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ISSUE 1 | VOLUME 1 | OCT 2011



# PiDC Alliance

## Connection

PROVIDING UPDATES • COMMUNICATING FINDINGS •  
SHARING RESOURCES • CONNECTING PARTNERS

## Introducing the PiDC Alliance

### Forming the Team

The Partnerships in Dementia Care Alliance (PiDC) is a collaborative research network and project focused on improving the dementia care experience for persons with dementia, family members, and staff in both long-term care and community settings.

In 2010, the principal investigators (Dr. Sherry Dupuis and Dr. Carrie McAiney), along with a team of researchers, community partners, and over fifty organizations from across the country, received support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to undertake this project. These stakeholders form an alliance of partners working together to enhance dementia care.

### Including All Voices in Long-Term Care

This project aims to facilitate sustainable culture change in dementia care reflective of a relationship-centred partnership approach. In this way, the care experience will be enhanced for all stakeholders. There is a need for culture change in long-term care which moves away from current top down service provider-driven approaches to more person-driven and relationship-centred approaches that:

- ensure the involvement of all key stakeholders
- focus on the experiences of all involved in the care context
- incorporate the voices of everyone in decision-making to ensure that programs and services are relevant to all needs and are therefore sustainable

### Changing Culture Together

Researchers have partnered with four research sites to undertake culture change guided by the authentic partnership model, appreciative inquiry (AI), and the ADRD Planning Framework. Each research site is establishing a Culture Change Coalition (CCC) which includes representation from persons with dementia, family members, frontline staff, managers, researchers, and students.



Principal investigators Dr. Sherry Dupuis (left) and Dr. Carrie McAiney (right) pictured with Dr. Ron Schlegel, owner of Schlegel Senior Villages.



## What Will We Accomplish in 5 Years?

- A more comprehensive understanding of the culture change process and the factors that support and limit relationship-based partnerships/approaches within LTC settings
- A detailed process to achieve positive outcomes
- A rich research environment for the development of the skills and capacities necessary to facilitate culture change
- Enhanced quality of care and support for people with ADRD and their families
- Improved quality of work life for staff in dementia care

# Making Connections

*In March and April of this year, PiDC Alliance members participated in interviews with MAREP staff regarding their informational needs as partners in the Alliance. This article outlines the key issues which emerged from those interviews, and how the PiDC team plans to address these needs as we move forward.*

## KEY FINDINGS

Partners have indicated the following needs and expectations as members of the Alliance:

- Receive regular progress reports on the project; avoid paper communication
- Have access to a partner blog/website to receive information and updates
- Ensure that new audiences beyond project partners will have access to PiDC tools and resources
- Have occasional face-to-face contact in the form of meetings or partner conferences
- Ensure that Culture Change Coalition members have the resources needed to initiate and sustain culture change
- Use online scheduling tools for meetings and events



Kenneth Murray addresses the attendees at the 2011 [“A Changing Melody”](#) conference.

## OUR STRATEGIES

The PiDC team plans to address partner needs in the following ways:

- The PiDC team will create and circulate a quarterly newsletter which shares key updates
- The PiDC team is currently developing a website to be launched January 2012 that will include both a partner-only area and a public area for information and resource sharing
- Culture Change Coalition members currently meet on a monthly basis and research management team members meet twice a year (the next meeting is upcoming in November 2011)
- We hope to initiate an annual conference for all Culture Change Coalition members and PiDC Alliance partners
- The PiDC continues to develop evaluation tools, informational resources, and training packages related to the Authentic Partnership approach, appreciative inquiry, the culture change process, and the CARE profiles tool

## What's Happening this Fall?



- Continued monthly Culture Change Coalition meetings with Bloomington Cove Specialty Care and South West Community Care Access Centre/Saint Elizabeth Health Care
- Establishment of Culture Change Coalitions at Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care and The Village of Wentworth Heights
- Piloting of our CARE Profiles tool that measures the care experience of residents, family members, and staff in long-term care and community settings across Ontario
- Launching the PiDC Alliance website
- Beginning to draft the Culture Change toolkit

