

That older adults with a developmental disability have the same rights to support and services as all older Ontarians

## UPDATE APRIL 2009

### **BROADENING THE DIALOGUE**

#### OPADD APPROVED AS A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE WITHIN SHRTN

OPADD has received approval of its proposal to remain a Community of Practice within SHRTN for 2009/10. Sandy Stemp and Jennifer Pimeck are co-leads for the Community of Practice. Continued participation with SHRTN opens doors to a broader more inclusive dialogue and additional resources to realize the Vision.

### **ACKNOWLEDGING LOCAL CHAMPIONS – SETTING FUTURE DIRECTION**

#### SUCCESSFUL PROVINCIAL SYMPOSIUM

**The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur**, Minister of Community and Social Services, Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs addressed the symposium. In her remarks, the Minister acknowledged the work of OPADD in building systemic capacity to support adults with developmental disabilities as they age.

A series of dialogue sessions during the symposium allowed delegates to identify where we are, explore where we need to go and how to get there. The proceedings of these dialogue sessions will be made available to symposium delegates and stakeholders in the next few weeks.

Results of the symposium evaluation will be made available in the near future.

### **MAINSTREAMING**

#### REGIONAL COMMITTEES ARE KEY

The key role of regional committees in moving the work forward was highlighted at the symposium. Delegates were encouraged to join their respective regional committee. Regional committees provide the traction for addressing inequities in accessing seniors services and programs for older adults with developmental disabilities.

### **CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE**

#### VIDEOCONFERENCING

Arrangements are being made to hold the next OPADD meeting in a location that supports videoconferencing. This will allow members from distant locations to join via their local videoconferencing site. Regional Co-chairs are encouraged to attend this meeting via videoconferencing or in person to engage in the discussion about the role of the regions in moving the work forward.

#### OPADD MEETING SCHEDULE

Collaborative Committee:	10 AM Friday April 17 2009
OPADD Provincial Table	11:45 AM Friday April 17 2009 in the Training Room at Reena
Regional Co-Chair Teleconference:	11 am Tuesday April 28 2009 - Deanna Finch-Smith will Chair