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## **NNMH Bulletin**

**Volume I Issue VII**

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the July 2007 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!



Mental Health Commission of Canada

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**A key element of the mandate of the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) is to reduce the stigma of mental illness and combat the discrimination that people with mental illness and their families confront. The Commission will implement a 10-year national anti-stigma campaign aimed at promoting a better understanding of mental illness among the general population and at changing public attitudes toward mental illness.**

**In preparation for launching this campaign, the MHCC would like your help in identifying existing anti-stigma and discrimination reduction activities underway across Canada and, in particular, those which are leading the way. The MHCC would also appreciate your input into defining the key elements of a strategy to reduce stigma and eliminate discrimination. Please complete the survey by August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007. A summary of your feedback will inform the thinking of the Board of Directors as it begins to implement its 10-year anti-stigma campaign.**

**An online survey has been created which we hope you will participate in and share broadly through your networks. The survey is brief and will only take a few minutes of your time. Just click on the link below. If you would prefer a hard copy version please send me an email and I will forward one to you.**

**[Anti-stigma survey](#)**

**A copy of the Anti-stigma survey, in both French and English, will also be posted on the MHCC website [www.mentalhealthcommission.ca](http://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca). Please visit the MHCC website and consider creating a link from your website to the Commission's. I am attaching a MHCC logo should you be willing to provide this assistance.**

**Thank you.**

**Neasa Martin**

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**Mental Health Commission of Canada - Employment Opportunity**

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As you know from previous editions of the NNMH Bulletin the closing date for applications to become a Board Member of the newly formed Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) is July 15th, 2007.

Currently the MHCC is in search of a successful candidate for the position of President and CEO.

For further information, or to apply, please go to the the MHCC website at:
www.mentalhealthcommission.ca .

Emergency Management ...

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**Dear colleagues,**

**The Canadian Red Cross in collaboration with Public Safety Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada and BrandonUniversity, is conducting a study to assess how Canada's Emergency Management authorities relate to vulnerable/high-risk populations.**

**We welcome your participation in this study by completing the survey either in English or French through the links below. The survey should take approximately**

**Support Needed ...**

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Dear Colleague,

mindyourmind.ca is currently petitioning the Government to provide funding that will support our core activities. We hope that the website will continue to grow and deliver critical information and resources to youth at risk of depression, suicide and other mental health concerns. But we need your help! We urge you to contact representatives and let them know how you feel about mindyourmind.ca and how it has helped you or someone you know!

Every 40 seconds someone around the world takes their own life. In Canada, suicide is the second highest killer of youth between the ages of 16 -24. This age group also has the highest rate of mental health episodes (CMHA).

mindyourmind.ca provides youth with mental health information, resources and coping tools while youth wait for scarce appointments with professionals. mindyourmind.ca is a valued resource by youth in over 150 different countries, with over 1,500 visitors daily.

We urge you to help us maintain this valuable resource. Please visit this link to contact representatives:

[Contact Representatives](#)

We thank you and appreciate your support.

From the crew at

mindyourmind.ca

**Diana Ali
Administrative and Public Relations Assistant
www.mindyourmind.ca
A Program of Family Service Thames Valley
(519) 858 - 3502
Reach Out Get Help, Give Help**

Upcoming Events Across Canada ...

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**New Directions in Seniors' Mental Health Conference**

**This extra exciting event will take place on September 24th and 25th 2007 in the Greater Toronto Area at the Delta Meadowvale Resort and Conference Centre. Located in Mississauga**

**, the hotel is conveniently located just minutes away from the Toronto**

**International Airport.**

**Anyone with a particular interest in seniors' mental health should definitely attend!**

**The conference will be filled with two days of exciting presentations and workshops on New Directions in Seniors' Mental Health. We are extremely excited that Dr. Louise Plouffe will be joining us on Day 1 of the conference as our keynote speaker and speaking on "Seniors' Mental Health: Clinics, Catastophes and Curbsides. Dr. Plouffe, is a Senior Technical officer in the Ageing and Life Course programme at the World Health Organization where she coordinates the development of a Global Age-Friendly Cities Guide in collaboration with partners in over 30 cities worldwide. She was seconded to WHO from the Public Health Agency of Canada where she worked for several years managing research for the Division of Aging and Seniors.**

**Conference participants will also have over 50 paper presentations and 16 workshops to choose from during our event which promises to be educational and a fantastic opportunity to meet colleagues from across Canada. Conference themes which will be explored in presentations include:**

- **Models of Care & Service Delivery**
- **Emergency Preparedness & Patient Safety**
- **Health Promotion & Illness Prevention**
- **In-Service Education & Training**
- **Role of the Caregiver & Consumer**
- **Implementation of New CCSMH Best Practice Guidelines**
- **New Research Findings**
- **Stigma and Raising Awareness**

**For online registration and detailed conference information, please see the attached preliminary brochure and registration for visit the ccsmh website at <http://www.ccsmh.ca/> . We look forward to seeing you all at this upcoming event. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us further.**

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