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### **Trent University's Dr. Stephen Katz named Key Note Speaker at First Annual Regional Conference Focused on Issues Related to Health and Older Adults**

#### **NEWS:**

Central East Regional Specialized Geriatric Services' (RSGS) is pleased to announce that Dr. Stephen Katz of Trent University will be the keynote speaker at its first annual regional conference themed "*Collaborating in Complexity: Evolving Partnerships Between Gerontological Evidence and Practice.*" The Conference is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2014 at Fleming College's Frost Campus in Lindsay and will bring together close to 170 health service providers and researchers from across the region and the province to create an inter-professional and interdisciplinary forum to learn, discuss, and present issues, practices, or research related to health and older adults.

Dr. Stephen Katz, a professor at Trent University, will deliver a keynote entitled: *Falls and Falling: The Dialogue Between Research and Experience*. This presentation explores the everyday meaning of falls and falling amongst older people.

Stephen Katz is Professor of Sociology and founding member of the new Trent Centre for Aging & Society at Trent University, Peterborough, Canada. He is author of books *Disciplining Old Age*, and *Cultural Aging: Life Course, Lifestyle and Senior Worlds*, and numerous book chapters and articles in *Generations*, *Journal of Aging Studies*, *Body & Society*, *History of the Human Sciences*, *Dementia*, and *Journal of Women and Aging*. His current research is on the cultural aspects of memory and cognitive impairment and he is working towards a new book on *Age: Mind, Body and Self in Later Life*. He is a founding member of the new Centre for Aging and Society at Trent University, and in 2009 he received the prestigious Trent University Distinguished Research Award for his work in critical aging studies.

Conference planners are encouraging both health service providers and researchers to submit abstracts/proposals for the Conference. Interested individuals may submit one of two types of abstract/proposals: (1) Research-based; (2) Practice-based. The deadline for abstract/proposal submission is: **Monday, March 17, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.**

Conference registration must be completed in order for submission to be completed. Registration for those wishing to attend the conference is currently open, and will close on **Monday, May 12, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.**, or when space is full. Please register early to ensure participation. All health service providers, researchers, community-service providers, students, professionals, and community-members are welcome to register.

### **QUOTES:**

“This conference is about developing creative strategies to address the challenges associated with health care for older adults who are frail or at risk for frailty. Because of this complexity, many of the health care professionals supporting and treating older adults recognize the need to consider a collaborative approach to health care delivery. We’re very pleased that Dr. Katz will share his experience and expertise with conference participants on the impact of falls on our aging population.” Stacey Hawkins, Clinical Planning Lead, Central East Regional Specialized Geriatric Services

“It is vital in the aging field that research and practice continue to inform each other. The knowledge we advance is inspired by the practical challenges of working with and learning from our older citizens, just as our professional organizations are the testing ground for innovative gerontological research. The more we share critical questions about aging futures, the more such futures can become part of responsible political agendas.” Stephen Katz, Professor of Sociology and founding member of the new Trent Centre for Aging & Society at Trent University

“Contributing a critical perspective to the evolving dialogue about how to best care for our older population is central to the mission of the Trent Centre for Aging & Society. We are proud to be the Academic Partner for the 2014 RSGS conference in Lindsay. The RSGS emphasis on connecting gerontology research and practice, not to mention the explicit and timely focus on the need to better understand the complexity of aging and old-age, will provide important insights and partnerships for the community of geriatric practice in the region.” Dr. Mark Skinner, Director, Trent Centre for Aging & Society, Trent University.

### **Background:**

- There are an estimated 93,547 seniors in the Central East LHIN today and this population is expected to grow by 27% over the next 10 years. (e.g. seniors our health region who may be considered frail). Nine percent of frail seniors reside in Long-term Care or Complex Continuing Care; the remainder live in the community. Seniors with potentially avoidable hospitalizations accounted for 56% of total hospital costs as high use patients or \$158 million (2011/12) (Source: <http://www.centraleasthin.on.ca/Page.aspx?id=20426>)
- CE RSGS serves as a catalyst for the integration of clinical and service delivery intended to build better health outcomes for frail seniors across the Central East LHIN.
- Regional Specialized Geriatric Services are those services focused on frail seniors, requiring greater specialization and the use of inter-professional and organizational collaboration and multi-disciplinary teams in its delivery, increasing customization of care to respond to patient and client needs, and the use of standardized best practices and outcomes. Services that could fall under the scope of Specialized Geriatric care include: specialized geriatric assessment, consultation, short-term treatment, rehabilitation, and short-term specialty case management. They also include both the specialties of geriatric medicine and geriatric psychiatry.
- To gain more information about the conference go to [www.rsgsconference.com](http://www.rsgsconference.com)