



# CHALLENGING PRACTICE CHANGE: MOVING BEYOND BEING A BPG SPOTLIGHT ORGANIZATION

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**saint**  
**ELIZABETH**  
HEALTH CARE

CARE TO BE AMAZED



# Agenda

- About SEHC
- Implementing Best Practices
- Lessons Learned
- Change and Transition
- Our Model
- Final Thoughts

Tribal Wisdom of The Dakota Indians

***When you discover you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to:***

- ***Beat the horse --> it may rise from the dead***
- ***Change riders --> it is clearly the rider's fault the horse is not moving***
- ***Appoint a committee --> if more people look at the horse, it may not be really dead .***
- ***Arrange to visit other sites--> See how they ride dead horses***
- ***Lower the standards: make dead horses acceptable***



# Service Delivery Locations

1908 - Toronto

1928 - Peel

1988 - Durham

1994 - York

1995 - Ottawa

1997

- Niagara
- Simcoe

1998

- London & Middlesex
- Windsor & Essex
- Hamilton

1999

- Huron
- Thunder Bay
- Northumberland & City of Kawartha Lakes
- Eastern Counties
- Oxford

2000 - Haldimand

2002 - Wellington & Dufferin

2004

- Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington
- Lanark, Leeds and Grenville
- Halton

3.2 million units of service annually  
150,000 clients and families served  
3900 employees



# Vision

Saint Elizabeth Health Care  
will be a **phenomenal**  
knowledge and care  
exchange company.





## January 2004: The Journey Begins

- **SEHC selected as one of 7 Best Practice Spotlight Organizations in Ontario!**
- **Commitment to implement 3 BPG organization wide**
  - Subcutaneous Administration of Insulin for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes
  - Assessment and Management of Pain
  - Establishing Therapeutic Relationships



# The Strategy

- **Created infrastructure**
- **Less of a focus on Evidence**
  - Research has bad connotation for many
  - Reading research let's face it, is not easy
- **Focus on Best Practice**
  - Embed best practice into the workflow of the CHN
    - Documentation tools
    - Decision making tools
    - Education and information
- **Train the Trainer**
  - Local educators to complete the education in order that knowledge be housed locally

Essentially: Focus on Practice and the Nurse



# Very Early Lessons

- **Specialty Assessment and planning tools**
  - ? for the regular nurse or the specialist (CDE)
  - Are great r/t ↓ repetitive documentation
  - But keep them short
- **Educators sometimes felt unprepared for the task of needing to be ‘experts’ in many different fields of practice**



# Refined Approach

- **Continued with embedding evidence into documentation tools**
  - References —————> to make clear the evidence
  - Developed shorter tools
    - With attached resources, like pamphlets
- **Focused on better integration into general workflow**
  - Specialty documentation tools integrated routine to avoid duplication
- **Continued with train the trainer**

**Continued focus on practice and the nurse,  
but somewhat contextualized**





## Next Lessons Learned

- **Sustainable evaluation strategies were critical**
  - Challenges r/t
    - Geographical barriers
    - Access
    - Time (abstraction from paper charts)
- **Uptake was slow**
  - We needed to understand why



# Key Lessons Continued

- **What our nurses were telling us:**
  - Change fatigued
    - Three BPGs in 21/2 years was a lot
  - An “add-on”
    - Rather than being seen as a new way to practice, the ‘new regular’ work
  - Context was missing (missing foundational elements of EBP)
- **Culture**
  - Our culture: choice and independence is paramount
    - Perception this was optional vs the new norm
  - Needs to have local leadership bench strength
    - Create a culture of responsibility locally
- **Were pilots too big?**



# Opportunities

- **Continuing Education – what a great thing!**
  - Several of our Advanced Practice Consultants were involved in graduate education programs
  - Specifically taking courses on change management
- **Safer Health Care Now**
  - Med Rec
  - Trailblazers



# Our Moment of Brilliance!

This was not about implementing best practices  
as a singular focused task

**This was about managing a change  
and a significant one!**



# **What does Change Management Theory Tell us?**



# Change Management

## **Eight-step strategic change process:**

- Increase urgency
  - Creating the burning platform for attention
- Build guiding coalition
  - Including key local leaders
- Get vision right – and communicating it!
- Empower action by removing obstacles
  - Completing /actively using environmental assessment
- Create short term wins to build momentum
- Stay the course by not letting up
- Anchoring new approaches in the culture

