



ACR NEWS BULLETIN

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To: Family Councils and Members of ACR

Welcome to this first issue of our **ACR News Bulletin!**

This Bulletin includes:

- Introduction of the **ACR News Bulletin**
- Introduction of and information about the **BC Family Council Network**
- A recommended link to the CBC Radio One Program "White Coat, Black Art" Podcast on "**Aging, Ageism, and the 'Silver Tsunami'**" - a 'must hear' for all.

Introduction of the ACR News Bulletin!

We are introducing an email-based ACR Bulletin to help keep Members and Family Councils updated on residential care matters of interest and our work, in support of Family councils and the quality of care and life in residential care in BC. These Bulletins will augment our ACR Newsletter "CARING" (archived on our website www.acrbc.ca) and provide for quicker and more cost effective dissemination of information. If you prefer not to receive these Bulletins, please send us an email at info@acrbc.ca.

Help us spread the word! Please feel free to circulate this Bulletin among your networks.

We'd like to hear what you think of this approach – email us at info@acrbc.ca

*** NEW* BC Family Council Network**

Ever wondered what other Family Councils do? What challenges they face and what successes they have had? Perhaps you wonder just how they are organized and how they got started? Perhaps you've read the **ACR Family Council Handbook** (available from www.acrbc.ca) and attended an **ACR Family Council Workshop** and would like to connect with some other Family Councils. Well, now there's a new way to connect with other Family Councils.

ACR is pleased to announce the establishment of the **BC Family Council Network**. Initially developed by members of the Fraser Family Council Task Group (associated with the Fraser Health Authority), and now disbanded, this initiative is now sponsored, supported and launched by ACR.

The **BC Family Council Network** will be solely internet based and will provide for Family Councils throughout BC to share their experiences, challenges, solutions and successes with one another.

To join this growing Network, you only need to subscribe and that's easy. Just send an email to bcfcng@telus.net indicating '**BC Family Council Network**' in the subject line and be sure to include:

- the name of your Family Council and the name, phone number and email of the Family Council Contact.
- the name and address of the residential care facility, and... *please let us know whether or not a ACR Family Council Workshop has been held at your facility.*

Upon receipt of your email, a downloadable BC Family Council Resource Manual cover sheet will be sent to you. (We recommend a three-ring binder for the informational material that will be sent.) Information and material provided by Family Councils throughout BC will be collected, vetted, formatted as necessary and shared with the network via email. Listings of Family Councils participating will also be provided and contributions acknowledged. Perhaps, Family Councils may even decide to band together and form a local or area Family Council group to discuss and address common concerns.

This compiled Resource Manual will augment the resource material provided in the ACR Family Council Handbook and on the ACR website (www.acrbc.ca)

Ageism in the Health Care System?

White Coat, Black Art – CBC Podcast on “Aging, Ageism, and the ‘Silver Tsunami’

This CBC Radio One Program, “White Coat, Black Art” (www.cbc.ca/whitecoat) originally aired this program on ‘Ageism...’ on April 07, 2008 and later rebroadcast. The program website provides the following description of the content of this broadcast, “we examine how the system deals with aging patients. And, we explore the line between age appropriate treatment and ageism. Cardiologist and researcher Dr. David Alter talks about a study which demonstrated that age discrimination exists in the health care system...though in practice he finds it's a lot more complicated than that. And, we have a provocative, interview with Dr. Janice Lessard, a Geriatrician who points out many of the casual, almost unconscious ways that people on the front lines practice age discrimination.”

Here's the link to this Podcast: http://podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/whitecoat_20080628_6297.mp3

It's interesting, informative and controversial ... and provides some important insight into health care as it relates to the aging population.

Not yet a Member of ACR- Advocates for Care Reform?

Consider joining us in working for the development of family councils in residential care facilities and advocating for improved quality of care and life for those in residential care facilities in BC. We can't do it without you!

Membership and donation forms are downloadable from the ACR website (www.acrbc.ca).

ACR is a non-profit society and registered charity.