

## Website features profiles

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she said. But the struggles don't have to be extraordinary ones.

Instead, they can be things people can relate to.

"I'm a stay-at-home mom and I find that a challenge in itself," said Ms Naykalyk.

She's also keen on posting upcoming charitable events, such as fundraisers for churches or non-profit organizations.

"I have a fair amount of people logging onto the website," said Ms Naykalyk.

I'd just like to see the Internet used for good things instead of all the crap that's out there."

The stories are meant to reward the kind of positive living that frequently goes unheralded, but can inspire others along the way.

"I love to write and to make people aware It's my way of putting something back into the community," she said.

"I'd love for people to write in to me."

She can be contacted by calling 875-3513 or by e-mail at info@therecipetree.com.

# Direction of community health care being probed by ministry

By IRENE GENTLE

The Champion

The future direction of community health care is being investigated by the provincial Ministry of Health (MOH).

The issue will be looked at as part of a scheduled review of Ontario Community Care Access Centres (CCAC).

CCACs contract out work to community health care organizations, such as the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON).

The review was completed last month and is currently being analyzed by the MOH.

"In a broader sense something is going on, and that's a review of CCACs," said MOH media relations coordinator David Jensen.

As part of the review, a wage discrepancy between health professionals such as registered nurses, registered practical nurses and personal support workers who work in hospitals versus those who work in the community is being studied.

"That's among the things they looked at," said Mr. Jensen. "We're reviewing the recommendations and developing an action plan."

The recommendations are being kept confidential, along with the rest of the report, until the MOH analysis is complete.

The review, conducted by the PricewaterhouseCoopers along with a lengthy list of stakeholders, wasn't triggered by rumblings from community and non-profit agencies such as the VON.

Instead, the examination was part of a routine check to learn how effectively the CCAC is working, said Mr. Jensen.

"It was decided CCACs have been around for three years and a review would be done," he said.

The crux of the issue is a 1996 provincial move to open up community health care to competitive bidding.

That pits non-profit agencies against bottom-line seeking for-profit companies for jobs. But some non-profit and community health care agencies have expressed concerns that they may be unable to success-

fully compete for contracts.

And the wage gap that sees much sought after health care professionals earning more money in hospital settings can make it tough for community agencies to attract and keep already scarce staff.

Mr. Jensen couldn't predict when the MOH analysis would be complete.

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