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A Message from the Canadian Patient Safety Institute



The Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) encourages healthcare providers and organizations to “ASK. LISTEN. TALK.”, and the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) continually demonstrates this commitment to its stakeholders. I would like to thank the OHA for its support to improve patient safety and quality through their collaborative efforts. In order for us to

shift from the healthcare system we have, to the healthcare system we deserve, we must build a culture that supports effective partnerships and a unified vision of safe care.

The OHA has given CPSI continued support to bring high profile, high impact projects to the frontlines of healthcare. Our joint dedication to patient safety and quality improvement has resulted in the advancement of the *Patient Safety Education Program* (PSEP – Canada), and the *Patient Safety in Mental Health: Shining a Light on Suicide* conference. We have also partnered on the *Effective Governance for Quality and Patient Safety* program with great success. Celebration of success is gratifying as one recognizes his/her own achievements, but I believe that success is all that more enjoyable when you have someone to share your triumph with. Thank you once again, OHA, for your contributions to these projects.

Updates from CPSI:

Bridgepoint Health Receives Award for Innovation in Patient Safety

This fall it was CPSI’s privilege to recognize Bridgepoint Health, by awarding them the Innovations in Patient Safety Education Award at the Patient Safety Education Program (PSEP – Canada) conference held in Toronto on September 14, 2011.

Bridgepoint Health is a champion in understanding and acting on the importance of partnerships. Invested in advancing patient safety and quality improvement in their organization, Bridgepoint Health has welcomed PSEP-Canada into their structure to support a train-the-trainer model as a means of increasing patient safety on frontlines in the Ontario health region.

Bridgepoint Health realizes that it is not merely the outcomes of clients, residents and patients in healthcare institutions, but also the experiences that occur within hospital

walls. Jane Merkley, Vice President, Programs, Services and Professional Affairs (CNE), and Kate Wilkinson, Director, Quality and Patient Safety, represented their organization's achievements, accepting the award on behalf of Bridgepoint Health.

Annual Canadian Patient Safety Week

CPSI is excited for the sixth annual Canadian Patient Safety Week (CPSW), October 31 to November 4, 2011. CPSW connects thousands of healthcare providers, patients and families together as they join the mission for patient safety in our country. CPSI believes that every patient experience should be safe and CPSW is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of this attitude.

Regardless of how large or small your organization is, I deeply encourage you to join me, along with thousands of Canadians, to celebrate this week.

Additionally, held in conjunction with CPSW, CPSI will be hosting Canada's Virtual Forum on Patient Safety and Quality Improvement, a platform that allows for the widest reach obtainable so that anyone can participate, regardless of location or travel budget.

The forum's daily themes range from: Patient Safety: What does it mean? What does it take?; The Culture and environment of work and care; Engaging hearts and minds in medication safety; Engagement: Patients, families and the public; and *Ask. Listen. Talk.*

It is reassuring to know that in a country with as much diversity as ours, in a country with the second largest land mass and with two official languages, we are still connected to the importance of not only our personal safety, but the safety of others. All Canadians deserve safe care, and together we can inspire quality improvement to achieve it.

By: Hugh MacLeod, CEO, CPSI