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The Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre  
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(Centre for Addiction & Mental Health)

# BULLETIN

*Information for consumer/survivors of the mental health system,  
those who serve us, and those who care about us.*

May 15<sup>th</sup> 2005  
Bulletin 300

C/S INFO CENTRE DROP-IN HOURS: 1-4 Monday-Thursday. PHONE HOURS: 9-5 Monday-Friday  
LOCATION: 252 College Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON  
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## BILL 118 UNANIMOUSLY PASSES ON THIRD READING – ONE GIANT LEAP FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES!

Around 3:40 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2005, the Ontario Legislature unanimously passed Bill 118 on Third Reading. Once it receives Royal Assent, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act will be a valid law.

After a tenacious decade-long grassroots campaign by Ontarians with disabilities, advocating to three successive Ontario governments, the Ontario Legislature unanimously passed **Bill 118, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act**. Unlike any other law in Canada, this new, comprehensive legislation is designed to make Ontario fully accessible for Ontarians with disabilities within the next 20 years. It includes the key ingredients that Premier McGuinty and his Government promised in the 2003 election.

### Scope of Legislation

The new legislation covers both the public and private sectors. It also applies to the legislative assembly.

Standards will address the full range of disabilities - including physical, sensory, hearing, **mental health**, developmental and learning. That is, both visible and invisible disabilities will be included.

### Enforceable Legislation

Once a standard has been adopted as a regulation, all affected persons and organizations will be required to comply within the timelines set out in the standard.

The government will take a modern, transparent approach to enforcement. Organizations covered by standards will be obliged to file accessibility reports annually or as required, confirming compliance, and make them public.

Spot audits will verify the contents of reports, and there will be tough penalties for non-compliance.

To strengthen accountability, the minister will prepare an annual report on progress in removing and preventing barriers. In addition, the government will appoint a person to undertake a comprehensive review of the act's effectiveness after four years. The annual report and the comprehensive review will provide timely information on the measurable results achieved under the act.

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**Bill 118 Continued**  
**Public Education**

Attitudes are one of the biggest barriers facing people with disabilities. Under the bill, the responsibilities of the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario will include conducting public education programs on the purpose and implementation of the act. Among the public education activities will be information and training for schools, colleges, universities, trade or occupational associations and self-governing professions to build awareness of accessibility into the educational experience.

**New Advisory Council to Be Appointed**

A new Accessibility Standards Advisory Council will advise the minister on the progress made by standards development committees, public information programs and other matters. Like the existing Accessibility Advisory Council of Ontario, a majority of the members of the new body will be persons with disabilities.

Contact: David Lepofsky  
oda@odacommittee.net  
Learn more at [www.odacommittee.net](http://www.odacommittee.net)



**Let's paint the new face of mental health together.**

**Participate in the Senate's e-consultation on Mental Health, Mental Illness and Addiction**  
**From April 11 to June 6, 2005**

**Share your thoughts on how to improve the Canadian Mental Health and Addiction System**

[www.parl.gc.ca/mentalhealth](http://www.parl.gc.ca/mentalhealth)

**If you do not have access to the internet and you would like a copy of the questionnaire,**  
**please drop-in to C/S Info or call us at 416 595-2882.**

This is the last round of input to the Senate Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology aka, the Kirby Commission. It seems like Michael Kirby is the Senator most like the Eveready Bunny and has lots of stamina to keep on going. He keeps asking for our feedback in different formats. At the hearings, he seemed to be really listening to us. Let's hope he is a good spokesperson with us and for us, and that he will have the same stamina to hold feet to the fire in demanding, along with us, the changes that need to be made to improve the mental health and addiction system in Canada.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Ontario Police Complaints System**

Justice Patrick LeSage has released his report on the review of the Ontario Police Complaints System. It is a 120 page report. He has made 27 recommendations. One of the key recommendations is that an independent civilian body be formed - that it be lead by a civilian who has not been a police officer - that civilian administrators be responsible for the administration - and that 5 regional advisory groups of community and police representatives be formed to discuss issues with the civilian head.

