



2007 Annual Report



CANADIAN MENTAL
HEALTH ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
POUR LA SANTÉ MENTALE
ALBERTA DIVISION

President's Message



Hello,

I am pleased to have the opportunity to deliver this message as I complete my term as President of the Alberta Division of the Canadian Mental Health Association. It has been an interesting, fulfilling and sometimes demanding year for CMHA, both in Alberta and nationally.

I mention nationally, in part because we are one component of a tri-level organization and because I also sit on the National Board of Directors. It is important for friends of CMHA to understand that support is needed at all three levels of this worthy organization. Without delivering direct services, such as the Regions do, it is much more challenging for Divisions and National to conduct successful fund raising. It is my hope that we can continue to increase support and cooperation across all levels of CMHA. No one level of CMHA can succeed without the other two.

This year, it was at the national level where, in my opinion, the biggest mental health story of the year took place – the establishment and funding of the Mental Health Commission of Canada. The formation of a Commission was the key recommendation out of the tremendous work done by the Senate sub-committee co-chaired by Senator Michael Kirby. CMHA has actively supported the recommendations of the Out of the Shadows report. Our Division joined other CMHA offices across the country in lobbying the Federal Government to create this vital commission. A national

commission is the foundation for many of the other important recommendations. It will be a great day when Canada is no longer the only G8 country without a national mental health strategy.

The fact that Calgary was chosen as the headquarters for the new Commission is a bonus. We suggested it be headquartered in Alberta and promoted that concept to our new Premier and the Minister of Health and Wellness. The official welcome reception took place in Calgary on September 10 and was a great gathering of all sorts of people who care about mental health. Perhaps the Commission being located in Alberta will provide a higher profile and more exposure to mental health issues and will result in more support for mental health services throughout our province.

Provincially, we have been working closely with the Alberta Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health in advocating for improved treatment and conditions for people living with mental illness. We commend both the Alberta Mental Health Board and the Ministry of Health for their hard work and cooperative attitude. We anticipate that improvements will evolve from changes being considered to the Mental Health Act under Bill 31. This proposed legislation includes the introduction of Community Treatment Orders, which have traditionally been a challenging issue for CMHA. We have had the important opportunity for input into this Bill. The Divisional Board, with input from Regional Boards and Executive Directors, was able to finalize a position statement on the Bill. Information is currently being distributed to all MLAs in the province.

So, stay tuned . . . you can keep track of new developments through our expanded web site www.cmha.ab.ca. We have also reintroduced an electronic newsletter, called CMHA.AB ONLINE, which provides a timely and cost-effective means of reaching out to those interested in our work.

We also participated in a terrific provincial project, initiated by CMHA Calgary Region, called My Mental Health. This multi-media anti-stigma campaign hit airwaves, print and billboards across Alberta with entertaining and enlightening messaging, while also directing people to a very informative new web site, www.mymentalhealth.ca. We are thankful to the sponsors of this project, including TransCanada Corporation and RBC Financial Group.

Other activities in the regions included a major housing conference Housing First, developed in partnership between the CMHA Regional offices in Red Deer, Grande Prairie and Lethbridge and their respective municipalities. It was a great success and focused on providing housing for low-income Albertans, particularly those with mental illness living on the streets. It was a great example of what can be achieved by working together.

This year, we actively engaged our Division Board members in four committees: Executive, Finance, Advocacy and Social Action, and Policy and Bylaws. All committees contributed to the progress made on external and internal issues. I would extend special thanks to Betty Friesen, Bonnie Thiessen, Joan Brown and Bob Campbell – all

of whom are retiring from our Provincial Board after many years of dedicated service. They will be missed around our table but I know they will continue to be valued members of the CMHA family.

Finally, this year we are proud to formally recognize the ongoing long-term contributions of two extraordinary volunteers. Randy Findlay of Calgary and Dennis Anderson of Edmonton have been awarded Honourary Lifetime CMHA Memberships. They have contributed many years of invaluable service to this organization – thank you.

