

## King brings a “front-line perspective” to Canada’s national addictions agency

**B**arry King, Chief of the Brockville (Ontario) Police Service, has been appointed chair of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. Announcement of the three-year appointment was made on Dec. 4, 2001, by Health Minister Allan Rock

“As Canada’s national addictions agency, the CCSA has played a key role in the area of substance abuse for more than a decade,” said Minister Rock. “Chief King understands issues of substance abuse and addictions from a front-line perspective.”

Chief King said: “I am pleased and honoured to accept this appointment, and to have an opportunity to work more closely with CCSA’s Chief Executive Officer, Michel Perron, and with the staff and associates who have made CCSA the outstanding organization it is today. I look forward to being involved with continuing efforts by CCSA to lay the groundwork for implementation of the Federal government’s new national drug strategy.”

Chief King has served as Chief of Police in Brockville since retiring from the Sault Ste. Marie (Ontario) police service in 1995. He is co-chair of the Brockville Safe Community Coalition, and serves on various other boards of directors, including Child-find Ontario, and the Ontario Proceeds of Crime Committee. He served for 12 years as chair of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACPC) Drug Abuse Committee, and is co-founder and co-chair of the National Health,

Education and Enforcement in Partnership (HEP).

Chief King has been married for more than 39 years and has three children and five grandchildren. His youngest son, Kevin, is a first class constable with the Guelph Police Service.

In a lengthy article about his appointment to the CCSA board in the *Brockville Recorder and Times*, Chief King said Canada needs a new national drug strategy that emphasizes education and treatment. “The issues are so important,” he said. “This isn’t

about enforcement. It’s about a balanced drug strategy and consistent prevention across Canada. We want to make sure there is balanced and factual information to make changes for the future. The child in Chilliwack, Brockville or Moncton needs information on the things that are killing kids.”

Chief King joined CCSA’s board in 1998 and succeeds William (Bill) G. Deeks who stepped down in November after completing his third and final three-year term as chair. □



Chief King chaired his first CCSA board meeting on Jan. 21 and 22 in Ottawa, following his appointment to the position by Minister Rock in December. He first joined the board in October, 1998.

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► **Eight youth and sport groups** from Bolivia, Norway, Kenya, Bermuda, Spain and Italy gathered in Rome in November for a three-day workshop on sport and substance abuse prevention. For more details or for information about ordering a report of the workshop, contact **Gary Roberts**, CCSA, at [groberts@ccsa.ca](mailto:groberts@ccsa.ca)

## Examining the role of sport in substance abuse prevention

**W**here substance abuse is concerned, sports can be a double-edged sword. In some studies, young people who played sports were inclined to abuse alcohol or to use performance-enhancing drugs. Under the right conditions, however, sport can be a healthy alternative to drug-taking and a boost to communities at risk.

Establishing a preventative framework for sport was the goal of a workshop organized by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and CCSA in Rome in November, 2001. Youth and sport

groups from six countries gathered to examine how sport can be best used to support by-youth, for-youth approaches to prevention.

The idea for the workshop grew out of the UN-sponsored Youth Vision Forum in Banff in 1998 where youth groups from around the world showed how artistic and athletic activities can help young people to deal with drug problems.

### ► Workshop participants identified a dozen best practices, including...

◇ Sport is most likely to be preventative when it is based on fair play and ethics; respect is the basis for an

ethical framework for sport; ◇ Sport needs to be presented to all young people as an opportunity and a choice; take care not to force too much education in – it might push the *spirit of sport* out; focus on tasks to be accomplished in a sport rather than on winning and losing; ◇ Be clear with your messages – spoken and unspoken; ◇ Use local young athletes as role models; involve youth in all aspects of the program; give attention to the qualities of the coaches; find a champion who is committed to your program aims; ◇ Think of evaluation as an opportunity to improve your program. □

## Setting the stage for increased addictions research activity

**I**t could take as long as 10 years to build the capacity needed to support an adequate level of addictions research activity in Canada. This sobering note emerged from a special workshop attended by nearly 40 leading addictions researchers in Ottawa in December. The two-day event was the first-ever collaboration of the

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the CIHR Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA), the CCSA, and Carleton University.

