

Chair's Report
Champlain Region Family Council Network
Eleventh Annual General Meeting
April 7, 2018

The **Mandate of the Champlain Region Family Council Network** is:

1. To offer assistance in the development of new Family Councils and strengthen those that already exist;
2. To provide opportunities for and encourage Family Councils and interested parties to exchange ideas, experiences and common concerns;
3. To provide educational opportunities, including guest speakers and relevant print materials for the Network's members;
4. To enable Family Councils to advocate for the fair treatment of residents, as well as to work together to influence positive change in the long-term care system;
5. To keep abreast of and provide comment on proposed changes in legislation or regulations affecting long-term care homes; and,
6. To participate in the activities of Family Councils of Ontario.

Champlain Region:

The Champlain Region Family Council Network includes the following 5 Districts: Renfrew County (9 LTC Homes); Cornwall/Maxville (11 LTC Homes); Ottawa West/Centre (24 LTC Homes); Ottawa East (10 LTC Homes) and Hawkesbury (6 LTC Homes)

An enormous thank you to the members of the Executive Committee for their support over the past year and for their devotion to supporting families and residents of Long Term Care in our region:

CRFCN Executive Committee 2017-18

Doreen Rocque: Chair of CRFCN

Eleanor Ryan: Past Chair

Rosemary Cavan: Vice Chair and member of the Advocacy Committee

Katherine McVean: Treasurer:

Brian Graham: Secretary

Grace Welch: Chair of the Advocacy Committee

Deborah Schryer: Director of Communications

Janet Luloff: Director at large and member of Advocacy Committee

District Coordinators:

Cornwall/Maxville and Renfrew County – Eleanor Ryan;
Ottawa East and Hawkesbury – Denis Lajoie
Ottawa Centre and West – Lynn Smith

2017 Achievements:

It is our pleasure today to report to you, the membership of the Network, some of the ways that the Network has supported Family Councils in the Region in 2017.

District coordinators are the Networks' main contact and link to Family Councils in the region. This past year district coordinators continued to assist in starting and rejuvenating Family Councils, coaching new Chairs and participating in Family Council Meetings to offer advice on particular challenges.

District coordinators work continually to keep the Network's email list of Family Council Contacts up to date. This list is used to communicate with you and make sure you are aware of such things as legislative changes; best practices; activities; and, events that may be of interest to Family Councils. You can help us by making sure that your district coordinator is advised anytime there is a change in your Family Council contact information.

Staying up to date on the latest developments and activities affecting Long Term Care Residents and their families keeps us all busy. Through our partnerships and membership on Committees with the Ministry of Health and LTC, the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and other organizations, we are able to ensure that the voice of families and the needs of LTC residents are always presented.

The Advocacy Committee and Communications committees have been very active this year and I will let Grace and Deborah share their achievements with you over the past year. Financially the CRFCN is keeping afloat but adequate funding is an ongoing issue as we are heavily reliant on Family Councils Ontario for reimbursing our operating costs. Kathy McVean, our treasurer will share with you our financial situation and Eleanor Ryan (Past Chair and District Coordinator for Cornwall/Maxville and Renfrew County) will share with you the rewards and challenges of being a District Coordinator with the Network.

Our fall conference was held on November 4, 2017 and we were extremely happy to welcome Karen Simpson Director of the Inspection Branch with the MOHLTC and Carole Comeau Manager for the Eastern region who updated us on the changes to the LTC Quality Inspection Program. Sophie Orosz, Manager of the Bruyère Centre for Learning Research and Innovation in LTC and several members of the research teams updated us on their work related to: Nursing Care Plans, Responsive Behaviour Triggers, the Importance of Oral Care, and Using the Arts to enhance residents' quality of life.

We were also happy to welcome Lorraine Purdon, Executive Director of Family Councils Ontario, who presented on Innovative Approaches to Recruitment. All of their presentations can be found on our website. Round table discussions amongst the participants were held on the challenges and successes or best practices in their LTC homes. A summary of these discussions is will be available on our website.

Before I turn things over to our other executives, I want to thank all of our volunteers who work so diligently to keep the Network going. And thank you all for the volunteer work that you do on your individual Family Councils.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we hope to have more Family Council members join the Network to help us to continue to support Family Councils in the region and to advocate for improvements to the long term care sector of our health system.

Our focus will be to continue to improve our ongoing communication and information sharing with Family Councils and, with this being a Provincial Election year; the Advocacy Committee will continue to work to ensure that our vulnerable seniors in long term care are never forgotten.

Respectfully submitted by:
Doreen Rocque
Chair,
Champlain Region Family Council Network
April 7, 2018