

## February Issue



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## President's Message

Welcome to 2008! The volunteers of the MSOT Executive have started the year with lots of energy. One goal this month is for the Public Relations committee and I to review the marketing communication plan generated by ChangeMakers from the strategic planning session held in November. Once that is complete, we will present the marketing communication plan to the MSOT executive for their review. We look forward to beginning Phase 3 of the project, which will include seeing tangible results of the planning and information gathering up to this point. Thank you to the nine occupational therapists who participated in the strategic planning session and reviewed the documentation produced from our interactions.

The opportunity to consult on various health initiatives continues. I will be spending January 16<sup>th</sup> in an all-day session with the Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Initiative on behalf of CAOT and to provide a Manitoban viewpoint. The Professional Alliance of Canada (PAC) teleconference is set for January 24<sup>th</sup> and we will be reviewing the logistics of proposed structural changes to this organization.

Looking for a new challenge and a way to get involved in our local occupational therapy community? As 2008 progresses, the President-Elect position is open and we are looking for nominations. Please contact the MSOT office or myself for more information.



## Happy New Year!

*Gina De Vos, OT Reg (MB)*  
*MSOT President*

## News from Current Affairs

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the provincial government made an announcement regarding new funding for Personal Care Home (PCH) staffing and programs. The highlights of this announcement that affect our membership are mentioned below.

The province will invest more than \$40 million to implement a comprehensive strategy to improve the quality of care in Manitoba's PCHs. Over the next four years the funding will be used to hire 250 nurses, 100 personal health-care aides and 50 allied health-care professionals such as physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and clinical dieticians in order to increase the direct hours of care, strengthen the work environment for staff and provide dementia education to staff and families.



## News from Current Affairs - *continued*

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The province also plans to improve staff and resident safety through a safe resident handling program including education and equipment, as well as expand the implementation of internationally-developed standardized assessment software to improve individual residents' care and monitor quality in PCHs.

This \$40 million announcement builds on other previously approved investments in Long Term Care. There are plans to construct several new PCHs including a \$9.7-million facility in The Pas, the \$14.5-million River Park Gardens PCH in Winnipeg, \$9 million to build a 35-bed PCH in Thompson, and a \$5.5-million expansion of Foyer Valade in Winnipeg.

### What is "eye contact" anyway?

#### Part Two: How to encourage social referencing

by Rosanne Papadopoulou OT Reg. (MB) (SK)  
RDI® Program Certified Consultant

Part one of this article described how "eye contact" more accurately refers to "social referencing". People or children who use social referencing experientially understand the functional relevance of looking at someone (i.e. to get information that guides their actions). For a variety of reasons, including developmental disability, many children do not learn to use social referencing. They do not look at others and therefore miss non-verbal communication entirely. If you watch closely, you will also notice that they do not use non-verbal communication (i.e. pointing and other hand gestures). Researchers say that non-verbal communication is up to 80% of our communication system. Can you imagine missing out on 80% of what others are communicating to you! It can have devastating consequences.

So, as occupational therapists how do we improve social referencing? Firstly, we need to encourage these children to simply look at our faces. Secondly, we need to use non-verbal communication:

1. Verbally encouraging them to "look at me" **will not** teach them the function of social referencing, it will teach them the splinter skill of "eye contact". Instead, they need to *experience* looking at us and the benefits of it. Often the first thing I tell parents, caregivers, or teachers is to slow down and be patient. If the child asks a question and is not referencing our face, then we need to wait. Do not answer until they look because if they really want the answer, they will eventually look at us. Some parents use other methods to encourage facial gazing such as clearing their throat, tapping their finger on the table, moving their body or face closer to the child, etc.
2. When they do look, we need to use non-verbal gestures (i.e. shake our head "yes", "no", or shrug our shoulders "I don't know"). Give them a non-verbal answer as much as possible. Simply stated... stop talking! Or, at least significantly decrease our use of language and use more gestures to communicate in general. For example, play the "I have lost my voice" game. This sounds much easier than it actually is, but this method can have some very dramatic results.