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/about/pubs/LeSage/>

Vision TV will air Through Thick and Thin, a film about eating disorders, on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Cross Disabilities/Sexualities/Genders Working Group is coming out!**

**When:** Saturday, 14 May 2005 (2 pm - 5 pm)

**Where:** 519 Church St. Community Centre  
519 Church St.  
Toronto ON

**Contact:** tel: 416 324-5078  
[cross@riseup.net](mailto:cross@riseup.net)

**Details:**

Cross Disabilities/Sexualities/Genders Working Group is coming out!

Partying...Food...Community...Conversation...Activities... at our FREE first event.



## Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Cemetery Restoration and Remembrance Day

Saturday May 21, 1 PM  
Rain Date: Monday May 23, 1 PM

1511 people are buried in a forgotten graveyard in Etobicoke.

Only 154 have grave markers, and most of them are covered up by earth.

These graves have been neglected for decades. Some graves have collapsed into the ground.

Who is buried here? People who died as patients of Mimico Insane Asylum, Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital between 1890 – 1974.

What to do about it? Have a spring clean up as a first step to begin restoring this graveyard and remembering people who have been forgotten due to prejudice against psychiatric patients. If you can, bring garden tools, flowers/seeds to plant, some bottled water and a hat.

What will happen?

1:30 PM: Historical tour of the cemetery grounds by researcher Ed Janiszewski

2:30 PM: Moment of remembrance for the people buried in this graveyard.

2:45 PM: Restoration work will commence.

Organized by: Psychiatric Survivor Archives, Toronto

Phone: 416 661-9975

Email: [info@psychiatricsurvivorarchives.com](mailto:info@psychiatricsurvivorarchives.com)

Directions: TTC: Go to the Royal York Subway. From there, take the # 15 Evans (west) bus to the north-east corner of Evans and Horner Avenue where the LPH cemetery is located. Give yourself about half an hour between the subway stop and arriving at the cemetery. Cars: This cemetery is just south of the QEW expressway. There is a parking lot within walking distance.

Please note: this graveyard is not wheelchair accessible.

# A Call to Action: A Free Forum on the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Thursday, May 26, 2005,  
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

at Knox Presbyterian Church, 4156 Sheppard Ave. East (Midland and Sheppard). Entrance at the back of the church.

ODSP applicants, recipients, their families, and agency staff are invited to join us at a forum to discuss issues like problems with ODSP, feeling overwhelmed, the Special Diet and other "hidden" benefits, and advocating for change. Panelists will include ODSP recipients, agency staff and legal experts. Call 416-393-INFO for public transit directions. Parking and fully accessible location. Free TTC tickets. To register, call us at 416 438-7206 or e-mail us at [zpopal@crct.org](mailto:zpopal@crct.org) Let us know if you have special needs, and we will attempt to accommodate them.

This event is sponsored by: Ethno-Racial People with Disabilities Coalition of Ontario (ERDCO), Agincourt Community Services Association, Somaliland Womens' Organization, West Scarborough Community Legal Services, Community Resource Connections of Toronto, Scarborough Community Legal Services.



TOBIAS HOUSE ATTENDANT SERVICES (ACCESS TO SHELTER PROJECT) AND  
WEN-DO WOMEN'S SELF DEFENCE

Are offering

## **Self Protection Skills for Women with Disabilities**

We invite you to spend 2 hours with us and experience an introduction to Wen-Do specifically for Women with Disabilities. Discover ways to use your body, your wheelchair or other assistive devices as powerful protection tools to defend yourself. Afternoon workshops are at 25 Elm Street - at Dundas, from 1:00 - 3:00 on Monday June 6, Wednesday June 22 or Tuesday July 5. Evening workshops are available at Anne Johnston Health Station, 2398 Yonge Street - Eglinton and Yonge area, from 6:00 - 8:00 on Wednesday June 1, Monday June 13 or Wednesday June 29. You pre-register for only one of the times.

We reinforce the positive ways that women are currently dealing with the threat and fear of violence in our lives. We do not give a list of do's and don'ts, but share information to encourage self-trust and success!

This workshop is fun and powerful!

To register please call: Fran Odette at 416-968-3422 Ext. 30

Attendant Services are available upon request - Light refreshments provided



Taxes, Again & Still

The C/S Info Centre is still doing tax returns for people with incomes under \$20,000 with no dependents and \$25,000 with dependents. A reminder that we do taxes for past years as well as just the tax year 2004. Haven't we all had times when a few years piled up because it was just too overwhelming to collect everything together and figure it all out? Call the centre for an appointment. We can help. 416 595-2882.



