

CATIE



**Making the connections:
Strength through partnerships**
Annual Report 2008–2009

Vision

CATIE will be a catalyst for a renewed national response to reduce the transmission of HIV and improve the quality of life of people with HIV.

Mission

CATIE champions and supports innovation and excellence in knowledge exchange for the prevention of HIV transmission, and the care, treatment and support of people with HIV by:

- Collaborating with and building the capacity of front-line organizations to use knowledge effectively to respond to the HIV epidemic;
- Supporting and connecting people with HIV, other individuals, and organizations to develop, synthesize, share and apply HIV knowledge;
- Acting as a central contact point for the flow of comprehensive, accurate, unbiased, timely and accessible HIV information and community-based knowledge.

Values

CATIE values: empowering and integrated services which reflect and respect the rights and diversity of people with and vulnerable to HIV; knowledge exchange in both official languages based on information generated through research, community observation and lived experience; and transparent, accountable and engaged partnerships.

Principles

CATIE provides confidential, non-judgmental and knowledge-informed services. CATIE is fully committed to the Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GIPA) principles in all aspects of the organization from service development and delivery to governance. CATIE works from a harm reduction perspective and incorporates an understanding of the determinants of health into all programs and services.

The full Strategic Plan can be accessed online at http://www.catie.ca/pdf/StrategicPlan_2008-2011.pdf.

Wise Words from our Partners

Key messages that emerged during the CATIE Stakeholder Consultations and which informed the organization's Strategic Plan include the following:

- Build on existing strengths, materials and services. Don't reinvent the wheel;
- Work with existing knowledge exchange networks and community networks;
- Maintain CATIE's treatment information services;
- Continue to keep the needs and expertise of people living with HIV central to CATIE's work;
- Both web-based and in-person tools and resources are needed;
- There is a high need for more plain language and low literacy materials and tools, that are both population-specific and culturally sensitive;
- There is a need for a central contact point for the flow of comprehensive, accurate, unbiased, timely and accessible HIV information;
- The highest priority knowledge gaps are in the area of prevention, and legal issues and human rights.

Making the Connections: Strength through Partnerships

Message from the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director

In October 2008, CATIE launched a new Strategic Plan to guide the organization in its evolving role. The plan was developed based on extensive consultations with stakeholders, a review of best practices in knowledge exchange, the development of an environmental scan that documents trends and issues in HIV in Canada, and planning sessions by the CATIE Board of Directors and staff.

The vision that emerged was strongly based on collaboration for a renewed and united response to HIV in Canada. At the core of the plan is CATIE's commitment to facilitate the exchange of information, professional expertise and practical experience across the diverse groups that both form the HIV sector and shape Canada's response to the epidemic.

We aim to strengthen bonds across the sector and make new connections that will support and enhance the work of front-line organizations and improve quality of life for the people and communities they serve. We aim to be the link that allows our many partners to find and support each other, sharing practical experiences and applying shared learnings. We aim to be a starting point and central contact place for people working in or living with HIV.

Clearly we have set ambitious goals for CATIE in the Strategic Plan. We have also mapped out 5 strategic directions to guide our work as we pursue these goals. On the inside front cover of this annual report, you will find the vision, mission, values and principles that are the foundation of our strategic plan. Throughout the annual report you will find the 5 key strategic directions we have set for the organization and important examples of how we have, over the past year, begun to implement these directions. You will find examples of how we continued the collaborative approach to treatment information exchange that we have practiced for over 19 years and also how we began to apply that same collaborative approach to services in the area of HIV prevention, care, and support.

Some key highlights include the development of an all-new edition of *Managing Your Health: A Guide for People Living with HIV*; our incorporation of a biology of prevention workshop, titled *Beyond the Banana*, into our

core educational programming; providing access to HIV and hepatitis C resources from 75 organizations that supply materials through the CATIE Ordering Centre; and collaborative work to nationalize several excellent brochures and booklets produced by local AIDS service organizations.

As we continue these collaborative efforts, we look forward to continuing and strengthening our work with you. We invite you to stay informed and connected by taking advantage of CATIE's many free services, including our subscriptions and membership program. We also invite you to share your own experiences and resources with others in the HIV sector through the *CATIE e-Bulletin* and other CATIE publications, the CATIE Ordering Centre and the growing list of CATIE services that you will read about throughout this report.

Working together, as part of a strong, connected and united response to HIV in Canada, we can reduce transmission and improve the quality of life of people living with or at risk of HIV.