These strategies are the key to the child learning the value of social referencing. At this point, we begin to teach them, experientially, how to interpret non-verbal cues and gestures. But remember to **keep it slow**... they have missed out on years and years of practice compared to typically developing children.



# Tiffany's Internet Café



According to recent news reports, interactive video game systems such as the Nintendo Wii are being used for more than just entertainment purposes. The Nintendo Wii is being used by OTs as a therapeutic device to assist clients in working on strength, endurance, balance, coordination, visual and cognitive skills. Games such as tennis, baseball, boxing, bowling, and golf (Wii Sports package included with console) are commonly used.

<http://www.canada.com/edmontonjournal/news/story.html?id=5ff7f35b-e86b-4264-b3e6-19f6b5075928&k=63173><http://www.cbc.ca/canada/edmonton/story/2007/05/11/wii-therapy.html>

The Edmonton Journal and CBS News discuss how OTs at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton, AB, are incorporating the Nintendo Wii into their therapy sessions.

<http://medicalcenter.osu.edu/patientcare/features.cfm?ID=2335>

OTs at Dodd Hall Rehabilitation Services at The Ohio State University Medical Center are using the Nintendo Wii with their rehabilitation clients. There are links to two related videos.

<http://www.stripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=54214&archive=true>

USA Military OTs are using the Nintendo Wii to make therapy sessions more interesting and engaging for wounded troops.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/5041690.stm>

This BBC News article discusses the use of the Nintendo Wii with the elderly population in Japan.

<http://wii.com/>

The official Nintendo Wii website.

**Please send feedback or suggestions for future topics to:**

**Tiffany Flye**

[msot.internetcafe@mts.net](mailto:msot.internetcafe@mts.net)



**Heart Health CPR & First Aid Training**



*As of January 1, 2007, CPR has changed*

- ♥ Corporate / Workplace Emergency Response
- ♥ All levels of CPR / First Aid
- ♥ Instructor will come to your office to train your entire staff
- ♥ Automated External Defibrillation (AED) Training
- ♥ Contact continuing education hours for details
- ♥ Group rates

**BE PREPARED!**



**Karlene Gifuentes, RN, BN**  
Certified Instructor  
**(204) 253-1358**  
hearthealth@inbox.com

certified by the...  
Canadian Red Cross and The Heart & Stroke Foundation

# Volunteers Needed!

## Department of Occupational Therapy Admissions Interviews

As part of the admissions process, eligible applicants for the Master of Occupational Therapy program will be interviewed on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Each applicant will be interviewed by a faculty member, a current MOT student, and an occupational therapist from the clinical community in three separate one to one 20-minute interviews.

The Department of Occupational Therapy is currently seeking volunteers to assist with the interviewing process (experienced and first-time interviewers are encouraged to participate). Interviewers will be expected to attend a training session on Friday May 9<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Interviewers will be scheduled for either the morning or afternoon of May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact **Lori Muzychka at 789-3409** for more information or to indicate interest in participating.

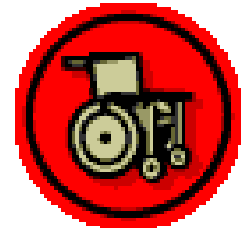
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#### Editorial Policy

*Update* is published 6 times per year and is distributed the first week of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Statements, claims and opinions made in articles and advertisements are those of the author or advertiser and do not necessarily reflect the views of MSOT members or executive. Submissions are subject to editorial changes.

#### Submissions

Submissions can be sent in typed hard copy, on a 3.5" disk or by email (in Microsoft format) and be no longer than 500 words (unless arrangements are made with the editors, Talia Prosick and Melissa Nance). Photographs are welcome.

