



# Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health

## Newsletter

VOLUME FIVE • July/August 2008

### Call for Contributions

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Dr. Lorne Warneke

### President's July/August Report

A big thank you to those of you who attended the CPATH meeting in Toronto! We had over one hundred registrants!

A number of committees were formed and new volunteers joined the already existing committees. The committees are:

- 1) Research
- 2) Governance (new)
- 3) Advocacy
- 4) Policy (new)
- 5) Membership
- 6) Communications (new)
- 7) Annual meeting

Please sign on to the bulletin board service and join a committee!

Gail

Gail Knudson MD, MPE, FRCPC



### Member Spotlight—Dr Lorne Warneke

The Alberta Society for the Promotion of Sexual Health's (ASPSH) 2008 Pioneer Award was presented to Dr. Lorne Warneke for his "outstanding pioneering work in promoting the human rights of gays and transgendered persons and for his work in delivering greatly needed medical services to transsexual persons".

Congratulations Lorne!





Dr. Trevor Cornell

## Updates

### **WPATH Clarification on Medical Necessity for Sex Reassignment Surgery**

In response to questions about medical necessity of transgender treatments and sex reassignment surgery, particularly in the U.S.A., where insurance exclusions often prevent access to health care for transgender people, the WPATH Board of Directors has issued a clarification statement which is now available on the

Resources page of the WPATH web site. Questions about this statement may be directed to the WPATH office, or to Mr. Jamison Green, Chair of the Public Policy, Advocacy & Liaison Committee of the Board. A parallel statement for international use (without the U.S. insurance focus, and reflecting ICD-10, to which the U.S.A. is not a signatory) is also under development.

### **WPATH XXI Biennial Symposium will take place June 17 - 20, 2009 in Beautiful Oslo, Norway**

All abstracts to be submitted **ON THE OFFICIAL SUBMISSION FORM** by **October 31, 2008** to **wpath@wpath.org**

as an email attachment. The official submission form can be downloaded from **www.wpath.org** and from **www.wpathoslo2009.com**



The BC Crew



Ms. Arlene Lev



## Provincial Updates

### Ontario

#### Relisting of Sex Reassignment Surgery under OHIP

Effective June 3, 2008, Regulation 552 of the *Health Insurance Act* (HIA) has been amended to add sex reassignment surgery (SRS) as an insured service under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

Sex-reassignment surgical procedures, including reconstruction of genitalia and mastectomy, are an insured benefit effective June 3, 2008 only if they are performed on patients who have completed the Gender Identity Clinic program operated by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and for whom the Clinic has recommended that surgery take place.

Within the foregoing guidelines, reconstruction of genitalia and mastectomy are insured benefits. However, since the hormonal treatments associated with sex-reassignment themselves give rise to breast enlargement, augmentation mammoplasty or breast reconstruction in a male to female conversion is not an insured benefit. Prior approval from the MOHLTC is required.

As the Province moves forward in the delivery of SRS services, we want to ensure that we are adopting the most up to date and efficacious techniques to serve the transgender community.

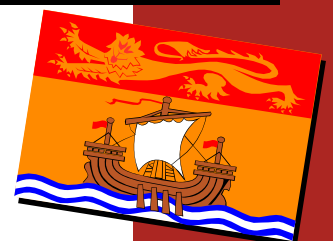
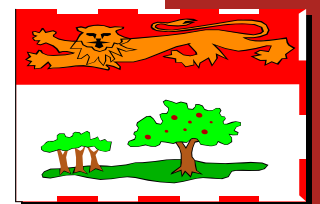
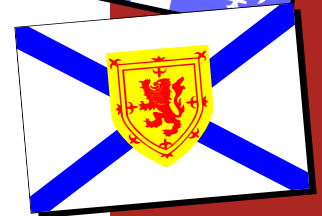
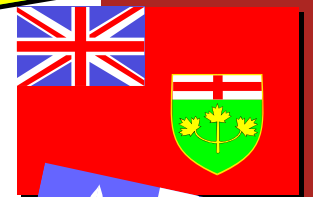
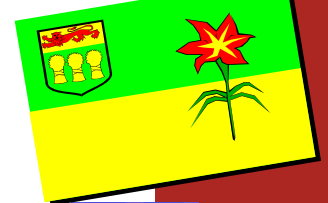
To that end, we have sought the advice of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health as well as the Sherbourne Health Centre about using the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) standards of care to inform our implementation strategy.

For services proposed to be received at a hospital or health facility outside Canada, prior approval of the General Manager of OHIP is required. See [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/program/ohip/outcountry\\_services.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/program/ohip/outcountry_services.html)

for the application process and requirements.

Bulletins and the updated version of the Schedule of Benefits are available on the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care website <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/>.

(From Bulletin number 4480)





# CPATH 2008 Toronto

Thank you to Helen Kennedy, Arlene Lev, Dr. Aaron Devor and Dr. Jamie Feldman for their excellent keynote addresses. These can be found on the Frontline Health bulletin board.

I also wish to thank my organizing committee for hosting a very successful conference. They are -

Program Committee:

Dr. Trevor Corneil, Dr. Joan Quinn,  
Mr. Jim Oulton

Local Organizing Committee :

Mr. Jim Oulton, Mr. Rupert Raj, Ms. Rebecca Hammond, and Ms. Nancy Liebs-Benke.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our sponsors for this event; Frontline Health (Astra Zeneca), Rainbow Health Ontario and Egale Canada.

Gail Knudson MD

CPATH 2008 Chair

## Calendar of Events

- August 4th—provincial holiday

## August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Holiday	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Deadline for Sept newsletter	30
31						

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

