



# Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health



## Newsletter

VOLUME ONE • March 2008

### Call for Contributions

Next month's feature:

Alberta

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### President's March Report

We have been busy setting up the organization over the past three months. The name Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health has been reserved. The application for incorporation through the Society Act of BC was approved March 8th. A business account was opened March 14th and now we can start receiving registration money for the conference.

The next step will be to apply for charitable status for CPATH in the form of a foundation. The idea is to have a fundraising event attached to the annual

conference and donate the profits to a transgender community organization of the hosting city. A website address ([www.cpath.ca](http://www.cpath.ca)) has also been secured by Dr. Trevor Corneil and a website designed by Mr. Ryan Chin will soon be up and running. Finally, the newsletter template has been created by Ms. Catriona Berry. A sincere thank you to these people for their time and effort and also to Nancy Liebs-Benke of Astra Zeneca whose leadership on this project continues to amaze me!

Gail Knudson MD, MPE, FRCPC



### Community Feature

This column will be used to highlight a different city or region each month ... but for now I would like to start with thanking the directors who have volunteered their services to get CPATH up and running on paper while we prepare for the Annual General Meeting on June 28th at CPATH 2008 where a new slate of directors will be voted in. They are Drs Oliver Robinow, Trevor Corneil, Todd Sakakibara and Lori Brotto. In order to apply for incorporation, these directors were required to be from BC. We will have more national representation on the next board.





## Committee Updates

### Advocacy

The Advocacy Committee has been focused on the Minister of Health in BC as the business plan application for a publicly funded gender confirming surgery program has now been rejected twice. I would like to thank Mr. Devon McFarlane and Dr. Marria Townsend who organized the letter writing

campaign. All is not lost, however, as the government is now doing its own cost/benefit analysis of having this program and we look forward to these results.

### Research

We are pleased to announce that we have been invited to submit a full application for an Emerging Team Grant in the Gender, Sex and Health program through the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR). The title of the study is the "*Development of a Canadian National Knowledge Base for the assessment and treatment of transgender*

*individuals*", which was submitted to the "Emerging Team Grant: Gender, Sex and Health" program. The deadline to submit a full application is May 1, 2008. Dr. Lori Brotto of UBC is the PI. There will be time devoted to this project at CPATH 2008 to recruit sites for this study.

### Annual Meeting

CPATH 2008 will take place at the Ramada Plaza in downtown Toronto on June 27th and 28th. Registration will be available online at [www.cpath.ca](http://www.cpath.ca) starting April 1st. Conference dues are as follows: Physicians and psychologists \$150; health care professionals \$100; students and non-waged \$50. A block of rooms has been secured until June 5th

under the name of CPATH. Please refer to the conference when making a room reservation. The conference rate is \$159.00 per night + taxes based on single or double occupancy.



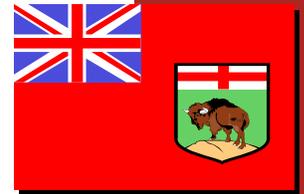


## Provincial Updates

### Nova Scotia

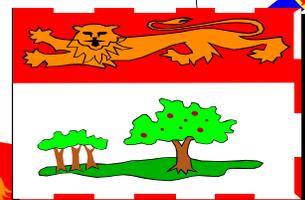
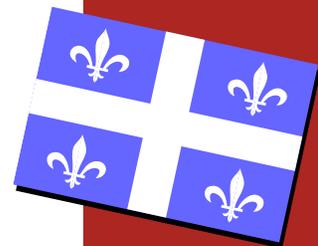
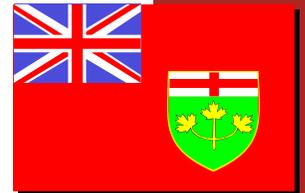
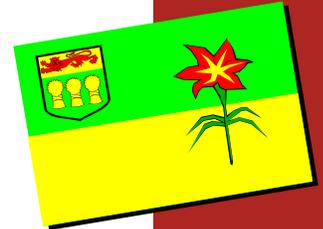
- Two clinicians in the IWK Mental Health program have formed a team to help address the mental health needs of transgender youth in the Maritimes. Social worker, Nancy Wright and Suzanne Zinck, child psychiatrist, are accepting referrals of youth from the Maritimes who are questioning their gender identity.
- A Multidisciplinary Transgender Health Rounds has been established. This will provide opportunity for clinical case review on a regular basis.
- Plans are progressing to hold a training event in September, 2008 – “Assessment of Hormone Eligibility and Readiness in Persons with Gender Identity Disorder”. As discussed in the last CPATH update – this is scheduled to coordinate with Dr. Gail Knudson’s presentation at Dalhousie University’s Dept of Psychiatry Grand Rounds (September 17, 2008)

- The Nova Scotia Liberals passed a resolution (March 02, 2008) calling for the province “to pay for sex-change operations”. Brought forward by the party's youth wing, it calls on the government to implement a transgender health program, similar to British Columbia.



### Newfoundland

- On March 7th, the Eastern Health Working Committee met for the third time. They were formed to develop a conceptual model and policy for access to health care services for TG clients. We will be arranging a conference call with the BC group to field some of our questions.
- Also, Dr. Gail Knudson will present in St. John’s in September for Grand Rounds and an educational training day.





# CPATH 2008 Toronto

The program is for the CPATH Inaugural conference is coming together nicely. Our **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS** are: Arlene Lev (family therapist, adjunct professor S.U.N.Y, and author of [The Complete Lesbian and Gay Parenting Book](#) and [Transgender Emergence](#)), Aaron Devor (Professor of Sociology U. Vic, and author of [Gender Blending: Confronting the Limits of Duality](#) and [FTM: Female-to-Male Transsexuals in Society](#), and Helen Kennedy (Executive Director, EGALÉ Canada).

We will soon be ready to invite abstracts for presentation at our afternoon **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**: Friday July 27th 1-3:30pm and Saturday July 28th 1-3:30pm. Each presentation will be 20 minutes in length with 5 minutes for questions.

Categories are: a) Health Care (medical management/assessment/counselling), b) Advocacy & Policy, c) SOFFA, and d) Youth.

All abstracts will be reviewed for content, relevance, and interest. They will be scored accordingly by a three member panel that includes a physician, a counsellor, and a social worker. People will be informed of the panel's decision a minimum of 6 weeks prior to the conference.

Submission forms will be available on our website by April 1st with a deadline of April 14th. As our timeline this year is short, the window for submission will be limited (2-3 weeks) so start preparing your drafts early!

**Trevor Corneil BA MD MHSc CCFP FRCPC**

## Calendar of Events

- Start preparing abstracts for April 14th submission deadline
- Check [www.cpath.ca](http://www.cpath.ca) for conference registration details starting April 1st

## March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 March Break Starts	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Good Friday	22
23 Easter	24	25	26	27	28 Deadline for April newsletter	29
30	31	Website open for registration				

**A big THANKS to all our supporters!**

