



# Enhancing care

**A Special Newsletter for Day Programs, Homes and Residences  
Serving People with Dementia**

Vol. 1, No. 1

ALHEIMER SOCIETY OF OTTAWA AND RENFREW COUNTY

Fall 2007

## Inaugural Issue...

The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight the many goals that Enhancing Care teams have accomplished and share information and resources related to dementia care

## Enhancing Care

This program is an Assessment Tool to help organizations evaluate programs and services and develop a plan that improves the quality of life of the person with dementia.

## For More Info...

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## Annual Joint Enhancing Care Meeting

### Congratulations to Villa Marconi and Maison de la Sagesse



(L to R): Joanne Dyson, Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County; Carole Richard, Villa Marconi; Darla Godin, Villa Marconi; and Mary Schulz, Alzheimer Society of Canada (Toronto).

Villa Marconi's Gentle Care Unit and Maison de la Sagesse were presented with certificates in recognition for completion of the Assessment phase of the Enhancing Care Program at the 2007 Annual Joint Enhancing Care Meeting. Alzheimer Society of Canada's Senior Manager of Information, Education and Support Services, was on hand to present certificates.

In addition, each Home shared information about their Enhancing Care projects with some providing visual presentations of their progress and the changes made.

### Changes to the Guidelines For Care Are Coming

Mary Schulz, Senior Manager for Information, Support Services and Education at the Alzheimer Society of Canada indicated that a Working Group is looking at the Best Practices in the United Kingdom and the United States on Guidelines for Care. Once the guidelines are revised, how can the new information be delivered to the front line multidisciplinary teams



(L to R): Ms. Monique Thibault, Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County; Krystyna Szychowski, Maison de la Sagesse; Maryse Bellavance, Maison de la Sagesse; and Mary Schulz, Alzheimer Society of Canada (Toronto).

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## Annual Joint Enhancing Care Meeting (...continued from page 1)

in an effective and user-friendly way? We brainstormed about different avenues – incorporating information in a calendar, creating a pocketbook of information that can be easily carried by all staff, using posters to depict the guidelines. This work is just beginning and we will definitely hear more about it as time goes on.

### Sharing Successes and Challenges

Representatives of the various local long term care homes and community programs (pictured at right) that have completed the national Enhancing Care Program met in June 2007 to discuss the impact and changes this program has made at their workplace right. This program, facilitated by the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County, assists organizations to assess their own programs and services for persons with dementia using the Alzheimer Society of Canada's booklet Guidelines for Care.



**Enhancing Care Program Graduates:** Front Row (from L to R): Krystyna Szychowski, Maryse Bellavance (Maison de la Sagesse); David Wainwright (St. Patrick's Home); Sharon Sharp, Margaret Huot, Bruna Ballis (Madonna Nursing Home).

Back Row: Joanne Dyson, Monique Thibault (ASORC); Jordan Desrochers, Carole Richard (Villa Marguerite); Shirley Boucher (Marionhill Day Program); Darla Godin (Villa Marconi); Mary Schultz (Alzheimer Society of Canada); Nancy Lemir and Sonia Elliott (Miramichi Lodge)

### "The Morning Perk" at Villa Marguerite



From left to right, Rachel, Joanne Atkinson and Jeanine.

### Will That Be One Lump of Sugar or Two?

That smell of a fresh pot of coffee brewing first thing in the morning as you wake up: what a way to wake up! Those of us on the outside have many things we take for granted and one of them is our daily rituals associated with that first cup of coffee in the morning. Freshly perked coffee is now so popular in this nation's psyche that almost every street corner has a Tim Horton's or some facsimile on it. Through an early morning activity called "**The Morning Perk**" I have helped to relieve that early morning anxiety for our early risers by

simply serving them a good cup of coffee.

This allows the residents an opportunity to relax and savour a few moments of calm and relaxation before their day becomes one filled with the overwhelming number of things they are asked to do in their day. We all know how enjoyable our day is after it has been kick started with among other things that first cup of real coffee. I believe this program does help to enhance the quality of care given to our residents at Villa Marguerite.

**Joanne Atkinson, Recreation Technician**

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### "Powers of Attorney... Why & How?"

**Education Workshop for Family Members and Caregivers presented by the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County in collaboration with the Council on Aging of Ottawa**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 28th, 2007

**Time:** 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Council on Aging  
1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa

**To Register:** Call 613-789-3577 ext. 11

**Please Note:** This Lunch & Learn Session is FREE.  
Please bring your own lunch.