

Greetings from CAWC President Cathy Burrows



BY Cathy Burrows

I would like to extend wishes to you for a healthy and successful 2009. This year promises to be the most exciting and productive year to date in the history of the CAWC. As President, I am pleased to report on the activity and hard work of the CAWC Board of Directors and staff to improve wound care both nationally and globally.

Looking Forward Through 2009

In 2009 you will see the launch of a new and dynamic Web site and the opening of the CAWC Foundation, which will support research and future initiatives of the CAWC.

The success of the Pressure Ulcer Awareness and Prevention Program continues, and our first international program is now up and running in Alaska. The Pressure-free Zone initiative, which bridges pressure ulcer prevention between acute and long-term care, is an idea that is sure to improve pressure ulcer prevention across all sectors. See Program Manager Kimberly Stevenson's article on page 40 for more information on this innovative project.

Our educational programs continue to get better and will be going high-tech in 2009. In an effort to better serve our member-

ship, we will be offering an expanded S1 program online, which will in turn allow the current S2 program to be delivered as a full two days of hands-on skills labs. The most exciting news is that our online educational programs are being designed to prepare our membership for future certification. You can read more on our online initiative in "Education at the CAWC" on page 58.

Last year, in an effort to better serve our francophone population, we established a French-language Task Force. The Task Force brought forward a number of great ideas that we have begun implementing already and that you'll see more of in 2009.

The World Needs More Canada

Our international initiatives, which continue to expand, include three important projects in 2009.

The North American Wound Care Council meeting is being held in Mexico this year as part of the inaugural meeting of the Mexican Wound Care Society. The support the CAWC has given to our Mexican partners has been an essential component of the birth of the Mexican society and their ability to produce their own meeting.

At the January Board meeting,

approval was given to formalize the involvement of CAWC members in the American Association of Wound Care (AAWC) Global Alliance initiative. Only CAWC or AAWC members are eligible to take part. See "Join the CAWC and see the world!" on page 54 for details on this very exciting program.

In 2008, CAWC past president David Keast was partially sponsored to attend the World Health Organization meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, on best practices for lymphedema management. This initiative continues to grow globally and you will be kept apprised of future work.

Code of Ethics

The CAWC believes in promoting a code of ethics in all areas of wound-care education. This involves conference speakers, our industry partners and consumers of wound-care education. The "Ethics in Education: Update" piece on page 58 outlines the tenets of the code of ethics and presents our strategy for implementation of the code.

As you can see, we take our responsibilities seriously and have been working very hard on your behalf. ☺

*Cathy Burrows, RN, BScN, MScCH
President, Canadian Association of
Wound Care.*



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