As I move on to the role of Past President, I would like to thank the dedicated Divisional staff and Board of Directors as well as all the staff and volunteers across Alberta for their hard work and support. I would also like to thank my family for supporting my CMHA time away from home (or on the computer). It has been my pleasure and an honour to represent a committed group of people who are passionate about CMHA and its vision of “mentally healthy people in a healthy society.” Best wishes to the incoming Board and its Executive in what promises to be another year filled with challenges and hope for making a difference in people’s lives.

Jodi Cohen
September 29, 2007

CMHA Alberta – Who We Are and What We Do

The Alberta Division of the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) is the provincial body representing CMHA in Alberta. It is individually incorporated with its own Charitable Business Number and volunteer Board of Directors. Our mission is to promote the mental health of all and support the resilience and recovery of people living with mental illness.

CMHA – Alberta plays a vital role in ensuring the best possible quality of life for those in Alberta living with mental illness.

Our role is essentially fivefold:

1. To advocate on behalf of those living with mental illness and for better mental health. This function focuses on the provincial government, provincial delivery of mental health services and other providers of mental health. This is spread over many areas of interest including: Housing/homelessness, suicide prevention, drug treatment, forensics and the justice system, addictions, discrimination, community treatment, and media and public education. We also contribute to advocacy at the national and local levels.
2. To participate on committees and studies with other organizations dealing with mental health issues, including active involvement in the Alberta Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health.
3. To provide referral services for those seeking help or information on issues relating to mental health and mental illness. We provide this service directly to more than 1,000 people per year as well as through our web site www.cmha.ab.ca.



CMHA Alberta Division Board of Directors, June 2007

4. To promote mental health and an understanding of mental illness, including addressing problems concerning stigma.
5. To support the efforts of our Regional offices, which work directly in support of consumers, and to provide a liaison to CMHA's National office. We have Regional offices in Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray and Camrose, as well as the Centre for Suicide Prevention, based in Calgary.

Our office is in Edmonton, one block from the Legislative Buildings. Our funding comes from three primary sources: a services (Promotion, Education, Consultation) grant from the Alberta Mental Health Board, an operations grant from our Regional offices and our own fund development efforts.

CMHA Alberta Division

Statement of Financial Position

March 31	2007	2006	March 31	2007	2006
Assets			Liabilities		
Current			Current		
Cash (Note 3)	\$234,579	\$254,243	Payables and accruals	\$32,374	\$22,875
Receivables	8,515	12,912	Due to Alberta Regions (Note 4)	-	17,730
Prepays	3,058	4,409	Deferred contributions		
Due from Alberta Regions (Note 4)	4,741	-	- operating (Note 7)	103,958	92,107
Investment (Note 5)	9,931	9,931		136,332	132,712
	260,824	281,495			
Investment (Note 5)	11,595	10,696	Net Assets		
Capital assets (Note 6)	5,912	8,446	Unrestricted	75,615	66,794
			Invested in capital assets	5,912	8,446
			Internally restricted - other (Note 8)	60,472	92,685
	\$278,331	\$300,637		141,999	167,925
				\$ 278,331	\$300,637

CMHA Alberta Division Statement of Operations

Year Ended March 31	2007	2006		2007	2006
Revenues			Salaries	254,911	684,618
Public support	\$150,698	\$266,668	Staff recruitment and education	4,463	9,212
Government support	125,716	526,875	Travel and conferences	29,938	72,334
Other revenue	150,046	142,751		452,386	1,359,337
Productive enterprises		469,520		(25,926)	46,477
	426,460	1,405,814	Donation of net assets (Note 1)	-	(90,340)
Expenditures			Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	\$(25,926)	\$(43,863)
Amortization	2,534	13,616			
Building occupancy	62,814	127,172			
Donor recognition	900	-			
Financial expenditures	12,223	12,965			
Information services	9,313	25,562			
National membership	24,374	24,374			
Office	38,725	73,491			
Other program expenditures	1,551	2,750			
Purchased services	10,640	313,243			

Leadership

The following are the Board and staff who formed the CMHA team in Alberta as of March 31, 2007. Names in parentheses indicate the person in place as of September 24, 2007.

