

## Media Release



### For Immediate Release

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#### **Ontario Innovative Programs Win Prestigious OLTCA Awards**

*'Rag Time' and 'Trigger Happy' win for excellence in quality improvement innovation and overall excellence in long term care*

**Markham...** The Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA) announced winners of its 2011 Quality Improvement Recognition Awards this morning at its "Breakfast of Champions," part of its annual convention at the Toronto Convention Centre.

"Rag Time" and "Trigger Happy" are innovative programs developed by two OLTCA member homes that have resulted in measurable improvement in the quality of care and service delivered to residents. The Quality Improvement Recognition Program profiles long term care homes doing exemplary work in the areas of safety and quality of care, system integration and resident, family and staff satisfaction.

"The many submissions we received for these awards demonstrates the commitment, skills and creativity of our teams in constantly working to improve the quality of care and service," said Christina Bisanz, CEO of the OLTCA.

Parisien Manor of Cornwall won the Innovation Award for its "Rag Time" process innovation. "Rag Time" engages all staff in a daily program to clean high traffic "touch points" in the home. The program uses rag time music, evidence-based practices – and a fun, whole-team approach to infection control.

Since its introduction, awareness of infection control among staff and residents has increased. This innovation has reduced infectious outbreaks from between one to three outbreaks a year, to just one small outbreak in the past 2.5 years.

The Woods Park Care Centre (Specialty Care), in Barrie, won Quality Team of the Year for its innovative "Trigger Happy" program. The long term care home implemented a process improvement that uses an interdisciplinary care conference, enabling all team members to undertake resident care planning together.

The more than 2,400 hours of staff time saved annually is now spent on direct care of residents.

This year's Quality Improvement Awards was sponsored by Medical Pharmacies Group Ltd.