



Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock and Marvin Fox, of Weyburn, at the award ceremony.



Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock and Fred Weber of Bengough.



Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock and George Quarrie, of Coronach.



Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock and Richard Thompson, of Bengough.

EMS Personnel Honoured

Emergency medical services personnel from Sun Country Health Region were presented in Regina in June with the Governor General of Canada Emergency Medical Service Exemplary Service Awards by Saskatchewan Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock. Debra Asby, of Bengough was unable to attend the ceremony but will receive the same award for her 20-plus years of service also. Marvin Fox said it best, for all of them, when he said: "EMS is a very rewarding career and I feel honored to receive this award."

HIPA Training

Access Communications Ltd. and SCHR's Privacy Officer, Mark Pettitt, collaborated on a video production this year to help the public and staff in the region understand the provincial government's new Health Information Protection Act, or HIPA, as it is called. The video is 32 minutes long. A copy has been sent to every facility to help with ongoing training.

Schools and Healthy Choices

By Janice Giroux, VP, Community Programs - SCHR

Sun Country Health Region supports the Provincial School Plus Initiative, which brings a broader range of partners together and builds on a set of principles and existing strengths.

The School Plus strategy engages communities, families, individuals and human service sectors in supporting and sharing responsibility for the well-being and education of children in school.

School Plus is an established structure that continues to engage partners, community leaders, health professionals and stakeholders in the planning of such issues as how schools and partners can better respond to the needs of the students.

School Plus looks at issues such as keeping kids in school, preventing drop-outs/ meeting the needs of young mothers, identifying issues related to bullying and providing support to schools for healthy food choices.

As students are just about ready to go back to school, the Estevan Comprehensive School provides just one of the many examples of a great School Plus initiative.

Last year, the school made positive changes to its lunch menu. Using what is called an upstream, Population Health approach, it changed the conditions and environments in where people work and go to school.

A Population Health approach goes beyond providing information on healthy choices or teaching personal skills. It incorporates improvements to the environments in which we live.

The Estevan Comprehensive School healthy menu choices initiative has created a strategy to provide supportive environments that reduces barriers so that individuals have opportunities for healthier choices.

Our valued partnerships with the school division, other partners, and community groups includes opportunities to work collaboratively and to provide links and supports to ensure skills and expertise are available as needed to assist in any way to implement these types of healthy strategies. Reducing child obesity is an obvious key priority for the Region and providing an environment for healthier food choices and physical activity will contribute to improving the health status and quality of life of residents in Sun Country Health Region.

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Solutions to obesity include comprehensive school health programs, community-wide healthy living programs, physical education, reduced television viewing, and breast feeding initiatives.

Our health system is one of the reasons why Canada is a healthy place to live.

But it is known that these successes aren't enough to create and sustain health for everyone. Opportunities to improve health – like the example at the Estevan Comprehensive School – will help to improve our health status within the Region. Improving our health requires shifting attitudes about health, expanding our knowledge base, a way to creatively reduce health inequalities and the ongoing dedication to working with other sectors.

Sun Country Health Region congratulates and commends the strong leadership shown on this initiative by the Estevan Comprehensive staff, management and Board.

We recognize that many schools in the region have also taken proactive steps on obesity prevention strategies and we look forward to future opportunities to partner with the community and other sectors.

Art historian research project

A graduate student with the University of Saskatchewan is looking for former employees and residents of the former Weyburn Mental Hospital (Saskatchewan Hospital) for a research project.

Elizabeth Matheson is an art historian researching the art therapy programs and/or architectural therapeutic design programs established during the 1950s at the hospital. She plans an exhibition and publication as part of a graduate degree.

“The multi-faceted project will look at the historical and socio-cultural context of the Weyburn Mental Hospital in the post-war era,” said Matheson, in announcing her research project.

“I'm also interested in the hospital's relationship to the structure and delivery of art therapy systems and use of architectural space, concentrating particularly on the experiences of the medical landscape in western Canada in the mid-20th century,” she said.

After years of archival research, Matheson is anxious to begin personal, confidential interviews. She's aware that both patients and staff are in their latter years.

For more information, please write:

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Comings & Goings

Laura Burns joined the Nutrition Services staff of *Carlyle Community Health Services* Building this summer. She will serve the communities of Kipling, Wawota, Maryfield, Redvers, Carlyle and Arcola. Laura is a recent graduate of the University of Saskatchewan, completing a dietetic internship with Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. As a summer project last year, she worked with the Regina Home Economics for Living Project as a summer lunch/snack and learn coordinator.

