



141 Laurier Avenue West/Ouest, Suite 702, Ottawa, ON, K1P 5J3

Action

Prevention

Acceptance

A voice for Canada's mental health providers, consumers, and families

Established in 1998, the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) is the national voice for mental health organizations representing consumers, families, community mental health groups, and health care providers.

We are dedicated to facilitating and promoting a Canadian action plan on mental health and mental illness, as well as a national strategy to promote mental health literacy among Canadians.

The Vision and Values of CAMIMH

We envision a country where all Canadians enjoy good mental health, and where Canadians with mental illnesses, their families and care providers have access to the care, support and respect to which they are entitled in parity with other health conditions.

CAMIMH's core values include a Canada free of the discrimination and stigma associated with mental illness, the promotion of optimal mental health for all Canadians, and that mental health and mental illness are the responsibility of all governments, their departments and agencies.

The benefits of belonging

CAMIMH's members ally themselves within a national organization that has achieved extraordinary accomplishments bringing mental health and illness issues onto the national agenda and into the public's awareness.

Some of the results of CAMIMH's success include...

- A leadership role in the creation of the **Mental Health Commission of Canada** (2007).
- **Mental Illness Awareness Week** – Established in 1992, this CAMIMH-led campaign has grown in its scope and success. This week raises awareness of mental illness and targets stigma. It also celebrates Canadian Champions of Mental Health, and profiles community members who have lived with mental illness.
- The publication of key documents demanding the formation of a National strategy on mental health, including publication of "**A Call for Action: Building Consensus for a National Action Plan on Mental Illness and Mental Health**" (2000).
- **Extensive advocacy efforts** directed at the federal government, including Health Canada, the Standing committee on Social Affairs, Science and technology (2000-2002).

...as well as ongoing initiatives that carries the Alliance's vision into the future with

- **The Mental Health Literacy Project.** The findings of this important project were released in February 2008.
- **Development of a National Mental Health Literacy Strategy**
- The continued success of **Mental Illness Awareness Week.**

Full members of the Alliance also receive the following benefits:

- The ability to share information across a broad network of mental health and illness organizations.
- Monthly editions of the CAMIMH e-newsletter.
- Access to members-only material on the CAMIMH website (www.camimh.ca).
- Eligibility to vote in all CAMIMH elections, and an active role in the affairs of CAMIMH.
- Eligibility to stand for election on CAMIMH's committees.



Membership Application

Please complete the following:

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Street, Suite/ Apt

City

Province / State

Postal / ZIP Code

Country

Telephone day: _____

website: _____

Fax: _____

email: _____

Name of contact person (senior staff member) : _____

Position / role: _____

Name of chief elected officer (if not the same, senior Board member): _____

Position / role: _____

How did you hear about CAMIMH? (E.g. colleague, news, etc.) _____

Additional information:

Please attach the following:

1. The mandate of the applying organization.
2. And/or, an organizational background document of no more than 2 pages.
3. A 1 page document explaining why the organization wishes to become a member of CAMIMH, including anticipated contributions and expectations as members in the Alliance.

PLEASE NOTE

Regarding the membership application process:

- All membership applications are reviewed by the Management Committee for assessment of eligibility.
- Candidates are then presented to the full membership (via e-mail, face to face meeting or phone) for final approval.
- Membership will be made effective immediately upon acceptance by the by the Management Committee, full membership and receipt of fee payment. Applicants will be notified of new membership directly.
- **Members may apply for a reduced membership fee.** Please contact CAMIMH's Administrative Coordinator prior to submitting your application to discuss the possibility of a lower fee.

Once membership is approved:

- New members are presented at the next Membership meeting.
- Full members (see Member Accountability Framework) may vote at the next Annual Meeting.
- Full members must have one year of experience within CAMIMH before they may stand for election to the executive committee.
- All members are welcome to provide input into CAMIMH's work in any of the following ways:
 - Informally:
 - By approaching any board member
 - By sitting on a committee, each of which provides information and input to the board
 - Formally:
 - Through contributions to the monthly newsletter
 - Round-table check-in at members' meetings



| Membership Categories | Annual Fee |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ^ Full member fees: ^ Consumer or Family Groups ^ Community Mental Health Organization ^ Service Provider and Professional Groups ^ Friends are defined as follows: ^ Organizations or corporations wishing to support CAMIMH by providing unrestricted financial grants. | \$1500 \$2000 \$3000 \$5000+ |
| Applicable Annual Fee: | |
| Contribution as a Friend of CAMIMH | |
| | |
| **** Total Amount payable: | |

Please enclose your cheque made payable to:

Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health

And mail to:

**Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH)
141 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 702
Ottawa, ON, K1P 5J3**

I have read and accept CAMIMH's Vision and Values, and membership guidelines as outlined in the Member Accountability Framework (attached):

Signed:
(Must be signing authority)

Date:

Organization:

For more information please contact CAMIMH.



Vision and Values

All members agree to support the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health's Mandate, Vision and Goals. Members also agree to uphold the Alliance's spirit of consensus-based decision making, and accept diverse perspectives held by Alliance member organizations that reflect the differing perspectives of service provider and consumer communities.

CAMIMH's Vision

We envision a country where all Canadians enjoy good mental health. Canadians with mental illnesses, their families and care providers must have access to the care, support and respect to which they are entitled and in parity with other health conditions.

