



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

Association canadienne pour la prévention du suicide

www.suicideprevention.ca

MEMBERS E-BULLETIN MARCH 2011

The Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention (CASP) is pleased to announce that instead of publishing a quarterly newsletter we will now be issuing monthly e bulletins. These e bulletins will provide news and quick updates on CASP activities, initiatives and developments in suicide intervention, prevention and post-vention. We hope that through these bulletins we can better communicate and engage with our friends and allies across Canada. We would also welcome your help in sharing these communiqués with people in your own network and community.

Private Members Bill Tabled in Parliament

Last December Bill C-593 a private members bill calling on the Government of Canada to establish a National Suicide Prevention Strategy was tabled before parliament. This bill was put forward by the Hon. Meagan Leslie, who subsequently launched a campaign in support of this bill that includes a nationwide petition. Information on the bill, campaign launch and the petition is available on CASP's web site www.suicideprevention.ca. CASP encourages all Canadians to support this petition and the call for both a national strategy and a funded national suicide prevention coordinating body and voice their support by contacting the Federal Minister of Health at Aglukkaq.l@parl.gc.ca as well as their local Member of Parliament.

CASP Makes Presentation to Standing Parliamentary Committee on Veterans Affairs.

This past January CASP was invited to make a presentation on suicide prevention to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. This has been the third parliamentary committee CASP has been invited to appear before over the past three months. Suicide among Canadian veterans has been a long neglected issue and veterans represented a high risk group. A strategy for addressing this critical issue among veterans should be developed within the context of a broader national strategy. To read the entire text of this presentation visit the CASP website at www.suicideprevention.ca.

CASP Lobbies Health Ministers, Mayors, Medical Examiners and Health Authorities

As part of CASP's lobbying efforts for a national strategy and a funded national suicide prevention coordinating body CASP has reached out to provincial/territorial Health Ministers, Mayors, Chief Medical Examiners and Coroners and the CEO's of regional health authorities (RHA) across Canada for support. CASP is asking that Health Ministers, mayors, medical examiners and RHA's encourage the federal Minister of Health to move forward on both the strategy



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Canada Loses Suicide Prevention Champion

CASP was saddened to hear that David Masecar died suddenly of a heart attack on December 24th, 2010. David was 54 years old. David was a former president of CASP and dedicated a large part of his life to suicide prevention in Canada. It is in part due to David's leadership and persistence that in the absence of any leadership from the federal government CASP moved forward to develop the CASP national suicide prevention strategy. In addition to the important contribution he made to CASP, David served on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Suicide Prevention Network and worked on numerous national projects including the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy. CASP will be forever grateful to David for the important contribution he made and for his profound influence on suicide prevention in this country. CASP extends its heartfelt condolences to Dave's family.

CASP Surveys Suicide Survivor Groups across Canada.

CASP has taken the first steps towards establishing a national network of suicide survivor support groups and services in Canada. Over the past several months CASP has been in the process of identifying and compiling information on these groups and services and to date has identified approximately three hundred. This information will be added to CASP website and a survey has now gone out to these centers in an effort to gauge the interest and level of support for a national suicide survivor's network. For more information contact Jessica Burton at jbarton@klinik.mb.ca.

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Board Nominations

CASP is presently accepting nominations to its Board of Directors. Nomination forms are available on CASP's website, www.suicideprevention.ca. For more information please contact Donna Reid at dreid@klinik.mb.ca.

Nominations for 2011 CASP Awards

Every year at CASP's annual conference CASP's Board of Directors recognizes achievements in a variety of areas in suicide prevention. Awards are offered in the fields of; research, including an award for student research, community work and suicide bereavement. Award nominations are currently being accepted for these years conference, October 3-5th in Vancouver. For more information on the awards, nomination process and the 2011 conference please visit our website at www.suicideprevention.ca.

Canadian Appointed to U.S. National Strategy for Suicide Prevention TASK Force

Dr. Richard Ramsay, Professor Emeritus of Social Work, University of Calgary and Executive Director of Livingworks was recently appointed to the U.S. National Strategy for Suicide Prevention Task Force. The mission of the task force includes supporting the Executive Committee by proposing revisions to the National Strategy for Suicide prevention and to stimulate and coordinate dialogue between a broad array of individuals and organizations.

Yours truly,

Tim Wall
Executive Director
CASP

Dammy Damstrom-Albach
President and Chair of the Board
CASP

Visit the CASP web site at www.suicideprevention.ca
To remove your name from our mailing list, please email us.
Questions or comments? E-mail us at <mailto:casp@casp-acps.ca>.
Write to us at 870 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB Canada, R3G 0P1