#### Employment Advertisements for Facilities:

In Province:  
¼ pg - \$40.00/m;    ½ pg - \$60.00/m;    1 pg - \$80.00/m  
Out of Province:  
¼ pg - \$50.00/m;    ½ pg - \$70.00/m;    1 pg - \$90.00/m

**Commercial Advertisements:**  
1 pg            \$100.00/m            \$570.00/year  
½ pg            \$80.00/m            \$450.00/year  
¼ pg            \$60.00/m            \$330.00/year  
Business Card \$30.00/m            \$150.00/year

MSOT 7-120 Maryland St. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 1L1  
Tel: (204) 957-1214 Fax: (204) 775-2340 email: [msot@mts.net](mailto:msot@mts.net) Website: [www.msot.mb.ca](http://www.msot.mb.ca)

## Changing Practice: One PIN Demonstration Site at a Time

When patients walk into Dr. C. W. Wiebe Medical Centre they may not notice anything different at first; but throughout their visit they will begin to notice that there are some changes taking place within the rural clinic. For example, as they are waiting for their appointment, a nurse may approach them and take them into an examination room. The nurse will check the patient's height and weight and take their blood pressure. The nurse will then ask a few questions about smoking habits and enter the results into the Electronic Medical Record (EMR).

When it comes time for their appointment, the physician will begin by asking a few simple questions and talk about preventative tests and screenings that should be completed. The physician may then be prompted by the EMR that the patient's fasting blood sugar is overdue for managing their Coronary Artery Disease, and order the test. The Physician may also inform the patient that their lipids are abnormally high and recommend the patient see the clinic dietitian to talk about lifestyle changes that will help with lipid reduction. As the patient leaves the clinic they may then book an appointment to meet with the dietitian.

These changes are only some of the many changes that three clinics in Manitoba are undertaking as part of a new initiative of Manitoba Health called the Physician Integrated Network (PIN). The three clinics participating in the demonstration phase of the initiative include: Dr. C. W. Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler, Agassiz Medical Centre in Morden, and Assiniboine Clinic in Winnipeg. Steinbach Clinic in Steinbach is the control site for the Initiative.

Each of the three demonstration sites have identified potential practice changes to help them improve access to primary care; improve primary care providers' access to and use of information; improve the working environment for all primary care providers; and to demonstrate high quality primary care.

PIN is using Quality Based Incentive Funding (QBIF) (a Manitoba version of pay for performance) as a catalyst for practice and system change. With this approach, EMRs are a very important part of managing clinical practice guidelines. On October 26, 2007, a workshop was held in Winnipeg for all participating clinics and stakeholders of PIN from across the province. The objectives of the workshop were to update attendees on the accomplishments of the participating sites, discuss success and issues thus far, and to talk about the future evolution of PIN. From presentations and discussions at the workshop, it was evident that PIN Demonstration Sites have been working hard and will continue to work hard at introducing practice changes that will have a positive impact on patient care and clinical practice.

For future updates on what is happening with the PIN Initiative, please visit our website, at [www.gov.mb.ca/health/phc/pin.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/phc/pin.html).

### **Questions can be directed to:**

Physician Integrated Network Initiative  
1027A-300 Carlton Street  
Winnipeg MB R3B 3M9  
Phone (204) 786-7331  
Fax (204) 775-7536  
Email: [pin@gov.mb.ca](mailto:pin@gov.mb.ca)

## IT'S CLASSIFIED . . .

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Co-editor for the Private Practice Insights column in *OT Now*** Are you interested in becoming involved in the Private Practice Insights column published in *OT Now*? Recruitment is now taking place for a co-editor for the column. Working with Lorian Kennedy, this position gives you the opportunity to develop articles for the column as well as review submitted articles. For further information, please contact Lorian Kennedy at [lorian@telusplanet.net](mailto:lorian@telusplanet.net) or the *OT Now* editor at [otnow@caot.ca](mailto:otnow@caot.ca).

**Call for Papers for *OT Now* Theme Issue on Knowledge – September 2008** In today's health system, we are experiencing a transformation of health care into a knowledge-based activity which has far reaching implications for occupational therapists. Educational initiatives, knowledge translation, evidence-based practice and new technologies are all potential topics for this theme issue which will address the impact of this change. Submissions should consider the issue's audience which includes occupational therapists, policy makers, payers and consumers. Deadline for submissions is March 1, 2008. For further information go to <http://www.caot.ca/default.asp?pageid=7> or contact the *OT Now* editor at [otnow@caot.ca](mailto:otnow@caot.ca).

