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## **NNMH Bulletin**

**Volume II Issue IV**

**April 2008**

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the April 2008 edition of the National Network for Mental Health's "NNMH Bulletin". We hope that you find this latest edition both enjoyable and informative.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail on to others within your network who may be interested in events of interest and priority to our organization and its many stakeholders.

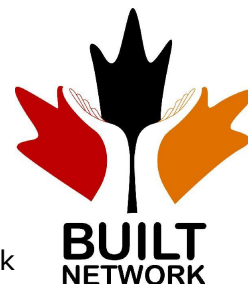
Anyone wanting to sign up to receive the bulletin can do so at www.nnmh.ca. While there, if you haven't done so already, please feel free to join our membership. The Larger our Membership, the Stronger our Voice!

BUILT Network supersedes employment targets for 2007 - 2008...

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Once again the BUILT Network program superseded their employment targets for the fiscal year.

With final numbers in, the Customer Service Skills Development program served 348 persons with mental health issues and supported 245 of those served to enhance their employability. 164 program participants entered the workforce and 22 others went back to school.



Once again this program has proved itself invaluable to the mental health consumer/survivor community across Canada.

For more information please see [www.builtnetwork.ca](http://www.builtnetwork.ca)

The Built Network is a project of the National Network for Mental Health.

**mindyourmind.ca** is recognized internationally

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Only Canadian Finalist in 2008 Stockholm Challenge's Health Category
mindyourmind.ca is once again recognized internationally for its innovation and leading practices in youth engagement by the Stockholm Challenge, the world's leading Information and Communication Technology prize. In 2006, **mindyourmind.ca** ranked top 5 in the world for best innovative applications in Information Communication Technology in Health Care, with the winning prize going to Operation Village Health, a Harvard medical initiative in Cambodia.

In this year's 2008 competition, **mindyourmind.ca** has once again been selected as a finalist. The Awards celebrations will take place in Kista, north of Stockholm City, in the Blue Hall, where the Nobel prize is awarded annually. The winning project in each category will be announced and presented with the Challenge Trophy and a check of 5000 Euros.

Out of 400 plus development projects, 145 have been selected as finalists, in 6 categories; **mindyourmind.ca** is the only Canadian finalist in the Health category. Among this year's applicants in this category, were the World Health Organization, a United Nations leader on global health matters and Reach Out Central, an Australian initiative focused on youth mental health. **mindyourmind.ca** is, once again, in good company.

Ulla Skiden, the Stockholm Challenge project manager says, "*The standard of the projects in the Stockholm Challenge Award this year is better than ever*"

Projects will be awarded during the Challenge Week of May 19 - 22.

For more information on the 2008 Stockholm Challenge, visit <http://event.stockholmchallenge.se/> or contact Diana Ali, Content Development/Administrative Officer at 519-858-3502 or diana@mindyourmind.ca

The Voice of Mental Health Survivors to be featured

"Our Voice" is pleased to invite everyone to two defining events in Moncton.

Book Launch, Saturday April 19th, 2008 at 2:00 pm
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1005 Main, Fundy Room (Lower Floor)
DARE TO IMAGINE: From Lunatics to Citizens
A Survivors History of Mental Health in New Brunswick, by Eugène LeBlanc and Nérée St-Amand

This book describes the creation and the evolution of mental health care from the standpoint of people who were sidelined and stifled, but who gradually rallied and even rebelled in order to create services which are tailored to their realities. For the past 185 years, these struggles have brought about profound changes in New Brunswick's mental health system's landscape; so that today, many no longer see themselves as passive consumers.

In this original book, the first of its kind in Canada, Eugène LeBlanc and Nérée St-Amand present an unconventional picture of mental health that casts doubt on the official version. Through personal accounts, the authors make it obvious that *psychiatrizing* people is not the answer. This book is a must-read in order to understand not only the history of asylums, but the issues surrounding mental health.

World première of a new drama on mental health

Saturday April 19th, at 8:00 pm and Sunday April 20th at 8:00 pm

Capitol Theatre, 811 Main, Moncton

DIARIES from the Asylum, a play by a local playwright Normand Robichaud, based in part on a diary written in 1883-1884 by Mary Huestis Pengilly.

While researching for the book on the history of mental health in New Brunswick, Eugène LeBlanc rediscovered the diary written by Mary Huestis Pengilly who was confined in the Provincial Lunatic Asylum in Saint-John. Normand Robichaud has paralleled this story with the experience of Marie-Hélène Poirier, who was also brought to the same facility in 1983, now called Centracare. Mr. Robichaud says, "In her writing, Mary clearly explained the emotions of living in an institution and the things she was concerned about are similar today - some things have not changed in more than a hundred years."

The play is one of the first productions of the Capitol School of Performing Arts. The two key roles in this production are played by Janice LeBlanc and Line Pelletier. The play also features an original music score by Ronaldo Richard. The production crew consists of director Tim Borlase, scenographer Yves Landry, visual producer Marshall Button, costume designer Joanne LeBlanc and stage manager Annik Landry.

Tickets for DIARIES from the Asylum are on sale at the Capitol Theatre box office, Frank's Music and l'Université de Moncton for \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. Tickets can also be purchased by phone at (506) 856-4379 or 1-800-567-1922 or online at www.capitol.nb.ca.

Copies of the book DARE TO IMAGINE: From Lunatics to Citizens will be available at the book launch or by contacting *Our Voice / Notre Voix* P.O. Box 29004, Moncton, NB E1C 4R

INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS

Eugène LeBlanc, *Our Voice / Notre Voix* (506) 857-1340

Tim Borlase, Director (506) 383-6200

Normand Robichaud, Playwright (506) 855-0602 or (506) 857-8899

International Conference on Self-Determination...

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**Registration now Open!**

The registration process for the International Conference on Self-Determination being held in Detroit Michigan. May 27 - 29. 2008 is now available.

**system change requirements** will be part of the focus of the conference. The meetings will feature leaders from across disability and aging and relate the efforts being made across the world to make freedom a reality for individuals with disabilities.

This conference is dedicated to laying a foundation across disability and aging for moving publicly funded systems of support/care from the paternalism of the past to true equality in the future.

**[Registration Link](#)**