



2 0 0 8 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

## Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health

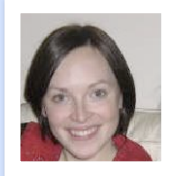
CONNECTING PEOPLE IDEAS AND RESOURCES

[www.ccsmh.ca](http://www.ccsmh.ca)

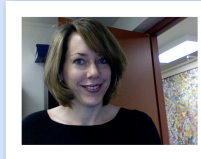
### \* Staffing Changes at the CCSMH Office \*



After almost four years of leadership and support as Executive Director of the CCSMH, Faith Malach has moved on to a new role with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, working as the Director of Stakeholders and Strategy. As you know if you had the chance to work with her, Faith brought passion, expertise and enthusiasm to the work of the CCSMH. Under Faith's guidance the CCSMH blossomed into a thriving coalition and gained recognition across Canada. While we certainly miss Faith and her energy we wish her all the best of luck in her new ventures.



Kimberley Wilson has taken over the role of Executive Director as of November 2007. Kim started with the CCSMH in September 2005. Feel free to contact Kim at any time at [kwilson@baycrest.org](mailto:kwilson@baycrest.org)



The CCSMH is also pleased to welcome Sherri Helsdingen to the team as the newest CCSMH project manager. Sherri comes to the CCSMH from the Canadian Health Network Women's Health Affiliate where she was the Communications and Promotions Specialist. If you would like to contact Sherri directly she can be reached at [shelsdingen@baycrest.org](mailto:shelsdingen@baycrest.org)

Welcome back to the CCSMH newsletter! It has been a few years since we have published a newsletter and hope you will enjoy our new format! We are open to suggestions and changes as well as contributions from our membership for upcoming editions. It is our hope that this will become a useful mechanism for communication to our members on a quarterly basis. We also hope to keep you up-to-date on events and news in the world of seniors' mental health. Please send any contributions, event listings and news stories to [kwilson@baycrest.org](mailto:kwilson@baycrest.org) for inclusion in the CCSMH newsletter series.



# Updates from the Executive Director

## 2007 In Review

The CCSMH had another exciting year in 2007. With our 2nd National Conference: New Directions in Seniors' Mental Health, the ongoing dissemination of our National Guidelines for Seniors' Mental Health, the establishment of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, and a new grant from the Public Health Agency of Canada it was a busy year!!

## What's Happening in 2008?

The first half of 2008 is dedicated to the completion of our Population Health Fund, Public Health Agency of Canada grant. This grant is focused on the ongoing dissemination of the CCSMH National Guidelines for Seniors' Mental Health as well as the implementation of the guidelines in a variety of settings and disciplines. Project highlights to date include:

- Hosting a Special Research Workshop on "Adapting the CCSMH Guideline on the Assessment and Treatment of Delirium to Palliative Care Settings"
- Creating user-friendly fold out tools to assist in the assessment of depression in older adults for family physicians.
- Working with a inter-professional team at Baycrest to implement recommendations from the Long-Term Care Homes guidelines
- A script development for an online video and a brochure used to help teach "suicide prevention in older adults"
- A special project in Ontario working with psychogeriatric resource consultants to create strategies for implementing the Long Term Care Home recommendations in Ontario Long Term Care Homes.

***Stay tuned for more exciting updates from these projects in our next newsletter!***

The CCSMH is also excited to announce that we will be partnering with the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry (CAGP) and having a two day conference in September 2008!! And this time we'll be moving to the West Coast! We hope you can join us in Vancouver on September 3rd and 4th to look at the **"The Future of Geriatric Mental Health in Canada."**

[www.ccsmh.ca](http://www.ccsmh.ca)



**CANADIAN COALITION FOR SENIORS' MENTAL HEALTH**  
To promote seniors' mental health by connecting people, ideas and resources

**COALITION CANADIENNE POUR LA SANTÉ MENTALE DES PERSONNES ÂGÉES**  
Promouvoir la santé mentale des personnes âgées en reliant les personnes, les idées et les ressources

# 2008 CCSMH Conference

For the first time ever, the CCSMH is partnering with the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry to bring you two days of exciting news and updates from the field of seniors' mental health. On September 3rd 2008, the CCSMH will be hosting a day with a focus on the future of Geriatric Mental Health in Canada plus an opportunity to see the final products / programs created by the CCSMH Guideline Pilot Projects. The program on September 4th will be organized by members of the CAGP. Following the CCSMH / CAGP meeting the Canadian Psychiatric Association will be hosting their annual conference in the same venue!

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## **2008 Conference Details**

**Location: The Fairmont Hotel, Vancouver, British Columbia**

**Date: September 3rd 2008 & September 4th 2008 (CAGP day)**

### **Highlights Include:**

**Two exciting keynote presentations and an opportunity to contribute to the creation of Canada's first ever Mental Health Strategy!**

- **Dr. Marie-France Rivard on the Future of Geriatric Mental Health in Canada**
- **Dr. Gillian Mulvale / Dr. Howard Chodos from the Mental Health Commission of Canada: The National Mental Health Strategy: What's Needed for Seniors?**

### **Exciting Workshops including:**

- **viewing the NEW CCSMH suicide prevention DVD and brochure**
- **participating in the multidisciplinary guideline training modules created by the Nova Scotia Seniors' Mental Health Network**
- **a presentation of a training module on depression assessment created by the National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE Network)**



# Coming Soon ...



The CCSMH, in partnership with the British Columbia Psychogeriatric Association (BCPGA) has just completed a NEW resource called **“Promoting Seniors’ Mental Health in Cancer Care: A Guide for Frontline Providers.”** This document will be available in Spring 2008 on both the CCSMH website ([www.ccsmh.ca](http://www.ccsmh.ca)) and the BCPGA website ([www.bcpga.bc.ca](http://www.bcpga.bc.ca)). The Guide covers a wide array of topics including information on cancer in the older adult, general care considerations (i.e. promoting mental health in end-of-life care, screening for emotional distress), details on specific clinical considerations (i.e. understanding pain, understanding delirium), and challenging issues (i.e. caregiver burden, self care for care providers), as well as information on practical support that older adults may need during a cancer diagnosis. For more information, please contact Penny MacCourt at [pmaccourt@shaw.ca](mailto:pmaccourt@shaw.ca).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CCSMH / CAGP CONFERENCE

September 3rd - 4th, 2008

The Fairmont Hotel, Vancouver, British Columbia

More details to be posted on the CCSMH ([www.ccsmh](http://www.ccsmh)) and CAGP ([www.cagp.ca](http://www.cagp.ca)) websites!

Hope to see you in Vancouver!

### 2008 CANADIAN RAI CONFERENCE: MAKING THE QUALITY CONNECTION

May 28 - 30th, 2008

Edmonton, Alberta

For more information please visit <http://www.capitalhealth.ca/rai2008>

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