

Ontario Dementia Network

Minutes of the Ontario Dementia Network conference call on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 8:30am.

Present:

Kathy Wright, Co-chair, (Champlain LHIN 11)
Dr. Bill Dalziel, Co-chair (Champlain LHIN 11)
Mary Burnett (Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN 4)
Carolyn Cybulski (North East LHIN 13)
Cheryl Graham (Central West LHIN 5)
Shelley Green (South West LHIN 2)
Megan Harris (Alzheimer Knowledge Exchange)
David Harvey (Alzheimer Society of Ontario)
Debbie Islam (North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN 12) (for Taro Shako)
Dr. Ken LeClair (South East LHIN 10)
Jennifer Sequeira (Central LHIN 8)
Loretta Tanner (Central East LHIN 9)
Carol Taylor (Waterloo Wellington LHIN 3)
Leanne Turner (Mississauga Halton LHIN 6)
Barbara Schulman (resource)

Regrets:

Joy Nieminen (North West LHIN 14)
Marija Padjen (Toronto Central LHIN 7)
Taro Shako (North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN 12)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kathy welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Ontario Dementia Network. The response to participating today has been very positive and is very encouraging.

Cheryl Graham mentioned that she is attending for “information purposes” only and that representation for Central West LHIN 5 needs clarification. Barbara will follow up with Cheryl.

Central East (LHIN 9) is working towards a regional dementia network. Loretta will advise us of their representative for future ODN meetings pending upcoming Central East meetings at which this will be discussed.

Members were asked to send any changes to the membership list (which was included in the agenda package) to Barbara.

Kathy briefly described the steps to date in establishing the Ontario Dementia Network. Representatives of the dementia networks in Ontario met in November

2008. At that time, the group unanimously supported the creation of a provincial dementia network. Kathy and Bill were asked to co-chair the Ontario Dementia Network Working Group to move this initiative forward. The material being considered today is presented on behalf of the Ontario Dementia Network Working Group.

2. Review proposed terms of reference

The terms of reference were approved with the amendment to expand the membership to include the following organizations to the membership: the LHIN collaborative; the Regional Geriatric Psychiatry Programs; and the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

For follow up: Dr. Dalziel will follow up on membership for Geriatric Psychiatry; Barbara will follow up on LHIN membership; Barbara will prepare a letter for the co-chairs to invite a representative from the OCFP while David Harvey and Debbie will informally explore this opportunity with Dr. Andrea Moser.

It was agreed to consider representation of a person with early onset dementia on the Network once the ODN was further developed. However, this representation would be important to include in relevant projects that are undertaken by local or regional dementia networks or by the ODN.

Kathy noted that we were waiting until the ODN began its work before seeking a representative from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. It was recommended that we not wait too long to seek this representation. David Harvey will pursue this.

3. Appointment of ODN Chair or Co-chairs

Barbara noted that the Terms of Reference call for the appointment of a chair or co-chairs for the ODN by the ODN membership. The ODN Working Group did not make any recommendations as to whom this should be nor to the process as it felt it was the responsibility of the ODN should determine this.

Barbara invited suggestions and/or expressions of interest.

Kathy and Bill were asked to take on this challenge and were unanimously appointed as co-chairs.

4. Review of the proposed objectives for April 2009 to March 2010

Members accepted the proposed objectives with the following amendments:

- a. change the time frame for “April 2009 to March 2010” to “April 2009 to March 2011”
- b. change objective 4 to reflect the LHINs

5. Identify potential funding sources for ODN sustainability

David updated everyone on the status of funding for the ODN. Dr. LeClair, Dr. Dalziel and David have been exploring a service agreement with the OCFP which combines the provision of some core funding to the ODN and some fee-for-service funds for the regional dementia networks. A response should be known by the end of July.

David also mentioned that there may soon be some funding from Novartis – approximately \$10,000 - which will be directed to ASO for use for the ODN. The exact arrangement will be clarified; however, David anticipates that we will be able to begin modestly spending these funds.

Dr. Dalziel stated that this might provide some leverage for obtaining funds from other pharmaceutical companies. David will share the correspondence to date with Bill for consideration with other pharmaceuticals.

It was agreed that we should develop a best case scenario for a budget for the ODN.

As we will probably want to seek funds from the MOHLTC, it was suggested that we invite the MOHLTC representative to the table asap and proceed with the budget “ask” once the representative has been appointed.

Other funding source might include the Ontario Trillium Foundation and there may be some opportunities to dovetail with the recent ASO grant submission, depending on Trillium’s response to the ASO request.

Another approach that the ODN should use when seeking funds is that of a “community of practice”. This approach has been used by other networks in the past and would be in “sync” with knowledge transfer and knowledge exchange. We might collaborate with SHRTN in getting recognized as a community of practice.

For now, the AKE is prepared to continue to provide some support to the ODN.

After some discussion, it was agreed that we should consider including funding for ODN and also for regional dementia network initiatives in the ODN “asks” for funding.

Some members noted that the regional networks will need infrastructure support as well as specific project support to succeed.

6. Suggested list of priorities and actions for ODN for 2009 to 2011

There was a lengthy discussion on the priorities and actions. This list will become the work plan for the ODN for 2009 to 2011. There were several changes to the list. It was suggested that the work plan to organized to reflect the actions for Year 1 and Year 2; it was also suggested that for funding purposes, specific

project approach should be included where appropriate. (see attached revised work plan)

There was some confusion about the terms regional dementia networks and LHIN-based networks; it was agreed to use the term “regional dementia networks (LHIN-based)”.

7. **Other business**

Summit on Mental Health and Addictions

Dr. LeClair asked if he could add the ODN membership list to the invitation list to Summit on Mental Health and Addictions which is being organized for July 2009. The ODN was in agreement.

8. **Next meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2009 from 8:30am to 10:00am. The meeting will be by conference call.

9. **Adjournment**

The conference call ended at 10:00am.