

# Mentorship Training Workshop – What a Success !!

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009, our program was pleased to host the second Mentorship Training Workshop. Mary Wheeler and Michelle Cooper, the facilitators, welcomed 29 program participants (16 mentors and 13 mentees) to a vibrant full-day session. This event welcomed for the first time, 5 specialized oncology nurse mentees to the program. Few participants were matched prior to the workshop. However, through networking, several more matches were made as a result of the workshop.



## What did participants like best about the workshop?

*“Interactions with so many knowledgeable and motivated people. Learning what other people do in their work life and personal life. Meeting old and new friends.”*

*“Practical details to assist in mentorship relationship, time to connect with mentee to establish a plan and learn more about each other”*

*“I enjoyed the workshop very much and am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this mentorship program. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know wonderful nurses from across Ontario.” – Rita Mannarino, APN intern mentee*

*“I am honoured to have had the opportunity to participate in the Mentorship workshop. I was quite nervous to join such an academic group; however, I feel the day went well for me. The Mentorship workshop helped make me stop and think about the roles each of us plays and the unconscious mentoring we do every day, as well as of the importance of an identified mentorship role. I was able to connect with a mentor and that initial face to face discussion has been instrumental in the effectiveness and commitment to our mentoring partnership. I look forward to future dialogue and continued learning.” – Pauline Brillinger, Clinical Manager Breast Health and Oncology - mentee*

*“I found the workshop assisted in building the foundations for our mentorship relationship and gave us focused time on working through some of the processes. In addition, the day was energizing, provided an opportunity for networking and reflection on professional practice. I highly recommend taking the time to attend.” – Shari Moura, Clinical Nurse Specialist (APN), Surgical Oncology – mentor*

*“It had been over 2 years since we facilitated a mentorship workshop. In preparing for the day we were curious about the response from participants, would there still be the energy and enthusiasm we had experienced in the inaugural workshop? We were not disappointed! Participants came into the room clearly ready to engage in the process and wanting to learn. Our second “aha” was that the process still had relevancy, in particular, it confirmed for us the power of connection and conversation. We saw throughout the day individuals pairing up, some that were matched and some that found their match, and totally immersing themselves in the Mentorship Model. Participants confirmed for us the value of the workshop to give them a great start in their mentoring relationship. We are looking forward to the next workshop in October. Hope to see some of you there.” – Mary and Michelle, Consultants, workshop facilitators and 5-phase mentorship model developers*

These testimonials demonstrate once again the **importance and the power** of the Mentorship Training Workshop.