# *Springfest '05 at Downsview Park*

## **Saturday May 14, 2005**

**10 am – 5 pm**

**Location: 35 Carl Hall Road, Toronto**  
(Corner of Keele and Sheppard)

*Springfest '05* is Downsview Park's 5th annual celebration of spring through arts and culture activities. With the theme on celebrating Canada's mosaic brilliance, Downsview Park will bring in many cultures and energize its environs through new rhythms, song, dance and world music, local and international art and folklore. Participants are invited to make and take crafts, be part of interactive art exhibits and seminars. Culminating in a vendors marketplace where a variety of arts and crafts, mural painting, photo contests and demonstrations, and multicultural foods, this cultural extravaganza will provide ongoing fun for all its participants during the day.



### **Having a Job & Social Assistance**

**A workshop by the Fred Victor  
Employment Resource Centre  
100 Lombard Street**

Are you currently receiving social assistance through Ontario Works?  
Do you have questions about how finding a job will affect your monthly cheque?  
You are invited to attend an information session where you can have all of your questions answered by an Ontario Works Caseworker.

**Wednesday May 18  
2:00 – 3:30**



### **Waiting for Toronto: What Makes a Clean and Beautiful City?**

**Wed. May 25 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.**

Presented by Doors Open Toronto, the Toronto Society of Architects and the Toronto Star, in cooperation with the St. Lawrence Centre Forum.

Inspired by the Mayor's Clean and Beautiful City initiative, people are anticipating a transformed Toronto in the next few years. But good intentions are sometimes frustrated by delays and disappointment on the urban front. Join a lively panel discussion about what makes a clean and beautiful city and how we will get there.

Moderator Andy Barrie, host of Metro Morning, CBC Radio One.

Free admission. At the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. East 416 366-1656

Inclusion of an announcement is NOT an endorsement of the views of any organization or individual.  
The Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto reserves the right to edit submissions.

# Stigma

The Pocket Oxford Dictionary defines stigma as a “mark or sign of disgrace or discredit”. I refer to stigma as a definition of societal incomprehension of the mentally ill. Being stigmatized for being mentally ill compounds an already difficult and painful situation for those involved. Because of the stigma of mental illness, you lose your further contact with your family, your occupation, colleagues and friends. Most people in the healthcare field know about holistic medicine and its importance as a treatment plan. Yet the care of the mentally ill is mainly focused on clinical signs and symptoms of the DSM IV categories. Truly the DSM IV holds an essential purpose in a treatment plan for a mentally ill patient. What is lacking, however, is the subjective experience of the illness and its detrimental effects on the patient’s autonomy.

“We have plenty of words to describe pains that are sharp, throbbing, piercing, burning even dull, but these words do not describe the experience of pain. We lack the terms to express what it means to live in such pain. Unable to express pain, we come to believe there is nothing to say. Silenced, we become isolated in pain and the isolation increases the pain. Like the sick feeling that comes with the recognition of yourself as ill, there is a pain attached to being in pain.”<sup>1</sup>

The experience of being a patient on a psychiatric ward is as follows: the communication you have is with other patients and occasionally 20 minutes with the psychiatrist during week days, with the exception that if there is a crisis the staff intervenes. I have seen the reactions of patients after conversations with nurses and it is almost always positive. The few that have reached out to me have always had a favourable impact on my feelings in general and my feelings of self worth. Compassionate care is as valuable as pharmaceuticals.

I remember once sitting on my floor in my hospital room crying and a nurse came to my room and said, “You better shut up, you’re disturbing the other patients” and slammed the door. One of the other patients came to my room to talk to me and was quickly and aggressively told to leave. The compassion that you receive is mainly from other patients. They interject and take over the role of healthcare provider despite their personal state of mind. I remember once during a really severe depression, I had stopped eating for several days It was a patient that insisted that I try and eat. She would escort me by the hand to the dining room and encourage me to eat during meal times. Clearly, if stigma wasn’t present in healthcare professionals, compassion would be forthcoming.

