



# News in Wound Care

Canadian Association  
of Wound Care



Association canadienne  
du soin des plaies

## CAWC News

The CAWC has been working hard to expand our reach and create active partnerships with like-minded organizations. As a result we are in a strong position to advance our goals. Over 2015 we will:

1. Increase our attention to health disciplines that are in need of enhanced skin and wound education, with priority focus on family physicians, nurse practitioners, government/agency decision-makers, the public and lay caregivers.
2. Move beyond wound care into skin health through education of clinicians, improving public awareness, advocacy aimed at prevention, all while continuing to strengthen wound management education and awareness.
3. Create more customized programs for groups, organizations and governments to better meet specific needs.
4. Utilize new technologies to deliver more types of programs to more people.
5. Enhance our role as facilitators across all sectors by continuing to connect with partners nationally and internationally and provide opportunities to organizations, governments and individuals to gather to exchange knowledge and resources.
6. Set the agenda for wounds and skin health in Canada, through events, white paper development, advocacy programs and more.

## Advocacy

The CAWC is pleased to announce that James Elliott has joined us as Director of Advocacy and Government Relations.

The CAWC, along with a collaborative group of other non-profit organizations, and supported

## CAWC Conference

The Canadian Association of Wound Care conference will once again be held in Toronto, Ontario, at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, **October 29 to November 1, 2015**. If you are interested in improving your skin and wound care practice you will want to attend.

The conference features three full days of experts presenting the latest information on the most topical subjects in skin and wound care plus a day of hands-on workshops for anyone looking to improve specific skills.

The most current research will be delivered through poster displays and special oral presentations. As always the formal and informal networking opportunities will provide attendees with access to colleagues from across the country who share common goals and challenges.

Please visit <http://cawc.net/en/index.php/conference/> for more information and to register.

**Act fast to take advantage of the Conference Early Bird pricing!**



**Toronto 2015**

by Covidien Canada, launched the Just Leg Pain? Think Again campaign at the CAWC conference in October 2014. The campaign was aimed at increasing patient and health professional awareness about the need for early diagnosis of PAD (peripheral arterial disease). Patients with chronic diabetes or advanced vascular disease can develop painful legs and ulcers—and 40% of those patients progress to requiring major amputations. The campaign seeks to educate patients, health providers and policy makers that the type of early intervention seen in Europe should be applied in Canada for treating patients with PAD.

The campaign consisted of a media release

and educational materials. An information piece geared to clinicians to help them work with patients and a brochure aimed at patients to help them understand PAD and its implications can be downloaded from the CAWC site at <http://cawc.net/en/index.php/public/peripheral-arterial-disease/>. They are available in English and French.

The CAWC—along with the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, Canadian Association for Enterostomal Therapy, the Canadian Diabetes Association and a number of other organizations and individuals—is spearheading an advocacy movement to encourage health ministries around the country to implement policy changes supporting the prevention of foot complications in persons with diabetes. For more on this initiative, please see *Advocating for Diabetic Foot Care Change in Canada*, an article in *Diabetic Foot Canada e-Journal* written by James Elliot ([www.diabeticfootcanadajournal.ca/journal-content/view/advocating-for-diabetic-foot-care-change-in-canada](http://www.diabeticfootcanadajournal.ca/journal-content/view/advocating-for-diabetic-foot-care-change-in-canada)).

## Research

The CAWC is pleased to announce that Dr. Michael Stacey has joined us as Chair of the CAWC's Research Committee.

Recent projects have included the CAWC, Queen's University and the Government of Ontario's study to evaluate the impact of an interactive online support group relating to diabetes self care and a paper developed by the CAWC, sponsored by several companies, on the role of advanced therapies in the management of diabetic foot ulcers.

## Education

The CAWC offers opportunities to health-care professionals for ongoing professional career growth in the areas of skin health, wound prevention and wound management.

The basis for the education is a series of online modules (The Foundations of Wound Care) that provide foundational knowledge, followed by onsite case-based workshops to take the knowledge, give it context and provide methods of applying the knowledge to practice.

Onsite workshops must be sponsored by a

health region, facility or organization. If you are a member or employee of the sponsoring body, you can register through them. If you are not a member or employee, indicate your interest in attending a workshop by emailing [info@cawc.net](mailto:info@cawc.net). Your name will be placed on a list and you will be notified about upcoming workshops. Please visit <http://cawc.net/en/index.php/educational/> for more information on upcoming events.