#### Canadian Occupational Therapy Foundation (COTF)

has approved the 2008 awards program as follows:

##### Research – February 28, 2008

COTF Research Grant 2 x \$5,000

COTF / IA Research Grant 2 x \$10,000 (each organization contributes \$5,000 towards each grant)

COTF Critical Literature Review Grant 2 x \$5,000

COTF / SickKids 2 x \$5,000 (each organization contributes \$2,500 towards each grant)

Isobel Robinson Historical Research Grant 1 x \$2,000

J. V. Cook and Associates Qualitative Research Grant 1 x \$1,500

COTF / Roulston Innovation Award – Please e-mail

[skamble@cotfcanada.org](mailto:skamble@cotfcanada.org) if your institution is interested in this award.

##### Scholarship – September 30, 2008

COTF Master's 2 x \$1,500

COTF Doctoral 2 x \$3,000

Thelma Cardwell 1 x \$2,000

Goldwin Howland 1 x \$2,000

Francis & Associates Education Award 1 x \$1,000

##### Others

Janice Hines Memorial Award 1 x \$1,000

COTF / CIHR-IA Studentship 1 x \$4,950

COTF / IA Travel Awards 3 x \$1,000

Please contact [skamble@cotfcanada.org](mailto:skamble@cotfcanada.org) for information.

Students are encouraged to apply!

Check out the official web site of the **People First of Canada and Canadian Association for Community Living joint Task Force on Deinstitutionalization** at: <http://www.institutionwatch.ca>

### ANNOUNCEMENTS – *continued*

**The Reh-Fit Foundation Healthy Living Awards** are a celebration of the people and organizations in our community who promote and encourage healthy, active living either by serving as positive role models or making outstanding contributions to the community. The 10th Annual Healthy Living Awards will be presented on **April 17, 2008** at The Fairmont Winnipeg. The nomination deadline is **February 22, 2008**. Award categories are Youth (12-18 years inclusive); Individual (19 years and up); Business or Corporation; Organization (not-for-profit with paid staff); Group (volunteers). Nomination packages will be available in early January, 2008.

Open Access Resource Centre (OARC) presents **SGDs in the Community** Friday, April 18, 2008, 8:30 to 4:00 p.m., Clarion Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Presenter: Jane Rondow. For more information, call 949-2490 or visit [oarc@oarc.ca](mailto:oarc@oarc.ca)

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Check out what **Volunteer Manitoba** has to offer! Volunteer Manitoba's goal is to provide information, training and resources on all aspects of the voluntary sector and to build strong communities with working partners including governments, researchers, non-profit/charitable organizations, volunteers, funders, donors, labour and businesses. Our mission is to support groups and individuals in the voluntary sector to develop and enhance their capacity to anticipate, understand, celebrate, and meet community needs in Manitoba. Please visit <http://www.volunteermanitoba.ca/index.html> for more information.

Art Beat is a non profit organization that works with persons with mental health issues who wish to pursue and receive support to nurture their skills as artists. The exhibition opens January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and runs until February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. Featuring: Evan Anderson, Kay Lee, Mark Kosatsky, Olatunji LeJohn, Christine Grant, Jamie Hogaboam, Cam Droguett, Connor MaGee. For more information, please contact Artbeat Studio Inc., Floor 4-62 Albert St., Ph. (204) 943-5194. Hours: Noon to 5pm, Closed Sun. and Mon.

Check out **In Motion Fridays**, a series of monthly workshops that promote physical activity for better health. The In Motion at the Library series is sponsored by Winnipeg in motion and the Millennium Library. For a complete list of workshops, visit:

<http://winnipeginmotion.ca> or <http://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/>.

