



## NSHEN's Work in the Year to Come

The summer has flown by all too quickly and a new school year is almost upon us, which still feels to me like the real start of a new year. The NSHEN schedule for the fall is quite full already and we're excited about all of the events that we have planned.

The biggest event is our annual conference, which will be October 22nd and 23rd in Antigonish. The pre-conference on the 22nd will look at the ethical dilemmas that arise when an organization's duty to provide care comes into conflict with its obligation to ensure a safe work environment while the main conference on the 23rd will focus on professional boundaries. Registration will be available online shortly.



**WORK  
AHEAD**

We'll be experimenting with the format of our telehealth sessions, moving this fall to shorter pre-recorded sessions that will be posted on our website along with discussion questions. We'll broadcast our last traditional telehealth session on Wednesday, September 25th at noon on the topic of ethics issues in palliative care. And speaking of our website, we're currently working to refresh and update it so watch for notification that the new [nshen.ca](http://nshen.ca) has gone live.

There are a few spaces left in our Introduction to Clinical Ethics Consultation workshop, which is in Halifax on September 18th and 19th. We'll be holding follow-up workshops for all those who have attended the introductory ethics consultation workshops on March 6th and 7th, 2014. We're also planning another workshop for the spring, tentatively slated to be an encore of either our Introduction to Ethics and Policy workshop or our Ethics Committee

101 workshop, depending on interest and demand. If there are other topics that you'd like us to address in the workshop format, please contact [krista.mleczkoskerry@iwk.nshealth.ca](mailto:krista.mleczkoskerry@iwk.nshealth.ca).

We'll be capitalizing on a visit by Mary Ellen Macdonald and Franco Carnevale to the IWK October 10th and 11th to record a brief discussion around ethics at end of life that will be posted online toward the end of October.

You might recall that we discussed the Rasouli case in a previous newsletter <<http://www.nshen.ca/docs/newsletters/May%202013.pdf>> and we're still waiting for the Supreme Court's ruling. When the Court makes its decision we will follow up with a discussion of what it means for health care providers.

There are some ethics days already scheduled in the districts, with Cape Breton focusing on the topic of resource allocation, GASHA examining patient and family centred care, and South Shore looking to test their new ethics framework on a series of everyday ethics cases.

We also look forward to collaborating with the Canadian Bioethics Society on the first-ever national health ethics week. And in the vein of spreading the word about NSHEN, I'll be traveling to the American Public Health Association conference in Boston to present a poster on the topic of our work in public health ethics education and support and working on an article describing the NSHEN model and identifying reasons for its success.

As always, we welcome feedback and suggestions for topics to cover in events and education activities. We also invite guest authors for our newsletter, so if you'd like to share your thoughts on a topical ethics issue in 600 words or less please let us know. We look forward to another year of discussion and learning together as we employ connection, collaboration, critical reflection, and creativity to build ethics capacity in Nova Scotia.

Submitted by Marika Warren, NSHEN Ethicist

NSHEN currently has a library of books that may be of interest to you.

Please check our website for complete listing and contact the Administrator to arrange a book loan.

Questions? Comments?  
Want to join the mail list?

Contact NSHEN!  
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Here are some interesting readings on ethics in the media recently:

**Just ask: discussing goals of care with patients in hospital with serious illness**

<http://www.cmaj.ca/content/early/2013/07/15/cmaj.121274.full.pdf+html>

**Do physician social media guidelines need updating?**

[http://www.amednews.com/article/20130827/business/130829996/8/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=&utm\\_campaign=20130826](http://www.amednews.com/article/20130827/business/130829996/8/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=&utm_campaign=20130826)

**Health Care Ethics in Canada 3rd Edition (paperback)**

<http://www.amazon.ca/Health-Care-Ethics-Canada-3rd/dp/0176504648>

## NSHEN: Upcoming Events...

September 18 & 19, 2013    CEC Training Workshop. Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS.

IWK Health Centre and Capital District Health Authority staff have priority registration for this event. If there are vacant spots available after registration closes, outside registrations will be accepted.

October 22 & 23, 2013    NSHEN Annual Conference. Antigonish, NS  
Registration will open soon.

## What Makes NSHEN Unique?

While there are other ethics networks and centres across the country, there are a few features that make NSHEN unique within Canada.

- \* Our collaborative structure facilitates dialogue between partners
- \* Our strategic goals are collectively established by the collaborating partners
- \* NSHEN involves academia, government, and health care organizations in a single network

This results in a network that is innovative, efficient, and responsive to ethics needs in Nova Scotia.