W3: Workshop – Practice
From Competition to Collaboration: The Next Wave in Sustainable Cultural Change

Saturday, March 13, 2010 2:00p.m. to 3:30p.m. 101 Bluemle Life Sciences Building

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At St. Joseph’s Health Centre, Toronto, Canada we recognize the collaborative nature of interprofessional care, its importance across a broad spectrum of health care sectors, and its profound impact on the patient care experience. Over the past three years, our interprofessional team coach champions have led a substantial and sustainable cultural change toward interprofessional practice within our institution. Our home grown experiential workshop has provided interprofessional healthcare teams an opportunity to reflect and assess their strengths whilst discovering a shared vision for their future.

The momentum achieved through wide implementation of this interactive teaching model enabled our coach champions to extend the team-based workshop across the continuum of health care. Sustainability of this innovative workshop was achieved through its expansion into a variety of health care environments: primary health care, front-line clinical teams, and other acute care health facilities. The strength of this creative model for collaboration helped to build capacity and partnerships within and across health care sectors. A mixed methodology approach, highlighting the results achieved by this diverse group of health care practitioners will be presented.

Participants will experience a uniquely innovative team building activity demonstrating the transition from competition to collaboration amongst partners in health care. These newly formed “team” members will engage in several aspects of our workshop, grounded in core competencies of interprofessional collaboration. This interactive opportunity will stimulate learning transferable to the workplace. Participants will be provided with resources for leading sustainable change in an interprofessional environment. Within our small community teaching hospital, we are leaders in the movement toward interprofessional team collaboration. In the words of Otto Scharmer, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”