A stylized, handwritten signature of Laurie Edmiston.

Laurie Edmiston,
Executive Director



A stylized, handwritten signature of Terry Pigeon.

Terry Pigeon,
Board Chair

A Central Contact Point to Connect Diverse and Growing Knowledge Networks

CATIE Strategic Direction #1

Pursue a leadership role in HIV knowledge exchange (KE) in Canada by:

- building, coordinating, facilitating and supporting new and existing networks and partnerships to facilitate knowledge exchange;
- providing an up-to-date, well-known central contact point for knowledge exchange;
- continually developing, evaluating, and improving knowledge exchange processes and outcomes.

In 2008 and 2009, CATIE's work to pursue a leadership role in HIV knowledge exchange included two major types of activities: building and supporting networks, and providing a well-known, central contact point for sharing HIV information. Here we share a few examples of this type of work.

The CATIE Model of Regional Network Support and Front-line Capacity Building

CATIE Educators are assigned to a region where they work closely with and support existing networks, help develop new networks, and deliver workshops and capacity building training to support local organizations in delivering HIV treatment and prevention information.

In 2008-2009, CATIE Educators made 36 site visits to 20 organizations in the Capacity Building Program. Through this interactive adult learning methodology, the educators delivered trainings to approximately 380 participants. Over the past year, a major emphasis for the program has been the incorporation of HIV transmission and prevention information into the curriculum, which is currently composed of 7 core modules. These efforts have included the full incorporation of a new workshop on the Biology of HIV Transmission, titled *Beyond the Banana*. To facilitate this incorporation of transmission information, new learning tools such as an interactive poster that demonstrates the ways HIV can enter the body were developed and shared during the trainings. In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, there was also an increasing emphasis on training and developing local experts. This included the launch of a Train-the-Trainer program to help organizations train local workshop leaders. With support that will continue throughout the next fiscal year, the participants in this program will soon be able to deliver workshops from the CATIE curriculum, extending

the reach and benefits of the Capacity Building Program further into their own regions. The organizations participating in the Capacity Building program are important partners in the CATIE Network. Many of them regularly share their practical experience, expertise, and local knowledge to inform CATIE's ongoing work, allowing CATIE in turn to share these experiences with other organizations across the country. Increasingly, they also help extend the reach of CATIE knowledge exchange services in their region, as with the Train-the-Trainer program.

Evaluation showed that participants had high levels of satisfaction with the Capacity Building Program.

CATIE has shared the Capacity Building Program model and the results of a process evaluation through an article published in the *International Journal of Public Health*. The article was written by Eric Mykhalovskiy, Chris Sanders, San Patten, and CATIE's Darien Taylor and Michael Bailey.

CATIE educators for the Western region and the Atlantic provinces continued to support two emerging regional HIV networks – ManSask and the Regional Atlantic AIDS Network (RAAN). Efforts to support these developing networks included facilitating network meetings and bringing network representatives together at the 2008 CATIE Educational Conference to participate in regional caucuses and to share experiences in a regional network report-back panel.



CATIE Educator Sugandhi Wickremaratchi (left) and Executive Director Laurie Edmiston display an interactive poster that helps demonstrate ways that HIV can enter the body. The poster is used in the new Biology of Transmission workshop that has been added to the core curriculum of CATIE's Capacity Building Program for AIDS Service Organizations.

Feedback from Participants in CATIE's Capacity Building Program

Evaluation forms from 182 participants showed that:

- 100% felt that the workshop was well-presented;
- 96% felt the workshop increased their knowledge of HIV;
- 97% felt that they could use or apply the knowledge gained through the workshop in their own work;
- 89% felt that the workshop provided an opportunity to network with others doing similar work;
- 97 % said they would recommend the workshop to others.

Region	CATIE Educators	Regional HIV Networks	Capacity Building Sites
British Columbia Yukon Territory	Tsitsi Watt (formerly Annika Ollner)	Pacific AIDS Network (PAN)	ANKORS, Nelson & Cranbrook Positive Women's Network BCPWA Society
Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut	Sugandhi Wickremaratchi	Alberta Community Council on HIV (ACCH); ManSask Network	AIDS Calgary HIV Edmonton AIDS Saskatoon AIDS Programs South Saskatchewan (Regina) Nine Circles Community Health Centre (Winnipeg)
Ontario	Laetitia Uwineza	Ontario AIDS Network	Toronto People with AIDS Foundation Bruce House Ottawa Carleton Council on HIV/AIDS Voices of Positive Women
Quebec	Michael Bailey	COCQ-SIDA	L'ARCHE de l'Estrie, Sherbrooke CASM, Montreal ACCM, Montreal BRAS, Gatineau MIELS, Quebec
Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island	Tricia Smith	Regional Atlantic AIDS Network (RAAN)	AIDS Saint John, New Brunswick AIDS New Brunswick, AIDS Moncton AIDS PEI AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador

