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The Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre
Distributed through generous support from CSRU Program (Community Support and Research Unit) of
[CAMH](#) (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 1, 2006
Bulletin 322

C/S INFO CENTRE DROP-IN HOURS: 1-4 Monday-Friday. PHONE HOURS: 9-5 Monday-Friday
LOCATION: 252 College Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON
MAILING ADDRESS: c/o CAMH, 250 College Street, Toronto, ON M5T 1R8
TEL: 416 595-2882 FAX: 416 595-0291 E-MAIL: csinfo@camh.net

ODSP Changes Continued

These changes don't take place until November 1st, but since there's been a lot of waiting, worrying and wondering about them, we thought we'd tell you what we know so far. The first two changes alone make it far less scary to try out working and see how it goes.

You Get To Keep Your Drug Card, Dental and Vision Care

When you start a job, you will be able to keep your ODSP benefits until coverage is available from the employer. If you start at a place with no benefits, you will be able to keep your ODSP benefits with no limit on the length of time you can keep your drug card, dental and vision care benefits. (They are still working out the policy about what to do if you start working for a place that has benefits but a crummy plan, and we all know how expensive psychiatric drugs can be!).

Rapid Reinstatement Forever

If you start a job and it doesn't work out, you can be rapidly reinstated to ODSP without a long application process and qualification period. This also will be extended indefinitely, not just the old one year period.

Start-Up Benefit Increased & Expanded

The Employment Start-Up Benefit which was \$253 will be \$500 as of November 1st and will be extended to also cover costs for employment-related activities, like a job search, as well as costs related to starting or changing a job or a training program.

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Child Care Benefit Increased and Expanded

The up front child care benefit for informal child care, which used to be \$390, will be \$600 as of November 1st and will also be extended to cover costs for employment-related activities, like a job search, as well as costs related to starting or changing a job or a training program. This \$600 amount will also be the monthly allowable amount for informal childcare expenses. (I can't stop myself from editorializing here-- \$600 doesn't cover real child care costs, but it's a lot closer than Harper's \$100 a month!)

Disability-Related Work Expenses Increased

This amount was a maximum of \$140 per month and as of November 1st, it will be a maximum of \$300 per month.

New Employment Transition Benefit

If you work and go off ODSP, there's a \$500 bonus cheque. Their words: "For people exiting the system with employment earnings, there's a new \$500 Employment Transition Benefit (once in a 12-month period per benefit unit)."

The Money - The Most Important Part

The current system is that you can earn up to \$160 without it being clawed back and anything after that is docked off your cheque at 75%. There's been a lot of pressure to increase the \$160 amount that people could earn. That didn't happen. Instead, the new plan will give anyone who works any number of hours per month, at a job paying minimum wage or better, \$100, as a work-related benefit. However, now half of all earnings will be deducted from your ODSP cheque.

This actually works out for the better for many people.

For example, let's look at the old \$160 of earnings - old plan you would have kept it all. Under the new plan, ODSP would take half of what you earned leaving you with \$80, but then would give you the new \$100 bonus and would therefore leave you with \$180, \$20 to the good.

If you had a bad month and only worked 8 hours that month at the minimum wage of \$7.75, you'd earn \$62. ODSP would take \$31 and you'd keep \$31. But ODSP would also give you the new \$100 bonus for working and so you'd have \$131. You'd be \$69 to the good.

It becomes less "worth it" for singles right around the \$130 to \$150 earnings range when you end up working for a net increase of \$5 to \$15 a month, and for families on ODSP that point comes around the \$200 to \$250 range when you're actually losing between \$1.50 and \$17.50 for working that month. (The factor that's used now to base the deduction on is \$235 for families not the \$160 that's used for singles). It goes back to being beneficial for you once you pass these earnings ranges.

The Spouse Of the Disabled Person This change actually started April 1st.

The new policy reads as follows: "Spouses who do not have a disability and who do not have caregiving responsibilities may be required to look for work and will be given access to a full range of employment services through Ontario Works to help them find and keep jobs that can put them and their families on the path to greater financial independence."

The Increase in Rates

The much ballyhooed rate increase that was announced with a lot of fanfare, but was, in fact a paltry 2% is even more of an insult when we hear that the increase which was announced on March 23rd will not take effect until November of this year.