Betty Schmidt has retired from the *Weyburn MH HIM Department* after serving as a Health Information Practitioner in Weyburn at both Mental Health and the Weyburn General Hospital.

Kim Johnson joined the *Weyburn MH HIM Department* as a Health Information Practitioner.

Michelle Kot worked in the *Weyburn MH HIM Department* as a summer student.

Staff from Medical Imaging at *Weyburn General Hospital* said goodbye to Registered Technologist in radiology, *Jill Strickland*. Jill worked at the WGH for two years and moved to Red Deer, Alta. to enhance her job skills. She was a great person to be around and work with. The staff will miss her a lot but wish her all the best in her new job.

Kendra Walbaum, a Registered Technologist (Radiology) started at *Weyburn General Hospital* in August.

Since July, *Laura Pilon* has worked in the mental health centre in Weyburn. Laura comes from *Weyburn General Hospital*.

Kimberly Johnson, temporary FT Health Information Practitioner, will stay on in with *SCHR* as a relief staff in HIM.

Arcola Health Centre is one of the *SCHR* areas that will be welcoming a nursing student from Sept to Oct 2005. She will be doing a senior practicum clinical placement there. Facility administrator *Joanne Hollingshead* says this is the first time that the Nursing Education Program of SaskHealth has involved Arcola in the program. “We are looking forward to the experience,” she says.

Assistant Finance Director *Vanessa Marcotte* will take over the duties of regional finance director at *Tatagwa View* while *Pam Hauptstein* is away on maternity leave. Recruitment is underway for Vanessa's position.

June McNeil retired in June 2005. She began work in 1966 at Oxbow Union Hospital and then transferred to Galloway Health Centre with the move. Galloway staff hosted a retirement party in June. June has two daughters who are both married and have families. She lives in Oxbow.

Gainsborough Health Centre welcomes *Gloria Laliberte*, R.N.; *Christina Haskey*, L.P.N; *Debra Renwick*, SCA and *Natasha Bevan*, SCA to its nursing staff. Also welcome to *Shelby Storey* and *Judi Enger* in the dietary department as food services workers.

Upcoming retirements at Gainsborough Health Centre are *Pam Brown*, recreation attendant; *Elaine Shaw*, Environmental Services worker and *Betty Stanley*, HHA.

Eric Brown retires replacement hired

Some of the staff who had the opportunity to work with former communications coordinator Eric Brown over the past couple of years might have seen him interviewed on national television from the Maritimes this spring. Eric retired from SCHR just in time to move into a newly renovated home with his wife, before the floods hit. He looked calm, in spite of the situation.

Former newspaper reporter Joanne Helmer has replaced him. She says she returned to Saskatchewan after spending 30 years in the Alberta wilderness. "It's good to be home again," she says.

"There's a lot more than a line on the map that separates Albertans from residents of Saskatchewan. I always knew that and I'm happy to find the sense of community so strong in SCHR," she says.

Joanne wrote about the difference between the two provinces in her chapter of the book called *The Trojan Horse*. The mid-1990s book examined Ralph Klein's new version of government in Alberta.

Joanne has produced a new *Regional Sun*, printed in July, and gathered information for this *Sun Country Chatter* newsletter for staff. She will host a booth for SCHR at Weyburn's 100th anniversary of Saskatchewan on September 4 and is helping to prepare a public directory of all the services in Sun Country Health Region.

Achievements

Garry Tedford, *Laurie Schmidt* and *Jody Larson*, from *Addiction Services in Weyburn*, have all earned credentials as International Certified Alcohol and Drug Counsellors (ICADC) with the Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation. With this certification, they are helping to maintain standards of excellence and ensuring the highest quality of professionalism in the addiction field.



Celebrating achievement: Garry Tedford, Jody Larson and Laurie Schmidt, of the Weyburn Addictions Services, gather after receiving ICADC Certification.

Nurse earns certification

Deborah Tamlyn, president of the Canadian Nurses Association, announced earlier this year that Corinne Sandstrom has earned the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) certification credential in Hospice Palliative Care Nursing.

In a letter to SCHR regional education director Pat Kessler, Ms. Tamlyn wrote that by achieving certification, Ms. Sandstrom met a national standard of professional competence that demonstrates one's broad understanding of the Hospice Palliative Care nursing specialty. "In addition, Corinne has met the rigorous practice, continuous learning and testing requirements," wrote Ms. Tamlyn.

Ms. Sandstrom joins almost 14,000 RNs in Canada certified in 14 nursing specialties.

