

April 2020

# ICCER Newsletter



## NOTES FROM ICCER

Emily and I continue to work from home but can still be reached by phone or email. We are always pleased to receive messages from our members and interested individuals.

As you know, we changed all of our in-person events into webinars. We have a series that will go until the end of June and are already planning additional ones starting again in September. We recognize that even if you register for a webinar, events may pull you away at the last minute. Don't worry - recordings of the webinars are available in the members-only area of the ICCER website for Organizational and Associate members. We also recognize that some Individual members and non-members (who have paid for the webinar) also get pulled away at the last minute. We've been setting up special viewings of the recordings for some of these individuals. If you registered for a webinar, but were unable to attend, let us know and we will try to help you view the recording.

Emily and I miss seeing you and hope that you are continuing to be healthy. Take care.

Sandra Woodhead Lyons, PHEc  
Executive Director, ICCER

**Don't forget to renew your membership! Individuals not associated with an ICCER organizational or associate membership can join the ICCER network for \$150/year.**

If you are employed by one of ICCER's member organizations or associate members, you are already considered a member and are eligible for the related benefits! Individual memberships run April 1st to March 31st of each year. Please note that refunds will not be provided under any circumstance. All payments will be through our [automated payment system](#).

*[Click here for more information on individual membership!](#)*

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## REGISTER NOW!

### ICCER Webinar Series

ICCER has adapted its latest networking and education events to an online platform to support self-isolation and physical distancing during the pandemic. In the months of May and June, we will have speakers presenting their innovative projects from two ICCER member organizations, the University of Alberta and Keyano College, as well as an interesting presentation by the Health Quality Council of Alberta to finish the spring schedule. These presentations are suitable for a variety of audiences, including family caregivers! You can read more about each on the next page.

- **Alberta Rating Index for Apps (ARIA)**

On **May 14, 2020 at 10 AM MDT** Dr. Peyman Azad Khaneghah will showcase an assessment tool developed during his PhD program at the University of Alberta. The Alberta Rating Index for Apps (ARIA) is a user-centred quality assessment tool that can help older adults, family caregivers, and healthcare providers rate the quality of mobile health apps that are available on the app stores, and identify health apps that are acceptable.

[\*Click here to register for the webinar on May 14!\\*\*](#)

- **Indigenous Health & Continuing Care in Rural Northern Alberta**

Join us on **May 27, 2020 at 1 PM MDT** for a webinar with Dr. Nadine Rimmer, who will present a facilitator's guide for nurse educators. The guide includes a review of Indigenous history and cultural sensitivity with a focus of providing care for the Indigenous client in varying environments. Using case studies developed by a team of educators based on real people, concepts are introduced and discussed to provide culturally sensitive care, including knowledge about different complimentary therapies and including family and elders in support and care. Awareness of common health challenges within Indigenous peoples and the appropriate linkages to social determinants of health will round out the information.

[\*Click here to register for the webinar on May 27!\\*\*](#)

- **Software Applications in Support of Caregiving to Older Adults**

On **June 11, 2020 at 10 AM MDT** Dr. Eleni Stroulia, Ruby De Jesus, and Mehadi Sayed will describe three coordinated software applications that are being developed to be used to connect health care aides and family caregivers of older adults with dementia. Our speakers will highlight the opportunity to use technology to better enhance the support and communication between formal and family caregivers, and develop better software that will help those facing challenges associated with dementia.

[\*Click here to register for the webinar on June 11!\\*\*](#)

- **Human Factors in Healthcare**

Join us on **June 24, 2020 @ 10 AM MDT**. Jonas Schultz, Human Factors Specialist, HQCA, will present the first of a three-part webinar on the role of human factors in care environments. Human factors is the study of the interrelationship between humans, the tools and equipment they use, and the environment in which they work. Part 1 will provide a general overview of human factors and its introduction into healthcare in Alberta. Jonas will also share how this body of knowledge can be used to design or evaluate healthcare processes, information, equipment, and environments.

[\*Click here to register for the webinar on June 24!\\*\*](#)

**\*These webinars are free for ICCER organizational, associate, and individual members. The cost for non-members to attend is \$15/site!**

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## MEET OUR MEMBERS



**Eli Ahlquist** (RN, EdD) is the Dean of Health and Human Services at Keyano College. He is a registered nurse with 12+ years of experience in post-secondary education. Prior to joining Keyano College, he served in various academic leadership roles for nursing and health science programming in Saskatchewan. He is passionate about education and committed to the integration of technology to enhance learning. Eli's current research interests include the use of virtual reality based simulation in teaching and the integration of professional doctorates as faculty in nursing education.

