



Canadian Centre
on Substance Abuse
Centre canadien **de lutte**
contre les toxicomanies

Partnership. Knowledge. Change.
Collaboration. Connaissance. Changement.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two New Members Appointed to CCSA National Board of Directors

Ottawa, February 22, 2017 — The Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) is pleased to announce the appointments of Lesley Carberry and Linda Dabros to its Board of Directors, adding further depth and expertise to a national board that is recognized for its diverse experience and dedication to reducing addiction harms and health impacts on Canadians.

Lesley Carberry (Yukon)

Lesley Carberry's combined experience in consulting and in positions with the Yukon government Department of Justice spans more than four decades. Recognized for her work in restorative practices, facilitation and conflict resolution, she has led various initiatives in victim services, community justice, crime prevention and policing, with a focus on First Nations and rural communities.

"Canadians in the northern territories are disproportionately affected by all issues related to substance use and generational trauma. I am passionate about the North and our young people, and the long-held systemic perceptions and barriers they face," said Ms. Carberry. "We have dedicated people and wonderful resources. Our young aboriginal northerners are our best hope for the future, for our country and for ourselves."

"We welcome Ms. Carberry's knowledge of the North and expertise in strategic planning, governance and training," said Paula Tyler, the CCSA Board's interim chair. "We hold in high regard Ms. Carberry's personal commitment as a mother with two adult sons living with pre-natal alcohol exposure, as well as her involvement as a parent member of the FASD 10-Year Strategic Planning Group and numerous community organizations."

The recipient of distinguished awards for performance from the Yukon Department of Justice and the Premier's Award of Excellence, Ms. Carberry was honoured with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award in 2012. She completed the course work required for a Master's degree in social work (University of Northern British Columbia) and holds a Bachelor of Social Work (University of Regina) and Bachelor of Arts (University of Manitoba). She is currently pursuing a graduate certificate in restorative practices through the International Institute for Restorative Practices.

Linda Dabros (Ontario)

Linda Dabros brings more than 25 years of public-sector experience in strategic planning, policy and regulations development, human and financial resource management, and multi-sectoral consultations working with federal, provincial and territorial committees, and international delegations to her board position with CCSA. As the former director general with the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC), Ms. Dabros set strategic goals and managed the Commission's research, policy and international programs, leading a team that prepared reports to Parliament and submissions to United Nations treaty bodies. Key priorities were addressing issues facing Indigenous peoples and engaging stakeholders at the national and community levels.

"I was first introduced to CCSA in 2003 and never has its work been more important than it is now with today's changing landscape in drug policies and substance-related issues," said Ms. Dabros. "Substance use and addiction are extremely complex — health, social and public safety factors all need to be considered and so many voices need to be heard. I have had the privilege of working with



many people whose strength and passion in this field are incredible. It is so rewarding when progress is achieved.”

Prior to her work with CHRC, Ms. Dabros held executive positions with Health Canada (Canada’s Drug Strategy), the National Crime Prevention Centre (research, consultation and social policy development with federal, provincial and territorial governments, academia and NGOs) and the Privy Council Office. Ms. Dabros also serves as a volunteer on the management committee of Arteast, a not-for-profit organization that promotes visual arts in Eastern Ontario. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) from Carleton University.

“Ms. Dabros brings the combined strength of health and human rights expertise at the provincial, territorial, federal and international levels that will inform CCSA’s current priorities, as well as future direction-setting by the Board,” said Paula Tyler. “The trifecta of a strong Board, performance-driven senior management team and dedicated research talent has solidified CCSA’s national leadership on matters related to substance use.”

About CCSA’s Board of Directors

CCSA’s volunteer Board of Directors is composed of 13 members. The Chair and four members are Governor in Council appointments. The remaining members-at-large are recruited from a number of sectors, including the business community, labour groups, and professional and voluntary organizations. Board members serve a three-year term, which can be extended to two additional terms.

About CCSA

Created by a federal Act of Parliament, the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse is Canada’s only agency with the legislated mandate to reduce the harmful effects of alcohol, cannabis and prescription drugs on the health and safety of Canadians.

For close to 30 years, CCSA has provided trusted counsel to decision makers by harnessing the power of research, curating knowledge and bringing together diverse perspectives to address addiction harms in Canada. We are the source of evidence-based best advice that advances research knowledge, informs policy, changes practice and improves services for education, prevention, treatment and recovery. We represent the federal investment in addiction – a trusted asset for all stakeholders engaged in the field of substance use and addiction.

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