

# The Rights Stuff *EXTRA*



MENTAL HEALTH RIGHTS COALITION

March 2007

## Upcoming Education Forums

### Police Services and Mental Health

The Mental Health Rights Coalition has organized a panel discussion to inform its members of the relationship between the Hamilton Police Services and mental health consumers, as well as shed some light on the issues that consumers are facing when it comes to police services.

The Hamilton Police Services has started a new Crisis Team to deal specifically with mental health consumers involved in crisis calls. The Mental Health Rights Coalition's Executive Director, Deborah Sherman, had a role in training this new unit in sensitivity towards mental health consumers.

Invited to this discussion are mental health consumers, service providers, and police

officers.

*Confirmed speakers include:*

**Imminent changes to the public complaints process**  
Detective Sergeant Nancy Goodes-Ritchie, Acting Staff Sergeant Professional Standards Branch

**The New Crisis Intervention Team**  
Sarah Burtenshaw, CIT Team Inspector Dan Kinsella

**Police role on the Crisis Outreach And Support Team**  
Terry McGurk

**Non-Criminal Contact on Police Records**  
Inspector Dan Kinsella

**Challenging views** Gwen Davidson, Patient Advocate's Office, St Joseph's Centre for Mountain Health Services

**Forum will take place on:**

**March 27, 2007**

**1:00-3:30p.m.**

**Good Shepherd Family Centre**

**143 Wentworth St S  
(Wentworth St S & Delaware Ave)**

**RSVP with Mental Health Rights Coalition before March 23rd:  
905-545-2525**

### Self Advocacy

The Mental Health Rights Coalition has arranged for Paul Reeve, Director of Advocacy at the Self Help Alliance to speak to consumers about advocating for themselves with doctors, service providers, and the general community.

you wished for answers on how to speak your mind and make yourself heard, now's the time to learn how!



If there was ever a time

### Special points of interest:

- WOULDN'T IT BE NICE TO LET SOMEONE KNOW THEY ARE APPRECIATED? YOU GET YOUR CHANCE!
- DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE ON A BOARD OF DIRECTORS? NOMINATE THEM!
- NEED ANSWERS? JOIN OUR EDUCATION FORUMS!

### Inside this issue:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| SCOPE AWARDS 2007                                     | 2 |
| MENTAL HEALTH RIGHTS COALITION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | 3 |
| REVISED APRIL CALENDAR                                | 4 |

### Join Us!

**Tuesday, March 20, 2007**

**11 a.m.—12 p.m. (approx)**

**678 Main St E., Hamilton**

# The Rights Stuff EXTRA

---

## S.C.O.P.E Returns!

### Supporting Consumer Opportunities for Personal Empowerment

Who do you know that deserves a pat on the back for helping out consumers in the community? Is it your doctor, your case manager, your best friend? Wouldn't it be nice to let them know they are appreciated? Here's your chance!

Every year The Mental Health Rights Coalition hosts the SCOPE awards for just that purpose; to show people in the community that they are doing a great job of recognizing and supporting consumers.

The SCOPE Awards will take place on May 22, 2007. Nominations will be due by May 1, 2007.

To nominate someone, simply fill out the

nomination form below, or pick one up in the drop-in. Forms can be forwarded to The Mental Health Rights Coalition via mail, fax, or email. (see contact information on page 4)

There is a maximum of three nominations per consumer or service provider, Service providers cannot nominate other service providers, and MHRC staff cannot be nominated.

## S.C.O.P.E Nomination Form (please print, and ensure information is complete)

### Your Information

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you (please check one):  A Consumer  A Service Provider

### Who You Would Like To Nominate:

Their Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Their Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Is he/she a service provider?  Yes  No

If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you nominating this person for a S.C.O.P.E Award? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Mental Health Rights Coalition Annual General Meeting

Yes, it is that time again! The Mental Health Rights Coalition will be holding their AGM on Wednesday, June 13, 2007 (time and place to be announced). The most important news about this year's AGM is that we are planning to present new by-laws to our membership for ratification.