The CATIE Ordering Centre: A Central Access Point for Hundreds of Free HIV Resources from Organizations Across Canada

In 2008-2009, CATIE created the position of Manager, Health Publications and brought Melisa Dickie on board in this role to oversee a strategic and collaborative approach to expanding the collection in the CATIE Ordering Centre. Policies were developed regarding the collection, retention and distribution of resources. The collection was assessed and priority gaps in resources for specific audiences were identified.

CATIE staff developed relationships with leading local, regional, and national organizations to help fill the identified resource gaps. There are over 75 organizations that supply documents for national distribution through the Ordering Centre. Last year alone, CATIE partnered with 20 of these organizations. Many of these partners are local community-based organizations with expertise and practical experience serving specific populations. In some cases, CATIE's work with local organizations includes help adapting publications for national use and support to print quantities for national distribution.

To ensure the Ordering Centre is an easy-to-use central access point for HIV resources, CATIE launched an enhanced online ordering interface through the website at www.catie.ca. CATIE offers several means of finding and selecting the most relevant resources from the broad range of materials available. The online ordering centre has improved search functionality and sorting by defined categories including specific populations at increased risk of HIV. In addition to these helpful features, CATIE's Resource Coordinator, Stéphanie Lemyre, is available by e-mail or CATIE's toll-free phone line to help select materials or place orders.

Work throughout the 2008-2009 fiscal year included promotion and awareness efforts to ensure front-line workers know about and can use key CATIE services such as the Ordering Centre. Outreach through conferences and events, online promotion, and targeted advertising in nursing and public health publications helped stimulate 12,615 orders in 2008-2009 with over 643,000 items distributed through the CATIE Ordering Centre.



The CATIE Ordering Centre serves as a central access point for hundreds of HIV and hepatitis C resources that are supplied by a network of approximately 75 organizations across Canada.

Staying Informed and Connected Online and by Phone

CATIE continued to expand its extensive offering of bilingual online HIV and hepatitis C resources through www.catie.ca, www.hepcinfo.ca and our other websites developed for specific audiences. Through CATIE's national, anonymous, bilingual 1-800 phone line, CATIE educators answered a broad range of questions about the full continuum of HIV prevention, care, treatment and support, and hepatitis C, and connected callers with relevant local services. CATIE continued to promote awareness of and access to its online and phone services through targeted advertising and promotion and outreach at conferences and events.

Staying Informed and Connected with the CATIE Membership Program

In 2008 and 2009, CATIE launched a membership communications program. In addition to the annual report, CATIE members can now expect to receive several updates from the Executive Director throughout the year with information about new programs and services, new resources available through the CATIE Ordering Centre, and samples of new materials produced by CATIE. Over 10,000 packages were distributed last year through the CATIE membership communications program. A membership outreach and promotion strategy was also launched, with an emphasis on outreach through national, regional and local conferences and events. The goal of the program is to engage new audiences and expand CATIE's network. Ongoing work in this area is focused on engaging public health workers and organizations serving

Aboriginal communities. Questions about the CATIE membership program can be directed to Véronique Destrubé, Specialist, Communications and Social Marketing. If you are not already a CATIE member, we encourage you take advantage of this free service.

Well Known for Knowledge Exchange

Ensuring front-line organizations know where and how to access HIV information and expertise is an essential part of CATIE's mandate. Promotion and awareness efforts in 2009 included the following:

- Over 10,000 updates were distributed through the CATIE membership communications program;
- Approximately 9,500 people attended conferences and events with a CATIE information table or received resources in conference delegate kits;
- 4 issues of the CATIE E-bulletin were viewed over 7,000 times;
- 34 advertisements for CATIE services and HIV resources were posted in highly targeted publications. Based on the circulation and readership estimates of these publications, CATIE ads were read approximately 2 million times.

CATIE thanks the many partners and suppliers who made these awareness efforts possible, particularly those who donated services or offered discounted rates.



