run overnight so it does not interfere with recreation or therapy schedules. The provision of supplemental overnight tube feeding may reduce a patient's stress related to the need to eat optimally when barriers exist. Tube feeding does not need to be permanent; it may be discontinued when a patient is able to meet his or her needs orally or when there is a change in health status. Quality of life issues should be paramount in an individual's care plan.

These are only some of the many strategies to consider when attempting to optimize a

patient's nutrition and hydration status. It is important to implement creative and practical ideas that are individualized to the needs of each patient to improve intake and the quality of the meal experience. ☺

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Canadian Nurses Involved in Diabetes Prevention Program in Mexico

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national, national and regional associations and groups involved in wound care. Now that Mexico has a holistic interdisciplinary association, the AMCIHAC, or am-see-chahk (see article on page 11), this type of networking

will be facilitated, and co-operation between both nations encouraged. ☺

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