(new rates effective November, 2006)

OW Case Type	Current Basic Needs	Current Max. Shelter	Current Total	Basic Needs w/ 2% increase	Max. Shelter w/ 2% increase	Total w/ 2% increase
Single	\$201	\$335	\$536	\$205	\$342	\$547
Board and Lodging			\$420			\$428
Couple	\$402	\$527	\$929	\$410	\$538	\$948
Single Parent+1*	\$460	\$527	\$987	\$469	\$538	\$1,007
Single Parent+2**	\$590	\$571	\$1,161	\$602	\$582	\$1,184
Couple+1*	\$491	\$571	\$1,062	\$501	\$582	\$1,083
ODSP Case Type						
Single	\$532	\$427	\$959	\$543	\$436	\$979
Board and Lodging			\$730			\$745
Single+1*	\$796	\$672	\$1,468	\$812	\$685	\$1,497
Single+2*	\$961	\$729	\$1,690	\$980	\$744	\$1,724
Disabled+spouse	\$788	\$672	\$1,460	\$804	\$685	\$1,489
Disabled+spouse+1*	\$902	\$729	\$1,631	\$920	\$744	\$1,664
Institutions (MCSS)			\$843			\$860
Institutions (MOHLTC)			\$835			\$852
Personal Needs Allowance			\$116			\$118

*child under 12 years of age

**one child over 12 years of age, one child under 12 years of age

**In Bulletin #320, we asked you, how do you make ends meet on the ODSP allowance?
We received this submission from an anonymous reader.**

How I Manage on ODSP and Have Money Left Over By Anonymous

- First thing, I do, of course, is pay my rent
- I put aside money for the month in labeled compartments, in a small expandable file folder available at stationary stores
- Next, I buy or put aside money for my TTC pass
- Then I put away money for my telephone bill, which is under \$30 because I don't have any bells and whistles, just a built-in answering machine
- \$10 goes in the laundry file – I do only one load per week so that I have a full load of whites, lights, darks or linens
- I allow \$40 per month for outings, entertainment, gifts, cards and eating out (fast food outlets only). Anything left over accumulates for expensive occasions such as Christmas
- \$18 goes toward cat food and litter
- Because I'm an impulsive spender I allow \$40 just for that and try to confine my sprees to the Dollar Store
- \$240 goes to the food compartment (\$60 per week). My Dad scans the grocery flyers for specials.
- My Mom keeps my Visa card, which I use only when on a shopping expedition for something like a new winter coat. My sister, experienced in retail, is my consultant regarding comfort, practicality, and dollar value.
- The rest of the time, I spend cash only because spending actual money is a reality check for me. Using a credit card puts me in fantasy land and DEBT.
- I'm fortunate in that I don't need to spend any money on cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, cell phone, cable, coffees or lottery tickets
- My one extravagance is Coca Cola, which I really do try to put restraints on
- This comes to around \$500 a month plus rent
- Any extra money that comes my way (presents, GST, OW) I put in the bank for emergencies, clothes, vitamins, naturopath appointments and unexpected trips to the vet
- Although, I don't have any luxuries such as trips, vacations, a car or big shopping expeditions or eating out in fancy restaurants, I take advantage of free art and recreation activities and feel pretty content with my lifestyle.

Thank you, to our anonymous reader for sharing your experience.

Did you know?

If your landlord provides the heat to your unit, it is the landlord's responsibility to ensure that the heat is at a minimum of 21 degrees Celsius in all parts of the unit from September 15th to June 1st.

If you want to make a complaint, you can call the Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO)
416 597-5855 or www.acto.ca

Free & Low Cost Events

Monday, May 1st

Call to End Women's Poverty. Free. Meeting to discuss and take action on women's poverty issues. The 519 Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church St. Info: 416 392-3138 or 416 461-9849. 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

The Beggar's Description Film. Free. Directed by Pierre Tetrault. This documentary film tells the powerful story of the director's brother, Phil's experience with schizophrenia. Part of the 5 Days to Fight Stigma Campaign May 1st – 5th, which recognizes Youth Week and Mental Health Awareness Week through arts-based events, exploring the experience, perception and misconception of mental illness. Panel discussion to follow film. Ryerson University, Library Lecture Theatre, 350 Victoria St. Info: www.youthweek.org/5daystofightstigma. 7:00 – 9:00 pm.

