

**October 2007**

**Welcome to the first in a series of e-Bulletins designed to keep our partners up-to-date on the work of the Collaborative.**

### **QWQHC Action Strategy Report Released - April 24th, 2007**

Following the April release of *Within Our Grasp: a Healthy Workplace Action Strategy for Success & Sustainability in Canada's Healthcare System*, the QWQHC has received rave reviews from health leaders across the country. Here's a sample:

"I found the content material fascinating and was wondering if you had more copies I could share with my colleagues?" *Primary Health Care Nurse, Manitoba*

"I commend you on the development of this comprehensive action plan, and I appreciate the opportunity to share it with officials in the Department. I am confident that this strategic framework will be a valuable asset as we move forward in our efforts to promote and enhance the quality of work life for health care providers in this province."

*Hon. Ross Wiseman, Minister of Health and Community Services, Newfoundland & Labrador*

"Congratulations on your collaborative efforts in developing this important strategy. It is through this type of collaboration at all levels of the system that we will make improvements toward healthier working environments for all of Canada's health care providers."

*Hon. Tony Clement, Minister of Health, Canada*

### **What's next?**

#### **The QWQHC's "Transition to Action" Phase (April 2007- March 2008)**

Canada now has the framework and the action strategy to address QWL in healthy workplaces. It's time for implementation. As we enter this new phase of the Collaborative, we are focused on leading and supporting change. We must sustain the positive momentum that is beginning to build within healthcare communities across Canada.

To drive action, the QWQHC is focusing on six Key Themes:

- **Lead by example:** QWQHC Partners will sign the Charter within their own organizations and will work to increase engagement in their respective members.
- **Strategic Communication:** Several strategies are planned to explain the strategy and encourage action.
- **Build support for creating a pan-Canadian database of QWL indicators**

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- **Build pan-Canadian capacity to share knowledge and experience:** Strategies include a website, Communities of Practice and a QWQHC Summit.
- **Report on how our recommended action strategies are being put in place across the country**
- **Determine and gain support for an ongoing approach to sustain collaborative action beyond March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008**

## What can I do?

The tremendous power for change comes from all partners speaking with one voice and continuing to work together. Here are a couple of ways that you can help:

- **Champion the QWQHC Action Strategy in your organization or jurisdiction:** We can provide copies of the Report, briefing notes or presentation templates. We may also be able to participate in brainstorming sessions with your group to do more.
- **Contribute knowledge (stories, practices, research, tools) to the QWQHC Knowledge Exchange:** Send your stories to the Coordinating Secretariat. Watch for the Summit's Call for Presenters coming soon.

## Keeping in Touch

We're committed to keeping you informed about the work of the Collaborative. Watch for our new website later this year and more information on our next Progress Report and the QWQHC Summit, set for March 2008.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

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*Working together to make health workplaces healthier.*