Our Board of Directors: Keeping CATIE Connected with the Communities We Serve

CATIE staff members thank the 2008-2009 board members who have given of their talents, time and energy to ensure a sound strategic direction for the organization and to serve as CATIE ambassadors in their communities. We thank our Board members, listed below, for their efforts in governance and in extending CATIE's network and promoting awareness of CATIE services.

Region	Name
Aboriginal Director At Large	Sandy Lambert
Atlantic Region	Michelle Boutcher
Atlantic Region	Noel Carney
National Director At Large	Bill Downer (Vice-Chair)
National Director At Large	Lyle Watling (Secretary)
National Director At Large	Peter Coleridge (Chair, Strategic Planning and Policy)
National Director At Large	Yves Brunet
Ontario and Nunavut Region	Charlene Catchpole
Ontario and Nunavut Region	Harlon Davey
Pacific Region	Daryle Roberts
Pacific Region	David Swan
Quebec Region	Laura M. Bisailon
Quebec Region	Terry Pigeon (Chair)
Western Region	Ken Bristow (Treasurer)
Western Region	Lydia Thompson

Looking Forward:

CATIE continues expanding affiliations, partnerships and information networks throughout Canada to increase awareness of, access to and use of HIV prevention, care, treatment, and support information. Plans include the continuation and expansion of the train-the-trainer component of the Capacity Building Program, the development of a new workshop on epidemiology, bringing a PHA Leadership program to the RAAN and ManSask regional networks in partnership with the Ontario

AIDS Network and the Pacific AIDS Network, continuing to support a national network around gay men's health and HIV prevention, and working with partner organizations across Canada to identify, nationalize and share resources that address priority knowledge gaps through the CATIE Ordering Centre. CATIE also continues to expand its membership program and promotion efforts to increase awareness of the services and resources available.

Connecting Research and Front-line Service Providers

CATIE Strategic Direction #2

Monitor trends and engage with stakeholders to strategically pursue knowledge exchange opportunities for advancing the response to HIV in Canada by:

- working to ensure priority knowledge exchange needs of stakeholders are addressed;
- informing research agendas with community needs.

Important examples of CATIE's work to connect research and front-line service providers include the development of CATIE's HIV in Canada Environmental Scan, CATIE's Learning Institutes, and informing and supporting a variety of HIV research groups, councils, and working groups.

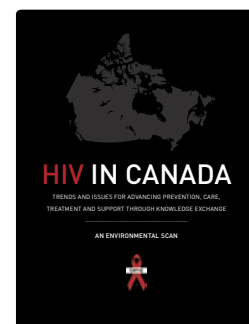
Monitoring Trends and Responding to Emerging Issues

The CATIE Environmental Scan, available online at www.catie.ca, is one of several key pieces of recent CATIE work that synthesizes information about HIV trends in Canada. It provides an overview of the HIV landscape including the epidemiology, trends in diseases related to HIV, and trends and issues in HIV prevention, care, treatment and support. This document has informed the Strategic Plan and subsequent CATIE programming and it is being broadly shared to help inform the work of HIV organizations across Canada. It is intended to start dialogue among national, regional and local stakeholders in HIV work and to support strategic HIV/AIDS planning and decision-making in Canada.

Over the past year important emerging issues included questions related to the Swiss Guidelines and the concept of treatment as prevention, and concerns about HIV disclosure and the law in Canada. Prevention as well as legal issues and human rights were also identified as priority knowledge gaps during CATIE's stakeholder consultations. CATIE took action to address these knowledge exchange needs in a variety of ways throughout the year. This work included sessions at the 2008 CATIE Educational Conference, with presentations by Dr. Mark Tyndall, MD, ScD, FRCPC, and Glenn Betteridge, BA (Hons), LLB, BCL. CATIE continued this work with a variety of pieces in publications such as *CATIE News*, *Treatment Update* and the *Positive Side* that delved further

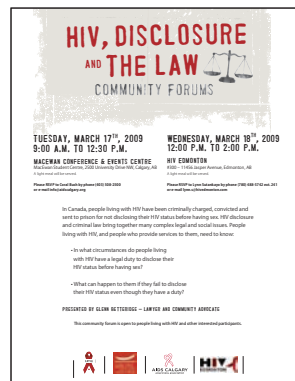
into the idea of treatment as prevention, and the differences between applying this idea as a public health concept and applying it in medical practice at the level of individual decision-making. CATIE also examined the range of views about the Swiss Guidelines and the social, political, and legal background in which this statement by Swiss researchers was conceptualized. CATIE's look at the Swiss Guidelines included considering the influence of legal trends toward the criminalization of HIV, which has become a growing concern for HIV stakeholders in Canada among other countries.

