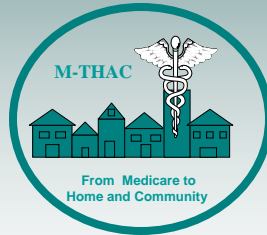


M-THAC

**From Medicare
To Home And Community:**



**A Community Alliance for Health
Research (CAHR)**

What was M-THAC?

A research unit, funded under the
Community Alliance for Health
Research (CAHR) program of
CIHR/SSHRC

Director: Raisa B. Deber, PhD
Co-Director: A. Paul Williams, PhD
Department of Health Policy, Management,
and Evaluation
University of Toronto



The CAHR Program was highly competitive

- Letters of intent: 178
- Full applications invited: 40
- Recommended for funding in November 2000 competition: 19
- M-THAC was rated #1 in that competition
- Funded at approximately \$225,000/yr



M-THAC Objectives

1. To inform policy and service delivery by fostering timely, high-quality research that seeks to document and understand the policy implications of the shift to home and community, and its differential impact on diverse populations, in partnership between community-based and university-based researchers.



M-THAC Objectives

2. To create a structure for conversation, mutual learning and collaboration among community organizations and researchers about the implications of care at home and in the community.



M-THAC Objectives

3. To disseminate research findings and improve the transparency and accountability of decision making



M-THAC Objectives

4. To provide opportunities for training of health researchers in a broad variety of disciplines in an environment characterized by interaction with community partners.



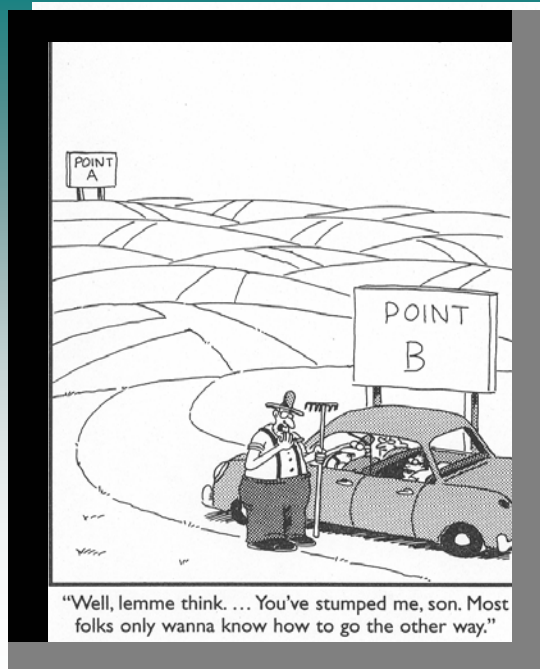
What the M-THAC budget supported

- Infrastructure - to manage dissemination, assist in liaison with partners, researchers, and students
- Research Assistance
- Opportunities Fund
- Intention: provide “value added” and help “jump start” research.



M-THAC emphasized policy implications

- Rather than being focused on a particular disease or body system, M-THAC focused upon a broad systems perspective, integrating health services, population health, and clinical research to consider the policy implications of our increased reliance on a broad range of community-based services, for a broad range of clients.



Feynman's principle

- For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations, for nature cannot be fooled.

Richard P. Feynman, 1988

Source: Appendix to the Rogers Commission Report on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident



M-THAC themes

- Theme One: Tough Decisions and New Decision Makers. (Theme Leaders: Colleen Flood, Raisa Deber) emphasized legal, ethical and policy questions resulting from the shift to home and community. It primarily draws from the health services and population health fields, and emphasizes systems-level analysis.



M-THAC themes

- Theme Two: Setting New Boundaries at Canada's Health Care Frontier. (Theme Leaders: A. Paul Williams, Marcus Hollander) focused on system-wide issues of the extent and nature of the demand and supply for community-based care as care shifts outside of hospitals, and in the process, outside of universal Medicare, with a stress on evaluation and best practices.



M-THAC themes

- Theme Three: Restructuring Health Human Resources: The Transformation of Health Care Work. (TL: Andrea Baumann, Molly Verrier) examined implications of the shift from hospital to home and community for the training, employment and regulation of health human resources.



M-THAC Members

- Researchers
- Fellows (trainees)
- Partners



Original M-THAC Researchers

- Director: Raisa Deber
- Co-Director: A. Paul Williams
- Owen Adams, Canadian Medical Association
- Malcolm Anderson, Rehabilitation, Queen's University
- Wendy Armstrong, Health Policy Consultant, Edmonton
- Pat Baranek, Health Policy Consultant, Toronto
- Andrea Baumann, Health Sciences, McMaster University
- Francois Beland, Medicine, University of Montreal
- Earl Berger, The Berger Monitor
- Whitney Berta, Health Administration, U of T
- Glenn Brimacombe, Association of Canadian Academic Healthcare Organizations



Original M-THAC Researchers

- Director: Raisa Deber
- Co-Director: A. Paul Williams
- Angela Colantonio, Occupational Therapy, U of T
- Cheryl Cott, Physical Therapy, U of T
- Peter Coyte, Health Administration, U of T
- Lorraine Culley, Health/Community, De Montfort, UK
- Harley Dickinson, Sociology, University of Saskatchewan
- Colleen Flood, Law, U of T
- David Foot, Economics, U of T
- Sholom Glouberman, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care



Original M-THAC Researchers (cont'd)

