

UPDATE JANUARY 2006

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

TORONTO REGION SCHEDULES INAUGURAL MEETING

Cindy Stephens and Renske Connell have been contacting service providers and planning bodies in Toronto to arrange a first meeting of the Toronto Committee on Aging and Developmental Disabilities. More than a dozen organizations have indicated they will attend the first meeting on January 10 2006 at Cumer Lodge. A project coordinator is being hired (funded from the Innovations Fund of the Ministry of Community and Social Services) to assist with the initial developmental phase of the Toronto partnership.

OPADD WEBSITE MOVES TO PHASE 3

A Discussion Centre has been created as part of the OPADD Website. The centre will allow all interested people to dialogue on aging and developmental disabilities and will provide another resource for sharing information and learning. The centre will include a notice board for upcoming events and topic areas such as OPADD activities, caregiver support, system planning, research and best practices. The centre will also feature a discussion room for Co-Chairs of regional ADD committees to facilitate cross regional communication. The Discussion Centre will be online by mid January. Watch for it!

BUILDING BEST PRACTICES - SHARING MODELS AND PROPOSALS

One of OPADD's goals is to foster the development of best practices in supporting people with developmental disabilities as they age. Today, there are innovative models in place and proposals that have been developed and await funding. If you are part of an innovative model that has been developed or know of a creative approach that deserves to be tested, you can share it with others via the OPADD website. Send your project descriptions or proposals to aamore@reana.org If sending via E-mail please write - "Best Practices Forum" in your subject line.

TRANSITION GUIDES AVAILABLE IN HARD COPY

The Transition Guide for Caregivers - Aging with a Developmental Disability, is available from the project office at \$4.00 per copy to cover the cost of printing and postage. The Guide provides practical ideas and checklists to help caregivers in their support role. To order copies for staff or family caregivers, send an e-mail to aamore@reana.org You will be invoiced for the number of copies ordered.

Distribution: OPADD
Regional Chairs / Co-Chairs