



# For The Record

## November – December, 2008

*Hello All – Here is a brief newsletter which includes the submissions received from around the province. Thanks to all of you who took the time to send something along. Enjoy!*

First off – a brief message from Rosalie Haire to all provincial Health Information Management professionals:



Congratulations to all HIMs on a job well done! Our province has reached a milestone - Newfoundland and Labrador's year end outstanding error rate (errors left in the year end CIHI database) was significantly reduced and in all categories we were close to or below the national average. This is the first time in many years that we have achieved such great results. The results showed that of 128,675 abstracts submitted for day surgery and inpatient services, 189 hard errors were present in 134 abstracts.

Type of Error	NL Rate	National Rate
In-patient Care Error Rate	0.13	0.12
Surgical Day Care Error Rate	0.08	0.05
% of Abstracts Containing Errors	0.10	0.11

This is truly the results of every HIM in every facility taking the time to pay attention to detail. It does not matter how many abstracts you submit, they all count. Yay, for Data Quality Efforts!☺

This is very good news! Thank you for all your efforts and let's continue to keep our outstanding error rate lower than national rates.

*Rosalie Haire, CHIM  
Manager, Clinical Standards and Information*

### *THE LIGHTER SIDE OF MEDICINE:*

*"Doctors at a hospital in Brooklyn, New York have gone on strike. Hospital officials say they will find out what the doctors' demands are as soon as they can get a pharmacist over there to read the picket signs."*

Out in Central Newfoundland, we hear from Ann Barrow.....

HIM Week - November 3-7/08 at the Central Newfoundland Regional Health

HIM professionals at the CNRHC celebrated HIM Week with a display board in the Main Lobby of hospital which displayed information on the HIM profession. This included areas of study and specialties, potential employers, CHIMA mission statement, Georgina Williams Scholarship and what we are all about. We also had privacy buttons for the public to take as well as information regarding Advance Health Care Directive and Protecting your Privacy brochures from Central Health

A Search a Word contest was also held for staff during coffee breaks in the cafeteria with the winner being drawn on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.

HIM professionals also had a cake at the morning coffee break on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> for all staff at the hospital cafeteria to promote HIM week.

During this month at the Central Newfoundland Regional Health Center HIM staff held their first Data Quality session on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> for HIM staff at the CNRHC and at Springdale. Next scheduled session will be in January 2009.

Plans are currently underway to move coders to a new location where there are less distractions

### **ON THE SOCIAL SCENE...**

Cindy Barker, our newest coder, was happy to attend her first AGM in September at Corner Brook. She thoroughly enjoyed it and looks forward to attending more.

Sonya Hickey, our new HIM professional in Harbour Breton wrote her National exam on Wednesday, November 5. Good Luck Sonya!!

*"There must be something to acupuncture. After all, you never see any sick porcupines!"*  
**Bob Goddard**

Here in St. John's, Alicia Trask sends this report from St. Clare's.....

"These are some pictures we took at the Health Information Awareness week morning Coffee break we had here at St. Clare's. I hope you are impressed with the cake! I must say we had a great turnout. We had a basket of office supplies for a draw including some promotion material from the Association. We had some posters and other displays promoting our Profession. We also had a little fundraiser basket. All in all it was a great success!"



Back out now, to Western, and a report from Harriet Powell...

To celebrate Health Information and Technology Week in November, the HIMs at Western set up a display board highlighting information about the HIM department, NLHIMA, the Georgina William's scholarship, and articles and quizzes for the public. The cutting and distributing of the cake to mark the event was a successful end to the week.



Pictured: Debbie Noseworthy, Harriet Powell, Kim Austin, Joanne Matthews, Janet Simms, Connie Keough, Judy Matthews

Staff said good-bye to Marilyn Matthews and Myra Anderson on their retirements this summer after many years of devoted service, and they greeted the new regional managers of Medical Records - **Patsy Brake and Carolann Quigley**.

At Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital in Stephenville, **Susan House** becomes the new Clinical Leader in place of Cindy Barry who has gone on to another department and **Amanda Woolridge** is the new Inpatient coder. Congratulations to all.

**Kimberly Austin** who challenged the CHIMA exam in November, was just notified that she has successfully passed the national exam. Lots of excitement here today!!

**Well Done Kim!!**

Kay Murley reports on the exciting happenings in Burin...

## GRAND BANK FACILITY

The long awaited new facility in Grand Bank will be opening on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November. This new facility houses our most modern Health Information Services & Informatics office. It will offer a spacious area for registering patients, processing appointment requests, completing statistical data and for the filing/retrieving of loose reports/charts, all the while keeping in mind the aspects privacy and confidentiality. Sharon Mullett, Manager of Record Retention and Processing, has logged a great number of hours in preparing the department for the opening. We are looking forward to this new beginning!



## HIM POSITIONS

Burin currently has 3 HIM positions. In the past they have all been classified to Health Information Management Professional I, but recently two of them have been reclassified. The positions are now classified to:

- ✓ Health Records Analyst, currently being held by Beverley Brushett.
- ✓ Health Information Management Professional II, currently being held by Kelly Appleby.

The third position, which has been open for the past few months, was also recently filled:

- ✓ Health Information Management Professional I, currently being held by Kay Murley, the newest member of our team.

## HEALTH INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY WEEK

Our HI&T week was a great success!!! We had a display board, which detailed our profession, on display in our main foyer for all to see, both visitors and employees. We invited employees to participate in the Word Search activity and then submit their completed sheet for the chance to win prizes. The response was great. We gave away a total of 7 prizes.



At the end of the week we also had cake and coffee for anyone who wanted to participate.



Our cake was beautiful, and we'd like to thank Marilyn Organ, a member of our kitchen staff, who did a wonderful job with the cake! Thanks Marilyn!!!

Lillian Wilson submitted the following report from the Education and Professional Development Committee...

It has been a busy year for The Newfoundland & Labrador Health Information Management Association's (NLHIMA) Education and Professional Development Committee.



The May 2008 Spring Data Quality Session and the October 2008 Annual Professional Development Day & AGM held in Corner Brook was very well received by participants.

The committee has started work re the planning stages for the 2009 Spring Data Quality Session which will be held on May 25, 2009 at the Health Sciences Center in the main auditorium. The date and venue for the 2009 Annual Conference being held in St. John's is pending.

Further information regarding the two events will be posted on the association's website as details are finalized.

The Education & Professional Development Committee would like to thank all those who supported and participated in the events held in 2008 and look forward to another successful year.

And.....last, but not least...

At the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information, the HIM staff participated in Health information & Technology Week, and like a lot of other regions, we had a lovely cake at the end of the week.....unfortunately, Michele had it cut and given out before it occurred to us that we forgot to take a snapshot!!!!

Thanks to everyone for submitting these reports and I hope you all enjoy the new, informal layout!

*Michele Bishop  
Chair, Communications Committee*