In this Newsletter

- News
- 2018 Open event, Final annual team meeting and workshop
- Sharing Knowledge: Public events, Conferences and other presentations; Publications—journals, books, videos
- Calls for presentations, papers
- Resources

A “society that treats its most vulnerable members with compassion is a more just and caring society for all”
- World Health Organization

News


Privatizing Care: The case of nursing homes, a book based on presentations from the 2017 annual team meeting, is in process for publication by Routledge USA. Authored by Pat Armstrong, Hugh Armstrong et al., it is a product of the Re-imagining Long-Term Residential Care project and includes chapters by many team members.

Beatrice Müller joined us in Canada from Germany in September 2017 for a three-month post-doctoral fellowship.

“Nursing Home Staffing Standards and Staffing Levels in Six Countries” by Charlene Harrington and Jacqueline Choiniere, Monika Goldmann, Frode Jacobsen, Liz Lloyd, Margaret McGregor, Marta Szebehely and student Vivian Stamatopoulos, and published in 2012 in the Journal of Nursing Scholarship, was indexed by Web of Science and ranked 396 out of 32,082 articles published between 2010 to 2014!

Other news from project members:


Margaret McGregor was appointed to the board of Vancouver Coastal Health by the Government of British Columbia in September 2017.
Allyson Pollock, with Peter Roderick and Shailen Sutaria, published the article “Are radical changes to health and social care paving the way for fewer services and new user charges?” in BMJ, September, 2017.

Pat Armstrong received York University’s Faculty of Graduate Studies inaugural Postdoctoral Supervisor of the Year Award. She was nominated by project postdoctoral fellow Rachel Barken, and presented with the award at an event on September 12, 2017.

Joel Lexchin authored Doctors in Denial: Why Big Pharma and the Canadian medical profession are too close for comfort. Read the Toronto Star interview with Joel about the book.

Joel’s article “The relation between promotional spending on drugs and their therapeutic gain: a cohort analysis” appeared in CMAJ Open.

An interview with Joel on the relationship between the pharmaceutical industry, the medical profession and government appeared in the November CAUT Bulletin.

Joel was a participating author on a recent article in Health Policy titled “Reconciling a “pleasant exchange” with evidence of information bias: A three-country study on pharmaceutical sales visits in primary care”.

Albert Banerjee speaks with Steven Eastwood about the film Island in the “Care and Dying” article of the July 2017 issue (01) Take Care of The Blackwood.

Collaborator Nasreen Khatri is the principal investigator on a study with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) assessing Canada’s first multilingual group program on evidence-based talk therapy principals for older adult caregivers.

Nasreen also participated on a post-screening panel for the CBC documentary The Caregiver's Club, a film featuring three middle-aged caregivers taking care of a spouse or parent who can no longer care for themselves, and was interviewed for an article “You Must Remember This” about brain health for the February/March 2018 issue of Best Health Magazine.

Annmarie Adams was awarded a 2017 President’s Medal for Media in Architecture by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada for her article synthesizing the history of Canadian hospital architecture over the last 165 years.

2018 Open event, Final Annual Team meeting and Workshop

The Courtyard Marriott in downtown Toronto will host the project’s 2018 open event, workshop and annual team meeting from Tuesday, May 8 to Friday, May 11. We hope to see all team members in Toronto to celebrate the eight years of the Re-imagining Long-term Residential Care project!

The open event on Tuesday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m., “Knowledge Sharing for Change in Long-term Care”, features panel presenters from Germany, Sweden and Ontario who will share their experiences on strategies to turn research in to action. An opportunity for the audience to ask questions will follow the panel presentations. All are welcome at this public event.

From Wednesday, May 9 to Friday, May 11, the team’s focus is on turning research into practices by developing concrete strategies for change. Discussion will draw on the project’s research as presented in the three books—Promising Practices in Long Term Care, Physical Environments for Long-term Care, and Exercising Choice in Long-Term Residential Care—and will focus on the topics of working conditions, accountability measures, making joy possible and privatization.
Sharing Knowledge

Public Events

Two successful public events were held in September 2017.

“Beyond Medicalization: An International View of MD Roles in Long-Term Care” was held on September 22 in Toronto. Doctors on the project—Robert James, Joel Lexchin and Margaret McGregor—spoke about MD roles in long-term care both in Canada and internationally, and promising practices for doctors in long-term care based on the project’s research. Their presentation is available on the project’s website.

