

Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario
 Association des centres pour aînés de l'Ontario



IMPRESSING THE UNIMPRESSED

From workshop at the OACAO Conference

In planning programs for older adults the following are some of the clusters that were emphasized :

- * **Which restaurant tonight?** Comfortable, professional middle Canadians with lots of friends and credit cards. Primarily urban Anglophones with a household income of 70,000+. They expect good service and will tackle problems head on. Comfortable with technology.
- * **Corner Gas** - Old time religion and old time family values, they are not tolerant of alternative lifestyles. Are not comfortable with new technology, or credit cards. This group has a high household income and tend to live in small towns in the prairies or the Maritimes.
- * **Earth muffins** - Older females who love puttering around the house, doing handicrafts, dressmaking, cooking, birdwatching and gardening. Like a quiet evening at home or a visit to bingo rather than a fancy restaurant. Tend to live in small towns in BC or the Maritimes. Lower income, lower education and not technology savvy.
- * **Go away, I don't want to fill out your silly questionnaire** - Uncomfortable with technology, many live

alone, avoid parties and avoid going out alone and feel the future for young people is bleak. Many are Franco-phones.

They have some of the lower incomes (less than \$40,000 per household) and more likely to have not finished high school.

***It's mine, all mine** - Older females living in the Prairies or Quebec who watch their pension to the last penny, and invest in GIC's, stocks, RRSP's, real estate and have a financial portfolio worth over \$100,000.

Have a collection of antique sewing thimbles in the front room paid for with cash NOT a credit card.

* **Love sports, hate doing'em.** - Armchair athletes who like sports, but only through the media. They follow their chosen sport through the season. They rarely exercise and don't consider themselves well informed about health or technology, Urban, male 65+.

* **Love sports, love doing 'em** - Health enthusiast, enjoy keeping fit, but for reasons of health (and beauty). They think that exercise is an important part of their lives and are comfortable with technology



AGING AT HOME STRATEGY

Ontario's population is aging - recent estimates project the seniors' population to double in the next 16 years. It is therefore becoming vitally important to ensure that there are resources available to assist those who wish to remain at home.

Through a new Aging at Home Strategy announced on August 28, 2007, community living options for seniors will be expanded dramatically, with a wider range of home care and community support services available to enable people to continue leading healthy and independent lives in their own homes. More than \$700 million in funding over three years will be invested through the province's [14 Local Health Integration Networks \(LHINs\)](#).

It is the LHINs who will lead this initiative by identifying and providing funding for enhanced home care and community support services, as well as for innovative projects specific to their LHIN.

Twenty per cent of the funding is earmarked for innovative projects. The idea behind this strategy is to invite proposals for new projects to support non-traditional partnerships and new preventive and wellness services. This will provide new opportunities for LHINs to better serve the province's culturally diverse populations and increase equity and access for all of Ontario's seniors.



Since Older Adult Centres really contribute to seniors' ability to stay at home we should be actively working with each of our local LHIN's to be an integral part of the initiatives they are planning for. We have a vital role in helping to meet the Aging At Home Strategy.

Message from the Executive Director

Hello to all. Well, it has certainly been a very busy Fall at the OACAO. A lot of wonderful things have occurred with the announcement of the Aging at Home Strategy and the EPC funding.

I certainly hope that centres are taking advantage of the opportunity of participating in the LHIN symposia being offered across the province on the Aging at Home Strategy. I found the Central West LHIN day most enlightening. It became very clear to those present that Older Adult Centres have a major role to play in the strategy, especially as the locations from which many of the services can be delivered.

Thanks to our friends Diane Varga from the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat and Brian Davidson from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for getting up very early on Tuesday, October 23rd to present Questions and Answers on the new EPC funding. This information has been shared with all over the list serve, and a shortened version is in this newsletter, but if you would like more information, please send me an email and I will send you a copy of the complete information.

It was a great conference and I offer my congratulations to a terrific Conference Committee under the leadership of Nancy Beddoe. The Conference 2008

Committee headed by Debbie Wilson is now working on the development of next year's conference at Horseshoe Valley Resort just north of Barrie. Put aside October 19-21, 2008 for a terrific event.

