

Toronto Dementia Network

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Steering Committee December 14, 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
Pam Goldsilver	Comprehensive Rehabilitation and Mental Health Services
Catherine Kohm	Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care
Marta Krywonis	Etobicoke-York CCAC
Maria Milanetti	Toronto District Health Council
Rhona Phillips	Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
Dr. David Ryan	Psychogeriatric Resource Consultant Program
Leslie Sorensen	Toronto District Health Council
Angela Mendes (staff)	Coordinator, Toronto Dementia Network

Guest:

Eric Hong	Alzheimer Strategy Transition Project Manager
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Regrets:

Dr. Carole Cohen	Dementia LINC, Sunnybrook and Women's
Terry Collins	Ontario Long Term Care Association
Amanda Falotico	Providence Centre and OCSA
Vija Mallia	Castleview Wychwood Home for the Aged (OANHSS)
Angie Szuch	Ontario Senior's Secretariat
Judith Wahl	Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dr Fisher welcomed everyone and invited those present to introduce themselves.

2. Alzheimer Strategy Transition Project – Eric Hong

Three documents were distributed: *[attached]*

- *The Provincial Alzheimer Group – Terms of Reference – July 2004*
- *Ontario's Alzheimer Strategy – A Model for Transition to the Future*
- *Transition Plan – Building on the Success of Ontario's Alzheimer Strategy*

E. Hong reviewed the goal of the Transition Project, which is to transit successful Alzheimer Strategy initiatives into mainframe health programs. He explained the role of the 'three pillars' of the Project: The Provincial Alzheimer Group, the Round Table for Future Planning, and the Alzheimer Knowledge Exchange, noting that the latter is an ambitious idea intended to translate knowledge into practice but which is still vague and not yet operationalized. He explained that the future roles of the Psychogeriatric Resource Consultants, the Public Education Coordinators and the Dementia Networks are being considered by a task group of the Provincial Alzheimer Group.

E. Hong advised that dementia networks must be able to demonstrate that they are plugged into the community, and that they can solicit and represent the views of that community. He reviewed the priorities of the current government, and reiterated the message given by M. Weber at the last meeting that network activities that advance government priorities will more likely succeed in receiving government support.

E. Hong responded to questions and concerns. He was then thanked and left the meeting at 10 am.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda: LHIN community workshops and Website Subcommittee

4. Approval of the Minutes of October 26, 2004

The minutes were approved as distributed.

5. Website update

The Coordinator reviewed the previously distributed report on website usage. November 2004 saw the highest use of the website since its launch in August 2003. The coordinator was asked to provide data on the number of visits to the Events page [*Note: The report is attached*].

6. Community Consultation Task Force

Dr. Ryan reported on the Family Caregiver Consultation Project. He distributed *Dementia Network of Toronto Family Caregiver Consultation Thoughts and Ideas*, which summarizes consultation findings.

Dr. Ryan also reported on two meetings with A. Falotico and R. Phillips regarding inter-agency collaboration and cross-sectoral standards of care. He distributed *Dementia Network of Toronto Initiative on Inter-Sectoral Integration* which summarizes the discussions of this Working Group, which recommends 6b. as a project initiative. The Steering Committee agreed that 6b. is an excellent project idea. Further investigation on timelines and cost is needed to develop a project workplan.

MOTION: That the Steering Committee supports the general direction of 6b. and authorizes the Working Group to proceed with developing a workplan.
(C. Kohm / P. Goldsilver) **Carried.**

Dr. Ryan will provide electronic copies of the distributed documents.

7. Dementia Awareness Services

F. Hébert reviewed her previously-distributed *Proposal for an Awareness Service*, and read a note from Dr. Cohen that suggested aggregating announcements instead of sending them individually. F Hébert agreed that a summary list of announcements could be sent on a weekly basis, with hot links leading to more information about the announcement on the Dementia Network website. The Steering Committee approved the suggestion and the proposal, which will be implemented in 2005.

8. New Business

8.1 LHIN Community Workshops:

Several members attended community meetings organized by MOH to consider the LHIN strategy. F. Hébert noted that the integration opportunity that received the most votes at the Toronto Central meeting was proposed by Dr. Barbara Liu of the RGP, recommending that the LIHN should provide 'a continuum of care for seniors that supports aging in place'. Members who attended other community meetings identified different priorities, including better transportation services and better access to primary care.

8.2 Website Subcommittee

F. Hébert noted that the TDHC representative on the Steering Committee has always chaired the Website Subcommittee, but since C. Ross left no chair has replaced her. The two TDHC representatives agreed to consider the situation, which is linked to who will formally represent the TDHC on the Steering Committee. F. Hébert invited other Steering Committee members who might be interested to serve on this Subcommittee.

9. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The Coordinator will propose several dates for the next meeting, to be held in March or April 2005.