Responses to the Mental Health Strategy for Canada: Canadian and International Perspectives on Mobilizing Change

Call for Papers

for a special issue of the

Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health

www.cjcmh.com

Due Date Extended to November 30, 2014

With the release of the historic document “Changing Directions, Changing Lives: The Mental Health Strategy for Canada”, the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) has presented a blueprint for change in how we promote mental health, prevent mental illness and support those whose lives are affected by mental illness.

CJCMH will be producing two special issues (the first targeted for fall 2015, the second for fall 2016) that will discuss and describe work that led to the release of Canada’s first Mental Health Strategy and efforts to support its implementation. All submissions will be independently reviewed under the supervision of our guest editors.

Issue 1: The Foundations of Change
The first of the two special issues will have a greater emphasis on foundations for the strategy. It will feature articles that discuss the conditions necessary to create lasting and meaningful change. These include broader conceptual/theoretical considerations, lessons from other jurisdictions, key policies, programs, infrastructure or resources that need to be in place, or other important considerations or activities that will promote or support change. Example topics are provided in the chart below.
**Issue 2: Making Change Happen**

The second issue will place greater emphasis on examples of efforts to implement transformative change. Submissions may include descriptions of exemplary programmes, policy analyses, theoretical articles, research reports, literature reviews, ‘First Voice’ reflections on experiences and lessons learned, advice on how to scale up promising practices and how to address policy and funding gaps. Example topics are provided in the chart below.

**Types of Articles**

The issues will feature two sections: *Searchlight Articles*, and *Spotlight Articles*. *Searchlight Articles* will consist of longer articles (4000-6000 words) that take a broad lens and may provide conceptual analysis, review of the literature and/or discussion of an issue related to the successful implementation of the strategy. The second section will include *Spotlight Articles*, which are shorter, more focused contributions (1800-4000 words) that focus on particular examples drawing on policy, personal experience and clinical practice. These may be examples of implementation that can be adopted or adapted elsewhere in the country or they may include narrative accounts. Please follow the instructions to authors on our website: [http://cjc mh.com/page/cjc mh/itas](http://cjc mh.com/page/cjc mh/itas).

**Who can Submit Articles**

Contributions are invited from Canadian and international scholars, practitioners, policy makers and people with lived experience of mental illness, including family caregivers. We hope to engage provinces and territories in reporting work underway in their jurisdictions, provide tools to encourage uptake of the strategy, mobilize individual communities and the broader mental health community in Canada.

**Potential Topics**

Examples of potential topics and a tentative schedule is provided in the table below. Note that some topics are suitable for both issues. While the first issue will focus more on the foundations of the strategy and lessons from other jurisdictions, some articles from this first call may be published in the second special issue, depending on the number of publishable papers. Articles for both issues may be submitted at this time. However, a second call will also be released in spring 2015 for submissions to the second issue. Also note that this list is not exhaustive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Topics</th>
<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Origins of the Strategy</td>
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<td>Strategy Development</td>
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<td>Lessons from Other Jurisdictions</td>
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<td>Relationship between the Strategy and Provincial/Territorial plans</td>
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<td>Implementing Recovery</td>
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<td>Social Determinants, health equity</td>
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Involving people with lived experience ✔ ✔
Use of Guidelines ✔ ✔
Using data to guide implementation - Canada and other jurisdictions ✔ ✔
Child and Youth Mental Health ✔ ✔
Bridging Systems: Transition-aged youth ✔ ✔
Primary Health Care ✔ ✔
Stigma Reduction ✔ ✔
Mobilizing Leadership, Fostering Collaboration ✔ ✔
Current State of Implementation Barriers/Opportunities ✔
Social Inclusion and Supported Employment ✔
School-based Mental Health ✔
Developing the Mental Health Workforce ✔
Funding ✔
Peer Support and mental health system reform ✔
What’s next for the MHC - 2017 and beyond ✔
Mental Health and Housing ✔

Information about the journal can be found on the website: http://cjcmh.com/journal/cjcmh
Individuals intending to submit papers are encouraged to contact the editors listed below to assess the appropriateness of proposed submissions and answer questions. The deadline for complete submissions for the first issue is November 30, 2014. Early submissions and inquiries will be appreciated.

Sponsorship
These special issues are sponsored by the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

Supporting Documents
We encourage authors to consult the following documents in preparing their manuscripts:
- CHANGING DIRECTIONS, CHANGING LIVES: The Mental Health Strategy for Canada
  - http://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English/system/files/private/MHStrategy_Strategy ENG_0.pdf
- Changing Directions, Changing Lives: The Mental Health Strategy for Canada - Calling for Critical Deliberation on Implementation by Mary Bartram and Howard Chodos

Submissions in English:

Guest Editors: Steve Lurie, CMHA Toronto, slurie@cmha-toronto.net
             Gillian Mulvale, McMaster University Mulvale@mcmaster.ca
Submissions in French: Catherine Vallée, Université de Laval
Catherine.Vallee@fmed.ulaval.ca