



Ontario Palliative Care Association

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Dear Fellow OPCA Member:

We regret to inform you that the Executive Committee of the Ontario Palliative Care Association (OPCA) has accepted Chris Sherwood's resignation as the Association's President. Chris submitted his resignation because of personal health issues and expressed having come to this difficult decision after much consideration. He extended his appreciation to fellow Board members for their understanding and offered to continue his support of the Association by stepping into the position of Past President.

Chris' commitment and dedication to hospice palliative care and to our Association is well known to his colleagues and to his fellow OPCA members. He has been a valued member of our Association and a positive instrument for change in his work on our behalf. We have benefited from our association with him and look forward to continuing to benefit from his experience as he mentors and supports Marg Poling in the position of President.

To ensure we continue to build on the work that Chris has accomplished for the Association, the Board of Directors has taken immediate action to appoint a new Executive Committee, as follows:

President.....Marg Poling, Palliative Pain and Symptom Management Consultant NWCCAC
(Thunder Bay)
Vice President.....Debbie Gravelle, Manager, Regional Palliative Care Services (Ottawa)
Past President.....Chris Sherwood (Simcoe)
Treasurer.....Carol Ford, Nurse Consultant/Educator (Newmarket)
Secretary.....Elaine Klym, Resident Care Coordinator, Maison Vale Inco Hospice (Sudbury)
Membership Chair...Vivian Papaiz, Palliative Pain and Symptom Management Consultant (Huntsville)

We are committed to creating a strong leadership team, maintaining our relationships with the key stakeholders in the field of hospice palliative care, serving as a strong, unified voice for our members, and continuing to advocate for quality end-of-life care regionally, provincially, and nationally.

We will keep you informed of our plans and actions through our newsletter and other communication means as developments take place.

We look forward to your continued support as we build on the strengths of our Executive team to meet the challenges facing us in these exciting times of change and growth for hospice palliative care provincially and nationally.

Cordially,

Marg Poling
President