Eli is ICCER's newest Steering Committee representative. We asked him a few questions about his experience so far.

### **What has surprised you most about working with ICCER?**

Being new to ICCER and Alberta, I was surprised at the extent of collaboration occurring in the sphere of continuing care. The progressive research occurring through ICCER to adapt dementia care to multiple groups is impressive. I believe that all care must evolve to align with the diversity of Canadians. Similarly, the educational opportunities offered through ICCER are equally impressive because of the progressive topics being discussed. Addressing resident sexual expression is a critical topic for care providers to ensure the quality of life for all individuals in care home settings.

### **What would you tell someone who is thinking about joining ICCER?**

I strongly encourage individuals and organizations to join ICCER. The organization is committed to improving the lives of those living in continuing care through research and education. These are important elements, and as a representative of a post-secondary institution, I am excited for the opportunities that collaboration will bring. Whether it is disseminating knowledge specific to continuing care or ensuring caregivers and educators are appraised of current trends - the role that ICCER plays is invaluable.

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**SIGN-UP FOR FUTURE EVENT INVITATIONS!**

Receive future email invitations to ICCER events!

*Click here to  
subscribe!*

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## SAVE THE DATE!

### **Walk with Me: Changing the Culture of Aging in Canada**

**Walk with Me 2021 will be held in Calgary, AB on April 22-23, 2021**, co-hosted by the Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging and CapitalCare.

The [biennial conference](#) brings together older adults/residents, care providers, educators, policy makers, students, and researchers from all over Canada to learn with and from each

other about how to enhance the journey of aging across the continuum of care and community living.

[Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities](#) are now available for the WWM 2021 conference!



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## BECOME AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF ICCER

**Who is eligible for Associate Membership?** Organizations with an interest in supporting and improving continuing care in Alberta, but who are not continuing care provider organizations, post-secondary institutions, or regulatory bodies.

**What are the benefits of Associate Membership?** Benefits are similar to, but not as extensive as those for Organizational Members. Associate Members will not participate in the governance of ICCER but will receive...

- The opportunity to network and collaborate with like-minded organizations in both formal and informal ways;
- The ability for researchers and providers to discuss continuing care research needs;
- The opportunity for staff to join meaningful Communities of Practice (CoPs) in order to learn and collaborate;
- Limited free attendance to all ICCER events (unless a charge is required, in which case members pay a reduced fee);
- Pre-registration for major education events;
- Resources and information sent weekly;
- Members-only website that includes information and resources that most organizations would not otherwise be able to access; and
- The monthly e-Newsletter

[Click here to read more on ICCER's website!](#)

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## JOIN OUR COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

ICCER started a Music Care Community of Practice (CoP) in fall 2016 and since then have added a CoP for Educators and Best Practice Leads in continuing care, as well as a

collaborative working group for continuing care policies. All organizational and associate members are welcome to participate!

- **Music Care CoP** - To help members become more aware of the music care options and resources available to them, as well as discuss issues related to implementation.
- **Continuing Care Educators CoP** - An opportunity for members to share resources, discuss strategies for integrating knowledge to practice, and explore the connection between curriculum and clinical education/practice. **The next meeting will be held via teleconference on June 1, 2020.**
- **Policy Working Group** - ICCER has started a collaborative working group for organizational members to work together on policies, procedures, and forms in hopes of making the audit process easier and more consistent. **The next meeting will be via teleconference on May 6, 2020.**

If you are from an ICCER member organization or associate member and are interested and willing to participate in one of these groups, please contact ICCER's Program Coordinator, Emily Dymchuk ([emily@iccer.ca](mailto:emily@iccer.ca)).

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE ICCER NEWSLETTER!

Click on the link to receive future issues of our monthly e-Newsletter!

[Click here to subscribe!](#)

## RESOURCES

- The Canadian Frailty Network has posted resources for [COVID-19 and Older Adults Living with Frailty](#)
- 211 Alberta also has [Self-Care Ideas to Help You Cope with Social Distancing](#)
- folio article by Michael Brown, [“Canada’s resilience through COVID-19 hinges on how we treat our most vulnerable, says experts”](#)

## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Institute for Continuing Care Education and Research  
4-023 Edmonton Clinic Health Academy  
11405 87 Ave, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 1C9  
Canada

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