

## Wound Care Alliance Canada Formed

A new advocacy group – the Wound Care Alliance Canada – was formed recently in an effort to raise the profile of wound care as a major health issue in Canada. Founding members of the Alliance are the Canadian Association of Wound Care (CAWC), the Canadian Association of Enterostomal Therapists (CAET), the Ontario Wound Interest Group (ONTWIG) and MEDEC (the national association representing the Canadian medical technology industry).

**“We hope to bring key stakeholders to the table.”**

The group will be pursuing a national wound management innovation agenda, says Maureen Latocki, Acting Executive Director of the Alliance. “Through that agenda, we hope to bring key stakeholders to the table to explore how we may use innovation in wound prevention and care to drive forward opportunities to create more value in the healthcare system,” she adds.

The Alliance has identified a natural alignment between improved value-for-money in

wound care with government priorities at both the federal and provincial levels. Indeed, says Latocki, “Our initial step will be to speak with one voice to governments to disseminate key information regarding the costs associated with wound care, and how that information can be used by healthcare administrators and government policymakers to make evidence-based decisions regarding how wounds are prevented and managed in practice.”

Future initiatives include the development of a Canadian Wound Innovation Network, which would bring together clinical, academic, industry and government expertise, to drive forward opportunities to leverage Canadian assets to generate world-class research and innovation in the field of wound management.

“We are pleased to be a founding member of the Wound Care Alliance Canada,” says Peggy Ahearn, Executive Director of the CAWC. “Through this partnership with like-minded organizations, we can foster the policies and procedures necessary to deliver optimal wound care to those in need.”



## Diabetes, Healthy Feet and You: Phase 2 Launch

Phase 2 of the Diabetes, Healthy Feet and You initiative has now rolled out across Canada! All 10 provinces across Canada will be delivering peer-led educational workshops that will motivate people with diabetes and their loved ones to learn about good foot care practices and how to apply them in their daily life. The workshops are entitled *PEP Talk: Diabetes, Healthy Feet and You*.

Along with the community peer leaders, the workshops will also be facilitated by a healthcare professional from each province. The focus of the program is to empower people living with diabetes to “discover and use their own innate abilities to gain mastery of their diabetes” and foot care.<sup>1</sup>

Recognizing the signs and symptoms of diabetic foot complications and accessing timely care can save limbs!

For dates and location information regarding sessions in your area, please visit [www.diabetespeptalk.ca](http://www.diabetespeptalk.ca). For further information about the program, please contact Andrea Martin, Coordinator, Diabetes Healthy Feet and You Project, Canadian Association of Wound Care, by telephone (416-485-2292, ext. 221) or email ([andrea@cawc.net](mailto:andrea@cawc.net)).

### Reference:

1. Funnell MM, Nwankwo R, Gillard ML, et al. Implementing an empowerment-based diabetes self-management education program. *Diabetes Educ.* 2005;31:53-61.

## Wound Care Canada Publisher Appointed

The Canadian Association of Wound Care is pleased to announce that Douglas Queen has been appointed Publisher of the association's flagship publication, *Wound Care Canada*. Douglas has been in the wound care arena for more than 25 years. He completed his PhD in biomedical engineering in 1986, studying wound care dressings; he completed his MBA in 1996.

Douglas spent 13 years working for ConvaTec in both the Research & Development and Sales & Marketing areas. His career with ConvaTec gave him both European and North American experience. Currently, Douglas runs a medical device consultancy business and is also Editor of *International Wound Journal*.

“We are pleased to welcome Douglas to this position,” says Peggy Ahearn, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Wound Care. “His breadth of knowledge, and commitment to the prevention and management of wounds will serve the association well.”



Douglas Queen: “I very much look forward to the opportunity to work with Canadian wound care clinicians.”

## Collaborative Wound Care Education Program Launched By Canadian Association of Wound Care and Bayshore Home Health

The Canadian Association of Wound Care and Bayshore Home Health are pleased to announce a unique and exciting educational initiative to provide Bayshore nurses across the country with advanced wound care education and training. The initiative will ensure that Bayshore clients receive optimal wound care management, which is crucial to reducing both healthcare and economic burdens.

Earlier this year, 8 facilitators from Bayshore's nursing staff were trained by the CAWC to conduct the CAWC Institute of Wound Management and Prevention L-Series program. The CAWC L-Series offers intensive, hands-on education regarding the prevention and management of acute and chronic wounds.

The facilitators, with representation from across Canada, were carefully chosen based on their experience, expertise and

leadership skills. In early 2012, the facilitators will attend the CAWC L-1 to L-3 Series meetings as regional wound care leaders, and will provide their expertise and hands-on knowledge. They will then be fully prepared to roll out the L-Series program to Bayshore's 3,500 nurses across the country.

To ensure quality control as the L-Series launches with Bayshore staff, a CAWC Institute faculty member will attend each facilitator's initial presentation. "That's part of our commitment to ensuring that the program is successful," says Peggy Ahearn, the CAWC's Executive Director.

"Thanks to the CAWC, we are now equipped to provide point in time education to Bayshore nurses, which is critical," says Katherine Grant-Brown, Clinical Practice Leader, Skin Health and Wound Care, Bayshore Home Health. "Our goal is



Peggy Ahearn: "The partnership between the CAWC and Bayshore represents a substantial commitment to wound care prevention and management initiatives."

that each and every Bayshore nurse will undergo this training."

"This is a sizeable commitment on the part of Bayshore," says Peggy. "Recognizing that wound care is a substantial part of the day-to-day work of these nurses is an important step in the prevention and management of chronic wounds."

## CAWC Welcomes RQSP

The CAWC congratulates the Regroupement québécois en soins de plaies (RQSP) on their first scientific day, held March 31 in Montreal, Quebec. "We look forward to working in partnership with the RQSP," says Peggy Ahearn, Executive Director, CAWC. "The RQSP meets the very unique needs of Quebec wound care providers. I know our colleagues at the Canadian Association for Enterostomal Therapy join us in wishing much success to this new organization."

## L'ACSP souhaite la bienvenue au RQSP

L'ACSP félicite le Regroupement québécois en soins de plaies (RQSP) de la tenue de sa première journée scientifique à Montréal le 31 mars. « Nous nous réjouissons de notre partenariat avec le RQSP », a déclaré madame Peggy Ahearn, directrice administrative de l'ACSP. « Le RQSP répond aux besoins très particuliers des fournisseurs de soins des plaies du Québec. Je sais que nos collègues de l'Association canadienne des stomothérapeutes se joignent à nous pour souhaiter beaucoup de succès à cette nouvelle organisation. » ☺

**Publish in  
Wound Care Canada!**

Contact [wcceditor@cawc.net](mailto:wcceditor@cawc.net) for further information.



## 2012 CAWC Institute Educational Events

The CAWC Institute of Wound Management and Prevention is offering Levels 1 to 3 Series educational sessions at the following locations. Register now!

- Thunder Bay, ON: March 29–April 1
- Montreal, QC: May 3–6 (delivered in French)
- Toronto, ON: June 21–24
- Kelowna, BC: October 11–14
- Toronto, ON: November 29–December 2

The CAWC Institute will also administer the Level 4 International Interprofessional Wound Care Course at the following location:

**Michener Institute, Toronto, ON:  
September 20–23, 2012.**

For course descriptions and registration information, please visit: <http://cawc.net/index.php/educational/>.