CAMIMH's Core Values – We believe:

1. In a Canada free of the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness.
2. In people's capacity to help themselves and each other.
3. In preserving confidentiality and in informed consent (for treatment purposes).
4. In promoting optimal mental health for all Canadians.
5. That the knowledge base ABOUT mental illness and mental health must reflect a variety of perspectives (e.g., different disciplines, consumers and families).
6. That mental health and illness programs and services should be based on effective (best) practices.
7. In the meaningful participation of people with mental illness, together with their families and with professionals, at all levels of mental health planning, policy development and service delivery.
8. That all Canadians with mental illnesses have an equal right to access and continuity of quality health care, social supports and the elements of citizenship.
9. Mental health and mental illness are the responsibility of all governments and their departments and agencies.
10. In a publicly funded and equitable health care system serving all Canadians including those with a mental illness, their families and caregivers.
11. That our mental health and illness programs and policies need to reflect the diversity of cultures in Canadian society, as well as the uniqueness of each individual.
12. In the importance and availability of a wide range of resource options (e.g., self-help groups, families, hospitals and community clinics) for the promotion of mental health and for the prevention of disability, treatment and support to wellness, and rehabilitation of persons with mental illnesses.



CANADIAN ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH
MEMBERS' ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

1) Principles

- 1.1 All members make a tangible commitment to support CAMIMH's mission.
- 1.2 CAMIMH's membership must reflect a balance of:
 - Consumer and Family organizations; and
 - Service Provider and Professional organizations.
- 1.3 There is only one category of full membership,
 - Full membership is reserved for national, not-for-profit organizations or Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for which mental illness and mental health represent a significant mandate. Full membership accords the member organization full voting rights and an active role in the affairs of CAMIMH. This includes eligibility to run for a position on the management committee and participation in Committees.
 - Organizations can also become 'Friends' of CAMIMH. This is open to any organization or corporate entity for which mental illness and mental health represent a significant priority or concern and who wish to demonstrate their support for CAMIMH and its mandate. Friends are **non-voting members** and are not eligible for membership on CAMIMH's management committee. However, Friends can suggest individuals whose time they wish to volunteer to the services of CAMIMH's committees or otherwise.
- 1.4 It is the organization, not the individual, which holds membership in CAMIMH.
 - Each organization appoints up to two representatives to participate in CAMIMH affairs. It is advisable that representation include one senior staff member and one senior Board member.
 - The representatives should be able to make reasonable level commitments on behalf of the organization.
 - It is advisable that the representatives are designated by resolution of the organization's Board of Directors or Executive.
 - Member organizations have the right to appoint alternates.
- 1.5 Members agree to work within a consensus-based decision-making approach.
- 1.6 Supporters who are not eligible or do not wish to become full members can demonstrate their support by becoming a **Friend** of CAMIMH
 - Friends of CAMIMH can be organizations or corporations wishing to support CAMIMH's mission and activities by providing unrestricted financial grants.
 - Friends may additionally donate time of experts to work on certain CAMIMH Committees.



2) Fee Structure

The following membership fee structure is a guideline. It is not meant to discourage appropriate membership. The management committee can negotiate a lesser fee when indicated.

2.1 Full member fees are as follows:

- Consumer and Family Groups - \$1,500 annually.
- Community Mental Health Organizations - \$2,000 annually.
- Service Provider and Professional Groups - \$3,000 annually.

2.2 Unrestricted grants from Friends fees generally begin at \$5,000 annually.

3) Governance Structure and Voting Rights

3.1 The management committee is elected by and comprised of full members and is the day to day decision-making committee of CAMIMH.

3.2 The management committee is composed of the following positions:

- Chair
- Vice-chair or Co-Chair
- Treasurer - who also chairs the Finance Committee
- Secretary - The Secretary is responsible for recording the business and decisions of the executive committee.
- Members-at-large. There shall be at least one Member at Large. Members-at-large must chair at least one Committee.

3.3 There should be the opportunity for balance in consumer/family representation and service provider/professional representation in the selection of Chair and Vice-chair.

3.4 Members of the Management Committee must have at least one year of experience within CAMIMH. Each Management Committee member is appointed for a two-year term with the possibility of a one-year renewal.

3.5 Members of the Management Committee are elected by full members and are accountable for the execution of CAMIMH's strategic plan and daily administrative decisions.

3.6 The nominating committee for executive positions is appointed by full members of CAMIMH. The nominating committee is responsible for bringing forward a slate of nominees for vacant management committee positions.

3.7 To ensure the continued centrality of consumer and family voices, at least 2/5ths of the seats on the management committee are filled by representatives from consumer/family organizations.

3.8 Full members are approached annually to put forward candidates for vacant positions on the management committee. Full members vote on the slate of candidates by secret ballot.



3.9 Decision making

All CAMIMH members are encouraged to share their points of view concerning CAMIMH's affairs. Full consensus of voting members is required on strategic directions. A consensus- based decision making process is preferred on all other decisions as well. However, should a vote be required to reach a decision;

- A three-quarters majority is required to carry a decision for major administrative/financial issues, in the event that consensus cannot be achieved.
- Daily administrative/financial decisions are managed by the executive committee based on the same principals.

4) Review and acceptance of new Members and Friends

4.1 A request for membership or proposals from potential Friends are initially reviewed by the management committee for eligibility. Candidates are then presented to all full members (face-to- face, by e-mail or phone) for final approval.

5) Removing Memberships and Friends

5.1 Requests to revoke a membership or Friend status are initially reviewed by the management committee and then presented to all full members (face-to-face, by e-mail or phone) for final approval.