

## Update from South East Regional Palliative Care Network Priority Projects Coordination of Care- Lanark Leeds & Grenville Sub-region

**Executive Sponsor:** Peter McKenna, Executive Director Rideau Community Health Services

**Team Lead:** Ruth Dimopoulos

**Scoping the project:** The focus and scope of the project emerged from our diagnostic work which included the use of quality improvement tools such as a fishbone (cause effect) diagram and 5 why's as well as mapping of the palliative care journey. We also interviewed 9 caregivers and 12 health care providers to capture and analyze their experience in the system.

We learned that the transition from curative treatment to a palliative care approach and recognition of end of life requires a shift in thinking for patients, caregivers and health care providers. Earlier identification of patients who would benefit from the palliative care approach and timely conversations enable those involved to think ahead about the illness, consider what matters to the patient and plan for care based on patient choices.

**Our Aim:** By March 2019, we will identify 100 patients in participating primary care practices who would benefit earlier from the palliative care approach, with an expected increase in patients with non- cancer diagnoses being identified. We will introduce standardized tools and approaches to identify and engage patients and caregivers for important conversations in the last year of life. 90% of patients will die in their preferred place of death; 80% caregivers will agree/strongly agree that they were engaged in timely conversations with consistent messages that prepared them for decisions related to care and for the patient's end of life.

### Change Ideas:

- Searchable EMR template aligned with Gold Standard Framework
- Tools to identify patients for palliative approach (e.g. Surprise Question Algorithm)
- Serious Illness Conversation Guide
- Tracker with list of identified patients to monitor and coordinate care
- Advance Care Planning in primary care
- Menu of available resources (building on work of others)

If you are doing similar work and have learning to share, or want more information about our project, please contact Ruth at [rdimopoulos@rideauchs.ca](mailto:rdimopoulos@rideauchs.ca) or 613-207-3576.

## Hospice Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner (HPCNP) Margaret O'Neill

The South East LHIN is pleased to announce our new Hospice Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner, Margaret O'Neill, in the Gananoque, Kingston, Lennox & Addition regions.

If your patient meets the outlined referral criteria; please complete a South East LHIN Service Request Form requesting NP Service/Reason. Forms can be found on our website at <http://healthcareathome.ca/southeast/en/Partners/forms> then fax the referral with any relevant medical history, updated medication list, latest consult notes to our main office at 613-544-1494. The Care Coordinator will confirm with Margaret patient meets the referral criteria and the shared care status. Please refer to the [brochure](#) outlining Referral Criteria to the HPCNP Program.

## Education Opportunities

**Core Fundamentals** an eight-week program for those working in the health system interested in developing their capacity in hospice palliative care.

TWEED - July 4, July 18 or August 1, 2018 - Registration deadline: **June 27, 2018** [Program information and registration](#)

KINGSTON - Aug 9, Aug 30, Sep 20, 2018 - Registration deadline: **August 3, 2018** [Program information and registration](#)

**Enhanced Fundamentals**, a full day session with self-directed learning, a prerequisite for the Comprehensive Advanced Palliative Care Education (CAPCE) Program.

TWEED – Aug 14, 2018 - Registration deadline: **June 27, 2018**

[Program information and registration](#)

KINGSTON—Oct 5, 2018 - Registration deadline: **August 3, 2018**

[Program information and registration](#)

### Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative Care (LEAP)

**LEAP Long Term Care** covers being aware, taking ownership, pain, GI symptoms, hydration and nutrition, essential conversations, respiratory symptoms, grief, decision making and advance care planning, last days and hours, psychosocial and spiritual care, delirium and dementia, organizational readiness as well as PSW competencies.

PERTH—Oct 19-20, 2018 Registration deadline: **October 9, 2018**

Program [brochure](#) and [registration](#)

**LEAP Core** targeted for healthcare professionals whose primary focus of work is not palliative care but who, in the course of their work, care for patients with life-threatening and progressive life-limiting illness.

SMITHS FALLS—Sept 14-15, 2018 Registration deadline: **September 4, 2018**

Program [brochure](#) and [registration](#)

## In the News

[Community paramedicine a safety net for patients under care at home](#)—The London Free Press

She says she tries to make it down to London as often as she can to see her parents and spend time with her father — who is now in palliative care ...

[Where do three big Ontario political parties stand on these five issues?](#) — The Sudbury Star

The party would create 100,000 new licensed child care spaces over five years, spend \$1 ... There would be no more wait times for palliative care.

[Bayshore HealthCare opens local Home Health branch](#)—SooToday.com

This new branch is dedicated to providing home care services to ... care, dementia care, care after surgery or hospitalization and palliative care.

[Bernie's journey](#)—Yorkton This Week

... and run through Yorkton on June 16. The fundraiser collected \$1880 for updating lab conditions and retrofitting two palliative care rooms in Yorkton.

For more information visit:  
[www.serpcn.ca](http://www.serpcn.ca)