

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION presents

# NOW WE ARE STRONGER 2018

A PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ADVANCING COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

In June 2018, the Canadian Mental Health Association, Alberta Division is hosting *Now We Are Stronger - A Provincial Conference Advancing Community Mental Health*. The conference is two days of information exchange and dialogue that will advance the work in our dynamic fields. It brings together the most creative and inspiring mental health thinkers and leaders in the field.

The conference - June 4 and 5, 2018 in Edmonton- will feature keynote speakers, workshops, panels, presentations, training opportunities and exhibits.

This conference is ideally suited to individuals and organizations from Alberta focusing on mental health and mental illness.

## WHAT WILL SET THIS CONFERENCE APART?

Community mental health leaders, researchers, people with lived experience, service providers, and front-line workers will come together to advance thinking and practice in mental health.

This conference is offering a robust and stimulating program of keynote speakers, presentations, panel discussions and excellent networking opportunities. The program, featuring keynote speakers, will showcase **indigenous mental health, rural and remote community mental health** and **child, youth and family mental health**. Delegates will have the opportunity to choose from many carefully curated workshops.

Conference presenters are encouraged to weave other topics of interest into the discussion of indigenous mental health such as: voice of lived experience, addictions, specific diagnosis, LGBTQ, seniors and caregiving.



## CONFERENCE STREAMS

### INDIGENOUS MENTAL HEALTH:

Sessions within this stream will:

- showcase successful or emerging programs being offered across the province that support the mental wellbeing of Alberta's indigenous population. Discussions of challenges, successes and learnings will be helpful to participants' learning experiences.
- discuss factors and issues important to the successful support of the mental health of our indigenous population – what challenges are being faced and what helps mitigate those challenges.

Session attendees will come away with an understanding of indigenous mental health experiences and what Alberta's community mental health service providers, advocates, family and friends can do to support improved mental health in the indigenous population.

### RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH:

Generally, accessing addiction and mental health services is challenging, especially in rural and remote areas. In many cases real or perceived barriers and lack of knowledge often limit access to services and supports needed by individuals and families impacted by mental illness and addiction.

Knowledge of and access to services, equity in service delivery, promotion of mental health, prevention of mental illness and general education related to mental wellness are all factors which build community capacity.

Sessions in this stream should draw on the experiences of rural and remote communities, identify systemic issues and recognize local resources. The goal is to create better pathways for rural communities to access existing mental health and addictions services and forge new community based opportunities.

### CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH:

Families are impacted by mental health concerns every day in Alberta. There are specific challenges and barriers faced by children, youth and families within the current mental health system.

Session attendees should come away with an understanding of child, youth and family mental health experience, learn how to successfully engage with this demographic, and develop knowledge of new and emerging supports available to young Albertans and their families. This stream will provide practical strategies for engagement and inclusion that have worked for others in Alberta.



## CMHA Alberta - Now We Are Stronger CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### Instructions for Abstract Submission

Online Submission Link: [www.innovative4youevents.com/cmhanwas2018.htm](http://www.innovative4youevents.com/cmhanwas2018.htm)

### Submitting Your Abstract

Complete the following information:

- Identify the stream and area of interest
- Title of Presentation (relevant to submission/focus of your presentation)
- Educational Objectives
- Name(s) of presenter(s) as you would like them to appear in the conference program
- Identify format: 30, 60 or 90-minute Concurrent Session or Poster Presentation
- Key Contact Information (address, email and telephone number)
- Biography of each presenter (50 words or less)
- Abstract suitable for inclusion in the conference program (sales pitch/description of your presentation)
- Keypoints that will be in your powerpoints or an outline of your presentation
- Presentation method details (also include audio/visual equipment required, room set up preference, etc.)

### All submissions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Relevance to the conference theme
- Clarity and coherence of the submission
- Contribution of knowledge, expertise or best practices
- Relevance and utility to participants
- Evidence that submission will encourage interaction among conference participants
- Key points of presentation and evidence of “participant take-away”



Canadian Mental  
Health Association  
Alberta  
*Mental health for all*

# NOW WE ARE STRONGER 2018

## CMHA Alberta - Now We Are Stronger CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### Acceptance as a Presenter:

Please note: **Presenters must be paid registrants.** Honoraria and travel reimbursement are not available.

An electronic version of the presentation must be submitted to the event manager shortly before the conference for posting to the CMHA Alberta website and to pre-load at the conference.

Presenters will be provided with a designated time to present by the conference committee.

### Presenter(s) may submit multiple abstracts for the conference

#### Deadlines:

**Call for Abstracts Opens: November 27th, 2017**

**Abstract Submission Deadline: January 26, 2017**

**Results Notification: February 12th, 2017**

We look forward to receiving your abstract submission!

For any questions regarding the abstract submission process, please contact:

**Sherry Sim, Event Manager**

**Innovative Business Solutions**

**Telephone: 1.866.655.8548**

**Fax: 705.456.9786**

**Email: [sherry@innovative4you.com](mailto:sherry@innovative4you.com)**