I also remember sitting in the smoking room one time and all the patients were concerned about an elderly diabetic patient who was not eating. One of the patients tried to bring his tray to him but was reprimanded by the staff. We all had to play the role of patient and keep quiet about our concerns. I had fruit in my room and when the staff were not looking, we (the patients) would form a circle and feed him pieces of orange.

Another issue that is ever present is if the patient has an adverse reaction to a medication or a medical problem, it is assumed that it is a figment of the imagination. This is due to the false stigma regarding the mentally ill until the ECG’s, X-Ray, Ultrasounds etc. prove otherwise.

Myself, co-patients and friends have all had some form of stigma due to psychiatric hospitalizations both within the hospital and the outside world. Clearly these experiences turn mental health patients away from seeking help when needed.

By Pippa Boyd

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<sup>1</sup> Frank, M.:199 page 29; Will of the Body, Mifflon Company Boston



## Free and Low Cost Activities

### Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>

**Cross Disabilities/Sexualities/Genders Work Group First event. Free.** 519 Church Street Community Centre.

For info: 416 324-5078 or [cross@riseup.net](mailto:cross@riseup.net) 2 – 5 pm.

**Springfest. Free.** Art exhibition; live entertainment all day including The Undesirables, The Blueberry Trees, Osammarima and Marc Elkin; workshops on claymaking, drumming, chalk art, mural painting; vendors marketplace; annual sale of native perennials, trees and shrubs. Downsview Park, Keele and Sheppard. 416 952-2227 or [www.pdp.ca](http://www.pdp.ca) 10 am – 5 pm.

### Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

**Chamber Ensemble Spring Concert. Free** Chinese Artist Society concert at the Glen Gould Studio, 250 Front Street West. Info: 416 497-6411. 8:00 pm.

### Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Dessert and Euchre. \$3.** Includes refreshments and a wide selection of prizes. The Church of St. George, Anglican, 3765 St. Clair Avenue East at Brimley Road. 6:45 pm.

**High Park Walking Tour. Free.** Tuesday evening walk will start just south of Grenadier Restaurant in High Park. Info: 416 392-1748. Beginning at 6:45 pm.

### Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

**Uptown Author Series. Free.** Russell Smith reads from his latest novel Muriella Pent. His first novel, How Insensitive, was short listed for the Governor General's Award. Smith is a Canadian author who was born in South Africa, raised in Halifax and now lives in Toronto. North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street. To register: 416 395-5639. 7:00 pm.

**Afternoon Movies for Adults. Free.** Albert Campbell Library, 496 Birchmount Rd. Info: 416 396-8890. 1:30 pm.

**Alchemy. Free.** An Hour of Chamber Music. Valleyview Residence, 541 Finch Avenue West. For information, call: 416 398-0555. 2:30 pm.

### Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

**Lunchtime Chamber Music. Donation.** Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street. Info: 416 920-5211. 12:30 pm

**Book Launch. Free.** Meet Ian McKay and celebrate the launch of his new book. Rebels, Reds, Radicals: Rethinking Canada's Left History. Between the Lines Bookstore, 164 Danforth Avenue (just East of Broadview) 416 535-9914 [btlbooks@web.ca](mailto:btlbooks@web.ca) . 7 pm.

**Witness to Courage In Colombia: Human Rights Defenders Resisting Repression and Armed Conflict. Free.** Peace Brigades International (PBI) - Canada 2005 Speaking Tour. Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil Street. For information, call Charis Kamphris at 416 324-9737 or [pbican@web.ca](mailto:pbican@web.ca) . 7 – 9 pm.

### Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

**Asian Heritage Month Armchair Travel. Free.** Slideshow tour through Singapore, Japan and Thailand. No registration required. Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Avenue East. Info: 416 395-5710. 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

**ROM Friday Nights. Free.** Opera Atelier. Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park. Info: 416 586-8000. 7:00 pm.

**Student recital. Free.** Royal Conservatory of Music Community School, Room 2, Adamson Estate, 850 Enola Ave. Mississauga. Info: 905 891-7944. 7:00 pm.

### Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

**Bird Walk with Steve Favier. Free.** Toronto Ornithological Club. Aimed at intermediate birders but beginners are also welcome. Meet in the southerly parking lot at the foot of Kipling Avenue. 7:30 - 12:00 noon. No pets please.