## IT'S CLASSIFIED . . .

### RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**Inclusive Education: Challenges for the Future** February 20 & 21, 2008, Canad Inns-Polo Park, Winnipeg. Attend the Summit on Inclusive Education on February 20th and then join us as we review progress towards inclusive education in Manitoba and in setting a course for further progress in the coming year! February 20: 7 to 9 pm Meet, Greet and Dream Together. February 21: 9 to 4 pm Strategic Planning: The Future of Inclusive Education in Manitoba. Register early as space is limited! Registration forms available at:

[http://www.aclmb.ca/Events/Inclusive\\_Ed\\_Summit\\_Reg\\_Form.pdf](http://www.aclmb.ca/Events/Inclusive_Ed_Summit_Reg_Form.pdf)

**Wheelchair Dance Seminar** March 28 & March 29, 2008, Capilano College, Sportsplex, North Vancouver, British Columbia. Featuring **Lucienne Swinnen**, Chairperson of the Technical Committee Wheelchair Dance Belgium, former Chairperson of the International Paralympic Committee and Wheelchair Dance Sport, and Professional Dance Teacher. This seminar is a **unique opportunity designed for** physicians and healthcare workers, teachers of physical education and dance wheelchair users, sport and recreation professionals, sport medicine professionals, and family and friends. **Seminar Fee:** \$295 / Student Rate Available.

**Registration and information available at** 604.984.4901 or [www.capcollege.bc.ca/ce](http://www.capcollege.bc.ca/ce)

**Pain Science and Recovery: Treating and Educating People with Pain** April 11 & 12, 2008, Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Regina, Saskatchewan  
Instructor: Neil Pearson, MSc, BScPT, BA-BPHE, CertMDT. Course Purpose: Knowledge transfer of practical clinical techniques, through experiential learning, for treating people with persistent pain. Please contact Peggy Bacon at 306 - 766 - 5613 or [peggy.bacon@rqhealth.ca](mailto:peggy.bacon@rqhealth.ca) for more information.

**Assessment of Motor and Process Skills Workshop** May 5 – 9, 2008, School of Occupational Therapy, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia May 5 – 9, 2008. Attend the 5-day workshop to learn how to administer and score the AMPS. Obtain valuable, hands-on information regarding occupation-based assessment and intervention. Many participants have commented that their confidence is enhanced, and they are now more capable and proactive advocates for occupational therapy and the use of occupation as both a means and an end when providing occupational therapy services. **Cost:** Dalhousie Students (limit 18 students): \$550.00 (USD); Non-Dalhousie OT students (limit 2 students): \$600.00 (USD); Occupational therapists \$750.00 (USD). Registration and Confirmation: The deadline is April 5, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. (must include full payment). For more information, please email: [p.fitzgerald@dal.ca](mailto:p.fitzgerald@dal.ca) or visit [www.occupationaltherapy.dal.ca](http://www.occupationaltherapy.dal.ca)

### RESEARCH & EDUCATION – *continued*

**2008 Physical Activity for Public Health Course** September 29 to October 2, 2008, Banff Park Lodge in Banff, Alberta Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute (CFLRI) is pleased to invite you to attend its third annual Physical Activity for Public Health Practitioners course, a professional development opportunity which specifically targets increasing effectiveness in building a healthy active community. This intensive, four-day, academic-style program, brings together theory, best practice, and communications. This course provides international insights as well as a uniquely Canadian perspective on increasing knowledge about physical activity. Please note spaces are limited to ensure the most productive and engaging learning environment with our internationally recognized faculty team. For more information please visit us on-line at [http://www.cflri.ca/eng/info/2008\\_paph\\_info.php](http://www.cflri.ca/eng/info/2008_paph_info.php) at [www.cflri.ca](http://www.cflri.ca)

