




Promoting Understanding, Facilitating Action

Presented by
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CNPEA~RCPMTA



The Unique Role of the
Canadian Network for
Prevention
of Elder Abuse

CNPEA-RCPMTA



- Only national organization in Canada whose focus is exclusively abuse and neglect issues affecting older women and men.
- Works with provincial and regional networks wherever possible.
- Promotes the development of networks in regions where they currently do not exist.

CNPEA-RCPMTA

- Federally incorporated non profit organization in 2000
- Celebrating our 10th anniversary as a network
 - Early in kind support of government



Ottawa, June 16, 2008

CNPEA-RCPMTA

- The Network offers continuity in a world of constant change
 - has “an institutional memory”
 - knows what has gone before, knowledgeable of strengths and gaps, helps to identify future needs

That knowledge can help reduce duplication of effort, maximize resources, and can help move the issues forward.

CNPEA-RCPMTA



- Understanding of policy, practice & history in this area;
 - key developments at a regional level, and across regions
- Understand and respect our geographic, cultural and other diversities

CNPEA-RCPMTA Board



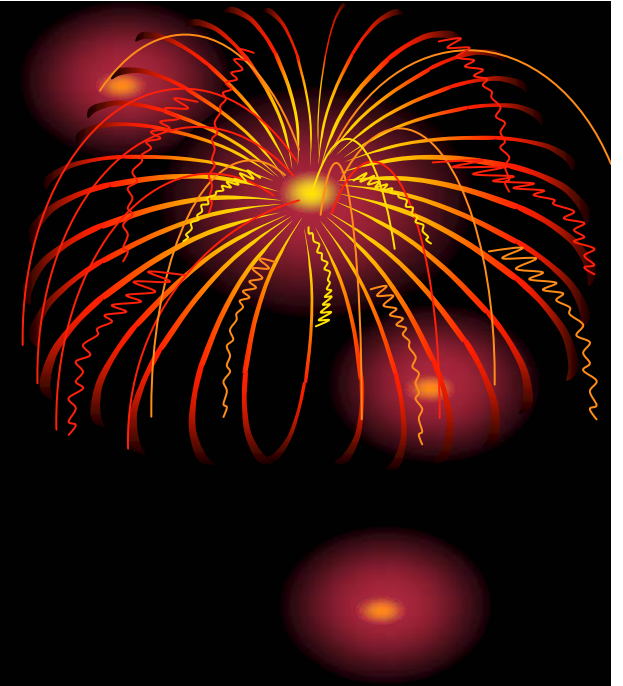
- Actively seeks broad representation
 - Geographically
 - Constituencies (seniors, service providers/ networks, government, academics)
 - In perspectives on the issues
- 19 member Anglophone & Francophone Board
 - Plus 10 member "supporter" group (often past board members)

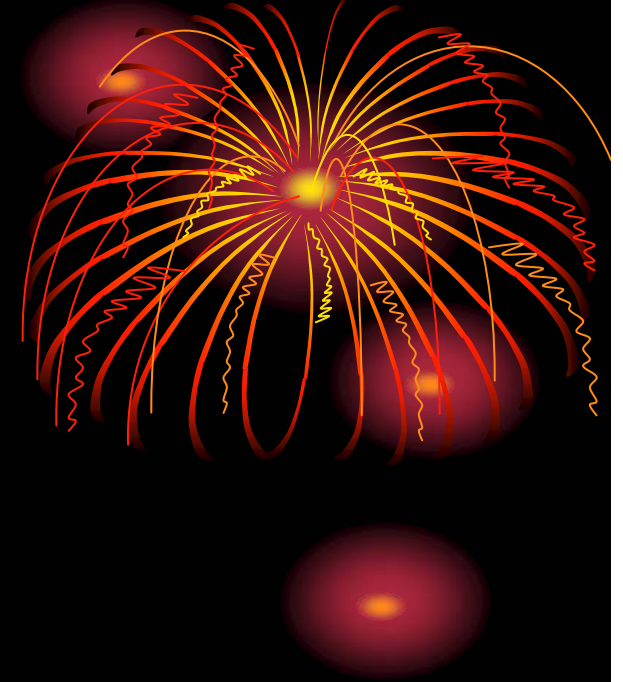
How We Function



- Currently through volunteer (in kind) contributions in excess of \$75,000/ year
 - Administrative functions necessary to support
 - a national organization that reaches 13 provinces and territories + federal government; and
 - cover Canada's 9.9 million square kilometres + 4 ½ time zones

- Respect for time, involvement, levels of engagement...
- Active involvement of seniors
- In-kind contributions as a precious commodity, that needs nurturing





“Despite beliefs
to the contrary,
this work does
not happen by
magic”

Ottawa, June 16, 2008

Examples of Contributions & Contributors



- Teleconference line for monthly board meetings
- Website creation and maintenance
- Material distribution for government
- Some translation
- Electronic newsletter
- Executive time
- Project management
- Travel
- Conference resources
- +
- All the exigencies of being a federally incorporated non profit

In our work, we...