A September 26 panel “Looking Back, Thinking Ahead: Lessons from Early Policy-Makers in Long-Term Residential Care” was presented jointly with the University of Toronto’s Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation.

Panel participants included Lawrence Crawford, senior gerontological advisor and policy maker for the Government of Ontario from 1956 to 1985 and Paul O’Krafka, former long-time CEO of an Ontario long-term care home. Gail Donner, who chaired the Long-Term Care Task Force on Resident Care and Safety, moderated the panel. The event attracted so many registrants that it was moved to a larger room to accommodate everyone!

Events to launch the project’s newest bookette, Exercising Choice in Long-Term Residential Care, were held in Winnipeg in November:

CCPA Manitoba co-sponsored a launch event on November 23 at the Fort Garry Hotel. Pat Armstrong and Hugh Armstrong spoke on choices in long-term care.

The Centre on Aging, University of Manitoba, held an event on November 24. Pat Armstrong and Hugh Armstrong presented on “Changing our Understanding of Choice”. Thanks to Manitoba Co-investigator Malcolm Doupe for his help in organizing this event!

The Trent Centre for Aging & Society and members of the research team launched Exercising Choice in Long-Term Residential Care at the Peterborough Public Library on March 6, 2018 at 5pm in an event that was open to the community.

| Lawrence Crawford, Paul O’Krafka, Gail Donner, and Pat |

Pat introduces the project’s doctors: Margaret McGregor, Robert James and Joel Lexchin

| "Changing Places" project team take note! A meeting of all project members will take place on Tuesday, May 8 at the hotel before the public event. |

Changing Places: Unpaid work in public spaces

There will also be time reserved for the team to discuss activities for the remainder of the project.

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Additional launch events for *Exercising Choice in Long-Term Residential Care* are planned for Ottawa—April 3 at the Ottawa Public Library—and for Halifax. Watch for launch event notices and additional details on the News & Events page of the project’s website.

**Academic conferences**

For more detail on any of the following papers, please contact the presenter.

**Beatrice Müller** presented “The Careless Society - Dependency and Body Work and Its Devaluation in Capitalist Societies” at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association in Montreal, November 2-5, 2017.

Presented at the 3rd Transforming Care Conference Polytechnic of Milan, Italy, June 26-28, 2017, on a symposium panel organized and chaired by **Pat Armstrong** on “Privatization/marketization in Residential Care for Older People”:

- “The politics of profit in Swedish welfare services” by **Marta Szebehely**
- “Canada on the blurring line between not-for profit and for-profit residential care homes” by **Hugh Armstrong**
- “Privatization and marketization in long-term residential care in Germany – effects on care and care work” by **Beatrice Müller**
- “Devalued later life: older residents' experiences of risk and relationships in a market system” by **Liz Lloyd**

Presented at the 2017 Global Carework Summit at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, June 1-3, 2017:

- “Reimagining Long Term Care with a Focus on International Promising Practices” workshop organized by **Susan Braedley** and **Tamara Daly**. Participants also included **Donna Baines** and **Suzanne Day**, a former doctoral student with the project.
- “Fee structures for publicly-funded long-term residential care in Canada: Implications for equity and financial well-being” by **Martha MacDonald**, on a panel on “Counting the Costs of Investing in Care and How to Pay for it”.


**Upcoming:**

**Pat Armstrong**’s paper on “Privatization in Long-Term Care Homes” was accepted for presentation at the XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology taking place in Toronto, July 15-21, 2018 in the session on "Care and Social Justice: Global Innovations in Home and Long-Term Care”.

**Other presentations**

**Martha MacDonald** presented on the Future of Housing panel at a symposium on the “Impact of Demographic Shift on the Future of Work & Housing in Atlantic Canada” November 17, 2017 at St. Mary’s University.

**Hugh Armstrong** presented on “Key findings of Re-imagining Long-term Residential Care Project”, November 18, 2017 at the Ontario Health Coalition’s 2017 Annual Health Action Assembly & Conference, Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto.

**Pat Armstrong** spoke on “Wash, Wear, and Care: Clothing and Laundry in Long Term Residential Care” at
#14 Fall/Winter 2017-18 Newsletter

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the Global Labour Research Centre’s seminar “New Directions in the Sociology of Work” on November 14, 2017 at York University.