### CONFERENCES

**Accelerating Primary Care** February 12 to 14, 2008, The Westin Edmonton, Edmonton, Alberta. Hear first-hand experiences of what is working in primary care reform in Canada from doctors, nurses, social workers and dietitians, as well as from program managers and directors. Learn about the latest in research and evaluation, practice innovations, quality initiatives, and interprofessional primary care teams. Interact with the presenters of the 85 posters that we accepted through the "Call for Abstracts". Network with your colleagues and others who are leading the way in changing primary care in Canada. Learn about the Government of Alberta's plans for primary care in a special presentation by the Minister of Health and Wellness, The Honourable Dave Hancock. Early bird registration deadline: January 11, 2008. For more information: <http://www.capitalhealth.ca/primarycare>

**24<sup>th</sup> International Seating Symposium** The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver, British Columbia, March 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The 24<sup>th</sup> International Seating Symposium is quickly approaching following the Holidays and the New Year. Please make sure to register now to ensure attendance space at the symposium and to take advantage of the reduced rates. An electronic PDF copy of the brochure is available on at [http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/24th\\_Seating.htm](http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/24th_Seating.htm). You can register by phone, fax, direct mail, or through our online registration website at <http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?siteCode=1268>.



# IT'S CLASSIFIED . . .

## CONFERENCES – *continued*

**Building Momentum for the Future: Taking the Next Step in Patient Safety** April 1 & 2, 2008, Winnipeg, Manitoba. For health care providers and leaders engaged in the campaign, this year's program will provide a stimulating and energizing opportunity to gain new skills, understanding and to re-energize commitment to improving the quality and safety of patient care. The focus for this year will be on skill development, launching the four new Phase II interventions, and sharing new knowledge on the six Phase I interventions. Team members, senior leaders and others from across the country will gather to share and learn from one another to support continued work in the campaign. Registration will be available in early December.

Watch for details on the Safer Healthcare Now! Website [www.saferhealthcarenow.ca](http://www.saferhealthcarenow.ca)

## CONFERENCES – *continued*

**Rehabilitation Research Conference: Research Advances in Spasticity Management** May 8 (afternoon) & 9, 2008. Featured Speaker: Dr. Monica Gorassini, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta. We are pleased to announce that there will be awards for best podium and poster presentations, an exhibit fair and a hosted reception for participants, speakers, exhibitors and poster presenters. For additional information, or to be added to the mailing list for a full conference brochure, phone (780) 735-7912 or toll-free 1-877-877-8714, or email:

[GRHedServices@capitalhealth.ca](mailto:GRHedServices@capitalhealth.ca)

## Tetra Society: A Resource for OTs

*Matthew Wild, Communications Coordinator, The Disability Foundation*

The Tetra Society of North America is an independent non-profit organization that provides custom assistive devices to people with disabilities. Volunteer engineers invent solutions to day-to-day accessibility problems. We frequently work with occupational therapists, and are always looking for ways of getting the word out to health professionals.

The latest edition of *Gizmo*, newsletter of the Tetra Society of North America, has just been published. It includes stories about creating ground-level engineering solutions to the access needs of people with disabilities. It includes:

- Adaptive ski projects from Vernon, BC
- A Vancouver pilot project to enable students with disabilities to complete school
- A BC TrailRider wheelchair expedition to Everest Base Camp
- A sip 'n' puff train set created by the Salt Lake City, Utah chapter



*Gizmo* is posted online at: [www.tetrasociety.org/newsletters/Gizmo\\_Winter-08\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.tetrasociety.org/newsletters/Gizmo_Winter-08_FINAL.pdf).

For more info about Tetra: [www.tetrasociety.org](http://www.tetrasociety.org)

## Manitoba Society of Occupational Therapists

**Issue**

**Deadline**

### **Update Editorial Policy**

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**April  
June**

**March 10  
May 10**

**MSOT** 7 – 120 Maryland Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 1L1  
Tel.: (204) 957-1214  
Fax: (204) 775-2340

[msot@mts.net](mailto:msot@mts.net)

Website: [www.msot.mb.ca](http://www.msot.mb.ca)

### **Newsletter submissions**

can be mailed to: Talia Prosick or  
Melissa Nance  
c/o MSOT office or  
Fax: 775-2340 or

Email: [msot.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:msot.newsletter@gmail.com)