"Beyond the rewards of personal achievement and professional recognition, the public can be confident that certified nurses provide safe and effective care based on current specialty knowledge, experience and clinical judgment," wrote Ms. Tamlyn.

“Employers who hire and support certified nurses send a strong message that they are committed to creating an exceptional care environment and that they promote a culture of professionalism and retention that is imperative for quality care,” she wrote.

Certified Fitness Consultant

The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology has registered Corrie Schultz as a Certified Fitness Consultant. She has successfully completed all requirements as established by the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology (CSEP) Health and Fitness Program (H&FP).

Mrs. Schultz is SCHR physical activity coordinator. A CFC can administer fitness assessments based on client’s cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility. S/He can interpret the results and provide general, confidential information on various aspects of physical activity, fitness and lifestyle in the line of health-related fitness.



Region receives three-year accreditation

Sun Country Regional Health Authority has received commendations and a three-year accreditation standing from the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA), after a one week survey this spring.

The Region received recommendations that will help staff focus on improvement activities to enhance the quality of care and services provided to patients, residents and clients. The CCHSA stated that the recommendations “aim to support your continued improvement efforts.”

“It is because of the hard work and dedication of our staff that we continue to provide a high level of care to our patients, residents, and clients,” said Chief Executive Officer Lee Spencer.

The Region was commended in the area of health promotion and protection through strong community and provincial partnerships, palliative care, and the falls prevention program. Some areas for improvement include measuring meaningful health “markers” to ensure quality of care,

replacing or rebuilding physical plants and structures in some of the older facilities, and involving more staff and patients in the accreditation process.

Fun Run at Moose Mountain Park

Physiotherapist Tamara Greenbank of Arcola/Kipling/Oxbow Health Centres organized a Fun Run at Moose Mountain Provincial Park this spring to help celebrate National Physiotherapy Month.

“We began with an educational session on SMART Running, followed by a stretching/warm-up session,” explains Tamara.

“We then ran the beautiful 4.3 km Beaver Lake trail. We had a cool-down and stretching session, then a fitness competition with participants being tested on upper and lower body strength, balance and flexibility. There were great prizes for everyone, as well as lots of healthy snacks,” she says.

Tamara said the weather was beautiful and she figures everyone had a good time. “I know I thoroughly enjoyed organizing the event.”

Tamara thanks the therapies department of SCHR for donating some really great prizes and also the Moose Mountain Provincial Park for prizes, as well as the beautiful trail the park maintains.

“I would also really like to thank Angela Gervais, one of my occupational therapy friends, for all her help and hard work on race day,” she says.



**Sun Country Chatter Newsletter
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**Joanne Helmer - Editor
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Phone fan-out audit in Arcola

Arcola/Carlyle Health Centres administrator Joanne Hollingshead organized a phone fan audit this summer.

The regional emergency plan requires that each facility develop and implement a Disaster Procedure Plan. Disaster Standing Orders and Telephone Fan-Outs are to be posted in each department (and distributed to staff to have at home) for easy access.

The procedure in [Galloway Health Centre Emergency Plan](#) is stated this way:

Upon making the decision regarding the emergency status and/or evacuation, the Manager of Client Care or designate will initiate the fan out-procedure. In the event of a failure of the telephone, messengers by car could also be used.

1. Nurse in charge will begin the call with information as to type of emergency. For example: search and rescue, evacuation or any other situation requiring help of additional staff.
2. When you receive a call, immediately call those assigned to you-follow the arrows below your name.
3. If you cannot reach your person, move on down to the next person or person.
4. Be sure to wear proper clothing to suit the weather.
5. If at night, carry a flashlight.
6. Someone may be authorized to direct traffic and parking. Be sure to watch for this.

A report of the audit shows 33 of 36 staff members were available at Arcola Health Centre, with 44 of 58 available at Moose Mountain Lodge.

In Arcola, 33 people knew where their phone fan was located and stated so in by telephone. One person had recently moved so their number was incorrect, and the number for a new employee was missing.

At Moose Mountain Lodge, 44 were aware of the location of their phone fan and 38 located it, while two new employees were not yet on the list and the number for a staff member who had relocated needed updating.

Prizes were provided for the winners of the fan-out audit at Arcola and the Moose Mountain Lodge. In Arcola, Arrol Young and Darlene Freitag won, with Pam Weir and Angela Buckmaster winning at Moose Mountain Lodge.