In Canada a number of people living with HIV (PHAs) have been charged and convicted of a variety of offences for not disclosing their HIV-positive status prior to sex. The lack of clarity about HIV disclosure and the evolving interpretation of related law has led to a strong need for information about the legal obligations of PHAs and service providers. In response, CATIE undertook a collaborative project with the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and COCQ-SIDA to conduct a cross-Canada tour of events on the topic of HIV Disclosure and the Law. As part of the project, Glen Betteridge led 7 HIV legal community forums with 282 attendees and 8 workshops for service providers, which reached 164 attendees. The trainings offered information about the complex legal and ethical issues for PHAs, service providers, and public health practitioners and they included



The CATIE Environmental Scan, available online at www.catie.ca, is one of several key pieces of CATIE work that synthesizes information about HIV trends in Canada. This document informed the Strategic Plan and subsequent CATIE programming and it is being broadly shared to help inform the work of HIV organizations across Canada.

findings from the ongoing research and tracking efforts of the Legal Network. The trainings were well-received and evaluations by participants showed that 97% felt their knowledge of HIV disclosure and the law increased and that they would use the knowledge gained in their own decision-making. Glenn Betteridge also wrote an article on the topic for the Spring/Summer 2009 issue of *The Positive Side*, which is available through the CATIE Ordering Centre. In Quebec City and Montreal, CATIE worked with COCQ-SIDA and MIELS to offer HIV Disclosure and the Law workshops run by Stéphanie Claivaz-Loranger, lawyer and coordinator of the Human Rights and HIV/AIDS program at COCQ-SIDA.



CATIE, the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, and COCQ-SIDA collaborated on a cross-country series of trainings and community forums. The events reached over 400 people and facilitated discussion about the legal responsibilities of PHAs and service providers related to the disclosure of HIV-positive status prior to sex.

CATIE Learning Institutes: Making Research Accessible for Front-line Service Providers

In 2008-2009, CATIE continued its popular program of offering Learning Institutes to prepare community members and front-line service providers to understand and use information presented through research conferences. CATIE held Learning Institutes at the 2008 annual conferences held by the Canadian Association of HIV Research (CAHR) and the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN). The Learning Institutes are increasingly involving academics, researchers, and clinicians as presenters. For example, in the early months of 2009 CATIE worked with

the BC People with AIDS Society (BCPWA) to develop a Learning Institute that was delivered at the CAHR conference in April 2009. This Learning Institute included a session with Dr. Julio Montaner who translated his plenary session from the conference into community-accessible language.

CATIE Director of Program Delivery, Darien Taylor oversees CATIE's Learning Institutes and currently sits on the CAHR Council.

Twice annual Instituts d'apprentissage have been instituted in Québec before Le Symposium des aspects cliniques de l'infection par le VIH, in November, and Les journées québécoises VIH, in March. Organized in collaboration with COCQ-Sida, over 15 AIDS service organizations are represented, with over half of participants coming from outside of the Montreal area.



CATIE Board Chair Terry Pigeon helped distribute HIV resources and CATIE publications through the CATIE Information Table at the 2008 CAHR conference.

Informing Research Agendas and Policy Directions

Through their roles on research committees, working groups, and advisory committees CATIE staff and board members share expertise and community experience to inform and guide research agendas and policy directions for a wide range of organizations. A select list of these organizations follows.

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR): Canadian HIV/AIDS Research Advisory Committee (CHARAC)

Canadian Association of HIV Research (CAHR): CAHR Council

Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CanFar): Scientific Committee

Canadian Observational Cohort Collaboration (CANOC): Scientific Steering Committee, Community Advisory Committee

European AIDS Community Advisory Board

Leading Together: Championing Committee

Ontario Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS (OACHA)

Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN): Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS) Governance Committee, Prevention Research Network Advisory Committee, 2009 Research Conference Planning Committee

Public Health Agency of Canada: Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on HIV Testing and Counselling; Working Group for HIV/AIDS Status Report for Gay, 2 Spirit, Bisexual and other Men Who Have Sex with Men; Working Group for the Population Specific HIV/AIDS Status Report on PHAs

University of Toronto: HIV/AIDS Research Ethics Board

Connecting the Silos: An Integrated and Evolving Approach to HIV Knowledge Exchange

CATIE Strategic Direction #3

Pursue an integrated approach to the exchange of accessible, accurate, unbiased and timely knowledge exchange in HIV prevention and treatment by:

- continuing to be the national community-based expert on HIV treatment information for people with HIV and the individuals and organizations that support them;
- building CATIE's expertise and capacity in the synthesis and translation of prevention information, particularly the biomedical science of prevention;
- integrating relevant information on hepatitis C (HCV) and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) for people living with and vulnerable to HIV;
- remaining open to and learning from national and international opportunities.

