



Winnipeg Regional  
Health Authority  
Caring for Health

Office régional de la  
santé de Winnipeg  
À l'écoute de notre santé

# View

## Personal Care Home

A monthly summary of activities and announcements relating to personal care in Winnipeg  
Volume 5, Number 4 April, 2008

### Pet visiting at MHC

Felix – a corgi puppy - is a bundle of energy who doesn't mind sharing his enthusiasm with the residents at Misericordia Place.

Adopted through Petland's Adopt-A-Pet, Felix belongs to Shery McManus, a Misericordia Place Recreation Facilitator.

"The residents just adore him," says Shery, "He brings such joy to their lives, especially those who used to have dogs of their own."

Shery brings Felix to work with her at least once a week to share his unconditional love.

Felix is an excellent example of the Pet Visiting program at Misericordia Health Centre. Many staff and family members bring in their pets, as approved by the units they visit. Additionally, MHC encourages staff or family members interested in formalizing pet visits to contact Volunteer Services.

Formal Pet Visiting - like the regularly scheduled visits from Humane Society volunteers or others - involves a temperament test of the pet, interview with the owner, registration of appropriate vaccinations and a visiting schedule based on unit approval.

Pets and their companions who register for pet visiting are not necessarily related to residents at Misericordia; they are volunteers interested in bringing the joy of a pet visit to as many as possible.

MHC welcomes the pet visiting partnership, as it adds immeasurably to all involved.



Resident with Felix

### An Evening of Informatics

The Manitoba Nursing Informatics Association (MNIA) is pleased to present "An Evening of Informatics" with Dr. Kathryn Hannah and Roger G. Girard on Wednesday June 4th, 2008.

Dr. Hannah is a Canadian leader in nursing informatics and an excellent speaker. She is Health Informatics Advisor to CNA and Executive Project Leader of Canadian Health Outcomes for Better Information and Care (C-HOBIC). She is also involved internationally in health informatics.

Roger G. Girard is the Chief Information Office for Manitoba eHealth. He has held many positions in IT in Manitoba and Ontario.

This evening will appeal to nurse and other health care professionals who use computers and the outputs from computer data in their daily work, such as the interRAI- LTC assessment. This will be an excellent opportunity to hear what is happening in the world

Informatics continue on page 2

## Informatics *continued*

of informatics today and to have an opportunity to network with others.

**Date:** Wednesday, June 4, 2008

**Time:** 1730-2100h

**Place:** West Ballroom, 5th Floor, Royal Crown Banquet and Conference Centre, 83 Garry St. (Ft. Garry Place)

**Cost:** \$35.00 for current MNIA members

\$50.00 for non-members (includes MNIA membership for rest of 2008)

**Registration deadline:** - May 28, 2008 (limited number of registrations will be accepted at the door)  
Registration includes a light meal and refreshments  
Go to [www.mnia.ca](http://www.mnia.ca) for more information and registration form.

# BLOCK OFF YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN ON ATTENDING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SAFE HEALTHCARE CONFERENCE

**May 1 & 2, 2008**  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

FOSTERING A CULTURE OF HEALTH &  
SAFETY AT WORK

**You Can't Afford Not To:**  
Measuring Occupational Health and Safety performance to improve outcomes

**Shades of Blue:**  
Depression in the Workplace

**Everybody's Doing It:**  
The Global Perspective on Return to Work

**The Undercover Story:**  
Facts and Myths About Bedbugs

**You Can't Have One Without the Other:**  
The Link Between Patient Safety and Worker Safety



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**You will be able to register soon!  
Watch your email for more information.**

Organizers of the 17th Annual St. Amant Conference are pleased to announce confirmation of Keynote Speaker

## Brian Thwaits

**CHANGE: ORGANIZATIONAL & PERSONAL  
The Adaptable Brain**

Thursday, October 9th, 2008  
9:00 to 10:30 am  
Canad Inn Fort Garry  
Winnipeg, Manitoba



Brian Thwaits' unique and engaging presentation suggests that the way we use our brains has everything *to do* with everything *we do*. It suggests that we'll be able to cope much better with the rate of change if we embrace the fact that we're actually hard-wired to think and learn in new ways.

The truth is that you can teach an old brain to do new tricks!

Thwaits is an engaging and immensely entertaining 'brain trainer', a learning and communication whiz with a wealth of experience in both the public and private sectors. He first demonstrated his flair for performance as an award-winning educator and is now an acclaimed professional speaker who engages both the hearts and minds of his audiences --- so they leave his presentations with sides splitting from laughter and heads bursting with ideas.

Thwaits' sessions cleverly combine the latest information from the disciplines of brain research, learning theory and the communication field to suggest innovative and practical approaches to issues we face in the workplace, in the classroom and in our personal lives.