Four new doctors come to Sun Country Health Region

Sun Country Regional Health Authority and community officials are pleased to announce that four new medical doctors have been recruited this summer to work in three communities in the Sun Country Health Region.

Dr. Terence Ming-Fok began work at the Redvers Health Centre in mid July. At the same time Dr. Navin Harinarain started at the Coronach Health Centre. The husband/wife team of Dr. Ahmed and Malini Mahomed will commence practice at the Kipling Health Centre in early September.

SCHR Chief of Staff, Dr. Vino Padayachee said it's fortunate the region has attracted these four doctors to these communities. "But more physicians are needed for other areas," he said.

"We certainly recognized the extra workload that was placed on the existing physicians prior to this recruitment, and the RHA and the communities appreciate the efforts made by these doctors," said Dr. Padayachee. "We hope that the additional physician numbers will help 'normalize' the situation in these communities."

"It was also very encouraging to see the community leaders working together with the RHA to recruit these physicians," said Dr. Padayachee. "This will help strengthen ties between the various towns and the Region. Shortage of physicians in any one community affects the entire region."

New policies adopted by Sun Country

The following policies/procedures have been approved and entered on the Sun Country Health Region R drive: Please share this information and add them to your binders if they are applicable to you or your department.

LP-02-20-05: CQI Steering Committee terms of Reference
E-00-10: Scent Free Environment
E-00-15-00: Use of Universal Codes

HR-10-00: Scope of Practice Committee Terms of Reference
HR-10-05: Approved Procedures (with exhibits A and B)
HR-10-10: Transfer of Functions
HR-10-15: Special Procedures

IPC-55-00-20: Medication Services to St. Joseph's Special Care Home
IPC-60-00: Laboratory Diagnostics Program
IPC-60-05: Laboratory Guidelines
IPC-65-00-00: Functions of Medical Imaging Department
IPC-65-05-00: Patient Data
IPC-65-05-05: Examination Requests
IPC-65-05-10: Scheduling of Examinations
IPC-65-05-15: Interpretation of Examinations
IPC-65-05-20: Diagnostic/medical Imaging Reports
IPC-65-05-25: Changes/Modifications to Original Order
IPC-65-05-30: Film Referral
IPC-65-05-35: Sale of Obsolete Film and Silver Recovery
IPC-65-10-00: Portable Radiography
IPC-65-10-05: Instructions for Prep for Special Exams
IPC-65-10-10: Contrast Media/Other Injections
IPC-65-15-00: Shielding of Patients/Other Persons
IPC-65-15-05: Protection of Patients and Staff

CHS-20-00: Program Goals and Functions
CHS-20-05: Admission Criteria
CHS-20-10: Referral Sources and Required Information
CHS-20-15: Intake Process
CHS-20-20: Referrals to Other Services
CHS-20-25: Independent Living Program Worker (ILPW) Involvement
CHS-20-30: Charting Practices
CHS-20-35: Active/Inactive Status
CHS-20-40: Discharge Procedures
CHS-20-45: Program Management Reporting

Regional Ethics Committee formed

By Mark Pettitt,
Director Strategic Planning,
CQI & Communication

Sun Country Health Region formed a Regional Ethics Committee last year as an advisory committee on ethical issues.

Membership is comprised of various regional disciplines including physicians, staff, managers, palliative care, and mental health. There is also representation from the Board and affiliates, the ministerial association, legal counsel, and the community.

St. Joseph's Hospital of Estevan already has an Ethics Committee. To improve communication, and because these two committees may deal with similar issues, one representative from each committee attends each other's meeting.

The committee will be involved in educating staff, the public, and committee members, reviewing policies surrounding ethical issues, consulting on issues that staff members bring forward for review, and approving research that is to occur within the region.

In June of this year, the committee helped bring Ethicist Father Mark Miller to Tatagwa View in June to talk about

placebos, over-treatment, and advanced care directives. These sessions were well attended and there was excellent discussion on many topics. There are plans to have an Ethics Awareness Week in 2006.

To bring issues to, or to discuss things with, the ethics committee, please contact any of the following members:

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Redvers to adopt Eden Philosophy

Redvers Health Centre will be the next facility in Sun Country Health Region to implement the Eden Philosophy for long term care patients.

The Redvers' manager of health services, Myrna Peterson, said four people took the Eden Philosophy course in Saskatoon earlier this year: herself; Louanne Jonassen LTC RN; Linda Ross LTC SCA; and activity worker Val Patron.

They will begin to teach sessions in September, encouraging all the staff to attend. "We will be working with the staff, residents, their families, and the community in this endeavour," said Peterson.