**CAWC Education**

If your facility is interested in sponsoring an educational event and has a minimum number of 50 participants, we are able to deliver the program in your community. For more information on this opportunity, please email [info@cawc.net](mailto:info@cawc.net).

For more information on CAWC education, please visit <http://cawc.net>.



The Diabetic Foot Canada online community is being refurbished with a great new look and enhanced functionality. Please visit [www.diabeticfootcommunity.ca](http://www.diabeticfootcommunity.ca) soon to see the changes.



A screenshot of the Diabetic Foot Canada website. The header includes the logo, navigation links (Home, About DFC, DFC Links, DFC Communities, HUB Portals, Contact Us, My Account), and social media icons. The main content area features a large image of a healthcare professional interacting with an elderly patient, with the text "Welcome to the Diabetic Foot Community!" and "Login Register" buttons. Below this is a "SMARTSITE" section with "RECENT ARTICLES", "POPULAR ARTICLES", and "LATEST COMMENTS". A featured article titled "PEP Talk Educational Workshop - June 27, 2014" is highlighted, along with an advertisement for "How healthy are YOUR feet?" and a "LATEST POLL" section.



The Canadian Association  
for Enterostomal Therapy  
Association Canadienne  
des Stomothérapeutes

## CAET News

By Catherine Harley, RN, eMBA, Executive Director, CAET

The CAET is pleased to announce that Paulo DaRosa, RN, BScN, MCLScWH, CETN (C) is the new CAET President. Paulo is currently employed as a Nurse Clinician and Certified Enterostomal Therapist at the London Health Sciences Centre.

The CAET recently partnered with Diabetic Foot Canada (DFC) to support the PAD campaign and participated in an Ontario Ministry of Health meeting that took place February 3, 2015, in Toronto, Ontario, with the CAWC, DFC, the Canadian Diabetes Association and the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario to raise awareness around the issues that patients are facing in the area of the prevention and management of diabetic foot complications. Follow-up will be taking place in order to support progress to improve patient outcomes.

The CAET has been working with Ostomy Society Canada (formerly UOAC) to raise awareness of the need for ostomy reimbursement changes through the Assistive Devices Program (ADP) in Ontario. The CAET has also been a participant in the Pan-Canadian Ostomy Reimbursement initiative with the Canadian Colorectal Association of Canada and other stakeholders to improve ostomy reimbursement across Canada.

The CAET Informatics and Research Core program just launched a Patient Decision Aid for Intermittent Self Catheterization – “Is it the right choice for you?” You will see information on this patient decision aid in the Research and Informatics report in the recent issue of the *CAET Link*. Please take time to read it in order to see a new way to help to empower patients. For further information on this initiative, please go to [www.caet.ca](http://www.caet.ca) and click on “Education and Research” and look under “Education and Research” Patient Decision Aid.

The CAET Academy is offering a “Writing for Publication Course,” which will assist individuals

interested in learning how to write and publish a paper. For further information on this course, or if you are interested in becoming an Enterostomal Therapist, please go to [www.caetacademy.ca](http://www.caetacademy.ca) or feel free to email me directly at [catherine.harley@sympatico.ca](mailto:catherine.harley@sympatico.ca).



## Ontario Woundcare Interest Group News

By Valerie Winberg, OntWIG President

The Ontario Woundcare Interest Group (OntWIG) continues to advance our Wound Care Framework document: “Fewer Wounds, Faster Healing (2012).” OntWIG created this document to foster dialogue among health-care providers, policy makers and the general public about the growing challenge wound care presents to wound management. The need for a pan-provincial strategy to govern and improve efficiencies in wound care is urgently needed.

OntWIG continues to engage multidisciplinary health-care providers in activities that pertain to wound health policy and political action in Ontario.

Our current activities are focusing on the engagement of members in working groups:

1. Developing clinical pathways across sectors for various wounds
2. Defining qualifications and role of the wound specialist in Canada
3. Standardizing wound data collection across all health-care sectors

OntWIG remains involved at the steering committee level with the Canadian Wound Care Alliance, a national group with the objective of lobbying for and building a national centre of excellence and innovation for wound care in Canada.

To join OntWIG, renew membership and/or participate in an OntWIG working group, please go to [www.OntWIG.ca/register](http://www.OntWIG.ca/register).

To contact an executive member of OntWIG, please email [Ontwig@gmail.com](mailto:Ontwig@gmail.com).