



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sixty-five Organizations Call on Federal Government to Immediately Establish the Canada Mental Health Transfer

October 12, 2022 (OTTAWA)—Today, in an [open letter to Minister Carolyn Bennett](#), Federal Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, sixty-five national health associations and related organizations call on the federal government to immediately establish the Canada Mental Health Transfer.

“It is time for the liberal government to deliver on its 2021 election promise to create a Canada Mental Health Transfer, said Dr. Kim Hollihan, CAMIMH Co-Chair. “Now, more than ever, the people of Canada need accessible and inclusive access to mental health care services when they need them”.

In an unprecedented demonstration of support, the Extended Healthcare Professionals Coalition (EHPC), and the Organizations for Health Action (HEAL) have joined CAMIMH in its call for a targeted mental health transfer to the provinces and territories that must be accountable to their residents in terms of *where* the dollars are spent and what *impact* it will have on improving access to timely care.

“For too long, those suffering have been unable to access publicly funded mental health and substance use health care programs, services and supports. This must change”, said Ellen Cohen, CAMIMH Co-Chair. There can be no health without mental health.

As one of the leading national mental health alliances in Canada, CAMIMH has strongly advocated for parity in funding between mental health, substance use health and physical health care. In June 2021, CAMIMH released [From Out of the Shadows and Into the Light...Achieving Parity in Access to Care Among Mental Health, Substance Use and Physical Health](#), detailing what legislative steps the federal government can take to support this.

For more information on the activities of CAMIMH, please visit our website at camimh.ca.

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Established in 1998, the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) is an alliance of national mental health organizations comprised of health care providers and organizations representing persons with mental illness and their families and caregivers. CAMIMH’s mandate is to ensure that mental health is placed on the national agenda so that persons with a lived experience of mental illness and their families receive appropriate access to care and support.

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CAMIMH MEMBERS

Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention

Canadian Association of Social Workers

Canadian Consortium for Early Intervention in Psychosis

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association

Canadian Federation of Mental Health Nurses

Canadian Medical Association

Canadian Mental Health Association

Canadian Psychiatric Association

Canadian Psychological Association

Community Addictions Peer Support Association

Medical Psychotherapy Association of Canada

National Initiative for Eating Disorders

National Network for Mental Health

Schizophrenia Society of Canada

Psychosocial Rehabilitation Canada

The College of Family Physicians Canada