



## Canadian Pallium Project Transition/Renewal Initiatives - Fall 2011/Winter 2012 Update

### Item I – Legacy Management/Sustainability Structure

**Background** – *Canadian Pallium Project* had been hosted by a single administrative hosting authority on behalf of its inter-agency and inter-sectoral stakeholder community. The hosting authority was the *Alberta Cancer Board*. The *Alberta Cancer Board* was dissolved unilaterally and without notice on May 15, 2008, by Alberta's, Minister of Health & Wellness. Specific, morally-grounded commitments were made by *Pallium Project* principals to *Health Canada* and other stakeholders in 2003, pertaining to the *Pallium Integrated Care Capacity Building Initiative* (*Pallium Project*, Phase II). These commitments were about steps to be taken to assure ongoing access to, as well as a framework for further development of, legacies generated by the \$4.3 million public investment from the *Government of Canada's*, *Primary Health Care Transition Fund* (PHCTF). These sustainability commitments were realized in a 2004 planning intervention called *Pallium Legacy Management Vehicle Initiative* (LMVI). A detailed accounting of this process and ongoing completion steps have been disclosed at [www.pallium.ca/transition.html](http://www.pallium.ca/transition.html)

The post-May 2008 context has had the effect of an 'administrative purgatory,' generating considerable confusion and greatly restricting what *Canadian Pallium Project* stakeholders could undertake by way of additional development activities. *Pallium Project* principals had been concurrently engaged in renewal discussions informed by inter-provincial consultations and guided by a lawful, not-for-profit lobby most active since October 2009, with ongoing disclosures at [www.pallium.ca/accountability.html](http://www.pallium.ca/accountability.html)

**Current Status** – *Canadian Pallium Project* principals have been involved in a protracted set of negotiations with *Alberta Cancer Board's* successor organization since October 2009. Consistent with the 2004 LMVI, a *Pallium Foundation of Canada* has been incorporated as the receiving structure for the legacies/intellectual properties created collectively by stakeholders. A legally-binding *Transfer & License Agreement* was fully-executed between the parties on June 14, 2011. The subsequent Agreement implementation requirements were fully-executed on February 3, 2012, with receipt of the remaining *Pallium* trust account funds delivered to the first directors of the *Pallium Foundation of Canada* (PFC).

**Next Steps** – New banking and insurance arrangements are being finalized. Discussions are forthcoming about the requisite and appropriate governance, administrative, and program support arrangements for a focused renewal of *Canadian Pallium Project* activities (at a minimum) in continuing professional development as well as collaborative, professional practice/local clinical decision-making support. A process of organizing *Canadian Pallium Project's* legacy files has been ongoing throughout late 2011 and is in the final phases of hand over to the first directors of the *Pallium Foundation of Canada*. Declared *Pallium Project* stakeholders who have not retired from their paid employment/medical practices in the last few years are being added to a renewal outreach database and will be contacted in April 2012. Those persons who have retired but indicated an interest to stay engaged with *Canadian Pallium Project* will also be added to the contact database and an information/privacy policy established.

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## Item 2 – Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative and End-of-Life Care (LEAP) Renewal

**Background** – Since October 2008, *Pallium Project* principals have been actively exploring options for reinvestment in *Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative and End-of-Life Care (LEAP)*. LEAP is used in all 13 provinces and territories in Canada, as well as in many health sciences education programs, with some 550 documented (i.e., sanctioned) Facilitator Kits in print and CDR/DVD formats having been distributed via the national project development and transition office. LEAP was originally designed for continuing professional development (CPD) in primary-care settings, with a guiding design orientation at the time of its current iteration (LEAP, VI.1) being community-level, clinical interventions during the Advanced palliative phase and Terminal palliative phase (ref page I-5, *Pallium Palliative Pocketbook*).

As part of the LMVI, *Canadian Pallium Project* worked with *Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CHPCA)* in 2006/07, to establish the business process framework within which CHPCA now offers many 3<sup>rd</sup> party resources through the *CHPCA Marketplace*. Since 2007, LEAP (VI.1) has been widely-distributed through *CHPCA Marketplace*. A French-language version (LEAP VI.2F) has been available since 2010. Enhancements have been made to LEAP (VI.1), most notably the production of PDF versions of the module slides, in which learners can save digital notes directly in a PDF handout version of the slides. These PDFs continue to be accessible at [www.pallium.ca/leap.html](http://www.pallium.ca/leap.html). Additionally, some 27 facilitation reminder, coaching, and mentoring tips have been available in concisely produced video segments since spring 2009, in the DVD form of *The LEAP Coach* and on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/palliumcanada](http://www.youtube.com/palliumcanada). *The LEAP Coach* has been used in provincial facilitator faculty development in Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Alberta, and Ontario since 2009, is distributed with new (LEAP VI.1) Facilitator Kits (CHPCA Item 618E), and has been otherwise distributed on-request.

