



Winter 2010

Northern Ontario Area

Northern Neighbours Working Together

Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the CAMH in the Community e-newsletter. The top banner reads "Northern Neighbours Working Together". I've come to see this as the genuine approach to servicing communities in Northern Ontario. There is a common pride in being a 'Northerner' and there are Northern priorities that resonate across the North East; North West; Near North and Far North. It is our goal at CAMH to work with you side-by-side to address mental health and addictions' priorities in the NOA (Northern Ontario Area). The focus of this inaugural newsletter is on prescribed opioids. This is a priority addiction challenge that we all face in Northern Ontario. We hope that you will find the prevention, education, clinical and research information provided in this e-newsletter helpful. Please join the growing collaboration of "Northern Neighbours Working Together" to address this priority.



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New in the North

CAMH in the Community

The CAMH in the Community e-newsletter will be distributed 3 times per year with an alternating distribution schedule for Info-Franco CAMH.

Info-Franco CAMH

A new French electronic journal available entitled [Info-Franco CAMH](#)

is now available to provide francophone service providers in Northern Ontario with an opportunity to share information and resources that are available in French. For additional CAMH resources in French, please see "[Réseau francophone de soutien professionnel](#)".



Contact Us

To learn more about CAMH's Northern Ontario Area Staff and browse staff profiles, please go to [Northern Ontario Area Staff Profile](#)

Coming Soon

If you have expertise and a keen interest in **case management** in addictions and mental health, we would like to hear from you. CAMH would like to coordinate a "meeting of the northern minds" to discuss a common definition of case management, functions of a case manager, systems case management, etc. To express your interest in being a part of these discussions, please email elizabeth_hendrenrob@camh.net.

Current Events

On January 26, 2010, a webinar was held on the latest results of [OSDUHS](#) (Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey) with 100 sites participating across the province. This CAMH survey includes responses from just over 9,000 Ontario students between grade 7 and 12 from 181 schools. OSDUHS is the longest ongoing school survey in Canada.

Hot Topics

Prescribed Opioid Concerns in the North Continue to Grow

Concern continues to grow amongst community leaders and others across northern Ontario about the use, abuse and diversion of prescribed opioid drugs such as OxyContin. While assessing the extent of the problem is difficult, there has been an increase in: those presenting to addiction treatment programs for addiction to prescribed drugs (DATIS); demand for Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT) to treat opioid dependency; the number of students reporting non-medical use of prescribed opioids (OSDHUS); and prescription drug-related crimes. In some Aboriginal communities in northern Ontario, leaders feel it has reached epidemic proportions and have called on others such as the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) for help.

As various efforts to address this growing drug problem have emerged across the north, CAMH has continued to collaborate with others to: research patterns/use of prescribed opioids and who is at risk; explore education, prevention and policy options; and provide clinical best practices in treatment through training and resources including MMT. CAMH also provides leadership to the MOHLTC's OpiAte project in four pilot sites across Ontario, including Thunder Bay, to increase community awareness regarding the important role that MMT plays in treating opioid dependency... [more](#)

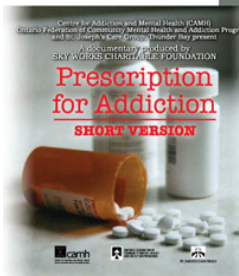
Prescribed Opioid and Related Links Relevant to the North

[Chiefs Forum](#) / [CPSO MD Dialogue](#) / [MMT](#) / [National Framework-pharmaceutical priority](#) / [National Opioid Guidelines](#) / [Thunder Bay OpiATE report](#)

Related Resources and Research

[Addiction Clinical Consultation Service](#) / [DATIS](#) / [CAMH Knowledge Exchange](#) / [CAMH Monitor](#) / [Canadian Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey](#) / [CCSA - Canadian Addiction Survey](#) / [Changing patterns in opioid addiction](#) / [ConnexOntario](#) / [Health Canada](#) / [MOHLTC](#) / [OMHAKEN /Opioid Dependence Treatment Course](#)

CAMH Resources (also see [CAMH](#))



[Prescription for Addiction](#)



[Methadone Saves Lives](#)



[Straight Talk Pamphlet Series](#)

To subscribe to this Newsletter,
please contact Suzanne Cyr at suzanne_cyr@camh.net or (705) 472-3850

This is a publication of [CAMH Provincial Services](#), [Northern Ontario Area](#)