The group met to outline a plan of action for developing a national research agenda, and to strengthen CIHR's understanding of the needs of the addictions research community. Many

participants concluded that the field has advanced very little since CCSA chaired a similar meeting in 1993. There has been no national prevalence survey since 1994 and the most recent study of costs associated with substance abuse was based on 1992 data. Updating these two initiatives was seen as a necessary first step in the new action plan.

Other steps could include the creation of an abstract database and a Canadian research journal, holding a national forum, increasing the focus on addictions in academic institutions, training of community service providers in research, and more funding for researchers.

► A report of the workshop is available from **Dr. Colleen Dell** at [cdell@ccsa.ca](mailto:cdell@ccsa.ca) □

► A highlight of the researchers workshop was the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between CCSA and Carleton University. I. to r.: **Dr. Colleen Dell**, CCSA research associate and assistant professor of sociology and anthropology at Carleton; **Dr. John Shepherd**, associate dean of research and development (arts and social sciences); **Michel Perron**, CCSA's chief executive officer; and **Dr. Eric Single**, CCSA's senior research and policy associate.





## Eric Single wins U of T award for research excellence

**D**r. Eric Single, CCSA's senior research and policy associate, has won the University of Toronto's Anthony Miller Award for excellence in research in community health.

Dr. Single received the award at the annual dinner of U of T's Graduate Department of Public Health

Sciences on Feb. 7. He was cited for his work in estimating morbidity and mortality, and developing improved methodology for cost estimation.

Dr. Single said the award came as a surprise. "It was gratifying to win, particularly as there were a fair number of eligible researchers whom I highly respect,"

he told CCSA colleagues.

The Graduate Department of Public Health Sciences is a large teaching and research department that constitutes a division of the School of Medicine. It has collaborative arrangements for research and teaching with several hospitals and with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. □



► **Eric Single** is the 2002 winner of the Anthony Miller Award for research.

## Young Ontarians twice as likely to have gambling problems

**A** new report reveals high rates of gambling problems among young Ontario adults and calls for enhanced policies and prevention programs targeted at this age group. The study, released in December by the CCSA and the Responsible Gambling Council (Ontario), is the most detailed picture ever produced of gambling and problem gambling behaviours in Ontario.

The study found that five of every six Ontario adults had gambled in the year prior to the survey and the majority of these gamblers (84%) did so without problems. However, 3.8%, or about 340,000 individuals, were classified as having moderate or severe gambling problems. Seven per cent of young Ontario adults (18 to 24 years old) experienced moderate to severe gambling problems – almost twice the rate found

in the general population. Young adults were the most likely group to engage in a variety of gambling activities, including, surprisingly, bingo.

A significant relationship existed between problem gambling and substance abuse. The proportion of adults who reported having an alcohol or drug problem increased from 6.1% among non-gamblers to 24.2% among those with severe gambling problems. □



► "Measuring gambling and problem gambling in Ontario" by Jamie Wiebe, Eric Single and Agata Falkowski-Ham can be downloaded in PDF format from the Responsible Gambling Council (Ontario) Web site at [www.responsiblegambling.org](http://www.responsiblegambling.org)

## New organization unites heads of addictions agencies

**C**CSA is one of the driving forces behind a new organization of executives of addictions agencies that operate under a legislated federal, provincial or municipal mandate. The Canadian Executive Council on Addictions (CECA) will provide a forum for the development of common positions on addictions issues in Canada, and a means of strengthening the capacity and knowledge of addictions execu-

tives. CECA will also provide an opportunity for collaborative efforts to improve addiction services across Canada, and a means of delivering proactive advice to all three orders of government. CECA is hoping to play a key role in the development of a new Canadian drug strategy.

