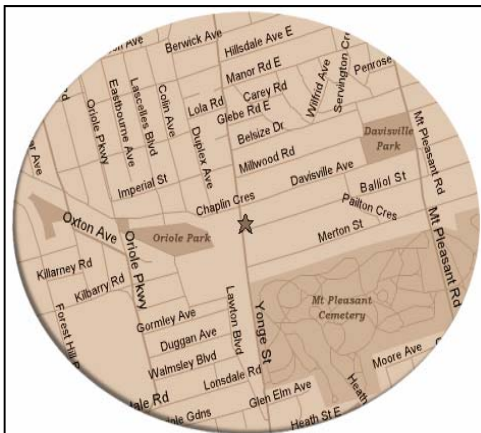
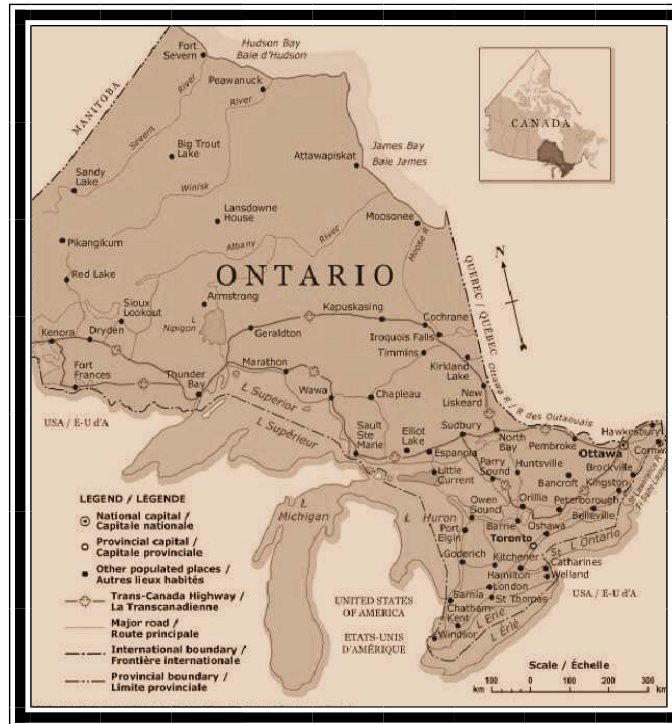
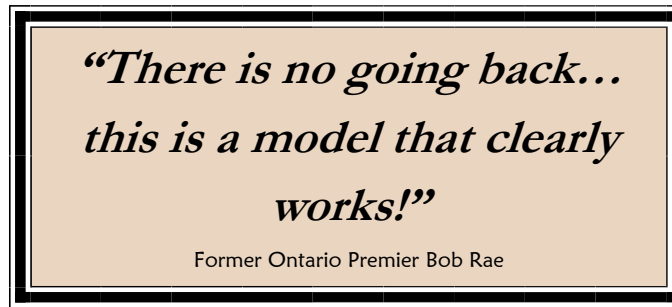


Values

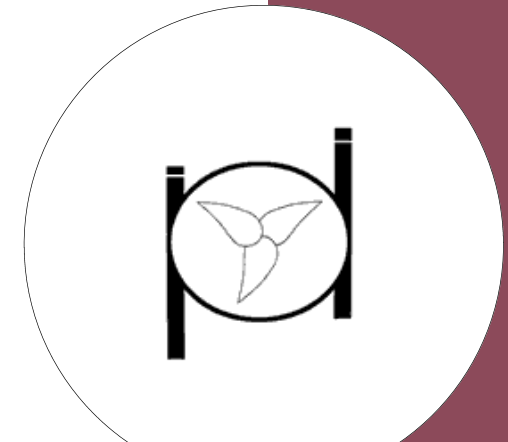
The Ontario Peer Development Initiative is accountable and responsive to its members and funders. We encourage the full inclusion of consumer/survivors in society and value diversity within our organization and in our community-at-large. We believe that, given proper supports, consumer/survivors can be full contributing members of society. As such, they are entitled to decent housing, meaningful work, fulfilling educational opportunities and fair and adequate incomes. We believe that through a collective voice we can advocate for mental health policies and reforms that will empower consumer/survivors on their journey toward recovery.



Map of OPDI office location in the Grey Canada Bldg., 1881 Yonge Street, Suite 614, Toronto, ON (Across from Davisville Subway Station)



Ontario Peer Development Initiative
 Initiative ontarienne de développement favorisant l'aide entre pairs
 Supporting Consumer/Survivor Initiatives Throughout Ontario
 À l'appui des initiatives des usages survivants à travers l'Ontario



Ontario Peer Development Initiative

Supporting Consumer/Survivor Initiatives throughout Ontario.

Ontario Peer Development Initiative

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Mission

The Ontario Peer Development Initiative is a unique umbrella organization that supports the development and sustainability of a province-wide base of consumer/survivor initiatives and organizations. It assists these projects in utilizing the skills and capacities of people who have used the mental health system.

“Consumer/Survivor Initiatives are self-help, mutual aid organizations that have been developed by and for people with mental health issues.”

Originally formed in 1991 as the Consumer/Survivor Development Initiative, the organization changed its name to the Ontario Peer Development Initiative (OPDI) in 2001 and incorporated.

OPDI works diligently to empower the consumer/survivor sector through advocacy within the context of mental health reform and aids in the transformation of mental health services.

“Consumer/Survivors are people who have used the mental health system.”

Areas of Support

The Ontario Peer Development Initiative assists non-service, consumer/survivor initiatives across Ontario and supports projects which utilize the skills and capacities of consumer/survivors assisting them in advocating for positive individual and systemic change.

We encourage the development of autonomous consumer/survivor controlled groups and champion organizations that have a clear democratic, membership-driven infrastructure and acknowledge the value of peer support in the individual recovery process.

“We encourage the development of autonomous consumer/survivor controlled groups...”

OPDI provides customized assistance to its member organizations in the areas of:

- i. Board Development
- ii. Organizational Development
- iii. Policies and Procedures Development
- iv. Membership Development
- v. Finance and Budgeting
- vi. Conflict Resolution
- vii. Resource Development

Support is provided through telephone consultation, written resources and on-site visits and workshops.

Our Membership

Consumer/Survivor Initiatives (CSIs) are self-help, mutual aid organizations that have been developed by and for people with mental health issues. Our member organizations actively develop and maintain peer support groups, develop and operate businesses, provide education, sensitization and training to the public and to mental health professionals, advocate for better mental health services, provide skills development opportunities to consumer/survivors, create and distribute resources of interest to consumer/survivors and engage in artistic and cultural pursuits.

“While there are many efforts underway to reform and improve mental health services, this one is unique in that it puts consumers in control of their own supports.”

Dr. Geoff Nelson, Wilfrid Laurier University



Ontario Peer Development Initiative
Board of Directors 2005-2006