Percussion Ensemble. Free. Royal Conservatory of Music Community School presents Percussion Ensemble with director Paul Houle, director. Royal Conservatory of Music, 90 Croatia St. Info: 416 408-2824 ext. 321. 7:30 pm.

Tuesday, May 2nd

Alchemy Music Performance. Free. Belmont House, 55 Belmont St. Info: 416 964-9231. 7:00 pm.

Life and Debt Film Screening – Mayworks Festival. \$6.00 (donation). Screening of Life and Debt, a documentary about the complexity of international lending, structural adjustment policies and free trade in relation to day-to-day realities of the people, whose lives they impact. Royal Cinema, 608 College St. Info: 416 599-9096 or www.mayworks.ca. 7:30 pm.

Community Information Forum on Addiction and Mental Health. Free. Choices: Understanding the Human and Legal Aspects of Accepting and Refusing Treatment Forum will discuss the laws governing mental health treatment, explore some of the issues facing the application of the legislation, and provide an opportunity for dialogue to bring greater understanding of the perspective of those most affected. Meeting Centre Room 2029, Centre For Addiction and Mental Health, 33 Russell St. Info: 416 535-8501 ext.4553 or www.camh.net/education/com_info_forums.html. 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

Wednesday, May 3rd

Sweet Home Alabama Movie. Free. Afternoon at the Movies presents this romantic comedy. Beaches Library, 2161 Queen St. East. Info: 416 393-7703. 2:00 pm.

The Power Plant Art Exhibitions. Free. The Welfare Show is an installation and performance work by artists Michael Elmgreen and Ingar Dragset. The Exhibition comments on the erosion of social welfare programs throughout the world. Also on view at the gallery, Lace Figures by Sharry Boyle and Wednesday Afternoon by Simon Martin. The Power Plant, 231 Queen's Quay West. Info: 416 973-4949 or www.harbourfrontcentre.com. 5:00 – 8:00 pm.

Thursday, May 4th

Travel Slide Presentation. Free. A slide travelogue of Scotland with Jim Low of the Toronto Camera Club. Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd. Info: 416 393-7610. 2:00 – 3:00 pm.

Yoga and Meditation. Free. Learn gentle physical exercises, breathing techniques and meditation. Bring a mat. College/Shaw Library, 766 College St. Info: 416 393-7668. 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Toronto Film Festival Talk. Free. West Toronto Junction Historical Society presents a talk on the 30 year history of the Toronto International Film Festival. Annette Library, 145 Annette St. Info: 416 244-4452. Meeting, 7:30 pm. Talk, 8:30 pm.

Friday, May 5th

Beach Studio Tour. Free. Local artist in the Beaches area open their studios to the public to show their works. Various studio locations include 3 Wembley Dr, 220 Lee Ave, 143 Wineva Ave and 17 Fernwood Park Ave. For a complete listing call Karen Frazen, 416 465-7477 or Diane Shelton, 416 699-4358. Info: www.beachstudiotour.ca. Studio Tour continues to May 6th. 10:00 – 6:00pm.

Grand Canyon Movie. Free. Dramatic comedy with Kevin Klein about family, relationships and life. Eatonville Library, 430 Burnhamthorpe Rd. Info: 416 394-5270. 2:00 pm.

Best of IMAGES FESTIVAL 2006 Screening. Free. Part of the On Stage series of performance-related lectures in the Atrium. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St. Info: 416 393-7131. 7:00 pm.



Saturday, May 6th

Ontario College of Art Graduate Exhibition. Free. The College holds its graduate show of student works. Exhibition continues to May 7th. Ontario College of Art, 100 McCaul St. Info: 416 977-6000 or www.ocad.ca. 11:00 – 6:00 pm.

Madison Ave. Heritage Walk. Free. Explore the grandeur of the Annex in Toronto. With leaders Ed Freeman and Corinne Baranger. Meet at Madison Ave. and Bloor St. W. Info: 416 338-0684 or www.heritagetoronto.org. 1:30 pm.

