**CMHA MPS – Board President receives President’s Shield Award**

**Web story, social posts and graphics**

**WEB STORY:**

**CMHA Muskoka Parry Sound Board President receives provincial President’s Shield Award**

The Canadian Mental Health Association, Muskoka Parry Sound (CMHA MPS) is proud to share that our Board President Joan Edwards-Karmazyn has been awarded Addictions and Mental Health Ontario (AMHO)’s prestigious President’s Shield Award.

The President’s Shield award is awarded to honour those who have shown outstanding contributions to and inspired, advocated and enabled quality services in treatment of mental health and addictions. Joan has worked tirelessly supporting the cause of mental health and addictions throughout her lifetime.

“I’ve been in peer support for 38 years,” said Joan upon accepting the award at the recent AMHO conference. “There are many standing behind me. People who say they are broken but I say they are cracked - and like Leonard Cohen says, that’s when the light comes in.”

Joan began her career at CMHA Toronto and eventually joined CMHA MPS’s former identity (Muskoka-Parry Sound Community Mental Health Service) in 1998 to start a brand-new peer and family support program. She was a board member of the Mental Health Commission of Canada for several years and has been part of the CMHA MPS Board of Directors since 2011.

Congratulations to Joan on this amazing accomplishment.

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