- Integrate network building into other activities,
- Build on and use opportunities that arise
- Try to create new opportunities.

Two way learning

- We learn from our membership and
- We ask people what they would like to know more about

Collaboration, Collaboration, Collaboration



- WEAAD
 - Lack of provincial networks in parts of Canada
 - Communities and existing networks are often at very different stages of development

"We may not be fast, but we get the job done"

Collaboration, Collaboration, Collaboration



- Also building awareness around issue at policy level
- Creating conduits of information that otherwise would only sit at government level
 - Breaking down silos – local and regional network level

Our Recent Work 2007: Exploring Best Practices



- A framework for thinking about how we may identify best practices -
 - trial and error, "common sense", the result of experience in the field.
- Because of the diverse cultural and regional influences in a country as large as Canada, not all best practices apply in all areas.

Our Recent Work 2007: National Strategy



- What are the needed building blocks for a National Strategy

Possible process for developing the strategy

- Research/consultation phase
- Strategy drafting phase
- Key stakeholders
- Essential organizational components in the development of the National Strategy

The Website

www.cnpea.ca

- Established as source of reliable information and mechanism for sharing & disseminating information about abuse and its prevention
- Includes *original* Canadian content, and a world view
- French and English resources
- Integrates research and practice
- Addresses abuse and neglect in community and institutions



The Website

- Major vehicle for promoting World Elder Abuse Awareness Day since 2006
- Materials, promote community activities, share ideas, virtual photo album to celebrate events

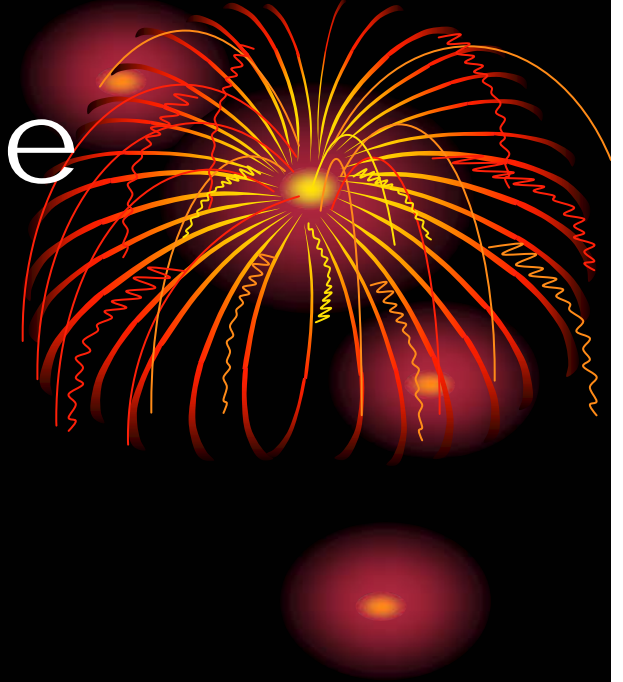


Present and Future Plans



- Continue to Build Board Knowledge
 - We often know our own region fairly well-- but enhance cross regional understanding
- Constantly re-invigorate our capacity
- Look at ways to nurture new local and regional networks

Present and Future Plans



- Website
 - like to have invited papers to discuss issues, pros and cons
 - updating and redesigning it; would like to significantly enhance Francophone content

What Would Make Us Stronger/ More Effective



Pretty much reached capacity of what can be done by volunteer effort and in kind contributions alone.

Our future progress will need:

- Core funding for administrative functions
- Resources to “grow” the membership & meets their ongoing information and network needs

With this, CNPEA~RCPMTA can continue to



- Act as a forum for sharing information about developments, ideas and approaches in the identification, prevention and response to the abuse of older women and men in Canada and internationally.
- Identify opportunities for improvements in policies, programs, community education, professional training and to share these.

Thank you

