



CWGHHR

PROMOTING QUALITY OF LIFE
THROUGH RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND
CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS.

**Canadian
Working
Group on
HIV and
Rehabilitation**

Who we are

The Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR) is a national charitable organization that responds to the rehabilitation needs of people living with HIV/AIDS through research, education and cross-sector partnerships.

CWGHR bridges the traditionally separate worlds of HIV/AIDS, disability and rehabilitation. Our members include organizations — community-based HIV/AIDS and disability organizations, national professional associations, unions, government agencies, and private-sector companies — and individuals, such as people living with HIV/AIDS, and health care, social care and human resources professionals.

HIV/AIDS: an episodic disability

There is still no cure for HIV/AIDS. But for many people, HIV/AIDS is a treatable episodic disability.

- **It is episodic** in that periods of good health may be interrupted by periods of illness or disability, with little predictability as to when these episodes will occur or for how long.
- **It is a disability** in that it results in a wide range of barriers to meaningful active living, including:
 - Physical impairments (e.g., pain, fatigue, diarrhea, numbness) from HIV/AIDS or treatment side effects;
 - Activity limitations (e.g., difficulty walking or climbing stairs, carrying groceries or taking a bath or shower); and
 - Barriers to social activities, relationships, or workforce participation (e.g., stigma and discrimination, insufficient income, and unsupportive employment policies).

The role of rehabilitation

Rehabilitation can involve a broad spectrum of people and services, including:

- **Basic support**, such as income, housing and nutrition;
- **Health care support**, such as rehabilitation services, and complementary and alternative therapies;
- **Psychosocial support**, such as counselling and referrals to peer groups;
- **Vocational support**, such as training and employment counselling; and
- **Social support**, such as referrals to cultural and other community organizations.

Rehabilitation can help people living with HIV/AIDS deal with disability so that they can:

- **stay healthy** and improve their overall quality of life,
- **stay at or go back to work**, and contribute to a stronger economy; and
- **stay active** at home and in their communities.

What we do

HIV/AIDS affects people from all over the world and from all walks of life — and so does the work we do. CWGHR brings together a wide range of people from many different communities, disciplines and industries.

We work with

- **People living with HIV/AIDS** to help improve awareness of and access to rehabilitation programs and services;
- **AIDS service organizations** to explain how rehabilitation can be integrated into the programs and services they provide;
- **Rehabilitation and other health care providers** to explain the crucial role of rehabilitation in treating HIV/AIDS and how they can apply their training to give people living with HIV/AIDS better and more integrated care;
- **Employers** to look at ways of diversifying their work force by creating an organizational culture that welcomes and values the experience and perspectives of people living with HIV/AIDS;
- **Governments** to better coordinate policies and programs, and improve legislation affecting people living with HIV/AIDS and other episodic disabilities;
- **Insurance companies** to train front-line insurance staff (e.g. assessors and rehabilitation professionals) and develop more flexible policies to provide access to rehabilitation for people living with HIV/AIDS;
- **Pharmaceutical companies** to promote understanding of how rehabilitation can help people living with HIV/AIDS to stay on their HIV medication by minimizing the side effects;
- **Other health groups** (e.g., breast cancer, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, stroke) to identify common challenges and work together on solutions;
- **Researchers and academics** to identify priorities and emerging issues, and undertake research on rehabilitation and HIV/AIDS; and
- **Journalists** to tell the stories of people living with disabilities related to HIV/AIDS and identify what changes need to be made.

Help us make a difference

Our work makes a difference, not only in the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS, but in the lives of their families, friends and colleagues. By getting involved with CWGHR, you can help us build stronger communities across Canada. Together, we can make a difference.

Become a member

Whether you're an individual or an organization affected by HIV/AIDS, disability or rehabilitation, we need your voice at our table. Contact us to find out how your membership in CWGHR can improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS — and your own.

Call us at 416 513-0440

E-mail us at info@hivandrehab.ca

Visit us on-line at www.hivandrehab.ca

Donate

Your contribution to CWGHR can help fund unique, leading-edge rehabilitation projects that reach people living with HIV/AIDS, and their friends, family and caregivers.

To find out more, please visit

www.hivandrehab.ca.

Contact Us

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www.hivandrehab.ca



Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation
Groupe de travail canadien sur le VIH et la réinsertion sociale

Membership

To apply for membership, please 1) review our membership guidelines available on our website (www.hivandrehab.ca) or by mail on request, 2) complete this page (please print clearly), and 3) mail this page with your cheque to CWGHR.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

STREET, SUITE/ APT

CITY

PROVINCE / STATE

POSTAL / ZIP CODE

COUNTRY

TELEPHONE DAY:

EVENING:

FAX:

EMAIL:

Additional information (optional):

ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION* (PAID OR VOLUNTEER WORK): _____

POSITION /ROLE: _____

SPECIFIC INTERESTS IN HIV/DISABILITY/REHABILITATION: _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT CWGHR?

(e.g. colleague, professional organization, etc.) _____

*Required for official organizational representative applicants

Membership Category

Annual Fee

(Full = voting; Associate = non-voting)

Individual**

Full

\$50

Associate

\$25

Organization***

Annual Budget

Full

< \$100,000

\$80

Full

\$100,000 – \$499,999

\$120

Full

\$500,000 – \$1,000,000

\$180

Full

> \$1,000,000

\$200

Associate

Not-for-Profit

\$50

Associate

For Profit / Funding Bodies

contact CWGHR

Applicable Annual Fee: _____

I would like to add a tax-deductible donation of: _____

****Total Amount payable: _____

** Individual members may apply for a reduced membership fee.
Please contact CWGHR.

*** If applying as a representative of an organization please attach a letter of support, including the name and signature of an official contact person.
A sample letter / template is available on request.

**** Please enclose your cheque made payable to CWGHR and mail with your application to: CWGHR, 1240 Bay Street Suite 600, Toronto ON M5R 2A7 Canada

I have read and accept CWGHR's guiding Mission, Vision, Mandate and Goals, and membership guidelines as outlined in this application:

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____