**Chinese Chess. Free.** Come and play. Goldhawk Park Library, 295 Alton Towers Circle. Info: 416 396-8964. 10:00 - 12 noon.

**Highland Creek Coin Fair. Free.** 277A Old Kingston Road at Military Trail. Info 416 286-9414. Saturdays and Sundays. 10 am – 4 pm.

### Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Transforming Social Work Forum. Free.** Issues and recommendations to be addressed include, but are not limited to, the need for sustaining many of the anti-oppressive and social justice practices in various program areas, agencies and mainstream organizations. Ryerson University, Jorgenson Hall Room POD-250. Info: 416 979-5000 ext. 6271. Lunch will be provided. 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.

**ROMwalk: Whiskey, Wharf and Windmills. Free.** Meet at King and Trinity Street, Highlights: Little Trinity Church, Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, First Firehall, Berkeley Castle, Distillery District. 416 586-8097. 2:00 pm. Rain or Shine.

### Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>

**All Day Bird Walk with Luc Fazio. Free.** Toronto Ornithological Club. See peak migration at the Toronto Islands. Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street in time to catch the 8:00 am ferry to Hanlan's Point. Bring lunch. No pets please.

### Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

**Discover Your Heritage Seniors Group. Fee \$4.00.** Heritage Ontario presents programs relating to Toronto and Ontario's cultural history. Leaside Library, 165 McRae Drive. Info: 416 396-3835. 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

**Curious About Yoga? Free.** Gentle Hatha-based movements guaranteed to strengthen, relax and rejuvenate. Bring a towel or a mat and dress comfortably. All ages welcome. Annette Street Library, 145 Annette St. Info: 416 816-7016. 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

### Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

**ROMwalk Renaissance ROM. Free.** Meet in front of the Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park. Highlights: ROM, Church of the Redeemer, Royal Conservatory of Music, Taddle Creek, Flavelle House, Gardner Museum. Info: 416 586-8097. 6:00 pm. Rain or Shine.

**Alchemy. Free.** An Hour of Chamber Music. Princess Margaret Hospital. 610 University Ave. 12:00 noon.

### Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

**Yoga & Meditation. Free.** Gentle physical exercises, breathing techniques and meditation. College/Shaw Library, 766 College Street. Info: 416 393-7668. 10:30 -12:00 noon

**Nature Notes. Free.** Topic TBA. Rouge Valley Conservation Centre, 1749 Meadowvale Road. Info: 416 282-0453. 7:30 pm.

### Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

**Annual "More than Just a Yardage Sale"** This fundraiser offers incredible bargains on yard goods, decorator and quilting fabrics, wools and yarns, notions, trimmings and craft supplies and small mechanical equipment. Textile Museum of Canada, 55 Centre Ave. [Dundas & University at the St. Patrick Subway] Friday 11:00 - 6:00 pm.

### Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

**Doors Open Toronto. Free.** Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 29<sup>th</sup> Visit buildings not normally open to the public. Info: 416 338-3888. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

**Toronto Dominion Centre Penthouse View. Free.** Explore the 54<sup>th</sup> floor including the boardroom and learn about the TD Centre's architectural features. Also jazz in the ground floor lobby and a special collection of artifacts highlighting Toronto's first 10,000 years. 10 am – 4 pm.

**Phoenix Poet's Workshop. Free.** Bring copy of one poem for constructive critique. Hear other poets read their work. All ages welcome. College/Shaw Library, 766 College Street. Info: 393-7668. 2:00 to 4:30 pm.



**Toronto Field Naturalists' Walk. Free.** Chine Drive Ravine nature walk. Leader Ken Cook. Meet at the southeast corner of Kingston Rd. and Chine Dr. Bring binoculars. 10:00 am. No pets please.

**Haiku Deer Park. Free.** A workshop for people interested in writing haikus and other forms of poetry. Deer Park Library, 40 St. Clair Avenue East. For info: 905 640-4273. 1:00 - 4:00 pm.

**Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Music at Metropolitan. Donation.** Mayhem with the Metropolitan Choir and Silver Band. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East. Info: 416 363-0331. 2:00 pm.