**Current Status** – Dr. Pereira has been central to securing a significant philanthropic investment that, in part, has been used to organize the framework for *LEAP Renewal*. Substantial funds remain for *LEAP Renewal* proper. In 2011, a *Canadian Open Call* consultation was conducted. Results of the *Open Call* have been made available as a public document at [www.pallium.ca/leaprenewal.html](http://www.pallium.ca/leaprenewal.html). An *Inter-provincial and Inter-Professional Renewal Planning Workshop* was also held in Ottawa, with key informants reflecting a cross-section of rural, urban, medical, nursing, and psycho-social practices across ten provinces.

The 2011 key informant workshop was audio recorded, resulting in a 145 page written transcript and content analyses. Acting on directions emerging from the pan-Canadian *Open Call* as well as the key informant workshop about a current evidence update, a purposeful literature search has been undertaken for the period of 2007-2011. This search has resulted in just under 500 citations after filtering and thematically organizing PubMed information into a *LEAP Renewal Literature Search*. The search started at a *Cochrane Collaboration* review level, with a second-level, purposeful search being undertaken and oriented to Level I and Level II evidence and other review-level papers as available.

**Next Steps** – A draft report called *A Tie That Binds: Stakeholder Input and Directions for LEAP Renewal* is being finalized for release. It is anticipated to be available in Spring 2012 and will be published at [www.pallium.ca/leaprenewal.html](http://www.pallium.ca/leaprenewal.html) with email notices being sent to all *Open Call* contacts, the key informants, and others who have registered a LEAP license with *Canadian Pallium Project*.

Major re-design directions identified by stakeholders to-date about LEAP renewal include:

- a *LEAP Essentials* core continuing professional development course package for local continuing education, with significant redesign of *Creating Context* and *Communication* as well as other major module content updates;

- a new set of unbundled, 'stand-alone' and enhanced content modules which are aligned with the LEAP *Essentials* course package module structure, but which can be used to inform more focused and in-depth local health science education and 'as needed' staff-development; and
- a new set of *LEAP Plus* bundles that can be flexibly used to build capacity across settings of care (e.g., Long Term Care) and various non-cancer, progressive illness contexts.

In addition to the release of the *A Tie that Binds* report back, it's expected the *LEAP Renewal Literature Search* will be released in a draft form via open call format, in order that interested stakeholders may contribute to evidence deemed as 'overlooked to-date' in LEAP redevelopment (i.e., *crowd sourcing*).

### Item 3 – Digital Learning Objects & Outreach Education/Professional Development

**Background** – *Canadian Pallium Project* has been a demonstrated early adopter of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to support outreach education and distance learning. This has included demonstrating an *Online Journal Club* (OJC) in 2002; using blended audiographic teleconferencing for monthly outreach education (05/06); and early adoption of *Apple iTunes* (circa late 2006) to demonstrate the potential of audio podcasting to facilitate access to on-demand learning.

**Current Status** – Working with resources from the philanthropic gift secured in late 2010 by Dr. Pereira, ten of the original professional development sessions have been re-mastered in digital audio and video formats in a *Conversations on Caring Classics* series. These are currently accessible at a portal called *Conversations on Caring* at <http://www.pallium.ca/conversationsmain.html>. For those wishing to access audio/video versions for *Apple iTunes*, *iPhone*, or *iPad*, access points to the *iTunes* locations are:

*Apple iTunes* audio - <http://itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/conversations-on-caring-canadian/id469074056>

*Apple iTunes* video - <http://itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/canadian-pallium-project-video/id471062345>

A new guide has also been produced. This toolkit style guide helps local palliative, hospice, and end-of-life program and service champions publish their own low-cost audio and video podcasts suitable for distribution via *Apple iTunes*. The intent of this guide is to help local champions prepare and distribute materials to support local volunteer development, local/regional staff development, and local patient and family self-management and education podcasts. A copy of the guide is accessible (2.75 MB, PDF) at [http://www.pallium.ca/infoware/Pallium\\_LowCostPodcastGuide\\_2012-VI-final.pdf](http://www.pallium.ca/infoware/Pallium_LowCostPodcastGuide_2012-VI-final.pdf)

**Next Steps** – Its being recommended regular outreach education be re-established using a blend of teleconference and webinar-based platforms, and the program development agenda for outreach education be aligned with *LEAP Renewal* and roll-out and effective use of the *Pallium Palliative Pocketbook*. It is anticipated that more information will be available in Spring 2012, as structural directions about *Canadian Pallium Project* administrative and program support are clarified via the renewal process.

### Item 4 – Pallium Palliative Pocketbook (second printing) & e-book roll-out

**Background** – Since September 2008, *Canadian Pallium Project* in partnership with nearly forty institutional partners in nine provinces and territories, has published 18,000 copies of the *Pallium Palliative Pocketbook* (First Canadian Edition) in two printings. An interactive e-book has been readied since September 2008, but embargoed pending resolution of the structural issues detailed in Item 1.

**Current Status** – Some 500, 2011 PPPs are available for small orders via *CHPCA Marketplace*.

**Next Steps** – An e-commerce based solution for the PPP e-book is being finalized, with an anticipated release of a PDF with Digital Rights Management (DRM) access available in Spring 2012. Notification of this and other announcements are via the *Pallium* Twitter feed at [www.twitter.com/palliumcanada](http://www.twitter.com/palliumcanada)