



# Ontario Peer Development Initiative

Dear Friend,

The Ontario Peer Development is a leading organization for Consumer/Survivor Initiatives, Peer Support Organizations and allies in Ontario. We are specifically focused on providing a strong and unified voice for consumer/survivor organizations in Ontario.

Our annual membership offers those working within the mental health care system access to services and resources that will promote the uniqueness and worth of peer support and consumer/survivor engagement in the continuum of mental health care.

Once you join OPDI, you immediately gain access to a wide variety of resources to enhance your organization's role in shaping the mental health care system. Our goal is to help your organization continue as an active stakeholder throughout the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's transformation.

By joining OPDI, you become part of a values-driven community that strives for consumer/survivor empowerment in recovery.

**General Members** of OPDI are consumer/survivor organizations operating within the province of Ontario. Groups who fulfil the criteria of membership as outlined in the attached application are considered to be a consumer/survivor organization.

## Benefits of General Membership

- Voting privilege in electing the OPDI Board of Directors
- Eligibility for election to the Board of Directors
- Inclusion in decision-making in shaping policies and programs
- Access to a members-only section of the web-site which includes resources of interest to consumer-survivor organizations and access to discussion boards
- Invitation to participate in consumer/survivor networking opportunities
- An invitation to attend the OPDI annual 'Creative Directions' conference and, funds permitting, financial support for travel and accommodations
- Electronic NewsToGo newsletter, focused on research, resources and policy and legislative information of relevance to consumer/survivor organizations and to broader stakeholders in the healthcare sector

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[www.opdi.org](http://www.opdi.org)

**Associate membership** is open to any organization with an expressed interest in promoting positive change for consumer/survivors and in supporting the objectives of OPDI. Please see Associate Membership as outlined in the attached application. Associate members are considered non-voting members.

### **Benefits of Associate Membership**

- Recognition as a supporter of consumer/survivor-driven organizations
- Access to OPDI's website containing policy and position papers, resources on recovery, information on mental health networks across Ontario and more
- Inclusion in informing policy decision-making through stakeholder consultations
- Electronic NewsToGo newsletter, focused on research, resources and policy and legislative information of relevance to consumer/survivor organizations and to broader stakeholders in the healthcare sector

### **Associate Member Fees**

The 2007/08 fee is \$25.00.

Fees will be waived for consumer/survivor groups not eligible under general membership.

Your membership fees will be used to support the participation of consumer/survivors in OPDI educational and networking activities.

Thank you for your consideration and interest in applying for membership with OPDI. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office at (416) 484-8785, 1-866-681-6661 or e-mail [opdi@opdi.org](mailto:opdi@opdi.org).

Sincerely,

OPDI Board of Directors