Non-Violence Festival. Free. This Festival is part of planned activities, held simultaneously in other countries around the world, recognizing a Day of Non-Violence. There will be live music, a drumming circle, creative activities, speakers and more. Dufferin Grove Park (The park is on the east side of Dufferin St. south of Bloor St.). Info: The Humanist Movement, 416 653-0887 or www.nonviolencefestival.com. 1:00 – 6:00 pm.

Sunday, May 7th

Hike for Hospice. Free. Join this Annual Fund Raiser for Casey House's Community Programs. Register as a participant, there is a 2.5 K scenic route and a 5K challenge route. You can also support the hike by encouraging the hikers, volunteering for the event or by making a donation. Riverdale Park, (Broadview Ave. and Gerrard St. E.) Info: 416 962-4040 ext 235, email, lmilley@caseyhouse.on.ca or www.caseyhouse.com. Check-in, 10:00 am. Hike, 11:00 am.

Music History Heritage Walk. Free. Discover the music history of Toronto on the Yonge Street strip. Visit the famous clubs like The Colonial, concert venues like Massey Hall and hear stories about Oscar Peterson and Glenn Gould and many more. With leader, Nicholas Jennings. Meet at the southwest corner of Yonge and Queen Streets. Info: 416 338-0684 or www.heritagetoronto.org. 11:00 am

The Danforth Heritage Walk. Free. Explore the history and architecture of this neighbourhood. Meet on the front lawn of the City Adult Learning Centre, 1 Danforth Ave. (Broadview Subway). Info: 416 338-0684 or www.heritagetoronto.org. 1:30 pm.

Mehndi Demonstration. Free. Sumreen Naz discusses and demonstrates the art of Mehndi. Gerrard/Ashdale Library, 1432 Gerrard St. East. Info: 416 393-7717. 2:00 – 3:00 pm.

Piano Performance. Voluntary donation. Mathew Otto plays music on piano. Newman Centre, 89 St. George St. Info: 416 979-2468. 2:30 pm.

Parkdale Stories Walking Tour – Mayworks Festival. PWYC. Join Parkdale residents and local artists, Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha and Reena Katz as they take you on a people's walking tour of the real Parkdale – traveling to sites of people's everyday stories and moments of resistance in this neighbourhood. Meet at the south-east corner of Gladstone and Queen Streets. Info: 416 599-9096 or www.mayworks.ca. 3:00 pm.

Monday, May 8th

A Collected View: Ten Years of Photography Acquisitions 1995-2005. Free. This exhibition presents a diverse selection of photographs from collections that were donated to the Archives between 1995 and 2005. Exhibition continues to September 16, 2006. The City of Toronto Archives, 255 Spadina Rd. Info: 416 397-5000 or www.toronto.ca/archives/contact.htm. Open from Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 4:30 pm.

Tuesday, May 9th

Imagining a Shattered Earth Photography Exhibition – Contact Photography Festival. Free. The photo exhibition explores the impact of globalism on the environment. Well known Canadian photographers, Edward Burtynsky, John Gains, Peter Goin, David Maisel and others are featured. Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art (MOCCA) 952 Queen St. West. Info: 416 395-7490 or www.mocca.toronto.ca. Contact Photography Festival continues until May 30th. For more information on exhibitions, events and locations contact: 416 539-9595 or www.contactphoto.com. Exhibition is open Tuesday – Sundays, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm.



Wednesday, May 10th

Intolerable Cruelty Movie. Free. Afternoon at the Movies presents this romantic comedy with Catherine Zeta-Jones and George Clooney. Beaches Library, 2161 Queen St. East. Info: 416 393-7703. 2:00 pm.

Using Emotional Intelligence to Find Work. Free. Learn to job search using your emotional intelligence. Speaker Grace Tallar. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St. Info: 416 395-5577. 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Thursday, May 11th

Talk on Words and Language. Free. An afternoon with Katherine Barber, The Word Lady, editor-in-chief of the Canadian Oxford Dictionary, and author of Six Words You Never Knew Had Something To Do With Pigs. Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd. Info: 416 393-7610. 2:00 – 3:00 pm.