*The 17th Annual St. Amant Conference takes place Thursday, October 9th and Friday, October 10th, 2008.*

*Please contact Jane Lawler at 204-256-4301 for more information.*

# FALLS FALLS FALLS

## *Falls Prevention Initiative in PCH*

*Did you know?????*

- *there were **18,868** reported falls in Personal Care Homes in Winnipeg in one year*
- *most reported falls occur in residents' rooms on evenings and weekends*

The **Personal Care Home Program** recognizes that preventing falls constitutes a significant challenge and requires an interdisciplinary team effort. Such effort should focus on minimizing fall risk and risk of fall-related injuries while maximizing individual dignity, freedom and quality of life.

One of the first initiatives of the **Falls Prevention Program** was the establishment of ***The Falls Management Working Group (FMWG)***. This interdisciplinary group first met in December 2006 to begin the task of addressing the concerns over the number of falls in PCHs. The group's first accomplishment has been the development of a **Clinical Practice Guideline on Falls Assessment and Management** in the Personal Care Home Program.

This guideline has the following goals:

- **to provide regional guidelines for falls assessment and management based on current evidence and expert opinion**
- **to ensure falls assessment and management is prompt, appropriate and consistent**
- **to ensure falls assessment and management includes the use of systematic and validated tools**
- **to identify risk factors for falls, decrease the incidence of falls and decrease the incidence of injurious falls**
- **to provide the foundation upon which health care education shall be based**

The **Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG)** has been distributed to all the personal care homes. An education power point to lead discussion on the CPG and the general management of falls is available from any of the members of the falls working group. To access this education please contact Luana Whitbread CNS chairperson of the group (831-2966) or Cathy Scott admin secretary PCH program (831-2991) for a listing of group members.

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**Winnipeg Regional Health Authority  
Specialized services available to the Personal Care Home Program**

**PCH program – Clinical Nurse Specialists (831-2991 or see PCH assignment list for CNS direct line)**

- Consultation, education, assistance with care planning related to clinical issues including
  - Complex wounds, chronic pain, falls, incontinence, restraint use, delirium, and sleep disorders
- Access to pressure relief mattresses and bariatric equipment
- Overcost requests for constant care and/or specialized medical surgical supplies/equipment

**PCH program – Educator (Susan Bernjak 831-3450)**

- Support for PCH educators
- Inservice/ workshops
  - Including Prevention is 9/10's of the Law and Disclosure workshops

**PCH program – Manager Infection Prevention and Control (Betty Taylor 831-2964)**

- Infection surveillance and outbreak support
- Education

**PCH program- RAI Coordinator (Joe Puchniak 831- 3428)**

- RAI/MDS Education and training

**PCH Respiratory Program (Sharmini Arjoon 837-1301 ext 2206; pager: 935-5073 )**

- Consultation related to ongoing need for oxygen therapy
- Education and equipment for residents requiring oxygen therapy, CPAP and BiPAP

**PCH Speech-Language Pathology Services (main office 831-2526)**

- Provides direct assessment and management of dysphagia and communication disorders for PCH residents
- Provides the PCH train-the-trainer program for feeding and swallowing management
- Resident/Family counselling related to communication and swallowing difficulties and clinical management
- Education sessions for staff on topics such as: communication strategies with residents, management of feeding and swallowing difficulties, oral hygiene, end of life care, dementia, and augmentative/alternative communication

**Palliative Care Program – Clinical Nurse Specialists ( 237-2400)**

- Assistance with assessment and management of current and anticipated end-of-life symptoms (such as pain, shortness of breath, anxiety)
- Assistance with complex psychosocial issues related to end-of-life care (e.g. assistance with goals of care discussions / difficult decision-making)
- Palliative Care Program referral and/or information

**Geriatric Mental Health Team (982-0140)**

- Behavior issues related to dementia
- Mental health issues

**Geriatric Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist (Lois Stewart-Archer 831-2179)**

- Education specific to geriatric mental health

**Clinical Health Psychology Program (Phone: 831-2590; Fax: 831-2558)**

- Behaviour issues for residents under the age of 65 yrs

## University of Manitoba Healty Sciences Libraries

<http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/health/deerlodge>

“Made Incredibly Easy Series”  
at the University of Manitoba Libraries

Are you ...  
Confused about “Fluids & Electrolytes”  
**Baffled by “Pathophysiology”**  
Puzzled about “Dosage Calculations”

Break through your bewilderment with  
the “Made Incredibly Series”!

This unique series, published by Springhouse, breaks down challenging clinical concepts - the ones that are often difficult or hard to grasp - and presents them in a refreshingly original, easily understood, and engaging format. The tone is lighthearted, but never simplistic, and this makes learning fun and effective. Key points are highlighted with clinical artwork and humorous line drawings. The content is written by experienced clinicians, which ensures that it is based on sound clinical principles and hands-on expertise.

Visit <http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/health/nursing/madeeasy.html> to view all the Made Incredibly Easy titles currently held by the University of Manitoba Libraries.

For assistance requesting materials from the University of Manitoba Libraries, contact the staff at the J. W. Crane Memorial Library by phone at 831-2152 or by e-mail at [dlclibrary@umanitoba.ca](mailto:dlclibrary@umanitoba.ca)

