



MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION OF CANADA APPOINTS NEW SENIOR CONSULTANT FOR ANTI-STIGMA INITIATIVE

The Mental Health Commission of Canada is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Heather Stuart as the Senior Consultant for the Commission's Anti-stigma / Anti-discrimination Campaign. Dr. Stuart is the leading Canadian expert on stigma reduction related to mental health and is recognized for her work both nationally and internationally.

Heather's main research interests are in the areas of psychiatric epidemiology and mental health services research. Her main goals have been to undertake applied research with an eye to helping policy makers and planners solve day-to-day problems and make more informed, evidence-based decisions. She has worked in both hospital and community based mental health treatment systems and on international projects with the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, and the World Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Stuart has been the recipient of research funds from local, national, and international agencies and has made numerous contributions to the mental health literature. Dr. Stuart's main research and public health work pertains to stigma reduction. She has worked extensively with the World Psychiatric Association's Global anti-stigma program and is the Chair and co-founder of the World Psychiatric Association's Scientific Section on Stigma and Mental Disorders. She has been working with the Mental Health Commission with respect to anti-stigma activities and is currently collaborating with Statistics Canada to develop a stigma assessment module that can be incorporated into national health surveys.

Dr. Stuart is a Professor in the department of Community Health and Epidemiology, and Psychiatry, and School of Rehabilitation at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.