Author Talk. Free. Elizabeth May (the Sierra Club of Canada) discusses her latest book, How to Save the World in Your Spare Time. The book is an inspiring and telling account of the author's life and work as an activist. 215 Spadina Ave. (between Dundas and Queen St.). Pre-registration and information contact Saul Ettlin, 416 324-2792 or www.sustain.web.ca. 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

Author's Read and Talk. Free. The Library presents tales about Native Canadians with readings and a discussion. Joseph Boyden reads from his bestselling book, Three Day Road, a tale of brutality, survival and rebirth. Thomas King reads from A Short History of Indians in Canada, a collection of witty stories exploring the relationship between Native and Canadian Society. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St. Info: 416 393-7131. 7:00 pm.

Asian Heritage Month Gala Launch. Free. Hosted by CITY TV news personality Jee-Jun Lee. Featuring readings by Joy Kogawa, Madeleine Thien and Jaspreet Singh. Refreshments served. Palmerston Library, 560 Palmerston Avenue. Info: 416 393-7680. 7:00 pm.

Alternative Health Talk. Free. Learn how to identify and avoid possible allergens such as dairy and wheat with a discussion and cooking demonstration by Theresa Santandrea-Cull. Room 212, 2nd Floor, Carrot Common, 348 Danforth Avenue. Info: 416 466-2129. 7:00 pm.

Friday, May 12th

Comedy on the Danforth. Free. The Improv Comedy of The Wrecking Crew. Timothy's World of Coffee, 320 Danforth Ave. Info: www.fastanddirty.ca. 9:00 pm.

Saturday, May 13th

Writer's Group Open House. Free. High Park Writer's Group hosts an open house with readings and discussion of works. High Park Library, 228 Roncesvalles Ave. Info: 416 393-7671. 11:30 am – 1:30 pm.

Cabbagetown – South Heritage Walk. Free. Explore the architecture and the stories of the people who have lived in the neighbourhood. Meet at the north east corner of Winchester and Parliament Streets. Info: 416 338-0684 or www.heritagetoronto.org. 1:30 pm.

Tabla Fusion Music Performance. Free. Gurpreet Chana merges the rhythmic patterns of traditional Indian Tabla music from Punjab with many other genres of music in what he calls Tabla Fusion. Fairview Library, 35 Fairview Mall Drive. Info: 416 395-5750. 2:00 pm.

Sunday, May 14th

Kingsway Park Heritage Walk. Free. Walk through this west end area and learn about the history, architecture and nature of the neighbourhood. Leader Alec Keefer from the Architectural Conservancy of Toronto. Meet at the Old Mill Subway Station. Info: 416 338-0684 or www.heritagetoronto.org. 1:30 pm.

Wildflower Walk. Free. Toronto Green Community and Toronto Field Naturalist present this special annual nature walk. Lambton House, 4066 Old Dundas St. West (on the east bank of the Humber River going into the Magwood Sanctuary). Info: 416 781-7663 or www.lostrivers.ca. 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

Monday, May 15th

Public Meeting for the Toronto Cycling Committee. Free. Public discussion into the design, development and delivery of bicycle policies programs and facilities in Toronto. City Hall, 100 Queen St. West. Info: 416 392-7592. 7:00 pm.

Recreational Community Swim. Free. Swimming in the heart of the city. Harrison Pool, 15 Stephanie St. Info: 416 392-7984. Recreational swim, 2:00 – 7:00 pm. Adult Swim, 12 noon – 2:00 pm and 7:00 – 8:00 pm.



Announcements

The C/S Info Centre's **free** income tax clinic is still open after **April 30th**.

The guidelines set by Canada Customs and Revenue Agency are: single person: income under \$20,000; person with dependants: under \$25,000; no complicated returns: no self-employment income, no bankruptcies, no rental income, no capital gains. Please call the centre for an appointment at **416 595-2882**.

Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)

Do you want to help improve the health care system?

Come find out what the new **Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network** does and how it will involve the community to make the local health care system more responsive to you and the others it serves.

Meeting 1

Monday May 1, 2006

7:00 – 9:00 pm

The Assembly Hall
Performance Hall
1 Colonel Samuel Smith Park Dr.

