



December 8, 2011

Need to know

- **Message from Kathy MacNeil and Amanda Whitewood: Shared services review –** Yesterday, Amanda and Kathy sent a message to the Capital Health community sharing that the district health authorities, the IWK and the Department of Health and Wellness have identified the short list of six administration and support services to be considered for provincial Shared Services, from the original 13 potential services. These are:
 - Supply Chain/Material Management
 - Laundry
 - Information Technology and Telecommunications
 - General Administration
 - Human Resources
 - Finance and PayrollTo read Amanda's message, visit the [Intranet/Our News](#).
- **Business planning update –** On Dec. 5, **Amanda Whitewood** provided an update on business planning. [Read her message](#).

Our Promise in action

- **Congratulations on boldly going where no one (at Capital Health) has gone before –** Nursing staff on 3W, 3E, 4E, 4W and ICU at the Dartmouth General can stake claim to being the first to use the Emerald workload measurement system at Capital Health. Visit the [Intranet/Our News](#) to read more.
- **Reducing duplication in the spirit of patient-centred care –** Staff working in Rehabilitation and Supportive Care on the 8.1 Stroke / Neurology service have developed a new interdisciplinary assessment form that replaces four individual discipline-specific assessment forms. The new form brings together information gathered from Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Recreation Therapy team members. Staff are now able to glean client history and assessment information more efficiently and without duplication. Because staff members are collaborating and sharing information to develop the best possible care plan, patients on the unit no longer have to repeat information to multiple care

providers. Thanks to this team for their actions to improve patient-centred care.

Celebrating our people

- **Denice Klavano**, patient representative, recently spoke in Bogota, Colombia, and Mexico City, Mexico, on the topic of patient safety. Thank you, Denice, for sharing your passion for patient safety and news of Capital Health's quality and patient safety initiatives, on the international stage.

- **Meaningful Involvement of Consumers Award** – A luncheon was held Dec. 5 at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to honour the four recipients of the Meaningful Consumer Involvement Awards (MICA), sponsored by the Department of Health and Wellness. The recipients were Don Roper, Dani Himmelman, Linda MacDonald and the Mental Health Program's Quality Council. Congratulations!



Photo (left to right): Susan Shaddick, Dani Himmelman, Vince Daigle, Peter Croxall, Barbara Hall, David Pilon, Susan Hare, Ken Scott, Ian Slayter, Laura Ankcorn. Missing from photo: Recipients: Don Roper and Linda MacDonald

- **Musquodoboit Valley does Movember in style** – **Helena Cole**, acute care co-ordinator at Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Hospital, challenged **Barry Giffin**, physician, to grow a moustache for Movember to raise awareness of prostate cancer. Barry was happy to oblige when Helena also committed to grow a moustache for the cause! The moustached duo is pictured here.



- **Congratulations to David Kirkpatrick**, who has been appointed the new district chief and head of the Department of Surgery at Capital Health and Dalhousie University on a five-year appointment. David has served as interim head of the Department of Otolaryngology (1997 to 1998), Head of the Division of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery (1999 to 2009), Interim Head of the Department of Surgery (2009 to 2011) and Deputy Head of the Department of Surgery (March to September 2011).
- **Congratulations to Tracey Rankin**, who has been appointed health services manager with 3B, Ear Nose and Throat and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics at the VG site of the QEII Health Sciences Centre.

Tracey completed her nursing degree at Dalhousie University and her Master of Nursing at Duke University. She has experience as a staff nurse and manager in both Canada and the United States and brings more than 10 years of progressive management experience to the position.

Addiction Prevention and Treatment Services

- **Planning a holiday gathering? Tips for responsible hosting** – Entertaining is both an art and a responsibility. Your duties as host extend to being aware of the alcohol consumption of your guests, particularly if this is a workplace-sponsored activity. If you do, you will be making sure that everyone has a great time, from the beginning right through to a happy ending. You can find a Tips for Responsible Hosting brochure at www.gethelpstopping.ca.

Learning and development opportunities

- **Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Nursing Bootcamp** – Attend the first IPAC Nursing Bootcamp on Jan. 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Royal Bank Theatre, Halifax Infirmary. Learn more about IPAC best practices, construction and renovation in health care settings, outbreak management, risk assessment and much more. Register via [LMS](#) – registration limited to 100 people.
- **Get Beyond the Label** – Learn about the real issues faced by real people and what it means to be harmfully involved with alcohol, other drugs and/or gambling. This intensive two-day workshop will provide you with the practical skills you need to make a lasting difference in your work with clients – and in the community. The next session takes place Jan. 16 and 17, 2012. Registration deadline is Jan. 10. To learn more, please contact [Angela Sarty](#) at 424-1006.
- **Perioperative Nursing Program** – The Registered Nurses Professional Development Centre is offering a part-time Perioperative Nursing Program for registered nurses. Program dates are April 16 to Nov. 30, 2012 and the application deadline date is Feb 13, 2012 . For more information please contact **Trudy Hebb** at 473-8454 or **Jocelyne Granger** at 473-8732.

Upcoming events

- **Show time! It's a Capital Christmas** – The Capital Health Players invite you to join host Ding Marsby as he opens his living room to spread Christmas cheer with some of his closest friends. There will be music, laughter, dancing and a generous dollop of 1960s flair as the Capital Health Players present *It's a Capital Christmas* – Dec. 8, 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bethune Ballroom, VG (*Please note: Tonight's show is sold out*). Written, directed, produced and performed by your [Capital Health colleagues!](#)

You can buy tickets for \$15 by calling **Mary Ellen MacIsaac** at 889-4143 (please have credit card information ready). Any unsold tickets will be sold at the door.

Foundation news

- **Lottery winners** – The winner of the Cobequid/Hants Payday Lottery for Dec. 1 was **Michele Leadbetter**. The winner of the QEII Foundation Grand-a-Week Lottery for Dec. 2 was **Cynthia Capstick**.

Provincial news

- **Ski helmets to become mandatory** – The province is taking steps to reduce ski-related head injuries and protect Nova Scotians who take to the slopes, with legislation introduced Dec. 6. The legislation will make wearing ski helmets mandatory for all ages. [Read more](#).

Grammar Geek

- **Job titles: We choose lower case** – At Capital Health, we follow the *Canadian Press Stylebook*, which says not to capitalize the initial letters of job titles. For example, we'd refer to **Chris Power**, president (CEO is different since it's an abbreviation for chief executive officer). Of course capitalizing job titles isn't grammatically incorrect; we just choose to keep titles lower case across the board for consistency. So if you send us something with the initial letters of job title in upper case and we change them to lower case, it's nothing personal. It's a style thing.

Holiday schedule

- **Capital Health this Week will not be published between Christmas and New Year's.** The last issue of 2011 will be Dec. 22.

Announcements and events

- To find out about upcoming events at Capital Health, visit the Announcements and Events section of the [Intranet](#) or [public website](#).

Submissions and feedback

- If you have a submission for *Capital Health This Week*, please send your item (100 words maximum) to capitalnews@cdha.nshealth.ca by Tuesday at noon.
- If you have feedback about *Capital Health This Week*, please email capitalnews@cdha.nshealth.ca or call **Margaret Angus** at 473-2726.