(Kotter, 1996)



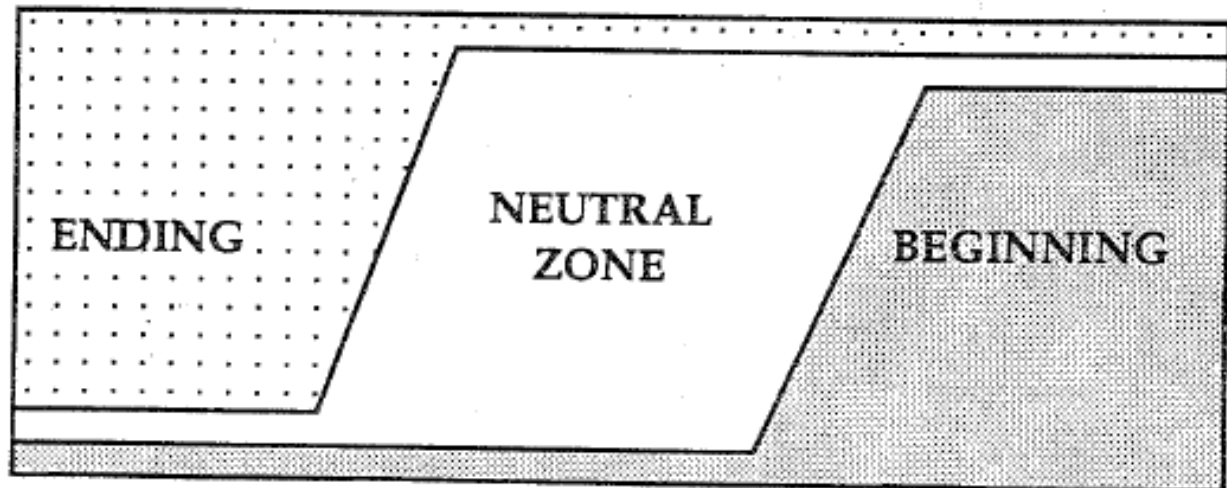
# Change vs Transition

- **Change is situational**
  - An observable, measurable fact or event
- **Transition is psychological**
  - A process people must go through

“Getting people through the transition is essential if the change is actually to work as planned. When a change happens without people going through a transition, it is just a rearrangement of chairs”

(Bridges, 2003)

# Bridge's Model of Transition



(Bridges, 2003)





# Critical to Change and Transition

Unlearning is as necessary to learning as light is to shadow in an oil painting – without one, the other has no depth, no definition, no brightness”

(Macdonald, 2002, p. 172)

Nurses have to “run down the unlearning curve in order to run up a learning curve”