CECA's founding directors include CCSA's CEO Michel Perron; Murray Finerty, CEO of the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Commission (AADAC); Peter Coleridge, Vice-President of Education, Communications and Community Health with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH); John Borody, CEO of the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM); and Dan Reist, President of BC's Kaiser Foundation.

AADAC will host CECA's first meeting in Edmonton on April 15 when a board and chair will be selected. □

*"CECA is hoping to play a key role in the development of a new Canadian drug strategy."*



### News from the Canadian Health Network

**R**ena Scheffer has been appointed Director of the newly formed Public Information and Education Department at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). The department, once part of the CAMH library, was established with a grant



from the McLaughlin Foundation. Ms. Scheffer, who was formerly Director of Public Affairs at CAMH, will be responsible for the Canadian Health Network (CHN). With a focus on the Web and electronic resources, the new department will complement the work of CHN.

## Call for nominations

The Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse is looking for qualified people to fill two vacant positions on its volunteer Board of Directors. The Board meets 3-4 times a year, usually in Ottawa. Board members come from a wide variety of backgrounds, including government, the private sector and the addictions field. Recommendations supporting potential candidates should be referred to Michel Perron at [mperron@ccsa.ca](mailto:mperron@ccsa.ca)

## Directory of Addictions Organizations in Canada

The 2002 Directory offers you more than 2,000 listings, including information on problem gambling organizations.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Canadian addictions researchers.

Internet orders: [www.ccsa.ca/orders/ordirect.htm](http://www.ccsa.ca/orders/ordirect.htm), or fill out this form and send it to: **CCSA Directory, Suite 300, 75 Albert St., Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7**; fax: 613-235-8101.

Please send me \_\_\_ copies of the Directory of Addictions Organizations in Canada to the following address. I understand that I will be billed \$49.95 plus GST for each copy, plus a single \$5 charge for shipping and handling.

Name (please print).....  
 Organization.....  
 Street/Number.....  
 City..... Province..... Postal Code.....  
 Signature.....

## Events



**March 14-15** – *3rd Annual Alberta Harm Reduction Conference: Harm Reduction in Alberta*, Red Deer, Alberta. **Contact:** Lloyd Johnson, Central Alberta AIDS Network Society, Tel.: (403) 346-8858; Fax: (403) 346-2352, E-mail: [caans@telusplanet.net](mailto:caans@telusplanet.net).

**March 17-20** – *Banff XXXIV Adolescent Substance Abuse: Innovative Approaches to Prevention and Treatment*, Banff Conference Centre, **Contact:** Michiko Ellis, Banff Centre, Tel.: (403)762-6234, E-mail: [Michiko\\_Ellis@Banffcentre.ab.ca](mailto:Michiko_Ellis@Banffcentre.ab.ca), Web site: <http://www.banffbehavsci.ubc.ca>

**March 18-23** – *2002 Kettil Bruun Society Thematic Meeting, Community-based prevention of alcohol and drug-related harms*, Vuoranta Hotel, Helsinki, Finland. **Contact:** Marja Holmila or Thomas Karlsson, Stakes, P.O BOX 220, FIN -00531, Helsinki, Finland, E-mail: [marja.holmila@stakes.fi](mailto:marja.holmila@stakes.fi) or [thomas.karlsson@stakes.fi](mailto:thomas.karlsson@stakes.fi) Fax: +358 9 39672170

**March 19** – *There is Help...There is Hope: Community Forums on Addiction and Mental Health: Alternative ways of healing addictions and mental health problems.* **Contact:** Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Tel: (416) 979-4251, Web site: <http://www.camh.net>

