

# Toronto Dementia Network

Minutes of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Steering Committee, June 27, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.  
Alzheimer Society of Canada, 20 Eglinton West, Suite 1200, Toronto

## Present:

Françoise Hébert (Co-chair)	Alzheimer Society of Toronto
Dr. Barbara Liu (Co-chair)	Regional Geriatric Program of Toronto
Dr. Carole Cohen	Dementia LINC, Sunnybrook and Women's
Terry Collins	Ontario Long Term Care Association
Cecile Raymond for Stacey Daub	Toronto Community Care Access Centre
Amanda Falotico	Providence Healthcare
Marilyn Gruneir for Pam Goldsilver	COTA Health
Vija Mallia	Castleview Wychwood Home for the Aged (OANHSS)
Rhona Phillips	Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
Dr. David Ryan	Psychogeriatric Resource Consultant Program
Lily Spanjevic	Toronto Rehabilitation Institute

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## Regrets:

Pam Goldsilver	COTA Health
Janice Buchanan	Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
Penelope Minor	Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care
Kari Quinn-Humphrey	Public Education Coordinator, Alzheimer Society of Toronto
Lena Salach	Ontario College of Physicians
Anne Stephens	St Michael's Hospital
Judith Thompson	Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care
Judith Wahl	Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE)

## Guests:

Margaret Cameron (rapporteur)	Alzheimer Society of Toronto
Eric Hong	Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care

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## 1. Welcome and opening remarks

Dr. Liu welcomed everyone. Members of the Steering Committee and guests introduced themselves.

## 2. Background

Françoise Hébert reviewed the *Fork in the Road* document which had been pre-distributed, and gave additional details of where the Toronto Dementia Network has been, progress that has been made, projects that have been undertaken, notably

1. Toronto Dementia Network website, now managed and fully funded by the Alzheimer Society
2. Build-A-Case Community Consultation
3. Funding for the 2006 PSW forum, with video of proceedings sent to other dementia networks

The following points are a summary of the open discussion which followed.

### **3. Current challenges and opportunities**

- lack of ongoing funding
- need to increase awareness of the Toronto Dementia Network among service providers and the broader community
- need to strengthen communication between and among Steering Committee members
- need for Steering Committee to provide more input to co-chairs on an ongoing basis
- need to establish regular communication with other networks in Toronto and with dementia networks in the GTA and across the province
- difficult for the Steering Committee to represent all sectors as the community is vast and diverse
- cross-border issues relating to 5 LHINs in Toronto, and 14 LHINs, 36 dementia networks and 39 Alzheimer Society chapters across the province

### **4. Goals & Strategies**

- The Toronto Dementia Network should continue to exist
- Primary focus on communication and advocacy
- No new projects to be undertaken unless funding is available
- Email blasts expanded to provide news in addition to upcoming events
- LHIN focus primarily on Toronto Central LHIN, connections forged with bordering LHINs
- Short term goals: strengthening relationships internally
- Mid term goals: alignment with other networks in the city and dementia networks in the GTA
- Long term goals: better coordination of services to improve the system of dementia care

### **5. Membership**

All members in attendance wish to remain as active members. Eric Hong rejoined the Steering Committee.

### **6. Terms of Reference**

Point 2 Purpose/Goal – revised to read

*The Toronto Dementia Network places at the centre of its focus the best interests of persons with dementia, their families and caregivers, and works to improve the system of dementia care in Toronto.*

Point 4 Steering Committee to include

- Co chairs – the Alzheimer Society of Toronto and the Regional Geriatric Program of Toronto continue this role
- Members of the Steering Committee representing:
  - LHINs – too soon, maybe later
  - Community Care Access Centres – Stacey Daub will represent all CCACs in Toronto
  - Primary health care nurse practitioners in place of physicians – may be able to get a representative from one of the family health teams now in place at Women's College, St Joseph's, or Mount Sinai Hospitals
  - Emergency Response personnel – may be able to find Community Relations Officer from local division through Officer Pat Fleishman
  - Caregivers and representatives from diverse communities – on ad hoc basis
  - Ontario Seniors Secretariat – does not have Toronto focus so remove from list

## **7. Future Meetings**

- meetings provide a valuable opportunity for members to communicate and share information
- three times a year is ideal
- standing agenda item: environmental scan of what's new with members
- one member may be invited to make a detailed presentation on what is happening in their area
- desirable also to hold annual meetings with the other Dementia Networks in GTA

## **8. Immediate Action to Be Taken**

- Dr Barbara Liu will send letter of introduction to Toronto Central LHIN
- Dr Barbara Liu will connect with Charlotte Maher of Care Watch which is concerned about the absence of a seniors advisory committee to the Toronto Central LHIN
- Dr Barbara Liu will propose to PAG (Provincial Alzheimer Group) a meeting of all Dementia Networks province-wide
- Françoise Hébert will contact the AKE re LHINs
- Françoise Hébert will prepare a list of all dementia service organizations based in the Toronto Central LHIN area - a valuable tool to offer to the LHIN
- Margaret Cameron will look into information on The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program for Alzheimer Society of Toronto program staff

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11.40 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** October 17, 2006 at 9:00 am at COTA Health Offices, Lawrence Square