The Annual General Meeting's purpose is to report to our membership; we will be able to tell you what has happened in the past year, and what our goals are for next year. As an example, the AGM for 2006 reported on the following topics:

- Operating Plan
- Funding
- Budgets
- Community Partnerships
- Peer Support
- Member and Volunteer Programs
- Changes to Goals and Objectives
- Statistics

The statistics that we produce will inform our membership of the staff hours spent at MHRC, the amount of member hours, volunteer time, Board of Director's time,

drop in use, peer support use, and public presentations. The operating plan will outline program objectives, and give them a measurable outcome; this means staff will know the objectives, and have an idea of how to reach the organization's goals.



There are many things happening behind the scene of the drop in, and if you want more information on what those things are, come in and listen to our report.

### Board Of Directors Nominations

The Annual General Meeting is also a time where members are able to nominate and elect new members for our Board of Directors. Nomination forms will be available on April 16, 2007, and are due to the Development committee by May 13, 2007. The development committee will ensure that all nominees being elected at the AGM are eligible and have been screened appropriately. At the AGM, it will be the members who vote for and elect new Board Members.

In order to be nominated for the Board of Directors, one must be a member in good standing of the Mental Health Rights Coalition for at least three months, must be nominated by a consumer member of the Coalition, cannot be a staff member or former staff member of Mental Health Rights Coalition (within the last two years), and must reach eligibility requirements of our bylaws, policies, and screening procedure. In order to become a Board Member, one must be nominated and voted onto the Board of Directors.

So who makes a good Board member? Those who have a good idea of who we are and what we do, and have an understanding of our limitations as well as our areas of growth. Board Members must be punctual, vocal, and resourceful. If you know someone who has what it takes, let us know after April 16th so you can fill out a nomination form.

"THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING'S PURPOSE IS TO REPORT TO OUR MEMBERSHIP..."

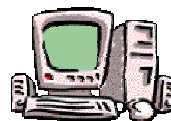
## Congratulations!

The Mental Health Rights Coalition completed a draw in February, giving our members an opportunity to win one of three computers.

So who won?

**Congratulations to  
Cheryl N.  
Naki P. and  
Don C.**

for winning our computers! We hope you all have a wonderful experience with these machines.



To encourage, enable and empower the voice of consumers in the mental health system

MENTAL HEALTH RIGHTS COALITION

102-678 Main St E  
Hamilton, ON  
L8M 1K2

Phone: 905-545-2525  
Fax: 905-545-0211  
E-mail: [mentalhealthrights@bellnet.ca](mailto:mentalhealthrights@bellnet.ca)  
Website: [www.mentalhealthrights.ca](http://www.mentalhealthrights.ca)

# April 2007

| MON  | TUE   | WED   | THU  | FRI                                       |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| 2<br><i>Development Committee,<br/>11a.m.</i>                      | 3<br><i>Don't make them a<br/>card...Let's Send Video<br/>Cards!</i>                | 4<br><i>Voices of Experience<br/>Steering Committee,<br/>1:30p.m.</i> | 5  | 6   |
| 9  | 10<br><i>Let's Sing—Karaoke!</i>  | 11<br><i>Newsletter Working<br/>Group, 1-3p.m.</i>                    | 12<br><i>Reading Group:<br/>Chronicles of Narnia,<br/>1p.m.</i>  | 13  |
| 16<br><i>Board Nominations<br/>Available (see page 3)</i>          | 17<br><i>Open Activity Day;<br/>Feedback Welcome</i>                                | 18<br><i>Peer Support Volunteer<br/>Meeting, 1p.m.</i>                | 19   | 20  |
| 23<br><i>Peer Support Worker<br/>Meeting (Mandatory)<br/>1p.m.</i> | 24<br><i>Let's Walk and Talk<br/>11a.m.<br/><br/>Soup and Fresh Bread<br/>1p.m.</i> | 25  | 26<br><i>Newsletter Working<br/>Group, 1p.m.<br/><br/>Reading Group:<br/>Chronicles of Narnia,<br/>1p.m.</i> | 27<br><i>Video Arcade Games<br/>1p.m.</i> |
| 30   |   |   |  |   |