**March 21-23** – *12th Annual Canadian Youth Against Impaired Driving Conference*, Holiday Inn Select Toronto Airport, Toronto. **Contact:** CYAID 2002 Conference Office, Tel: (416) 247-0851, Fax: (416) 247-6730, Web site: [www.studentlifeeducation.com/cyaid/index.html](http://www.studentlifeeducation.com/cyaid/index.html), E-mail: [cyaid@on.aibn.com](mailto:cyaid@on.aibn.com)

**March 22-24** – *TIPS (Town Youth Participation Strategies) Conference*, 2002, Mariners Inn, Smiths Falls, ON. **Contact:** Town Youth Participation Strategies, Tel. (day): (613) 283-2051, (evening): (613) 269-2436; Fax: (613) 283-9407, E-mail: [voakes@magma.com](mailto:voakes@magma.com)

**March 17-23** – *US National Inhalants & Poisons Awareness Week (NIPAW)*, **Contact:** National Inhalant Prevention Coalition (NIPC), Tel.: 1-800-269-4237 or (512) 480-8953; Fax: (512) 477-3932, Web site: <http://www.inhalants.org>

**March 25-26** – *Terrorism, Law & Democracy: How is Canada changing following September 11?*, Renaissance Hotel Du Parc, Montreal. **Contact:** Christine Robertson, Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, E-mail: [robertc@ciaj-icaj.ca](mailto:robertc@ciaj-icaj.ca), Tel.: (514) 343-6157. Or contact the Law Commission of Canada, Tel: (613) 946-8980; E-mail: [info@lcc.gc.ca](mailto:info@lcc.gc.ca).

**March 26** – *Setting Kids Up For Success: Teaching Children with Alcohol Related Birth Defects*, Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, Youth Services Training. **Contact:** Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, Tel.:(204) 944-6235, Web site: [www.afm.mb.ca/Events/Kids\\_Success/kids\\_success.html](http://www.afm.mb.ca/Events/Kids_Success/kids_success.html), E-mail: [wpg@afm.mb.ca](mailto:wpg@afm.mb.ca)

**April 16-20** – *24th Annual SALIS Conference, Capitalizing on the Value of Knowledge Sharing*. Radisson Barcelo Hotel, Washington DC. **Contact:** Liz Foster, US National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, Tel.: 800- 729-6686, Fax: 301-468-6433, Web site: <http://salis.org/conference.htm>, E-mail: [lfoster@health.org](mailto:lfoster@health.org)

**April 23** – *There is Help...There is Hope: Community Forums on Addiction and Mental Health. Substance abuse: how can we support our children?* **Contact:** Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Tel: (416) 979-4251, Web site: <http://www.camh.net>

**April 30-May 3** – *First National Aboriginal Hepatitis C Conference*, Ramada Hotel & Conference Centre, Edmonton. **Contact:** Anne Half, Conference Coordinator, Tel.: (780) 906-9869 or (780) 459-1884; Fax: (780) 458-1883, Web site: <http://www.visions.ab.ca/DesignTemplates/HepC/default.htm>, E-mail: [anne-halfe@nechi.com](mailto:anne-halfe@nechi.com)

**May 1-2** – *National FAS Conference: Best Practices in the Prevention, Identification and Intervention of FAS/FAE for Aboriginal Peoples in Canada*, Vancouver, BC. **Contact:** Bill Zarchikoff, Tel.: 1-888-683-7711, (604) 530-3840, Fax: (604) 530-3841, E-mail: [wzarchik@direct.ca](mailto:wzarchik@direct.ca)

**May 7-9** – *2nd Australasian Conference on Drugs Strategy: Policing Prevention Innovation – Beyond Enforcement*, Perth, Australia. **Contact:** Alcohol & Drug Co-ordination Unit, Tel.: (61) (08) 9223 3035; Fax: (61) (08) 9223 3414, Web site: <http://www.adcuwa.org>, E-mail: [co\\_ord@adcuwa.org](mailto:co_ord@adcuwa.org)

► For more details on these and other events, please visit [www.ccsa.ca](http://www.ccsa.ca) and follow the links for Resources.