- Marcus Hollander, Hollander Analytical Services Ltd.
- Carol Kushner, Health Policy Consultant, Toronto
- Janet Lum, Politics/Public Administration, Ryerson
- Linda O'Brien-Pallas, Nursing, U of T
- Karen Parent, Rehabilitation, Queen's University
- Susan Rappolt, Occupational Therapy, U of T
- Simonne Ruff, Senior Link
- Yves Talbot, Family/Community Medicine, U of T
- Lorne Tepperman, Sociology, U of T
- Kathryn Tregunna, Canadian Health Care Association
- Molly Verrier, Physical Therapy, U of T



M-THAC Partners

- National Partners
- Regional and Regulatory Partners



Original M-THAC National Partners



Canadian Healthcare Association



Canadian Homecare Association



Canadian Institute for Health Information



Canadian Medical Association



Original M-THAC National Partners (cont'd)



Canadian Nurses Association



Canadian Pharmacists
Association



The Conference Board of Canada



Insurance Bureau of Canada



Original M-THAC Regional/Regulatory Partners



Bernard Betel Centre for Creative
Living



College of Physiotherapists of Ontario



College of Occupational Therapists of
Ontario



Community Home Assistance to
Seniors (CHATS)



Comcare Health Services



Original M-THAC Regional/Regulatory Partners



Comprehensive Rehabilitation and
Mental Health Services



Home Care Evaluation Research
Centre



Nursing Effectiveness, Utilization and
Outcomes Research Unit (NRU)



Saint Elizabeth Health Care



Original M-THAC Regional /Regulatory Partners



Senior Link



Toronto District Health Council



Victorian Order of Nurses



We Care Home Health Services TM



M-THAC Training

- Associated with several training programs.
- Students can be Research Associates (i.e., hired by M-THAC Researchers to assist on approved projects), and/or
- M-THAC Fellows (eligible to apply to Opportunities Fund for approved projects)



M-THAC Fellows

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| • Mohammed Alameddine | • Lane Ilersich |
| • Diana Clarke | • Erin Gilbert |
| • Patricia Conrad | • Nancy Kraetschmer |
| • Rachel Devitt | • Mike Landry |
| • Karen Fisher | • Christopher Longo |
| • Brenda Gamble | • Adam Topp |
| • Glen Randall | • Sara Urowitz |



Each study has a Project Page, controlled by the PI

- These projects involve a wide range of researchers and partners
- In general, most are leading to student thesis projects
- Results are posted as they become available



The Public Expectations Study: Boundaries of Medicare

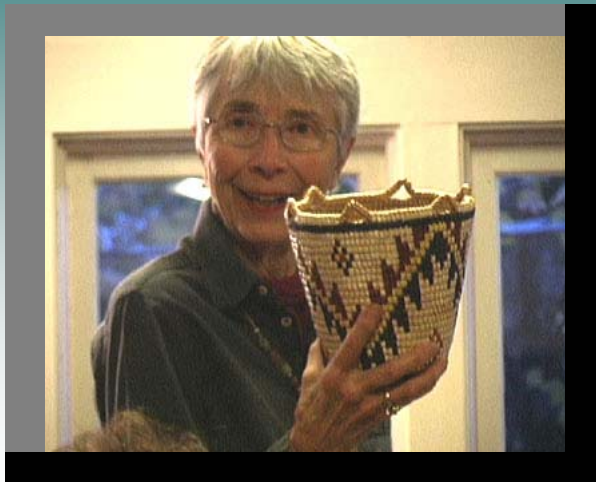
- Asks for expectations about key stakeholder groups about a financing question
- Who should pay for what?



What should be in the basket?



or



What M-THAC accomplished

- Encouraged student training, including catalyzing many PhD Thesis projects
- Encouraged collaborative research across disciplinary boundaries, including productive collaborations across health services research, health policy, rehabilitation, and nursing
- Simplified linkages with community
- Provided seed funding which has already led to the award of peer reviewed grants from such agencies as:
 - CIHR, SSHRC, CHSRF, and Hospital for Sick Children Foundation
- Provided mechanism for disseminating findings of research projects



Opportunities Fund

- Provided small sums of money (initially capped at \$3,000) for the actual costs involved in research:
 - E.g., collecting, transcribing data
- Rapid turn around (4 competitions/year)
- Peer reviewed to ensure CIHR standards met
- Very valuable seed funding
- Catalyzed successful research projects, theses, etc.



Examples: Jan 2002

- Brenda Gamble, for the project Boundaries of Medicare
- Christopher Longo, for the project Out-of-pocket costs for cancer patients
- Whitney Berta and Audrey Laporte, for project on Estimating Operational Efficiencies of Long-Term Care Facilities in Ontario



Examples: April 2002

- Angela Colantonio, for the project Health Service Utilization associated with Suicidal Behaviours in the Elderly in Ontario
- Angela Colantonio, for the project Long Term Health Service Needs of Persons Aging with Traumatic Brain Injury and Their Caregivers



Examples: July 2002

- Tamara Daly, for the project, Local Responses to State Retrenchment: Nonprofit Organizations in the Waterloo & Wellington Dufferin Home and Social Care Sector.
- Susan Rappolt, for the project, Rehabilitation in Long Term Care Facilities: Physiotherapy Services and Outcomes.
- Pat Baranek, for the project, Are We Home Yet? Reforming Home and Community-Based care in Ontario.
- Whitney Berta, for the project, Factors Affecting the Adoption Transfer, Adaption and Retention of Clinical Practice Guidelines in Institutional Long-Term Care Settings.



Results on the web page m-thac.org

- <http://www/m-thac.org>
- Included:
- Project Pages – information and results from the various M-THAC projects
 - Working Papers
 - Upcoming Seminars
 - Odds and sods



The Next Step

- CIHR Team in Community Care and Health Human Resources
- Continues some (not all) of these themes
- Direct research (Opportunities Fund RIP)