In 2008-2009, the development and dissemination of new or nationalized HIV information resources and educational tools continued to be a key component of CATIE's work. CATIE also placed significant emphasis on incorporating prevention information into its publications and resources and developing an integrated approach to content development that would help CATIE service users find and apply relevant information about sexually transmitted infections and hepatitis C.

Integrating Information about HIV Prevention, Hepatitis C, and Sexually Transmitted Infections

CATIE's core subscription publications *The Positive Side*, *Treatment Update* and *CATIE-News* provided information about sexually transmitted infections and their impact on health and HIV transmission and covered breaking news on the sexual transmission of hepatitis C. Other breaking news covered included the Swiss Guidelines, treatment as prevention, and the criminalization of HIV including information about evolving interpretations of Canadian law and the legal obligation of PHAs to disclose their serostatus before having sex.

Work to integrate prevention information into CATIE services also included further refinement and implementation of the *Beyond the Banana* workshop that examines the biology of HIV transmission and presents the topic in clear and understandable language using specially developed interactive posters and other learning tools. In 2008-2009, CATIE created the position of Coordinator, Community Prevention Programs. In the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the Coordinator will be leading initiatives such as the *Programming Connection* to support front-line workers in sharing and applying programming information and practical experience. The initial focus will be on prevention programming because this area was identified by front-line service providers during the CATIE consultations as a high priority knowledge gap. CATIE will also be launching a new online publication titled *Prevention in Focus*.

CATIE continued integrating relevant hepatitis C information into its programs and services. In 2008-2009 CATIE built

on the hepatitis C program that had begun the previous year with the development of an extensive toolkit of more than 97 resources and website with 200 pages of content. CATIE's hepatitis C work last year included developing and delivering 3 conferences for service providers in Ontario. The conferences were held in Toronto, Ottawa, and London and they were attended by a total of 276 people including participants from remote and rural areas who received financial support to assist with travel expenses. Evaluation results showed a high level of satisfaction and 98% of respondents felt the workshop answered their questions and provided practical tips and tools they can use with their clients. The comprehensive website and toolkit were officially launched in Toronto at the first of the three conferences.

The CATIE Hepatitis C Toolkit is funded by the Hepatitis C Secretariat of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Although developed for use with Ontario service providers, the bilingual website and print resources are accessible to organizations across Canada and in the 2009-2010 fiscal year it is hoped that the project will be expanded to a national level with funding support from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

The resources are available for viewing or downloading and printing from the new CATIE hepatitis C website at www.hepcinfo.ca. Copies can also be ordered directly from the CATIE Ordering Centre at www.catie.ca.



CATIE's hepatitis C work last year included developing and delivering 3 conferences for service providers in Ontario and launching a comprehensive toolkit of resources and a dedicated website.



A number of CATIE staff members attended the 2008 International AIDS Conference in Mexico to learn from organizations around the world and share the CATIE model for a national HIV knowledge exchange broker. Heather Ann Kaldeway and Barry Plant are shown here at the CATIE booth.

Just Diagnosed with HIV

New E-learning module helps with first steps after diagnosis

Receiving a diagnosis of HIV changes a person's life forever. It is normal to feel a lot of different emotions at this time. The first thing you need to know is that you are OK.

CATIE's e-learning module for people who have just been diagnosed with HIV covers two topics: what you need to know right away, and what you can do as you adjust to this new factor in your life.

This module is presented as text based self-learning and as an animated video.

You can access the video at
<http://www.catie.ca/Eng/LivingWithHIV/justdiagnosed.html>

1-800-263-1638 WWW.CATIE.CA

CATIE continued efforts to make HIV information accessible online with the launch of a new *Just Diagnosed* e-learning module that is available at www.catie.ca.



CATIE partnered with Voices of Positive Women to adapt their brochure about pregnancy and HIV for national distribution. This model of partnership to nationalize high quality existing resources produced by local organizations is one of the key strategies CATIE is using to help fill gaps in the resources available and meet major HIV knowledge exchange needs.

