

FALL 2006

# BULLETIN

APACTS

Alliance of Professional Associations for Community-Based Therapy Services

Dietitians of Canada –  
Ontario Region  
[www.dietitians.ca](http://www.dietitians.ca)



Ontario Association of  
Social Workers  
[www.oasw.org](http://www.oasw.org)



Ontario Association of  
Speech-Language  
Pathologists and  
Audiologists  
[www.osla.on.ca](http://www.osla.on.ca)



Ontario Physiotherapy  
Association  
[www.opa.on.ca](http://www.opa.on.ca)



Ontario Society of  
Occupational Therapists  
[www.osot.on.ca](http://www.osot.on.ca)



## Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Follow-Up on Response to Caplan Report

On May 10, 2006 an APACTS representative was invited to attend a meeting hosted by MOHLTC to provide information and answer questions regarding government's response to the Caplan Report. Issues covered included: implementation of a raise in the base-line wage of "Certified" personal support workers (PSWs) to \$12.50 per hour as a way of stabilizing the workforce; proposed hiring of a non-endowed research chair to work with a consortium (provider stakeholders, MOHLTC, etc.) to identify/define research needs in home care and discuss funding dissemination); implementation of an expanded Provincial (LHIN) LTC Action Line to include home care clients, caregiver and service provider concerns (an Independent Complaints Coordinator will be hired to hear client complaints, mediate between members of public/clients and providers and track trends); and consideration of timing of when to restart the competitive procurement process (procurement documents as well as MOHLTC policies and procedures were revised with input by APACTS and others.)

## Promoting Therapists as Case Managers

Variability amongst CCACs regarding the professions listed as qualified to apply for case management positions prompted APACTS to write to Executive Directors and Human Resources personnel at all CCACs pointing out that members of our five professions meet the requirements set out in the CCAC Client Services Policy Manual on qualifications for Case Managers, i.e., we are regulated health or social work professionals. There is a misconception at some CCACs that dietitians and speech-language pathologists are not regulated under a College. Additionally, APACTS contacted the Ontario Association of CCACs and the Ontario Case Managers Association regarding this matter. Neither is aware of any reason to omit specific professionals from advertisements for Case Managers. The OACCAC has offered to raise this issue at the Client Services Work Group in order to clarify that all therapists – occupational therapists, physiotherapists, dietitians, speech-language pathologists, and social workers – are qualified for Case Manager positions. APACTS is seeking to generate consistency in CCAC recruiting practices.

## New OCMA Website and Executive Director

In March 2006, OCMA announced that they hired a new Executive Director, Karen Parent, whose mandate is: to develop a national presence for Case Management; broaden the scope of what is Case Management and who can be a Case Manager; and develop a Centre for Excellence for Case Management.

APACTS will be meeting with her in the fall. Karen has a BScN (nursing), MSc (Community Health and Epidemiology), MPA (Public Administration) and a PhD (Policy Management and Evaluation).

Visit OCMA's new website at [info@ocma.on.ca](mailto:info@ocma.on.ca) for more information.

## Pandemic Planning for Therapy.

This spring the MOHLTC hosted an e-meeting related to pandemic planning which outlined communication and planning protocols for service providers. An APACTS representative participated in the meeting.