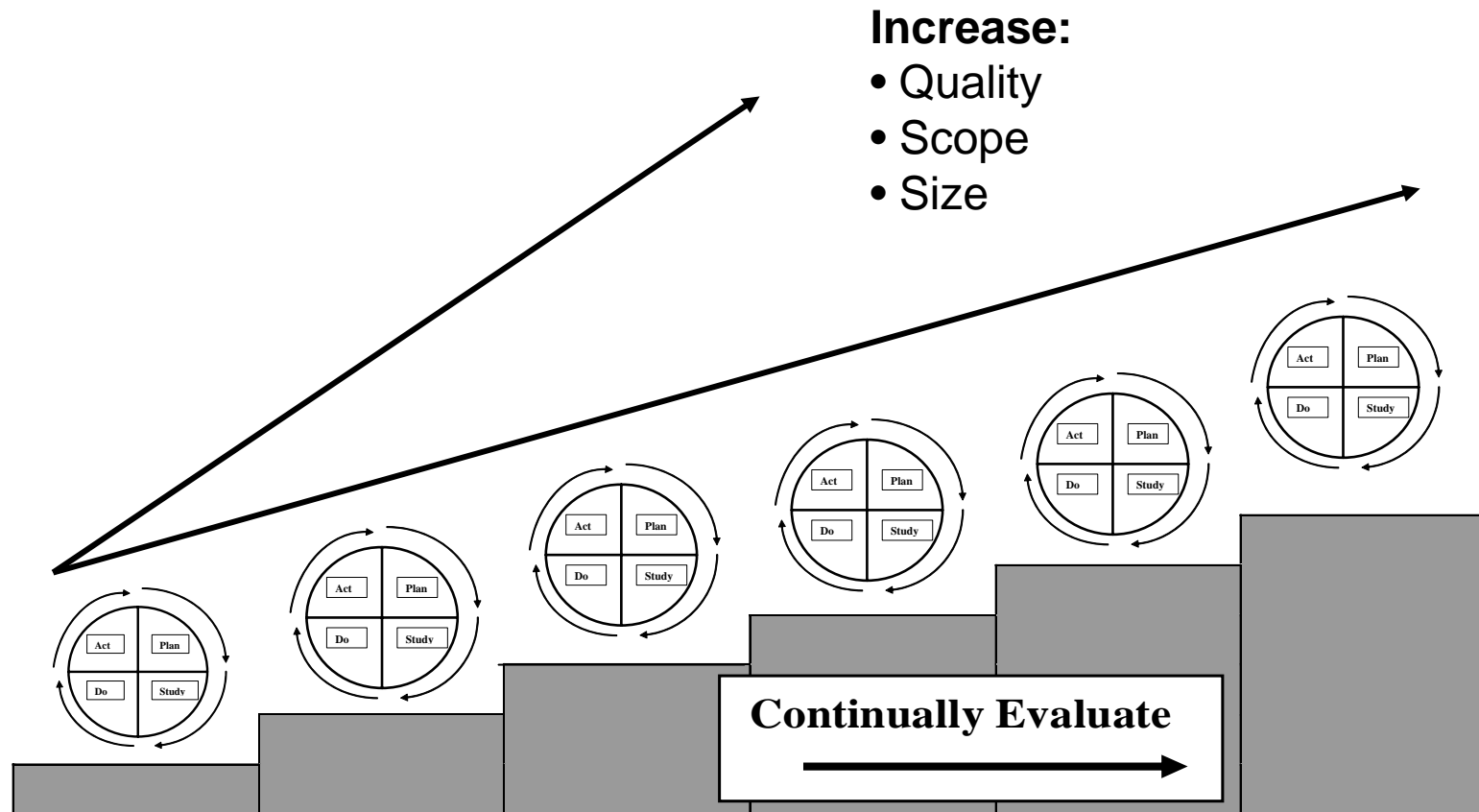
(Bettis & Prahalad, 1995 as cited in MacDonald, 2002)



**“... if we wait for the moment when everything, absolutely everything is ready, we shall never begin.”**

Ivan Turgenev

# The Model for Improvement





# The New Aim

- **Creating a sustainable model for implementation of best practices**
  - Three tiers to be targeted
    - **Individual**
      - A change in practice is the outcome
      - Tools to cue practice
      - Feedback on performance – creating expectations
    - **Professional Practice**
      - Education
      - Access to knowledge tools / resources / support
    - **Organization**
      - Promote transition -> supporting the individual
      - Tools for evaluation / data capture
      - Local Leaders are critical

