



National Network for Mental Health    Réseau national pour la santé mentale

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## The NNMH Bulletin January 2007

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Greetings!

### **Welcome to the first edition to the National Network for Mental Health's on-line bulletin!**

As we begin 2007, and embark on the 15th anniversary of the National Network for Mental Health, it seems only fitting that we begin using a new medium to engage and inform our membership, partners, stakeholders, and interested others.

Working in the Mental Health/Illness field at the national level has never been so exciting. Unfortunately, one of the disadvantages of such an active work environment is that we often lose opportunities to better engage our membership and interested others. With this in mind, it is hoped by the Board of Directors and Staff of the National Network for Mental Health that a monthly bulletin will aid in our aim to both inform and engage you in our activities here at the NNMH.

### **Mental Health Commission of Canada**

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As outlined in the "Out of the Shadows at Last" document and recommendations of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, there is a need for a Mental Health Commission of Canada.

Currently Health Canada is trying to gauge Canadian interest in creating such a commission. This consultation is expected to be the last hurdle to accomplishing the goal of the Commission. Please, if you do nothing more today, follow the link to voice your opinion so that we can move the mental health agenda forward nationally. WE NEED THIS

COMMISSION!!!

[Consultation Web Address](#)

**International Initiative for Mental Health**

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In August 2007 mental health leaders from around the globe will be gathering at a conference in Ottawa, Ontario. The National Network for Mental Health is a participating member of IIMHL and will take part in the leadership exchange and conference.

For more information about becoming a member and participating in the August meetings of IIMHL (there is no cost), please visit the website.

[Read on...](#)

**BUILT Network**

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During the last 9 months, we have successfully assisted over 100 participants back in to the workforce. We have also assisted 10 participants in their goal of returning to school. This is an extraordinary accomplishment. To consider the positive influences that these now working graduates have within themselves, their communities, and their families is truly humbling. We are very fortunate to have their trust in us.

In October of 2006, we presented the BUILT Network program to the Roundtable on Socio-Economic Determinants of Health in Toronto for the Conference Board of Canada. We have subsequently been invited to provide a workshop presentation at the Conference Board of Canada National Consultation on Career Development conference of NATCOM in Toronto in March. The workshop will feature the BUILT Network project overview, content and mandate. These special invitations and opportunities are a result of the uniqueness of the program and are a testimonial of the Conference Boards view as to the success and value of our program.

[Read on...](#)

**Canadian Coalition of Alternative Mental Health Resources**

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The Establishment of the Canadian Coalition of Mental Health Resources has been accomplished!

In mid December 2004 the National Network for Mental Health received project approval to create a national coalition of consumer driven organizations across Canada.

Since that time, the coalition has worked on its foundation, policy documents, research, membership and a communications strategy.

Soon, the CCAMHR will be accepting membership from other consumer driven organizations across the country. If you have an interest in joining, please e-mail me at [ed@nnmh.ca](mailto:ed@nnmh.ca).

[Read on...](#)

**Did You Know...**

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The National Network for Mental Health is an active member of:

- Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health ([www.camimh.ca](http://www.camimh.ca))
- Council of Canadians with Disabilities ([www.ccdonline.ca](http://www.ccdonline.ca))
- Canadian Coalition of Alternative Mental Health Resources ([www.ccamhr.ca](http://www.ccamhr.ca))
- Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs ([www.ofcmhap.on.ca](http://www.ofcmhap.on.ca))
- Active Living Alliance ([www.ala.ca](http://www.ala.ca))

**Upcoming Issues...**

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In coming issues of the "NNMH Bulletin" there will be more to come as we introduce the "Mental Health Minutes" project, and the development of a Canadian Peer Specialist/Mentor program.

If you wish to receive a copy of the NNMH Bulletin in French please send an e-mail to [ed@nnmh.ca](mailto:ed@nnmh.ca).

**Contact Information**

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email: [ed@nnmh.ca](mailto:ed@nnmh.ca)  
phone: 905-682-2423  
web: <http://nnmh.ca/fr/index.html>

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