Partnering for an Integrated Approach to Hepatitis C Knowledge Exchange

CATIE thanks the many people and organizations that contributed to the hepatitis C toolkit and website. Organizations involved included the Hepatitis C Secretariat, Canadian Harm Reduction Network, Street Health Toronto, AIDS Niagara, University of Ottawa, Ontario Hepatitis C Task Force, Ontario HIV Substance Use Training Program, YOUTHLINK – Inner City, Prisoners' HIV/AIDS Support Action Network (PASAN), AIDS Committee of London, Ontario Harm Reduction Distribution Program, Central Toronto Community Health Centre, The Works, Queen West Community Health Centre, South Riverdale Community Health Centre, John Howard Society of Greater Moncton, Manitoba Hepatitis C Support Community, TRIP Project, Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC), Chee Mamuk Aboriginal Program, The Ottawa Hospital, Oasis Program of Sandy Hill Community Centre, University of Ottawa Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine, and Peel Works Needle Exchange Program of Peel Public Health.

Continuing CATIE's Leadership in HIV Treatment Information Exchange

Core CATIE publications such as *Treatment Update* and *CATIE-News* covered emerging topics such as outbreaks of listeriosis, STREP and the H1N1 virus as well as major changes to HIV treatment guidelines for high income countries; the link between immune system activation and heart disease for PHAs; complementary therapies and drug side-effects; and liver health and inflammation and its impact on the immune system. *The Positive Side*, CATIE's health and wellness magazine for PHAs, covered a broad range of topics including nutrition tips, information about HIV and hepatitis C co-infection, lipoatrophy, and the concept of treatment as prevention with dialogue about the connection between viral load and transmissibility.

In 2008, CATIE added an additional writer and editor to the publications team to assist with ongoing content development projects including the all-new workbook edition of *Managing Your Health*, CATIE's manual for PHAs. Other projects developed by or with the support of CATIE staff include a new e-learning module titled *Just Diagnosed with HIV*; the *Starting Points* brochure that was adapted from a resource created by Toronto People with AIDS Foundation, and a brochure about pregnancy and HIV that was originally developed by Voices of Positive Women. New resources are available online at www.catie.ca. The website continues to be a major portal for accessing HIV information and resources, including online learning modules and other web-specific content. The site drew approximately 1 million visits last year.

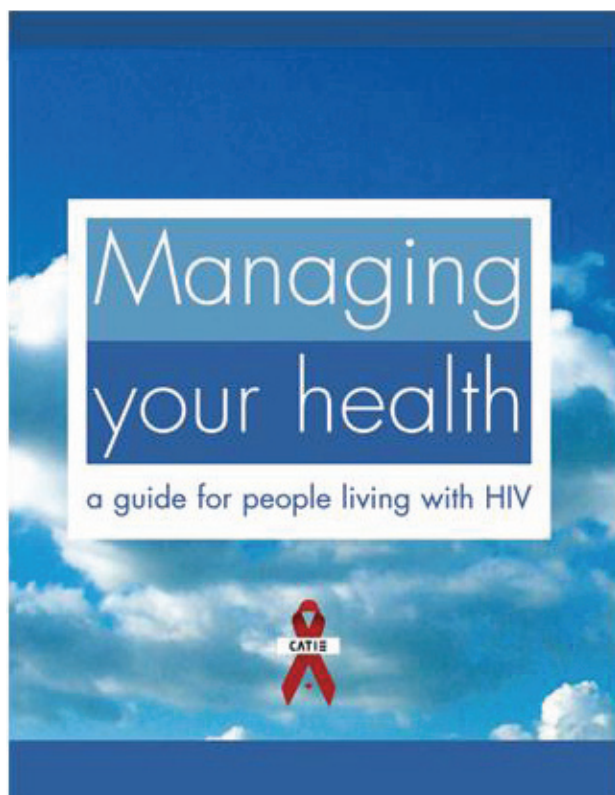
Managing your health: a guide for people living with HIV

Since it was first published in 1993, *Managing your health* has become a “must read” for people living with HIV and those seeking reliable information in plain language delivered from the perspectives of people living with this disease. Topics vary from living well, managing medication, eating healthily, starting a family, handling legal, money and housing issues to keeping sex hot and safe.

