



## Long Term & Continuing Care Association of Manitoba

An award for excellence is given each year by the Long Term & Continuing Care Association of Manitoba to honour the efforts and dedication of outstanding service teams, employees, volunteers and/or providers who go above and beyond their call of duty to provide care in many service settings for example: Personal Care Homes, Supportive Housing residences and retirement residences. The award is open to not only LTCAM members, but as well, non-members of the association throughout the province of MB.

### **The Award Categories are:**

- **Community Services**

The award for excellence in community service will be given to a person, team or volunteer who has either provided exceptional service to residents of the community i.e. adult day programs, respite care; or to volunteers or employees who have provided exceptional service to the residents/tenants within a facility in the long term care continuum, by facilitating a connection to the community.

- **Recreation/Therapy Services**

The award for excellence in recreational therapy service will be given to a person or team that have shown innovation in the type and delivery of an exceptional recreational therapy program that has benefited residents/tenants of a facility in the long term care continuum.

- **Innovation/Vision/Leadership**

This is a new category. The award for excellence in innovation/vision/leadership will be given to a person or team that have had a positive effect on staff and/or residents/tenants by promoting and enhancing quality care, compassion, and respect for rights and dignity.

### **Judging**

An independent panel of judges reviews all nominations and selects the award recipients. This year the LTCAM Conference Planning Committee comprised of members and non-members of LTCAM are the judges.

This year marks the highest number of nominations ever received. The association wishes to applaud all nominees for their valuable contributions to the lives of residents and clients in long term & continuing care.

1. The first award is in the category of Recreation and/or Therapy Services. This award is being presented to Reisa Adelman from Tache Centre. Reisa is a Social worker who was nominated by Addictions Foundation of MB.

Addiction in the long term care continuum is a hidden issue in many residences, yet it does exist. When residents with addictions are admitted they are at a high risk of continuing or resuming their addiction due to the recovery-based self help groups and the fellowship that is lost upon that admission.



Reisa noticed this need. Tache Centre supports self determination and strives to create a milieu that replicates a home-like atmosphere for residents to enjoy. Included in that philosophy is the independence to make choices.

Residents paneled for PCH tend not to be screened for addiction issues prior to admission. Reisa assumed a leadership role to address addiction issues among residents in Tache Centre. By utilizing a community approach within Tache Centre, she created a professionally facilitated support group for residents who struggle with addiction and / or emotional issues, and she then created the opportunity for AA to hold open meetings at Tache Centre.

Reisa collaborated with the Addictions Foundation of MB and Partners seeking Solutions with Seniors to engage in an initial exploratory needs assessment. The results have been very positive.

1. Residents now have an outlet to deal with their challenges while living in a PCH.
2. There is now an AA self Help group in a fully accessible facility that is open to anyone, ...including residents from other PCHs
3. AA can now work to provide outreach to frail older adults who have either been AA members previously but could no longer attend due to the medical and physical conditions or are interested d in the desire to stop drinking for the first time.
4. Tache centre has now built relationships with the addictions systems and can more easily access those services.
5. Tache Centre has engaged in identifying the issue and some increased their knowledge from information sessions and becoming a recipient of the Partners Seeking Solutions with Seniors e-group list. This increases their comfort level with dealing with residents that present with addiction issues in the future.

Reisa, the LTCAM applauds your initiative and efforts in this special area of care.

2. The next award is in the category of Innovation/Vision/Leadership

This award was presented to Carol Toews who is a social worker at two PCHs in Morden and Altona

Carol has a fond nick name from her colleagues. It is “social worker extraordinaire”! And she has earned it.

As the social worker in long term care, Carol is the first contact between the facility and the resident and resident’s family. Carol provides a comprehensive history to the health care team. The trust she establishes with the residents and families extends to the caregivers in the facility.



Carole helps to build a bridge from life at home to life in a facility for each new resident. Her demeanor makes the facility feel less clinical and more home like. Carol’s focus is always the resident and the family. She constantly reminds all of us that this the resident’s home and we are working in it to provide services.

Carol’s colleagues write: “Carol divides her 5 days per week between Morden and Altona. She manages to get EVERYTHING done while always keeping the resident first and foremost in her mine. In addition to this Carol is often called upon to listen to staff and concerned family members.

Carol is a model of compassion integrity and excellence in everything she says and does. She brings her education, experience, common sense and humour to her workplaces. Those who she cares for and the caregivers she works with trust her and are inspired by her.”

We thank you, Carole, for your very special way of caring.

3. The final award is in the category of Community Services. This award is presented to Scott Cornelius.



Scott was nominated by Grandview PCH. Scott is a young man who graciously shares his time & his music with the residents. Scott plays the violin and chats with the residents. Through his music and his kind and gentle ways, he bridges the generation gap effortlessly.

Gail Cord from Grandview PCH writes: “Scott’s love of music is so apparent once he gets playing. His eyes shine and his smile is endless. His toe is tapping. He even plays under his leg! This is thoroughly enjoyed by our residents. To see such a young person with so much talent is very exciting for everyone.” Gail goes on to say “ Not many young people of today are so willing to spend their evenings, weekends or holidays with the elderly. Scott does just that and is never in a rush to get away when he finishes playing.”

The LTCAM wishes to honour and thank Scott for his exceptional service to the residents in the long term care continuum, and through this service, facilitating a connection to the community.