Lawrie Bloom

OACAO

Executive Director



CONFERENCE 2007 REFLECTIONS



Elderly Persons Centres Funding Questions and Usages

What is the special grant and what does it cover?

Pursuant to section 5 of the EPCA and Reg. 314, the province may provide a grant of up to \$15,000 per fiscal year in respect of the cost of services, facilities or research for elderly persons. However, these grants must be for costs that are not otherwise funded through the capital grant or the maintenance and operating grant.

What is the maintenance and operating grant and what is it supposed to cover?

Pursuant to subsection 4 (2) of the EPCA and Reg. 314 thereunder, the maintenance and operating grant may only be used for costs related to the maintenance and operation of an approved centre. The province may contribute up to 50% of the net monthly operating and maintenance costs of an approved centre, provided that the relevant municipality also contributes at least 20% of these costs. The grant by the province is capped at \$2,500 per month (\$30,000 per year). As per subsection 10 (1) of Reg. 314, the net monthly operating and maintenance costs are determined in accordance with the form provided by the Minister and submitted by the EPC, and these costs must be approved by the Director.

Can the “special grant” funding be considered on-going or is it one-time?

According to the EPCA, a special grant is limited to \$15,000 for any approved centre in any fiscal year. The special grant will be subject to negotiations between the ministry and the EPC on an annual basis.

Would the following purchase be acceptable under the special grant?

i) computers and software to replace existing computers (used for program attendance data management including class lists, statistics and evaluation)

ii) centre promotion and advertising including newsletters, posters and flyers

Funding can be used for costs associated with new services, facilities or research for elderly persons, including staffing costs. If the funding is required to support a new program or initiative that is not otherwise funded through another grant available under the EPCA, the special grant might be used to fund:

i) replacement computers and software in an amount that is less than \$1000

ii) new promotion and advertising.

How can I access a copy of the EPCA and the Regulations?

Go to www.e-laws.gov.on.ca– Current legislation is listed alphabetically. Select “E” and scroll through the list to Elderly Persons Centres Act. The Act and the regulations can be downloaded from this site.

Special Program Grant Funding – How is it being spent at your centre?

Waterloo	Chris Barker	-electric door opener
Brampton	Sharon Bonello	-offset operating expenditures
Centre Wellington	Kathryn Morgan	-electric door opener
North York	Candace Thomson	-offset staffing costs
Markham	Susan Watts	-programs and building maintenance
Oakville	Nancy Beddoe	-new prog. equipment – visioning workshop
Niagara Falls	Hanya Goforth	-an isolation project, similar to wheels to meals. We taxi them in, hot meal, exercise program, etc.
		-volunteer recognition event
		-T-Shirts for our volunteers

Message from the President

Thank you to Nancy Beddoe and the Golden Horseshoe Region planning committee for a great conference! There were wonderful learning opportunities to help us meet the challenge of changing times. Delegates enjoyed the chance to visit other Centres in the area, and picked up new ideas. Karaoke night was great fun - well mostly - some of us should stick to our day jobs! We had the opportunity to listen to details of the new EPC funding from Diane Varga, Seniors Secretariat and Brian Davidson, Ministry of Health Long Term Care division representative. It is hoped that the funding will be annual.

We have a new mission statement, approved by the membership at the AGM, which more accurately describes what OACAO does. The Board identified goals for each of the priority areas identified in the Strategic Planning process. Now it is up to the various Board committees to determine the objectives for each goal and strategies to achieve those objectives.

I would like to recognize Al and Auldine Gordon and Bill Krever for their work on the Building Bridges to Tomorrow research project. This is an important project that will direct OACAO in the future.

It has been my honour to serve as your President for the past year. I look forward to another productive year, and one that will see OACAO become a stronger voice for older adult centres in Ontario. Finally, I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you and yours a wonderful holiday season, and a healthy and happy 2008!

Ellen Hope, President

CULTURAL SPACES AND HERITAGE
Community Foundations of Canada and Benjamin Moore announce expansion of Community Restoration Program

The Benjamin Moore Community Restoration Program will now be accessible to communities all across Canada. The program, developed in 1998 with Community Foundations of Canada (CFC), provides assistance with community restoration and renovation projects. The newly expanded program comes with an additional commitment of \$100,000. This might be a good opportunity to paint your centre! Check it out

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