



CANADIAN ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH LAUNCHES 2022 CHAMPIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN

Annual campaign recognizes outstanding Canadians making important contributions to mental health awareness in Canada

April 26, 2022, OTTAWA—The Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) has opened its online portal for nominations for the 2022 Champions of Mental Health Awards. This annual awareness and education campaign is devoted to recognizing outstanding individuals and organizations for their contributions to mental health awareness and action in Canada.

This year, nominations will be accepted in the following categories:

1. ***The Sharon Johnston Champion of Mental Health Award for Youth*** - Any Canadian 21 and younger who has shown leadership in their community in promoting mental health and/or mental illness awareness, or any organization dedicated to providing services for youth
2. ***Media*** - Any media personality or outlet who has contributed to public awareness of mental health or mental illness
3. ***Workplace Mental Health*** - Any employer or employee who has contributed to creating a mentally healthy workplace for staff
4. ***Community Organization*** - Any organization that has provided great public service to community members experiencing mental illness
5. ***Community Individual*** - Any person, who through personal commitment, has increased awareness about mental illness or reduced stigma in their community
6. ***Parliamentarian*** - Any provincial, territorial or federal Parliamentarian who has advanced the mental health agenda in Canada
7. ***Innovation- Researcher or Clinician*** - An innovative person or organization that through their work has advanced the mental health agenda in Canada

“Every year, we are so honoured to celebrate seven outstanding Canadians who have made a difference in their community. Our Champions are instrumental in helping end stigma around mental illness and making Canada a more accepting and understanding place,” said Ellen Cohen, CAMIMH co-chair.

“After more than two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to celebrate those who have made a difference in making mental illness less

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Medical Psychotherapy Association of Canada

National Initiative for Eating Disorders

National Network for Mental Health

Schizophrenia Society of Canada

Psychosocial Rehabilitation Canada

The College of Family Physicians Canada

stigmatized and it is so important to recognize and honour the Canadians that are making difference every day,” said Florence Budden, CAMIMH Champions Chair.

CAMIMH encourages Canadians to nominate their peers by completing the online nomination form. To nominate a Champion, please visit camimh.ca. Submissions will be accepted until **June 30, 2022**. To celebrate this year’s Champions, and Champions from the last two years, CAMIMH is planning on hosting the awards gala in-person during Mental Illness Awareness Week (Oct 2-9, 2022).

CAMIMH would like to recognize its partners who make the Champions Awards a success each year: [Bell Let’s Talk](#) (Gold Partner), [the Canadian Credit Union Association](#) (Bronze Partner) and [Impact Public Affairs](#) (Silver Partner). We thank all that apply and will contact the winners by the end of July.

As a national alliance, CAMIMH continues to advocate a strong role for the federal government to continue to invest in mental health, including achieving mental health parity. For more information, please visit our website at camimh.ca.

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Established in 1998, the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) is an alliance of national mental health organizations comprised of health care providers and organizations representing persons with mental illness and their families and caregivers. CAMIMH’s mandate is to ensure that mental health is placed on the national agenda so that persons with a lived experience of mental illness and their families receive appropriate access to care and support.

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