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Monday, December 16, 2019

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ACCA Executive Director Commentary



It has been a very busy, but very informative and interesting first few weeks as ACCA's new Executive Director. I have appreciated the opportunity to learn from our members and other partners, whether through visiting your homes, attending events, or meeting you in person at our Annual General Meeting held on November 21. While there is much for me to learn about the challenges and opportunities facing the industry, what has been most

evident is the excellent work and your passion that goes into caring for our province's seniors and those in need each and every day. I look forward to working closely with our members and will begin reaching out in January to set up one-on-one meetings to learn more about your individual organizations and the issues you are facing.

The holidays are a time of hope, and an opportunity to reflect on all that we have, and the opportunity that lies ahead. On behalf of the ACCA team, I wish you all the best of the season.

Wayne Morishita, Executive Director

Public Policy

Continuing Care Information Reception with the Alberta Government: ACCA hosted a special networking information reception on December 2 for Board Members, invited guests and Members of the Legislative Assembly. While circumstances outside of our control prevented MLAs from joining us, Hon. Minister of Health Tyler Shandro, Hon. Minister of Transportation and Deputy House Leader Ric McIver, and Richard Gotfried, MLA for Calgary-Fish Creek were in attendance.

Wishing Farewell to ACCA Team Member Debra Brunner

It is with heavy hearts that we announce that Debra Brunner's last day with ACCA will be December 31. Debra has been with ACCA for almost 5 years and has always gone above and beyond in making members and guests feel welcome at events and meetings and has kept the tiny team well organized during the busiest of times.

A consummate professional, she always manages to source out the best deal and makes friends wherever she goes and we are sure she will continue to do so in all that she does! Debra looks forward to spending more time with her husband Martin and her furbaby Bailey. Join us in wishing Debra the best!

Save the Date!

Please save the date for ACCA's next Membership Meeting happening February 6, 2020, in Calgary. Complete details to come soon!

HQCA Report: The Impact on Unpaid

The evening's smaller audience made for an intimate event in which ACCA Board Chair Jennifer McCue outlined challenges facing the industry and our desire to work together to find solutions to these. Minister Shandro committed to working with us to strengthen the entire continuum of care, including home care, supportive living and long term care, and answered questions from guests.



ACCA is working with the Government to secure a date in 2020 for a follow-up

session. (Pictured: Board Chair Jennifer McCue and Minister Shandro)

Continuing Care Quality Indicator Working Group: On December 5, the CC-QIWG reviewed a patient/family story, following an expression of concern by a family member, on the placement of their mother in to SL from hospital. AHS SL wait list management, and access to a designated living option, policies were reviewed to see if there is room for improvement in helping to place clients in SL and LTC in a more seamless process. Results of the Home Care Family Experience Survey were shared, and there was a demonstration of the new HQCA focus on Continuing Care dashboard.

[Click here for highlights](#) of the HQCA Alberta Seniors Home Care Client Experience Survey.

Member Value and Engagement

2020 Sponsorships! Thank you to our returning partners and valued corporate members Rexall Health Solutions for again sponsoring the 2020 ACCA Membership Meetings and Pharmicare Pharmacy, a division of Centric Health, for sponsoring our Corporate Membership Appreciation Reception! These partnerships helps us bring in excellent speakers while providing learning and networking opportunities for our guests.



ACCA Member Value, Engagement, Quality and Innovation Committee Meeting: The ACCA Committee met on November 20 and explored ideas to enhance value in membership while promoting quality and innovation in the sector. Discussions will

Informal Caregivers

HQCA's new report, *The Impact on Unpaid Informal Caregivers Who Support Their Loved Ones Aging in Place*, takes a look at the role of and toll on unpaid informal caregivers. The purpose of the report was to learn what is working well and what can be done to better meet the needs of Alberta's 400,000 unpaid caregivers for seniors. [Click here for the report.](#)

Congratulations Revera!

Revera has been recognized by Waterstone Human Capital as having one of Canada's Most Admired Corporate Cultures. Submissions were assessed on criteria ranging from vision and values, to leadership, to recruitment and hiring protocol, to the effects of the organization's corporate social responsibility program. Congratulations Revera!

AAG Awards 2020-2021

The Alberta Association on Gerontology is accepting the following awards applications for the year of 2020-2021: Provincial student award; Edmonton chapter student award; Calgary chapter student award; and MMD nomination. The deadline for submission is February 28, 2020. [Visit the AAG website](#) for all information.

follow the Association's Strategic Planning retreat scheduled for January 2020.

Community Engagement



ACCA is reminding people during this holiday season that, despite professional care for seniors in Canada being among the very best in the world, it is seniors who are often left alone for long periods at this time of year and at risk of isolation. Just making a call or paying a short visit can greatly improve someone's quality of life, and that is something each of us has the power to do. There is no better time than when

people are celebrating the festive season with loved ones to remind them to reach out to a senior or individual receiving care. It could be the best gift you give to anyone all year!

Listen for this holiday reminder from the ACCA on 95.7 FM Edmonton and 95.9 in Calgary.

Pictured: Great Grampy Joe, 95, hears what Lillian, 4, hopes Santa will bring!

FIRMS Home Care Template

[Please click here](#) for the home care reporting template that is now under the system development for FIRMS. The home care submission in FIRMS will be annual, based on April to March fiscal year.

Contact Us!

Share your comments online at www.ab-cca.ca or email heather.aggus@ab-cca.ca or any ACCA team member at any time! Regularly check the team blog for updates on strategic meetings also.

Please Note: ACCA will be closed December 23rd, reopening December 30th, 2019.

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