Alberta Division

Executive Committee

Jodi Cohen	President and Chair	Calgary
Kathleen Frei	Executive VP	Grande Prairie
Bob Campbell	Past President	Lethbridge
John Stokdijk	VP – Finance	Calgary
Suzanne Sirias	VP – Advocacy and Social Action	Raymond
Dick Southworth	VP - Policy and Bylaws	Edmonton

Members-at-Large

Louise Bradley	Edmonton
David Copus	Edmonton
Suzanne Sirias	Raymond
John Stokdijk	Calgary
Bonnie Thiessen	Coalhurst

Directors

Joan Brown (Vincella Thompson)	Fort McMurray
Betty Friesen	Camrose
Debbie Jabbour	Edmonton
Don McInnes	Lethbridge
Carol Nieman	Medicine Hat
Susan Rich	Calgary
Rod Truax	Centre for Suicide Prevention
Jim Watson	Red Deer

Division Personnel

Deborah Allard Usunier (vacant)	Director of Program Development
Jillian Dacyk	Executive Secretary
Eveline Royer	Manager, Finance and Operations
Tom Shand	Executive Director
Brenda Wood (Robert Babcock)	Volunteer Coordinator



CANADIAN MENTAL
HEALTH ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
POUR LA SANTÉ MENTALE

Alberta Division
#328, 9707 - 110 St NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2L9
Tel: (780) 482-6576 Fax: (780) 482-6348
www.cmha.ab.ca
e-mail: division@cmha.ab.ca

Regions

North West

9713 – 100 Avenue
Grande Prairie, AB T8V 0T5
Phone: 780-814-5678
Web: www.grandeprairie.cmha.ca
Kathleen Frei
Dalvin Napen

President
Executive Director

Wood Buffalo

13c River Pointe Shops
36 Riedel Street
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 3E1
Phone: 780-743-1053
Web: www.woodbuffalo.cmha.ca
Joan Brown
Ryck Miller (vacant)

President (Vincella Thompson)
Executive Director

Edmonton

800 Harley Court
10045 – 111 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2M5
Phone: 780-414-6300
Web: www.cmha-edmonton.ab.ca
Valerie Wright
Bill Hofmeyer (Ione Challborn)

President
Executive Director

Central

5017 – 50 Avenue
Red Deer, AB T4N 4B2
Phone: 403-342-2266
Web: www.reddeer.cmha.ca
Jim Watson
Patricia Turnbull

President
Executive Director

East Central

4870 – 51 Street
Camrose, AB T4V 1S1
Phone: 780-672-2570
Web: www.camrose.cmha.ab.ca
Peter LeBlanc
Colleen Vennard

President
Executive Director

Calgary

1202 Centre Street SE, Suite 400
Calgary, AB T2G 5A5
Phone: 403-297-1700
Web: www.cmha.calgary.ab.ca
Stephen Clark
Judy Martin

President
Executive Director

Centre for Suicide Prevention

1202 Centre Street SE, Suite 400
Calgary, AB T2G 5A5
Phone: 403-297-1700
Web: www.suicideinfo.ca
Carnele Hunka
Diane Yackel

Chair
Executive Director

South

426 – 6 Street S.
Lethbridge, AB T1J 2C9
Phone: 403-329-4775
Web: www.lethbridge.cmha.ab.ca
Greg Peterson
Deborah Chenery

President
Executive Director

South East

1865 Dunmore Road SE, Suite 204
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 1Z5
Phone: 403-504-1811
Web: www.ser.cmha.ab.ca
Carol Nieman
Lois Bourassa

President (Eleanor Grona)
Executive Director