A Message from Ken

We start 2014 as the new Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, which was created through the realignment of hospital services in Windsor. One of the compelling reasons for the manner in which services have been realigned between Windsor Regional and Hôtel-Dieu Grace is the belief that organizations with a single focus on post-acute care and specialized continuing care services can provide better and more effective care than organizations that provide these services as an adjunct to acute care.

Although the realignment is only three months old it is the right time to commence a process to consider our new mandate and our future by establishing a vision, defining our future direction and determining our objectives and priorities.

The starting point for planning our future is our Catholic health ministry that is focused on serving the needs of the community with a specific emphasis on those persons who are marginalized in any way; be it physically, socially or spiritually. Therefore, we are committed to meeting the needs of the vulnerable, the needy, and the underserved.

We are proud of the programs and services that we are now responsible for delivering – including care of the elderly, rehabilitation, and long-term specialized and children’s mental health. These programs make a difference in the community, are vitally important, and have served this community with distinction. Our future builds on these programs and services and will also include new opportunities for meeting the future health care needs of the community and region.

In recognition of our vitally important role in the community we are seeking input from staff, as well as board members, influential community members and heads of other health care organizations.

To ensure that we have an honest, unbiased input that is representative of a broad range of views, we have engaged a third party research firm who will conduct on our behalf a number of focus groups and personal interviews with the various stakeholder groups mentioned above. These sessions will help us in developing a vision for Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, and determining our objectives and priorities in meeting the future health care needs of the community and the region.

Participants will be selected at random by the researchers. The outcome of all sessions will be provided to the management team in an aggregate, summary report ensuring that all feedback provided during these sessions will remain completely confidential and anonymous. Your input in these sessions will remain anonymous.

All staff selected by the researchers to participate, will have received a letter of initiation via email last week. It is important to note that participation, although encouraged, is completely voluntary. If you received an invitation to participate and would like to do so, we will work with you to accommodate the session into your work schedule.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to contact Terra Cadeau, Partnerships Manager at ext. 73683 or via email at terracadeau@hdgh.org.

HDGH Accepts Evacuated Patients from Broulliette Manor

On Wednesday, January 8, 2014 Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare was contacted by the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network (ESC-LHIN) and asked to provide assistance to residents at Broulliette Manor in Tecumseh who had to be evacuated due to a burst water pipe.

According to Bill Marra, Senior Director, Partnerships, Planning, Communications & Development, an emergency response team was quickly mobilized at HDGH. “We were asked to receive a total of 19 residents. Eighteen are long term care residents and one is a palliative care patient. By 10:00 p.m. our unit was ready and our first patient (palliative care) had arrived and was settled in comfortably. The remaining 18 residents all arrived safely and were settled into their rooms by 12:15 a.m.,” said Bill. All 19 residents were relocated to the Dr. Y. Emara Building.

“At this point we want to acknowledge the many HDGH employees that played a very critical role to ensure that we were prepared in a very timely fashion to receive the residents. There were many HDGH team members involved who were either already on campus and many others who were contacted and arrived immediately. We also wish to acknowledge the tremendous support and assistance provided by E.M.S. and Windsor Fire and Rescue Services,” added Bill.

St. Clair College Alumni to Visit HDGH

Joan Pocock from the St. Clair College Alumni Association will be stationed at an information table in the main hallway outside the Tim Horton’s Cafeteria in the Tayfour Tower on Friday, January 17, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Take a few minutes to stop by and speak to Joan and see what the Alumni Association has to offer. Joan will also be handing out some complimentary calendars and pens.
New Influenza Protection Protocol for Staff

In keeping with the practices being followed this year at Bluewater Health, Chatham Kent Health Alliance and now also Windsor Regional Hospital we are adopting the following practice:

During the influenza season, from December until the end of March, HDGH staff (employees, students, volunteers and medical/dental/professional staff) who, have contact with any patients must either be vaccinated against influenza, or must wear a surgical/procedural mask when they are with patients.

Those vaccinated with the flu shot after the beginning of December must still wear a mask for two weeks after receiving the flu vaccine in order to ensure the necessary protection has taken effect. If influenza is suspected or diagnosed in a health care worker, the person must remain off work until the period of peak symptoms and the period of communicability (five days from onset) has passed. Any staff with influenza symptoms must contact Sue Klein, Employee Health Nurse at ext. 73360 to report the symptoms and receive instruction with respect to next steps.

