

# Toronto Dementia Network

## Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Steering Committee April 27, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at the Toronto District Health Council

### Present:

Dr. Rory Fisher (Co-chair)	Regional Geriatric Program of Toronto
Françoise Hébert (Co-chair)	Alzheimer Society of Toronto
Dr. Carole Cohen	Dementia LINC, Sunnybrook and Women's
Amanda Falotico	Providence Centre (OCSA)
Eric Hong	Whitby Mental Health Centre
Rhona Phillips	Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
Rena Postoff	West Park Health Care Centre
Cori Ross	Toronto District Health Council
Dr. David Ryan	Psychogeriatric Resource Consultant Program
Angela Mendes	Coordinator, Toronto Dementia Network

### Regrets:

Joy Richards	Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care
Pam Goldsilver	Comprehensive Rehabilitation and Mental Health Services
Terry Collins	Ontario Long Term Care Association
Marta Krywonis	Etobicoke-York CCAC
Vija Mallia	Castleview Wychwood Home for the Aged (OANHSS)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Fisher welcomed those present and advised that this would be the last meeting for E. Hong, who is changing position, and R. Postoff who is retiring. Dr. Fisher thanked them for their many contributions.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

### 3. Approval of the Minutes of February 10, 2004

The minutes were approved as distributed.

### 4. Budget / RGP Contract Review

F. Hébert reviewed highlights of the *Revenue and Expenses 2002 – 2004* statement. She noted that a donation of \$50.00 received during the year was inadvertently omitted from the statement. Future statements will include donations to the Network. The RGP contract with the Alzheimer Society of Toronto was reviewed. It was noted that \$25,000 is also available until March 31, 2005 for special projects that the Steering Committee might wish to undertake, subject to RGP approval.

### 5. Report on Ontario's Alzheimer Strategy Invitational Workshop, April 16-17

Dr Fisher and F. Hébert reported on the Ontario's Alzheimer Strategy meeting. Three documents were distributed:

- *A Model for Transition to the Future - Ontario's Alzheimer Strategy*
- *Ontario's Strategy for Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias - 1999 - 2004 -Implementation Milestones and Status - April 2004*
- *Position Paper on Dementia Education - Dementia Network of Ottawa*

The role of PECs and PRCs in Dementia Networks was brought up. Discussion followed on future funding for the Toronto Dementia Network, and how other dementia networks are funded. Options to pursue include pharmaceutical, IT and insurance companies, and the Ontario government. It was agreed to consider funding strategies in the autumn.

## **6. Dementia Toronto Online - Update**

C. Ross, Chair of the Website Committee, distributed her report on web site usage, and summarized discussions of the last Website Committee meeting covering RGP representation on the Committee, evaluation of the website and copyright. She invited other members of the Steering Committee to join the Website Committee if they have an interest in the topic (current members are C. Ross, F. Hébert and R. Phillips). Dr. Ryan and Marlene Awad of the RGP have now joined the Committee. It was suggested that a PRC or a PEC be invited to participate as well. Questions raised for future discussion included listing for-profit organizations on the database, and advertising on the website as a revenue source.

## **7. Community Consultation Project**

Dr. Ryan distributed and reviewed *A menu of possible action items arising from the community consultation process*. Discussion followed on prioritizing options, creating partnerships, and conducting research. It was agreed that Item 2a, initiating a consultation process focussed on family caregivers recruited from support groups listing on the web site, was the most feasible project in a short-time frame. F. Hébert offered to assist as the Alzheimer Society of Toronto coordinates the Support Group Leaders Network in Toronto.

## **8. Membership / Succession Planning and Re-evaluation of the TDN Terms of Reference**

The current Terms of Reference specify that

*The Toronto Dementia Network is directed by a Steering Committee composed of invited representatives from major stakeholder groups, who act on behalf of the groups they represent and communicate regularly with them. Membership on the Steering Committee is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it continues to represent all major stakeholder groups.*

It was agreed that the Terms of Reference need to be amended to deal with succession issues such as election of Steering Committee members, terms of office, roles and responsibilities. F. Hébert suggested that Judith Wahl from ACE be invited to serve on the Steering Committee. The idea was approved and F. Hébert agreed to approach J. Wahl. Other proposed names were Dr. G. Winnocur and M. Timmins.

## **9. New Business: Advocacy**

F. Hébert noted the growing number of complaints about the quality of care in long term care facilities. She suggested we focus our attention and perhaps consider a project on this topic. Additional topics on which the Steering Committee could focus were discussed including a conference on quality of life issues, addressing dementia education, and bringing research results to the community via with the web site. It was agreed that for the short-term, the priority would be the Community Consultation Phase 2: (Caregivers).

## **10. Next meeting and Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.. The next meeting will be held on June 8, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.