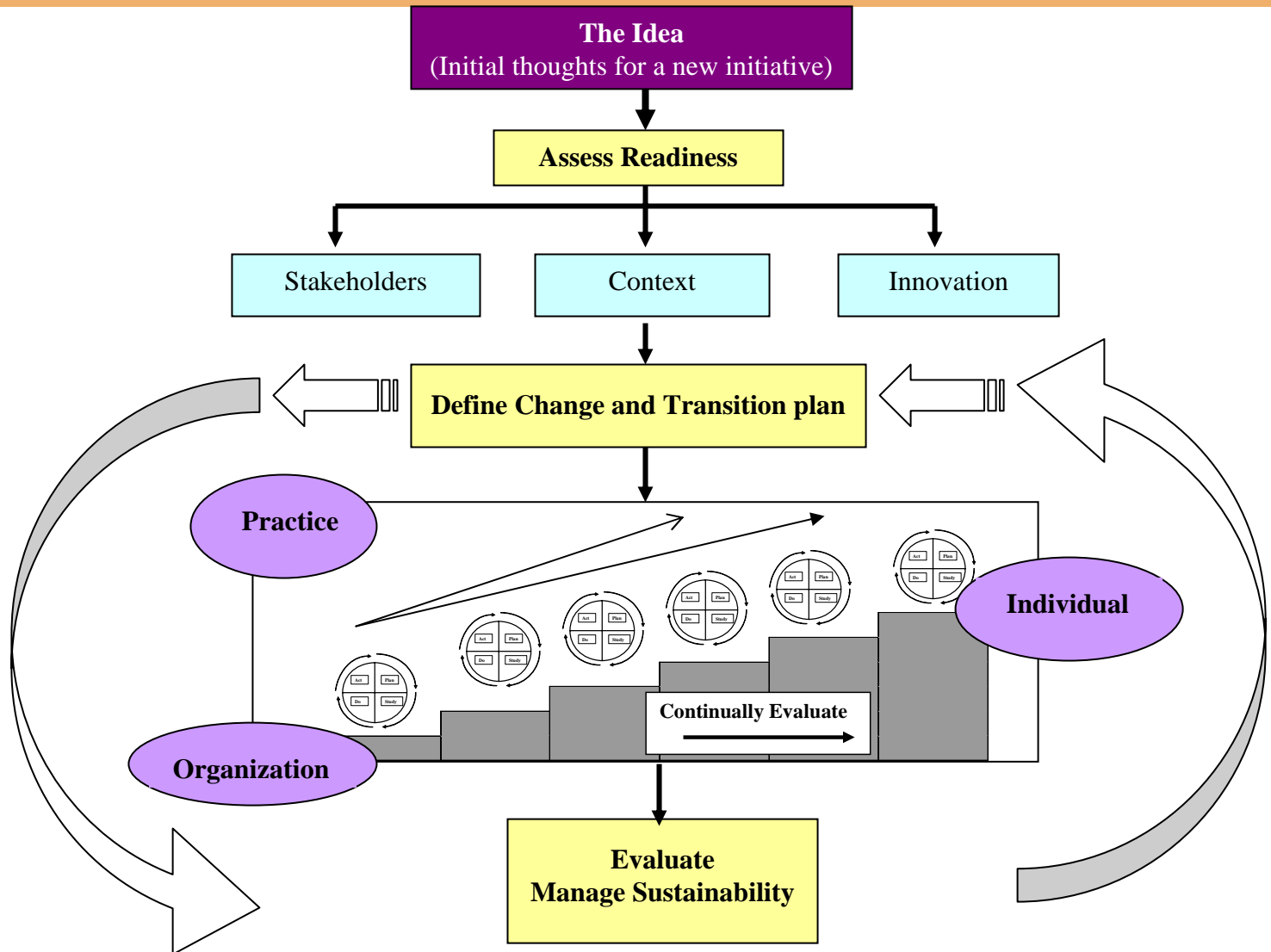


# How does it all fit together?

- **Our model for implementing best practices:**
  - **Assess Readiness**
    - Environmental Scan (At 3 tiers)
    - Define Stakeholders (At 3 tiers)
    - Define Gap and Initiative (At 3 tiers)
  - **Define Change and Transition plan**
    - Define structure for managing transition (At 3 tiers)
    - Engage Stakeholders (At 3 tiers)
    - Set Tests of Change process (At 3 tiers)
  - **Define Evaluation**
    - Include Sustainability Plan (At 3 tiers)

(The Ottawa Model of Research Use; Toolkit for Implementing Clinical Practice Guidelines, RNAO; The Model for Improvement, IHI)

# How this All Comes Together ....





## Does this Work?

- **AIM:** 10% of admissions will be completed by RPNs
- **AIM:** Implementation of new documentation process
- **AIM:** Implementation of Medication Reconciliation for all clients admitted to Nursing



## A Few Closing Thoughts

- **It's all about Managing Change!**
  - Target change strategies broadly
- **Local leaders are critical to success**
- **Small tests of change**
  - Critical involvement of end-users
- **Be realistic when you ask for \$**
  - Change and transition take time
  - Building takes time
- **Be clear in your messaging**
  - What is optional and what is practice
- **Allow time for unlearning**





## In Closing...

**“If you want to build a ship, don’t drum up people together to collect wood and don’t assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.”**

**Antoine de Saint-Exupery**

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