

January 2021



MESSAGE FROM ICCER

On behalf of ICCER, I wish everyone a Happy New Year!

2020 has been a challenging year for all of us, particularly for the continuing care sector. As we start 2021 with guarded optimism, we cannot overlook the fact that as human beings we possess an extraordinary capacity to prevail over adversity. 2020 has been a testament to continuing care sector's unwavering commitment to providing care amidst extraordinary circumstances.

Many of ICCER's educational and networking events have been put on hold because of the pandemic. However the pandemic has distinctly affirmed the importance of a platform like ICCER. We look forward to continue to provide a forum where industry leaders, researchers and service providers can come together and examine the effectiveness of practices, interventions and policy options to strengthen Canada's future pandemic preparedness.

I will also take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to the Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories for sharing initiatives led by the organization during Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

Thank you, take care and stay safe everyone!

Sadia Anwar
Program Coordinator
ICcer

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COVID - 19 Vaccination - Shots of Hope

Alberta's vaccine roll out is underway. The government aims to provide vaccine to as many Albertans as possible in the coming weeks and months.

As part of the phased immunization program, COVID-19 vaccines have reached many Long-Term Care homes kicking off the vaccination process at many of these facilities, and bringing relief to long-term care residents. The social media platforms of Continuing Care Providers like CapitalCare and Bethany Care are brimming with "electrifying" images of seniors delighted to receive their first dose of the vaccine. After long months of waiting, we are overjoyed to see some relief on the faces of our seniors .

It is an emotional moment for the residents as well as frontline workers who have been struggling to stay safe during the outbreak . The vaccine promises hope and the prospect of a healthy future for residents who have been fighting isolation, fear and desperation for almost a year.

Courtesy: CapitalCare Facebook page & BethanyCare Facebook page



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Alzheimer's Awareness Month

Over 46,000 Albertans are currently living with dementia; almost 1% of the total population. Over the next 10 years, that number is expected to double. There is currently no known cause or cure for Alzheimer's disease or other dementias, but there is hope for creating a better tomorrow.

Every January, the Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories supports National Alzheimer's Awareness Month. During this month, organizations and individuals are encouraged to learn more about dementia and its stark impact on Canadians.

This year the Society has launched a 4-part short film series that follows Alicia, a vibrant mother and grandmother who lives with Alzheimer's, and her family, as they confront this disease head-on and share their story, struggle, and moments of connection.

"I hope by sharing our story, it shows others who are going through similar situations that they are not alone," says Judy, Alicia's daughter and caregiver. "Sharing and connecting with others is so important. It changes everything."

By understanding what people living with dementia experience in their day to day lives, together we can raise awareness throughout Canada.

And while Alzheimer's Awareness Month may stop at the end of January, the experiences of people who live with dementia do not. As such, it is important to take what you have learned and continue to share it throughout the year.

For more information on Alzheimer's Awareness Month, how the Society can help families on their journey with dementia, and to watch Alicia's story, visit www.alzheimer.ab.ca



The Memories We Share Alicia's Story

Courtesy : Alzheimer Society of Alberta and
Northwest Territories

SIGN UP FOR FUTURE EVENTS:

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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 members are welcome to participate! Associate members are invited to join the Music Care and Educators CoPs.

- **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.
- **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.

MEMBERSHIPS

Become an Individual ICCER member! Individuals not associated with an ICCER organizational or associate membership can join the ICCER network for \$150/year.

Individual members get free access to ICCER events and webinars. 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 ABOUT MEMBERSHIPS](#)

RESOURCES

Join Campus Alberta Neuroscience for a free virtual event on **February 3, 2021 from 11:00 am to 3:45 pm** showcasing researchers from the Universities of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge highlighting successes in research, translation to innovation. Register for this symposium by following the link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/successes-in-neuroscience-symposium-tickets-126278487355>



The Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG) is pleased to announce a **Call for Abstracts for CAG2021**, their 50th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting. The meeting will be held **October 21-23, 2021** in Toronto, Ontario at the Hilton Toronto.

Please click on the link for details: <https://cag2021.ca/>
Abstracts are due by **April 16, 2021**.



Carewest Supportive Pathways Train the Trainer Program

The Supportive Pathways education program is a nationally recognized program and has been chosen as the provincial curriculum for dementia care training. The Supportive Pathways Train the Trainer program is designed for any health care professional working in an organization with residents with dementia. The goal of the Train the Trainer program is to learn the teaching techniques and skills of the nationally recognized Supportive Pathways Dementia Care program and bring the education back to their individual organization to facilitate.

Training Dates: May 5-6, 2021 & October 20 -21, 2021

Please visit the link for registration:
<http://carewest.ca/dementia-care-training/>



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