All staff who are vaccinated against influenza will be provided and must wear an identifier provided by the Health Office for the duration of the influenza season. Staff who are vaccinated but not wearing the identifier will be required to wear a surgical/procedural mask.

HDGH encourages all unvaccinated staff to get a flu vaccine as soon as possible. This year’s regular seasonal flu vaccine protects against the most commonly circulating H1N1 strain, as well as others. It’s not too late to be vaccinated. Our Health Office has some vaccine available now and is awaiting further supply from the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. The Health Office is located on the third floor of the East Wing and is open Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The vaccine is also available at many pharmacies and doctors’ offices.

Elder Care Winter College

If you are interested in learning more about dementia, delirium and depression, communicating with older adults, aging and disability or person-centred care in practice – Elder Care Winter College is for you. Classes are free and open to all HDGH staff, family members/caregivers and patients.

Kerry Bruner, Gerontology Clinical Specialist, will be teaching the classes every Wednesday for four weeks in the Chrysler Room of the Y. Emara building. Please note that each class is offered twice to accommodate work schedules. The classes are as follows:

Dementia, Delirium and Depression - Wednesday, January 22nd from 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. or Wednesday, March 5th from 7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Communicating with Older Adults - Wednesday, January 29th from 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. or Wednesday, March 12th from 7:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Aging and Disability - Wednesday, February 5th from 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. or Wednesday, March 19th at 7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Person-Centred Care in Practice - Wednesday, February 12th from 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. or Wednesday, March 26th from 7:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

HDGH staff members who attend all four classes will receive a completion certificate. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kerry at kerry.bruner@hdgh.org or call her at ext. 73711 to register.

All Staff are Invited to Attend Complimentary Yoga Classes in January

As part of our Wellness Program at Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, complimentary Yoga classes are being offered to all staff in the Brown Auditorium from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday during the month of January beginning Tuesday, January 14th. The classes are being conducted by Yoga Instructor Melody Queenen.

Try out a few sessions and see how you like it. If you are interested in continuing to attend Yoga classes, a three month session will begin on Tuesday, February 4th and run through to Tuesday, April 29, 2014. The cost of this session is $80 per person and can be paid by payroll deduction. Participants who attend 80 percent of the classes will be reimbursed 50 percent. You will need to bring your own yoga mat.

If you are interested in signing up for Yoga Classes, please contact Tanya Fick in Occupational Health and Safety, Employee Wellness at ext. 74105 or email her at tanya.fick@hdgh.org.

CPR Classes Available to all Staff

Second Chance CPR will be offering two hour CPR classes throughout the year for all staff needing initial certification or recertification.

These dates have been pre-booked for the year and each class will run for two hours. The two hour class was developed by Second Chance alongside with Windsor Regional Hospital and accommodates all staff within Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare. The cost is $25 which will be paid to the company/instructor the day of the class.

In order to guarantee a spot in any class you will need to call Second Chance and speak with Tif fin ey, their receptionist. She will then book you in for that date and class time. The phone number for Second Chance is (519) 977-7017, ext. 3 for all hospital staff. If no one is in the office to take your call, please leave your name, phone number, unit/area you are working on, and which date and time you would like to take the class and they will call you back to confirm. The class maximum is 15 people and the minimum is five.

If the class you have booked does not have the needed amount of people than you will be notified by the company that the class time has been cancelled. You will then need to either book a different time or a different date. If you have registered for the class and do not show up, and or did not cancel through the company you will still be required to pay for that class.

The classes will be held in the Education Classroom on the 1st Floor in the Casgrain Building (old AIREC classroom), in the Tayfour Tower. On each date, classes will be offered at three different times. You can sign up for the 0730 -0930h class; the 1230 – 1430h class or the 1530 - 1730h class on the following dates:

- February 12th
- April 9th
- June 11th
- August 13th
- October 8th
- December 10th

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Sarah Picco, Clinical Practice Manager, Complex Continuing Care at ext. 72242 or email her at sarah.picco@hdgh.org.