The Eden Philosophy of long term care attempts to build a more home-like atmosphere for long term care residents than the traditional hospital-type of care.

Using this model of care, it's understood that residents are not "sick," but are unable to care for themselves. They need daily assistance with living in a setting that feels like home.

The new, 123-bed facility called Tatagwa View in Weyburn is the first in the region to adopt this philosophy.



Best practices review

Debra Laurent, home care manager for the eastern section of SCHR is a member of the provincial committee that developed the Best Practice Standards for Pressure Ulcer Wound Care.

Ms. Laurent says this summer the Saskatchewan Skin and Wound Care Committee is reviewing the draft Best Practice Guidelines for care of venous and arterial ulcers.

A pilot project is in progress in Estevan in long term care, acute care and home care facilities.

Ms. Laurent said the hope is to circulate a draft manual to key stakeholders, a list of experts and end users for review this fall.

Staff training in diabetes education

Kay Steele, Diabetes Nurse Educator for the Sun Country Health Region, is appreciative of the dedication to excellence shown by 12 nurses from across the region who successfully completed the Diabetes Resource Nurse Training Week, from February 7 -11 in Weyburn.

Those who completed this training include:

Judy Fornwald, Lampman; Laurianne Nightengale, Coronach; Bill Cannon, Estevan; Rilla Kapell, Kipling; Louanne Jonassen, Redvers; Sherri Smith, Gainsborough; Colleen Scharnatta, Midale; Jan Cannon, Oxbow; Jewell Vanstone, Radville; Kelly Fish, Bengough; Sharon Harmes, Weyburn; Wendy Tocher, Estevan. The group was also joined by Jayne McDonald from Moosomin.

These nurses committed a week of their time to take specialized training in diabetes management.

In partnership with the regional dietitians, Diabetes Clinics are being developed to offer individual education and support for those living with diabetes in SCHR.

Having nurses with increased knowledge in diabetes management will support clients, improve local access to diabetes nurse service and promote prevention of diabetes complications throughout the region, says Kay Steele.

Busy summer with new registration system

The regional director of health information, Krista Bostock, has had a busy summer training people on a new registration system for patients.

"Regional WinCis (Windows Client Information System) is a registration/ADT system which was implemented at the Weyburn General Hospital in May 2005," says Ms. Bostock..

Phase one of the implementation and training in other centres began in June at the Kipling Memorial Health Centre. Susan Torgunrud, Manager of Health Information Management, has also been very instrumental in the implementation of this system, she said.

Training and implementation took place at Redvers Health Centre in August.

Ms. Bostock said the second phase for these facilities will occur in approximately 4-6 months.

“The system will be implemented in all the health centres across the region in the near future,” she said.

“It tracks all encounters that a client has had with a facility including waiting lists, pre-admissions, admissions, discharges, and transfers,” she said.

“Once the patient is initially registered in the system, their demographic information is simply updated on subsequent visits resulting in a quicker registration process.”



Ms. Bostock said the other advantages are that statistical reports are generated from the system on a monthly basis and the system will interface to other health care applications, passing patient information to the laboratory, the pharmacy, and x-ray departments, etc. in the future.

The system replaces current manual processes. Ms. Bostock says the manual systems are redundant. They duplicate information that's already collected, she says.

This is a provincial system that will eventually be linked. It is also the building blocks towards the “Common View” or electronic health record.

The Common View system is currently being piloted in Yorkton.

Falls Prevention Program piloted in eastern SCHR

The Home Care East department of Sun Country Health Region will participate this fall in a pilot project initiated by the Department of Therapies and the Fall Prevention Committee.

The program is intended to reduce the number of falls among Sun Country residents. It consists of falls risk identification, therapeutic intervention and consumer education.

“I really feel this project will be effective,” says Barb Naviaux of the Department of Therapies, Redvers Health Centre.

“We want to help prevent falls while people are still healthy and in the community,” she said.

All age groups of Sun Country residents experience a higher percentage of hospitalization due to falls than the provincial average.

SCHR's 2005 annual report shows the fall hospitalization rate for men over 65 years old was 20.2 per 1,000 population in the 2003, compared to 13.2 for the province. The rate for women over 65 was 31.8 per 1,000 population, compared to 25.1 for the province.

Children also experience a higher rate of hospitalization due to falls, with 13.1 per 1,000 for males and 8.4 for females, slightly higher than the provincial rates.

Development of the Fall Prevention Program was spearheaded by Barb Naviaux and then enhanced through the Fall Prevention Committee.

