



Canadian Coalition of Alternative Mental Health Resources

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MEMBERSHIP

Background

In January 2005 the National Network for Mental Health (NNMH) invited 24 consumer/survivor leaders from across Canada to initiate the creation of a consumer/survivor driven coalition that is national in scope and representation.

The Canadian Coalition of Alternative Mental Health Resources (CCAMHR) brings together consumer/survivors leaders in mental health from across the country. We address policies and positions of consumer/survivors nationally and speak with a united voice. This voice strives to meet the needs of each member organization and is intended to support meaningful and sustained systemic change across Canada.

Goals

- To create a consumer-driven research agenda
- To encourage participation and leadership development of persons with Mental Health issues that is inclusive and reflective of the social and cultural mosaic
- To promote positive change for persons with Mental Health issues through a unified voice
- To create a clearinghouse for the gathering and distribution of information
- To generate policy and position papers
- To develop an effective communication strategy

Membership

CCAMHR currently has four categories of membership:

Voting Members:

I. Founding Individual Members

Founding Individual Members have a vote. Founding Individual Members are those founding members that support the values, goals and objectives of the CCAMHR.

II. Organizational Members

Consumer/survivor driven organizations/programs, regardless of sponsorship, that support the goals and objectives of the CCAMHR.

Non-Voting Members:

III. Individual Members

Individuals must be consumer / survivors who support the goals and objectives of the CCAMHR

IV Supporting Members

- Family Members/Caregivers/Friends who support the values, goals and objectives of the CCAMHR.
- Stakeholder Organizations – Non consumer/survivor driven organizations/programs who support the values, goals and objectives of the CCAMHR, and who are accepted by the membership of the Coalition.
- Professional Organizations – Professional organizations who support the values, goals and objectives of the CCAMHR and who are accepted by the membership of the Coalition.
- Corporate Sponsors – Corporations who support the values, goals and objectives of the CCAMHR and who are accepted by the membership of the Coalition.
- Honorary Members – Individuals who support the values, goals and objectives of the CCAMHR and who are recognized for their contribution to consumer/movement by the membership of the Coalitions.

BENEFITS TO MEMBERS

Members of the Canadian Coalition of Alternative Mental Health Resources: may:

1. Participate and benefit from the lobbying potential and watchdog functions that the associations provide. Participate and enjoy increased sharing of information of important legislative and other related issues that can affect their well-being.
2. Participate in various association-sponsored educational and social activities.
3. Experience enhanced opportunities to network with other Consumer/ Survivor organizations from across Canada.
4. Participate in the policy and decision making process of the coalition. (voting members only).
5. Access consumer focused resources and programs through the members' only resource section of the CCAMHR website.
6. Participate in the building of a strong, unified, national consumer voice.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

Voting members

To maintain membership in good standing, voting members must:

1. Pay annual membership dues.
2. Actively participate in the work of the CCAMHR by:
 - a. Participating on one of the standing committees of the CCAMHR
 - i. Attend all committee meetings.
 - ii. Notify Committee chairperson if they will be unable to attend a meeting.
 - iii. Failure to attend 3 consecutive meetings will result in cancellation of membership and the privileges thereof.
 1. Members may request a short term leave of absence for reasons such as extended illness, (etc) from the standing committee chairperson and the executive committee.
 - iv. Must contribute to the work of the committee by completing agreed upon tasks.
 - b. Participate in the decision making processes of the CCAMHR such as the ratification of policy/position statements.
3. Support the work and decisions of the coalition achieved through the democratic processes of the CCAMHR.
4. Promote the work and benefits of the CCAMHR.

Non – voting members

To maintain membership in good standing, non-voting members must:

1. Pay annual membership dues.
2. Support the work and decisions of the coalition achieved through the democratic processes of the CCAMHR.
3. Promote the work and benefits of the CCAMHR.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual membership fees are \$25.00 per annum.

Organizational membership fees are \$250.00 per annum.

Supportive membership fees:

- Individual: \$25.00 per annum
- Organizational: \$500.00 per annum

DONATIONS

The work of the CCAMHR may also be supported by donations made through the National Network for Mental Health. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10.00.