

CAWC Update

By Greg Archibald, MD, CCFP, FCFP, President, CAWC



For the CAWC, 2013 has been a year of collaboration and innovation. Our network of partners has expanded exponentially and includes a number of like-minded groups:

- Canadian Diabetes Association
- Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
- The Canadian Association for Enterostomal Therapy
- The Ontario Woundcare Interest Group
- MEDEC
- Wound Care Alliance Canada
- Regroupement Québécois en Soins de Plaies (RQSP)
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Local Health Integration Networks of Ontario
- Ontario Hospital Association
- iMD
- BestLifeRewarded
- Memorial University, St John's, NL
- Industry partners, who make everything we do possible through their generous support

In a special and unique category are our program faculty members. They dedicate their time and expertise to ensure that we deliver evidence-based, practical, leading-edge information.

Working together with all our partners, we can positively impact outcomes in wound care across Canada.

Through collaboration and support with and from these groups, we have been able to expand our programs and become more innovative in our approaches. Our online modules called "Foundations of Wound Care in Just Four Steps" have reached a large audience not accessible through live events.

Earlier this year, our Strategic Forum program brought together a number of companies new to Canada and with new information to share with a panel of experts. Positive feedback was received from both groups on the "win-win" of this event.

In September, we worked with the Professional Development Department of the Faculty of Medicine of Memorial University to organize an accredited symposium that combined wound care and dermatology. This new format received high marks from all attendees due to the expertise of our panel and the enthusiasm of Memorial staff. We see this as a model for future programs in 2014. Please see "Bringing Wound Care Knowledge to Newfoundland" on page 12 for more on this event.

Our innovative approach continues into our 2013 Annual Conference being held in Vancouver, BC. Chaired by our treasurer, Christine Pearson, the program offers as always a wide variety of topics and formats. We will open with a light-hearted message from Roman Danylo that will set the stage for enjoyment as well as education. Don't miss—for the first time—our electronic poster library. There will be over 100 posters to view on a wide variety of topics. Come, learn, network and enjoy Canada's most beautiful city. For more on what to expect at this year's conference, please see "From Innovation to Action: The Future of Wound Care Is Now" on page 8.

As always, our work is geared to achieving our mission of improving the lives of Canadians with wounds and working with all health-care professionals to reach this goal. Our programs are all designed with this end point in mind.

Our management team, Peggy Ahearn, Douglas Queen, Mariam Botros and David Stein, are pleased to be part of such an important initiative. We also extend a warm welcome back to Sue Rosenthal who rejoins us as Editor of *Wound Care Canada*.

We are now planning for 2014 and looking toward more collaboration and innovation. As we begin our 20th year, we feel that we have accomplished much, but we are on the cusp of much more.

As always, we appreciate the support of our members and look forward to seeing you in Vancouver in November. 🍷