**Toronto and Region Conservation Walk. Free.** Songbirds & Waterfowl in Highland Creek. Free. Meet at Col. Danforth Park just south of Kingston Rd. 9:00 am. No pets please.

**Parkdale People's Concerts. PWYC Donation.** Performers and music to be arranged. Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen Street West. Info: 416 533-7779. 7:00 pm.

**Heritage Walk. Free.** Ian Wheal Heritage Walk. Meet at the northeast corner of Gerrard Street East and Pape Ave. 2:00 pm.

**Rouge Valley Naturalists Nature Walk. Free.** Rain or shine. Meet at Amos Ponds at Old Finch Avenue and Pickering Town Line. 1:30 pm.

**Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Roy Thompson Hall Noon Hour Concert. Free.** Exultate Chamber Singers, Canadian folk songs. 60 Simcoe. Info: 416 872-4255. 12:00 noon.

**Writer's Forum. Free.** Read and discuss works in progress: prose, poetry and essays. All writers welcome. Annette Street Library, 145 Annette Street. Info: 416 393-7692. 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

**Riverdale Youth Singers. Free.** Awaken to Spring. Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto. 115 Simpson Ave. 416 875-1587. 7:30 pm.

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## **Self – Directed Recovery - Pat Deegan Revisited**

**By Malcolm MacPherson BA**

**Kingston Ontario**

**May 12, 2005**

In Pat's excellent presentation at Metro Hall on May 10<sup>th</sup>, she encouraged consumers to take charge of their own recovery and be self-directed which includes setting goals and making choices. As an individual with schizophrenia, I fully support this approach. It works for me.

What Pat didn't explain is that there are good choices and bad choices. Before making a choice, one must weigh the pros and cons as well as the future benefits and costs of making the choice. This is your responsibility to yourself.

One speaker from the audience from the floor said he had a client who ran up \$50,000 in credit card debt - with no means to repay. This was clearly a bad choice for this consumer's future. Maybe he will learn before making future naïve, ill-informed decisions.

Do "normal" people make bad choices? You bet they do! It is important to remember that whether one has a psychiatric disability or not, one is always better with a good choice. Being informed and weighing the pros and cons of each choice will always help. With choice comes responsibility. I encourage self-directedness in individuals. Three cheers for Pat Deegan.

An unknown source said, "Choice, not chance, determines one's destiny."  
Henry Ford said, "You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do." Malcolm

# Sound Times seeks Community Service Worker(s)

2 Positions Available  
Full Time, Permanent  
Weekend Shifts Required

Sound Times is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to provide individual supports, social support, educational and recreational opportunities to consumers of mental health services and psychiatric survivors. We are a peer initiative. Our services are provided by individuals who use, or have used, the mental health system. We are expanding our service to include a Pre Charge Diversion Project under the recently announced Mental Health and Justice Initiative. This project will provide outreach, support and services to consumers and survivors at risk of incurring criminal charges.

## Responsibilities:

- ✓ Maintain an environment that emphasizes a collaborative working relationship with the members of Sound Times
- ✓ Identify members' needs and aspirations
- ✓ Assist members in gaining the skills, resources and information necessary to make choices for services and supports
- ✓ Maintain effective working relationships with mainstream community mental health services, institutional/hospital sector services and selected criminal justice services
- ✓ Plan and implement activities in partnership with members
- ✓ Participate in outreach

## Qualifications:

- ✓ A degree or diploma in the social services field or equivalent personal experience with the mental health system
- ✓ Minimum of three years experience working in a social service setting
- ✓ Demonstrated understanding of and a commitment to peer support and an ability to articulate its role in self-directed recovery
- ✓ Working knowledge of community resources and the institutional sector
- ✓ A commitment to working with a team dedicated to innovative approaches to service and support for the consumer/survivor community
- ✓ An ability to work in an unstructured environment that demands flexibility, resourcefulness, commitment, an outstanding sense of humour and a deep appreciation for the struggle of the consumer/survivor movement.

Apply in confidence to:  
Lana Frado  
Executive Director  
Sound Times  
280 Parliament Street  
Toronto ON M5A 3A4  
lanafrado@soundtimes.com

Deadline for application: May 20<sup>th</sup>

Salary range: \$38,500 -\$41,200 plus benefits