



## INFORMATION

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The Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) and the Hotchkiss Brain Institute (HBI) presented a joint symposium and roundtable on “Stigma in Mental Health and Addiction” yesterday (June 3, 2008). About 100 people representing many areas of the mental health field - from stakeholders and service providers to scientists and clinicians - attended the conference at the University of Calgary.

The conference featured four of the world’s leading experts on stigma research; Dr. Pat Corrigan (U.S.), Dr. Graham Thornicroft (U.K.), Dr. Otto Wahl (U.S.) and Dr. Bruce Link (U.S.). Those in attendance also heard from Order of Canada recipient Dr. Austin Mardon (CDN) about his personal journey with schizophrenia.

The presentations were followed by a roundtable discussion moderated by Commission Chair, Michael Kirby. The talks centered on developing a plan to move forward with expanding stigma research capacity and evaluation in Canada. More than 20 people representing consumers, stakeholders, advocates, scientists, policy makers and MHCC Board members participated in the valuable discussions.

A video presentation of the speakers and a report from the roundtable discussions will be available for viewing on a joint website produced for the conference by the Commission and the HBI, in about two weeks. You can access the website by clicking on this link: [www.mentalhealthstigma.ca](http://www.mentalhealthstigma.ca)