

UPDATE DECEMBER 2006

REGIONAL CO-CHAIR TRAINING

Every region was represented at the Regional Co-chair Training event held October 29 to 31 at the Parkway Sheraton Hotel. Sandy Keshen and Margaret Ringland provided the keynote address, "Keeping the Vision." Kevin Costante, Deputy Minister of MCSS and Tim Burns, Director Long Term Care Homes Branch, MOHLTC provided overviews of Ministry initiatives in the area of aging and developmental disabilities. Val Armstrong presented on the CCAC as the fulcrum in transition planning between the developmental services and long term care sectors. Sessions included regional discussions on a number of issues of interest to regions and dialogue focused on development of our communication capacity. Some of the feedback is being applied to changes to the OPADD website. Ron Coristine provided sessions and materials on the role of the co-chair, leadership, communications and teamwork.

Val Armstrong chaired the task group that planned the program. Deanna Finch Smith coordinated prizes, games and decorations to add some fun between sessions. Anne Amore handled registrations and logistics. Participants indicated it was a worthwhile time and expanded their knowledge of OPADD and the role of the regions. Notes of some discussions, handouts and PowerPoint presentations will be made available on the OPADD website in the near future.

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

Toronto - November 16 2006 at the Bank of Montreal Training Facility - was attended by 110 people with good representation from both sectors as well as CCACs and acute care. The North York CCAC and the Toronto OPADD Committee partnered to plan and deliver the workshop on building bridges to support transition planning. Toronto's second workshop is being planned for 2007.

Central East - November 27 and 28 at the Kempenfelt Centre in Barrie - was attended by more than 100 people with balanced representation from both sectors. David Sheridan facilitated a series of process discussions that resulted in some specific plans and commitments for carrying the work forward. Participants expressed a strong desire to share what they have learned in order to expand the system's capacity to plan for people as they age.

Southwest - workshop tentatively scheduled for April 25.

OPADD GUIDE ON ACCESSING SENIORS COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Copies of the Guide in CD ROM format are available for \$12.00, which covers the cost of publication and distribution. The Access Guide provides an excellent resource for front line staff working in either sector as well as adults with a developmental disability who have some computer literacy. Multiple copies can be purchased at a reduced rate.

OPADD WEBSITE

There have been some technical problems with the website during the past few weeks. We are working to correct these and apologize for any inconvenience in the interim. If you are having difficulty accessing any of our pages or documents please send a quick e-mail to Anne Amore with a description of your problem. Thanks. A series of content changes and re-organization of portions of the site is continuing and will be uploaded once we have wrung the bugs out of the site.