Corrine Galarneau and Gale Pryznyk assisted in proposal development and application to Saskatchewan Health Quality Council for funding.

As a result, the regional program is part of a provincial Fall Prevention consortium with the Saskatoon, Regina, Cypress Hills and Prince Albert Health Regions, which all share the HQC grant.

“We will start training home health aides in Home Care East with training to be held in Redvers, Kipling, Arcola, Fillmore and Carlyle this fall,” says Mrs. Naviaux.

The aides will be provided with a test to give their clients to help assess the potential for falls. If a test score is predictive for a fall, a referral will be made to the Department of Therapies and if indicated, the physician. Guidelines have been set to address these referrals.

The program's consumer education focuses on a directory of services for all people in the region who might be of assistance to people with a high likelihood of falls.

Home Health Aides will be provided with the booklet to review with their clients. Booklets will also be available to the SCHR residents.

Statistics show that only 25 per cent of elderly people recover after a bad fall causing a hip fracture and about 40 per cent of those who receive a hip fracture end up in long term care as a result of the fall.

Therefore, this project should be both a financial and a social saving for the region and its people.

If the pilot project is deemed successful by the SCHR falls committee and the HQC, Mrs. Naviaux hopes to expand it into the other two regional home care areas and also into regional acute care and long term care facilities.

Update on the Workplace Wellness Initiative

The Quality Health Workplace Initiative began as a project draft submitted to Saskatchewan Health by Lee Spencer, CEO for Sun Country Health Region.

Working with a small committee of employee stakeholders, Mr. Spencer proposed the implementation of a pilot project to improve the overall culture within the work place.

The proposal suggested that, with the assistance of the staff from three chosen pilot sites, a consultant, and a governing coalition of participants including employees, management/unions, Sun Country Regional Health Authority members, the culture within the workplace could be changed significantly enough to improve staff morale, increase individual workplace satisfaction rates and possibly even decrease absentee rates for reasons such as illness or stress related issues.

Saskatchewan Health approved the funding for the project. In May, 2005, a steering committee was formed, including members of the SCHRA, senior leadership team, union representatives and project leaders. Joining the team was Dave Moore from Quality Workplace Initiatives, a consulting firm out of Moose Jaw.

Two sites and one program were chosen to participate in the project; Bengough Health Centre, Estevan Regional Nursing Home and the Community Mental Health Services Program. These groups were selected for various reasons, such as initiatives that had already taken place within their areas creating the accepting environment that would be required.

Since the site selection process has taken place, several meetings have been held to discuss communication and implementation strategies, as well as union participation. Our consultant has developed a draft work plan and time table, which has undergone several changes due to unavoidable delays in proceeding with the project.

The Quality Workplace Initiative will begin with an assessment of the workplace and the staff, as well as others, such as physicians, residents, and family, who interact with them.

Following the assessment, plans will be developed by the local committees to address the issues that are brought forward. The plans will be implemented, results will be evaluated and, if necessary, the strategies will be amended, to ensure the best possible results.

In one year, an evaluation of the entire initiative will take place.

It is the committee's belief that the process will assist the Region in determining the most effective approach and principles that can then be rolled out to the remaining facilities and programs of SCHR.

It is anticipated the consultant will begin the workplace assessments following the summer, with the first of many strategies to be implemented in the fall.

In Memoriam

Evangeline "Vangie" Domes:

Weyburn General Hospital Patient Registration Clerk, passed away suddenly on June 10, 2005 at the age of 60. Vangie worked in health care for 29 years, including as a nurse's aide at Souris Valley Extended Care Centre and at Weyburn General Hospital. She was a caring, fun person to work with who always had a smile on her face. Vangie is greatly missed.

Norma Cairns:

Activity Worker at the Coronach Health Centre, passed away July 26 after a battle with cancer. She organized teas, fashion shows, outings and events that enriched the lives of residents. This work gave Norma much joy and satisfaction. She will be sadly missed by all the residents and staff at the Health Centre.

HELP! Sun Country Needs You!

The communications department of Sun Country Health Region needs employees from all departments to send information about your activities and your successes for our public and staff newsletters.

The Regional Sun is published quarterly for all households in the region. We plan a Sun Country Chatter, for staff, every six weeks. We're interested in your new and innovative projects, your work with the public, your plans and projects. Pictures of your event or activity would be a great addition. Please send a copy of your upcoming activity to the local Access TV community calendar, as well as to your local radio and newspaper, when you forward your information to us.

To contact Joanne Helmer

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