



Health Minister Speaks at AGM

CMHA's Alberta Division was pleased and honoured to have the Honourable Ron Liepert, Minister of Health and Wellness, as its guest speaker at its September 27 Annual General Meeting in Calgary.

Mr. Liepert spoke of his interest in moving mental health forward in the province's health agenda, beginning with a strong emphasis on children's mental health. He also recognized the importance of non-government organizations (NGOs) such as CMHA as essential players in providing support services for those living with mental illness and in promoting good mental health.

After [a presentation](#) of about 20 minutes, Minister Liepert entertained questions from the floor, acknowledging that he did not have all the answers but listened attentively and pledged to get answers for several questions.

The Minister also remained at the AGM to help present the Division's annual awards.



Hon. Ron Liepert

CMHA Celebrates Excellence and Commitment



Part of the *My Mental Health* team in Calgary – l. to r., Carmen Wyatt, Rob Gray, Wafa Kadri and Judy Martin.

The *My Mental Health* anti-stigma campaign was recognized in three different categories, including the prestigious President's Award, at CMHA's annual awards, given out at its September 27 AGM.





Minister Liepert presents the Nadine Stirling Memorial Award to Mona Cooley

The province-wide campaign was initiated out of the CMHA Calgary office and included multi-media advertising in several phases, as well as a website and booklet.

Recognized as part of the *My Mental Health* team were staff from CMHA Calgary, as well as its primary sponsors, TransCanada and RBC, who also received the Special Service Award for their corporate leadership; and CTV, which also won the Communications Award.

Two individuals, both from the Calgary area, were also recognized for their outstanding contributions. Olivier Martini was given the Bettie Hewes Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service and Mona Cooley was presented with the Nadine Stirling Memorial Award.

Mr. Martini donates between 500 - 600 hours per year to three different programs at CMHA Calgary, and Ms. Cooley has provided tremendous support to families in need through her 10 years of service in the Family Support Program.

Sponsorship for the Division AGM was provided by Janssen-Ortho and Pfizer Canada, with Palliser Insurance Agency and Novex Insurance sponsoring the pre-AGM reception.

The Annual Report is available online at www.cmha.ab.ca .

Division Executive Returning

CMHA's strong Executive Leadership team, which took office last year, has confirmed that it is returning to service for 2008 - 2009. Members are: President: Kathleen Frei, North West Region; Vice President – Finance: David Copus, member-at-large, Edmonton; Executive Vice President: Dick Southworth, Edmonton Region; and Past President: Jodi Cohen of Calgary. The two other VP positions were confirmed at a subsequent meeting – Vice President – Governance (formerly Policy and Bylaws): Dr. Vincella Thompson, Wood Buffalo Region; and Vice President – Advocacy and Social Action: Jim Watson, Central Region.

Elected to new terms at the AGM as members-at-large were: Louise Bradley of Edmonton (second term); and newcomers to the Board Ida Grainger and Marg Osborne of Calgary, and Sandra McCrone of Turner Valley.



Eleanor Grona, r., with South East Region Executive Director Lois Bourassa

New to the Division Board as representatives from their Regions are: Bill Bone and Janice Tye of Calgary, and Eleanor Grona of Medicine Hat.



Ross Bucsis, Palliser Insurance Agency, hosts AGM reception



President Kathleen Frei with Executive Director Tom Shand



Consensus on Depression

Mental health leaders from a wide variety of fields met recently in Calgary to develop a Consensus Statement on Depression in Adults. The results can be [downloaded here](#) .



Patricia Turnbull

Names in the News

Karen McMillan has been named the Executive Director for CMHA's Wood Buffalo Region. She had been sharing the responsibilities with another senior staff person for the past year.

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Patricia Turnbull, Executive Director of CMHA's Central Region, was given the City of Red Deer's Women of Excellence Award in Human Services on October 8. Trish was not there to receive the award as the ceremony took place at the same time as CMHA Central Region's AGM.

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Cathy Pryce

Pryce is Right – Cathy Pryce of Calgary has been named the Senior Vice President in the newly formed Mental Health and Addictions department of Alberta Health Services. She will report to the former Deputy Minister of Health, Paddy Meade, who is now the Executive Operating Officer for AHS.

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Winery Supports Charities. CMHA Alberta Division is one of 12 Alberta charities that will receive a donation from **[yellow tail]** this year. The winery is donating 50 cents from every bottle sold during December. It is also giving the public a chance to give additional support by voting for their favorite charity. To cast your CMHA vote go to www.yellowtailwine.com.

Thanks to our sponsors



Auditor General Reports on Mental Health

The Auditor General of Alberta recently released its report on mental health services in the province. Many of its recommendations appear to be helping guide the direction of the newly formed AHS mental health and addictions services. To read, click on [download report](#) .

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We wish you all a safe, peaceful and happy holiday season!