With project partners:

- **Hugh Armstrong** presented a researcher’s perspective on a panel at a CUPE Town Hall on the crisis in long-term care and Ontario’s Bill 33 (Time To Care Act), Peterborough, October 17, 2017.

- **Pat Armstrong** led workshops based on the project’s second bookette, “Physical Environments for Long-term Care”, at UNIFOR’s 2017 Health Care Conference, Unifor Family Education Centre, Port Elgin, June 10, 2017.

Publications

**Academic journals:**

**Palle Storm, Susan Braedley** and **Sally Chivers’** article “Gender Regimes in Ontario Nursing Homes: Organization, Daily Work and Bodies” was published in the *Canadian Journal on Aging*, Vol 36 (2).

A paper by **Charlene Harrington, Frode Jacobsen, Marta Szebehely, Allyson Pollock, Justin Panos, Sutaria Shailen**, “Marketization in Long Term Care: A Cross Country Comparison of Large For-Profit Nursing Home Chains”, was published in *Health Services Insights*, 2017:10 and is open access.

**Donna Baines** and **Pat Armstrong’s** article “Promising Practices in Long Term Care: Can Work Organisation Treat Both Residents and Providers with Dignity and Respect?” was published in a special issue on “Critical Engagements with Aging and Care”, *Social Work and Policy Studies: Social Justice, Practice and Theory*, Vol 1, No 001 (2018). All articles in this special issue on Aging and Care are open access.

Published in the *Journal of Canadian Studies* special issue on Re-imaging the House of Old, 50.2, edited and with an introduction by **Megan Davies** and **Rachel Barken**:

- “There’s No Place Like Home: Designing for Long-Term Residential Care in Canada” by **Annmarie Adams** and **Sally Chivers**.

- “Promising Practices in Long-Term Residential Care: Where do Physicians Fit In (or Don’t They)?” by **Margaret McGregor**.

- “Family Matters: The Work and Skills of Family/Friend Carers in Long-Term Residential Care” by **Rachel Barken, Tamara Daly** and **Pat Armstrong**.

- “Policies and Practices: The Case of RAI-MDS in Canadian Long-Term Care Homes” by **Hugh Armstrong, Tamara Daly** and **Jacqueline Choiniere**.

- “Changes and Continuities in the Workplace of Long-term Residential Care in Canada, 1970-2015” by **Ruth Lowndes** and **James Struthers**.

- “Intensifying Relational Care: The Challenge of Dying in Long-Term Residential Care” by **Albert Banerjee** and **Alex Rewegan**.

- “Imagining Gerontological Nursing: Canadian Nurses and Eldercare, 1905-70” by **Kathryn McPherson**.

- “A Humanist in the House of Old: Moyra Jones and Early Dementia Care in Canada” by **Megan Davies**.

- “The Canadian Long-Term Residential Care System: A British Perspective” by **Liz Lloyd**.

- “A Norwegian View on Canadian Long-Term Residential Care” by **Gudmund Agotnes** and **Frode F. Jacobsen** (with **Rachel Barken**).

- “Residential Care for Older People: Are There Lessons to Be Learned from Sweden?” by **Marta Szebehely**.
Published online (forthcoming in print):

Ruth Lowndes, Pat Armstrong and Tamara Daly’s article ““Leisurely Dining”: Exploring How Work Organization, Informal Care and Dining Spaces Shape Residents’ Experiences of Eating in Long-term Residential Care” appeared in Qualitative Health Research, online October 30, 2017.

Rachel Barken and Ruth Lowndes published “Supporting Family Involvement in Long-Term Residential Care: Promising Practices for Relational Care” in Qualitative Health Research, online September 16, 2017.

In the Ageing International special issue on “Broadening the Perspective on Long-Term Residential Care”:

“Same, Same but Different: Norwegian Nursing Homes Betwixt Equality and Autonomy” by Gudmund Ågotnes, online May 5.

“We’re told, ‘Suck it up’: Long-Term Care Workers’ Psychological Health and Safety” by Susan Braedley, Pat Armstrong, Prince Owusu and Anna Przednowek, online May 9.


“Balancing the Tension in Long-Term Residential Care” by Pat Armstrong, online May 16.

“Cleaning and Caring: Contributions in Long-term Residential Care” by Beatrice Muller, Pat Armstrong and Ruth Lowndes, online May 20.