Meeting 2

Wednesday, May 3, 2006

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Metro-Central YMCA, Auditorium
20 Grosvenor Street

Meeting 3

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Northern District Library
Room 200
40 Orchard View Blvd.

Meeting 4

Thursday, May 4, 2006

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Riverdale Collegiate
Cafeteria
1094 Gerrard St. East

Meeting 5

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Kimbourne Park United Church
Church Hall
200 Wolverleigh Blvd.

If you have accessibility needs, or need further information, please call **416 644-2908**.

THE **OLDER PERSONS' MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS NETWORK** presents

DEPRESSION IS NOT A NORMAL PART OF AGING!

A PANEL PRESENTATION SPONSORED BY THE ONTARIO (SOCIETY) COALITION OF SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS, THE OLDER ADULT CENTRES' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO AND THE OLDER PERSONS' MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS NETWORK. **FREE – ALL WELCOME!**

THURSDAY MAY 4, 2006 from 2:00–4:00 pm

20 GROSVENOR STREET, DOWNTOWN YMCA, ROOM 2AB

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT **416 785-8570** OR **WWW.OCSCO.CA**

Understanding the path to mental health recovery

Learn from family members, consumer/survivors and community advocate perspectives about the Recovery Model which promotes healing and hope. Sponsored by Community Resource Connections of Toronto (CRCT), Rouge Valley Health System, Family Association for Mental Health Everywhere (F.A.M.E.), family and consumer/survivor advocates

Thursday, May 4, 2006 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm at Malvern Library, 30 Sewells Rd. (at Neilson)

Information contact: 416 207-5032

Addiction and Anger Clinic Education Evening. Come learn more about:

What is Anger?

First in a series of free educational topics on anger and addiction.

Thursday May 11th, 2006 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm (Light refreshments to be served)

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, 33 Russell St, Eli Lilly Centre, Room 2022

For more information please call **416 535-8501, Debbie Stavropoulos ext. 4815 or Shira Green ext. 6683**

Recovery at Work: A Peer Support Workforce as Agent for Change

The Ontario Recovers Campaign is hosting a one-day conference/forum with special guest, **Larry Fricks**, a founder of the Georgia Certified Peer Specialist Program.

Wednesday, May 24, 2006 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

To register contact Brian McKinnon, bmckinnon@iprimus.ca. Phone: 416 285-7996 Ext. 227

Make cheques payable to Alternatives, 2034 Danforth Ave., Toronto, ON M4C 1J6

For more information, contact Robert MacKay at 416 628-7500 or RobertMacKay007@hotmail.com

Managing Mental Health Naturally

A **Free** information session on supporting mental health with naturopathic medicine. The presentation will present a basic overview of naturopathic medicine, followed by a film clip, and discussion with Naturopathic doctors and patients with mental health concerns. Question and answer will follow the talk.

Thursday, May 11, 2006 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

**The Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine,
1255 Sheppard Ave. East (Leslie subway station)**

For more information contact: Heather Gibson at **416 498-1255 ext. 263**

hgibson@ccnm.edu or www.ccnm.edu

Employment Related Events

Community Connections - Tuesday, May 2, 2006 from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. This one-day event provides an opportunity to hear from industry experts in the areas of employment, recruitment, interviewing and networking. There will be a variety of exhibitors with information that can help you with: employment and training opportunities, programs and services for adults, youth and newcomers, and self-employment opportunities.

Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Drive (McCowan and Ellesmere) Scarborough.

For more information, **416 299-6625** or email, community.connections@senecac.on.ca

Finish What You Start Day (FWS)

The Independent Learning Centre offers High School courses through correspondence and administers the General Education Development (GED) testing program – which allows individuals to earn their diploma or high school equivalency. Learn more about the program at the all-day drop-in centre on the 1st floor, Eaton's Centre or at the Finch, Eglinton and Bloor Subway Stations on **Tuesday, May 2, 2006.**

For more information contact: **Lisa Leclair at 416 484-2600 ext 2306 or lleclair@tvontario.org**

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed to help out at some of the Festivals and Events in Toronto.

Canadian Cancer Society needs volunteers for its fundraising event, TOAST on **Thursday, May 4, 2006** at the Historic Distillery District from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. For more information contact Michelle Hewton at **416 485-0222 Ext. 33**, mhewton@ontario.cancer.ca or www.cancer.ca.