# PiDC Alliance Partners

## Culture Change Coalition Sites

[Bloomington Cove Specialty Care](#)  
[Saint Elizabeth Health Care & South West](#)  
[Community Care Access Centre](#)  
[The Village of Wentworth Heights](#)  
[Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care](#)

## Research Management Team

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Amy Go, [Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care](#)

Anita Cole, [South West CCAC](#)

Bryan Smale, [University of Waterloo](#)

Carla Bergermann, [Wentworth Heights](#)

Carol McWilliam, [University of Western Ontario](#)

Catherine Brookman, [Saint Elizabeth Health Care](#)

Catherine Ward-Griffin, [University of Western Ontario](#)

David Harvey, [Alzheimer Society of Ontario](#)

Frances Westley, [University of Waterloo](#)

Janet Iwaszczenko, [Bloomington Cove](#)

Jennifer Carson, [Research Institute for Aging](#)

Jenny Ploeg, [McMaster University](#)

Joanne Prokopchuk, [Specialty Care, Inc.](#)

Ken LeClair, [Queen's University](#)

Lorna de Witt, [University of Windsor](#)

Paul Holyoke, [Saint Elizabeth Health Centre](#)

Sharon Kaaslainen, [McMaster University](#)

Zara Rafferty, [MAREP, University of Waterloo](#)

## PiDC Alliance Partners

[Advocacy Centre for the Elderly](#)  
[Alzheimer Knowledge Exchange](#)  
[Alzheimer Outreach Services](#)  
[Alzheimer Society, Hamilton and Halton](#)  
[Alzheimer Society, Huron County](#)  
[Alzheimer Society, London and Middlesex](#)  
[Alzheimer Society of Canada](#)  
[Alzheimer Society of Ontario](#)  
[Alzheimer Society, York Region](#)  
[Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health](#)  
[Canadian Dementia Knowledge Translation Network](#)  
[Canadian Gerontological Nurses Association](#)  
[Concerned Friends of Ontario Citizens in Care Facilities](#)  
[Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning](#)

[Dementia Advocacy and Support Network International](#)

[Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, McMaster University](#)

[Department of Psychiatry, Queen's University](#)

[Division of Geriatric Psychiatry, McMaster University](#)

[Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, University of Waterloo](#)

[Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University](#)

[Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Western Ontario](#)

[Faculty of Nursing, University of Windsor](#)  
[Geriatric Psychiatry Program, Mount Sinai Hospital](#)

[Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN](#)  
[Homewood Health Centre](#)

[Java Music Club](#)

[Local Health Integration Network - Central](#)  
[Long-Term and Continuing Care Association of Manitoba](#)

[Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care](#)  
[Murray Alzheimer Research and Education Program](#)

[National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly](#)  
[Office of the President, University of Windsor](#)

[Office of the Vice-President, Research, University of Waterloo](#)

[Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors](#)

[Ontario Community Support Association](#)

[Ontario Dementia Network](#)

[Ontario Family Councils' Program](#)

[Ontario Interdisciplinary Council of Aging and Health](#)

[Ontario Long-Term Care Association](#)

[Ontario PsychoGeriatric Association](#)

[Ontario Seniors' Secretariat](#)

[Regional Geriatric Program Central](#)

[Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario](#)

[Saint Elizabeth Health Care](#)

[Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging](#)

[School of Part-Time Studies, Algonquin College](#)

[Seniors Health Research Transfer Network](#)  
[Sheridan Elder Research Centre, Sheridan College](#)

[South West Community Care Access Centre](#)

[South West Local Health Integration Network](#)

[Specialized Geriatric Services of Southwestern Ontario](#)

[The Village of Wentworth Heights](#)

[University of British Columbia](#)

[Waterloo-Wellington LTCH Linkages](#)

[Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care](#)

## PiDC ALLIANCE CONTACT INFORMATION



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