“Skills of Workers in Long-Term Residential Care: Exploring Complexities, Challenges, and Opportunities” by Rachel Barken and Pat Armstrong, online May 24.

“‘Call Security’: Locks, Risk, Privacy and Autonomy in Long-term Residential Care” by Frances Tufford, Ruth Lowndes, James Struthers, and Sally Chivers, online June 1.

Other

Books

Creative Teamwork: Developing Rapid, Site-Switching Ethnography, written by team members and edited by Pat Armstrong and Ruth Lowndes, is published by Oxford University Press and will be available in March.

The Trent Centre for Aging & Society launched the book as part of its Aging & Society seminar series on March 6, 2018 at Gzoski College, Trent University. Members of the team at this open event discussed approaches to international, interdisciplinary research. Additional launches are planned.

Care Home Stories: Aging, disability, and long-term residential care, a book co-edited by Sally Chivers, with chapters by James Struthers and Monique Lanoix, challenges stereotypes of institutional care for older adults, illustrates changes occurring over time, and illuminates the continuities in the stories we tell about nursing homes.

A launch event for the book was held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 in Peterborough.
Videos

Co-investigator Susan Braedley and her student Karissa Gall produced two videos based on the project’s research. “Promising Practices in Nursing Home Care: Dignity and Joy” focuses on residents in long-term care, and “Time to Reflect” focuses on staff in long-term care homes. Access the videos on youtube from the titles’ links above.

Susan used findings and data from the project in another video she produced: “Forgetting: A Dementia story worth sharing”. View it on youtube.

Calls for presentations, papers

CAG 2018 “Making It Matter: Mobilizing Aging Research, Practice & Policy”

The Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG) is holding its 47th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting—“Making It Matter: Mobilizing Aging Research, Practice & Policy”—from October 18-20, 2018 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Abstracts are due April 16, 2018. Details are available here.

SAGE Open

SAGE Open is a peer-reviewed, "Gold" open access journal from SAGE that publishes original research and review articles spanning the full spectrum of the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities in an interactive, open access format. The journal charges an author publication fee of $395 USD for each published article after acceptance. Details on submitting a manuscript here.

Resources

Featured

From home to ‘home’: Mapping the caregiver journey in the transition from home care into residential care by Taylor Hainstock, Denise Cloutier and Margaret Penning from the Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health, University of Victoria, uses qualitative interview data to explore the roles and responsibilities of family caregivers for family members making the care transition from home care to residential care.

Don’t let Seniors’ care become a private equity money maker, a commentary by Margaret McGregor and Lisa Ronald appearing in the Toronto Star, discusses why large-scale private equity investments in nursing homes facilities too often jeopardize quality of care.

Other recent additions to the bibliography:

- Are radical changes to health and social care paving the way for fewer services and new user charges?
- Assaulted and Unheard: Violence against healthcare staff
- Care and Dying (Albert Banerjee in conversation with Steven Eastwood about his film Island)
- Care Suffers As More Nursing Homes Feed Money Into Corporate Webs
- Evidence Points To ‘Gaming’ At Hospitals Subject To National Health Service Cleanliness Inspections
- Experiences of moral distress by privately hired companions in Ontario’s long-term care facilities
- Factors Associated with Residential Long-Term Care Wait-List Placement in North West Ontario
- Five-star ratings for sub-par service: Evidence of inflation in nursing home ratings.
- Making Markets in Long-Term Care: Or How a Market Can Work by Being Invisible
- Nurse Staffing Hours At Nursing Homes With High Concentrations Of Minority Residents
- Neoliberal Long-Term Care: From Community to Corporate Control
- Nordic eldercare: Weak universalism becoming weaker?
- Outsourcing Cleaning Services Increases MRSA Incidence: Evidence from 126 English Acute Trusts
- Reducing Excessive Use of Antipsychotic Agents in Nursing Homes
- Revisiting Qualitative Data Reuse: A Decade On
- Sizing Up the Challenge: Meeting the Demand for Long-Term in Care in Canada
- The Personal Support Worker Program Standard in Ontario: An Alternative to Self-Regulation?
- The Routledge Handbook of Social Care Work Around the World
- Trumpcare Could Bring Back an Epidemic of Abuse (New York Times, view here)
- What do we know about care home managers? Findings of a scoping review

Watch for our project ‘s final newsletter (#15) spring/summer 2018