Walk for Autism Research needs volunteers to help out with this annual event on **Sunday, May 14, 2006** starting at Mel Lastman Square in North York. For more information contact: **416 362-6227** or <http://canada.autismwalk.org/>
Art of Jazz Festival - Do you enjoy jazz music? Volunteers are needed for this 5 day celebration at the Historic Distillery District featuring Canadian and international jazz artists. Times available include **May 17th - May 19th** in the evenings. Day and evenings on **May 20 - 21st**. For more information contact, Julie Webster at **416 840-7663**, e-mail, Julie@artofjazz.org, www.artofjazz.org.

Milk International Children's Festival – Volunteers are needed for this annual 8 day celebration at Harbourfront Centre. Positions available on the weekends of **Sunday, May 21st**, **Monday, May 22nd** (Victoria Day) and **Saturday, May 27th**, **Sunday, May 28th** from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm as well during the week of **Tuesday May 23rd** to **Friday, May 26th** from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. For more information contact **416 952-3625** or volunteers@harbourfrontcentre.com.

For more information on short-term volunteer opportunities for the various festivals or special events in Toronto, www.volunteertoronto.on.ca/calendar_myvolRap.asp or www.charityvillage.ca/applicant/volunteer.asp.

Job Postings

Part-time Seasonal Event Security Officer for Harbourfront Centre. (Rotating Shift/Evening and Weekend) from May – September/ 15-30 hours/week). Qualifications: Previous experience; enjoy working with public; strong interpersonal communication skills; work independently; reliable, punctual, hardworking, and a team player; First Aid, CPR assets. \$10.00/hr. **Apply** by mail, **Quoting Job Reference # J021** to: **Human Resources, 235 Queens Quay West, Toronto, ON M5J 2G8**, Fax **416 973-1003** or e-mail, jobs@harbourfrontcentre.com.
Deadline: **Monday, May 8, 2006**. Posted: www.harbourfrontcentre.com.

Part-time Event Security Representative for Toronto Centre for the Arts. Qualifications: Excellent customer service and ability to deal with people; good understanding of fire and safety procedures; excellent written and verbal communication skills; report writing; First Aid and CPR training. **Apply** with resume and cover letter by **mail**, to **Peter Kincaid, Hiring 2006 Security, Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M2N 6R8**. E-mail, pkincaid@tocentre.com. Fax, **416 733-9478**. Posted: www.workinculture.ca/Jobboard.

Full-time Day Lawn Care Specialist. Experience an asset. \$9.00 - \$14.00/hr. **Apply** by **mail** to **The Kutting Krew, 187 Ferris Rd., Toronto, ON M4B 1H2** or e-mail, keithe@pathcom.com. Posted: www.jobbank.gc.ca.

Part-time/on call Banquet Service Staff for the Granite Club. Previous experience required. **Apply** by fax, **416 510-6683** or e-mail, hr@graniteclub.com. Posted: www.workopolis.com.

Part-time (2.5 days) Community Support Worker for Accommodation Information and Support Inc. Qualifications: 3 years relevant experience; understand issues facing homeless/mental health/trauma related behaviours and addictions; strong advocacy skills; work well under pressure; good problem solving skills based on client-centered framework; excellent writer and verbal communication skills. Prorated: \$44,254.15. **Apply** by fax, **416 504-0239** or mail to **AIS Inc., 720 Spadina Ave. Toronto, ON M5S 2T9**. Deadline: **Friday, May 5, 2006**. Posted: www.charityvillage.ca.

Full-time Outreach Team Coordinator for Parkdale Activity – Recreation Centre. Qualifications: 5 years experience in outreach, case management/community based support and service; assessment, communication and organizational skills; computer literate; empathetic, self-directed and positive. Salary range – \$42,750-\$48,998. **Apply** by **mail** to **Victor Willis, Executive Director, Parkdale Activity – Recreation Centre, 1499 Queen St. West, Toronto, ON M6R 1A3** or e-mail, vwillis@parc.on.ca. Deadline: **May 19, 2006**. Posted: www.charityvillage.ca.