

International Forum on Care and Caregiving will Inspire and Advance Action for Better Home Care

Toronto, ON, November 22, 2018 - The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) and its' affiliate Carers Canada are hosting an *International Forum on Care and Caregiving*, in partnership with the University of Toronto and University of Sheffield UK, to stimulate new ideas on how to support caregivers and their vital role in home care across Canada.

The groundswell for change has arrived in Canada, where 8.1 million Canada are providing unpaid care for someone who is older, have a chronic condition, or living with a disability. Forum participants representing policy makers, service providers and researchers will share experiences, research findings and practical applications on how to meet the growing needs of our aging society and support the vital role of family caregivers.

Showcasing both national and international innovations, the Forum opens with the launch of the landmark *Global State of Care* report. This full day event draws on world-class research, explores innovative caregiver-friendly policies, and puts a spotlight on practical solutions to support care and caregiving around the globe. "This event will inform provincial and territorial governments as they enhance and expand their home care programs through their commitments in the Shared Health Priorities that includes increased supports for caregivers", said Nadine Henningsen, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Home Care Association.

Topics featured during the forum include:

Financial Support for Caregivers - Andrew Brown , Director General of the EI Policy Directorate of Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), joins a panel to discuss the federal governments efforts to minimize the financial strain for caregivers. He will present recent changes to EI benefits that are more flexible and inclusive for family caregivers.

Human Resource Strategies – Lori Moffatt, VP People and Culture of CBI Health Group will explore challenges in capacity issues and access to skilled human resources; Jeannie Soutanis, Director of Business Develop, Elizz at SE Health will share an innovative approach to caregiver supports through the one-of-a-kind platform Elizz.

International Programs – Aurélie Matignon of Association Française des Aidants (French Association of Carers) will profile the outcomes of the growing network of Carers' Carers in France; and Carers UK's Madeleine Starr will speak about strategies and partnerships in caring technology in the UK.

Technological Innovation – Janet Daghish, National Director of Business Development and Government Relations, Bayshore Health will share how they are integrating the caregiver voice into home care services through their patient-family portal; and Gord Turner, VP Sales & Operations, CareLink Advantage will provide insights into the spreading and scaling of telecare across the country.

World-class research – Dr Sue Yeandle, Director of CIRCLE and Professor at University of Sheffield (UK) and Ito Peng, Director of the Centre for Global Social Policy and Professor at University of Toronto will present their work on Eldercare Policies in East Asia and Europe. Allison Williams, CIHR Research Chair in Gender, Work and Health and Professor, McMaster University will discuss the research program she is leading to promote the 'Carer-inclusive and accommodating workplaces' standard.

To join the conversation, follow @CdnHomeCare and #IFCC18 on Twitter.

Definition of a caregiver

A caregiver (also referred to as carer or family caregiver) is a person who takes on an unpaid caring role for someone who needs help because of a physical or cognitive condition, an injury or a chronic life-limiting illness.

ABOUT THE FORUM PARTNERS

Canadian Home Care Association cdnhomecare.ca

The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA), incorporated in 1990, is a national not-for-profit membership association representing home care stakeholders from governments (federal, provincial and territorial), health authorities, publicly funded home care programs, service providers, medical and technology companies, researchers and others with an interest in home care.

Carers Canada carerscanada.ca

Carers Canada is an affiliate of the Canadian Home Care Association. alliance of diverse partner organizations that work collectively, and autonomously, to identify and respond to the needs of caregivers in Canada. Its vision is a “Canada that recognizes, respects, and values the integral role of caregivers in society”.

Sustainable Care Research Programme Team circle.group.shef.ac.uk

Based at the University of Sheffield, UK, CIRCLE – the *Centre for International Research on Care, Labour and Equalities* – is a research centre conducting research, evaluation and consultancy on contemporary policy, practice and theoretical issues and debates on topics in three main areas: care, labour and equalities. CIRCLE’s flagship programme is *Sustainable Care: Connecting People and Systems*. The *Sustainable Care* Research Programme is a multi-disciplinary ESRC-funded programme (2017-2021) exploring how care arrangements, currently ‘in crisis’ in parts of the UK, can be made sustainable and deliver wellbeing outcomes.

Centre for Global Social Policy cgsp-cpsm.ca

Based at the University of Toronto, Canada, the Centre for Global Social Policy (CGSP) was created in 2013 to support collaborative research across diverse disciplinary perspectives and locations, and to share this research with a wide audience. The current major research project at the Centre, the Gender, Migration and the Work of Care project - funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada - investigates how the reorganization of care is influencing care workers’ international migration, and how this relates to gender equality and social development. It brings together researchers from universities in Canada, the US, Asia and Europe, as well as policymakers, local, national, and global organizations, think tanks, NGOs, and labour organizations.

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