This 4th edition has a number of new features and a fresh new look. Each chapter is written by a different author, many of whom are people living with HIV. It includes a summary, as well as highlighted key messages for an easy read. This new edition is designed as a workbook in which people with HIV can record their personal health information and notes, with sections dedicated to laboratory results, anti-HIV drugs and side effects.

The book was developed in collaboration with a wide range of partner organizations and subject matter experts that provided review. A complete list of authors, reviewers, and acknowledgements is available within the publication.

We thank all of the partners involved in the production of this new edition, which is available through the CATIE Ordering Centre at www.catie.ca.



The development of an all-new workbook edition of *Managing Your Health: a guide for people living with HIV* is one example of CATIE's continuing leadership in providing accessible information for people living with the disease.

Disseminating HIV and Hepatitis C Information: A Snapshot of CATIE's Work in 2008-2009

- More than 2000 queries were answered through the CATIE 1-800 line.
- More than 8.75 million web pages were viewed during more than 1 million visits to www.catie.ca and sections of the site.
- More than 88,000 web pages were viewed during almost 26,000 visits to www.hepcinfo.ca.
- 643,000 items were distributed through the CATIE Ordering Centre.
- Updates and resources were distributed through almost 24,000 mailed packages and more than 66,000 subscription e-mails as part of the CATIE membership program and delivery of CATIE's 4 subscription publications.

Celebrating the Diversity in Our Communities

Connecting and Supporting the People and Programs that Serve Them

CATIE Strategic Direction #4

Build the capacity of community programs and services to respond to the evolving needs of their diverse communities by:

- brokering proactive, collaborative population-specific and regional opportunities for the creation and exchange of HIV and programming knowledge;
- building the skills and capacity of front-line organizations to develop and share customized HIV prevention and treatment knowledge

Much of CATIE's work in 2008-2009 helped broker collaborative, population-specific and regional opportunities for HIV knowledge exchange.

The Gay Men's Health Initiative is one major example of how CATIE has begun to play a facilitator role and is strategically engaging partners to move forward population-specific health issues. CATIE held an initial meeting in February 2009 to stimulate collaborative work on a framework for incorporating HIV prevention into a broader holistic health perspective for gay men. Looking forward, CATIE aims to continue this project and involve partners in the creation of a pan-Canadian Knowledge Centre on Gay Men's Sexual Health. The knowledge centre will help build a sustainable base of knowledge in gay men's sexual health for service providers to draw upon, and help diminish program isolation caused by infrastructure and resource deficiencies. CATIE also began an ongoing partnership to nationalize a package of 3 resources about sexual health and legal issues of importance for HIV-positive gay men and service providers who support them. These materials will be released during the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Last year CATIE worked with Voices of Positive Women to nationalize a booklet about HIV and pregnancy. Publicly launched early in the new fiscal year, this unique booklet has been well received by front-line workers across Canada who have noted a lack of materials about pregnancy for HIV-positive women. A related resource of interest to HIV-positive people wanting to start a family is the *Birth Rights* article about fertility options that appears in *Positive Side* magazine and is available as a stand-alone resource through the CATIE Ordering Centre.

CATIE's 2008-2009 *Get the Facts Campaign* included the development of a series of simple, plain-language postcards and posters with key messages about starting and adhering to HIV treatment. The project

concept was inspired by Dr. Chris Fraser of the Cool AID Community Health Centre in Victoria, B.C. Dr. Fraser had noted that street-involved PHAs continued to die from AIDS without ever having been on treatment and that simple, understandable materials were badly needed to help empower low-literacy individuals to make informed health decisions.

Examples of CATIE's work to broker regional knowledge exchange opportunities include the regional caucuses and the regional network panel session at the 2008 CATIE AGM and Educational Conference, CATIE's ongoing collaboration with existing regional HIV networks, support of the emerging RAAN and ManSask networks, and the work done through the CATIE Capacity Building Program. More details about the Capacity Building Program and CATIE's work to support emerging regional networks can be found in the earlier section of this report titled "A Central Contact Point to Connect Diverse and Growing Knowledge Networks."

Looking forward, CATIE will continue collaborative efforts to address population-specific knowledge exchange needs with an emphasis on the needs of gay men and Aboriginal youth in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.



CATIE continues to build on its work with the highly successful Body Mapping methodology, adapting it for use with specific populations including Aboriginal communities and long-term survivors living with HIV.

Staying Strong:

Sustainable HIV Knowledge Exchange Efforts

CATIE Strategic Direction #5

Ensure the sustainability and development of HIV knowledge exchange in Canada to reduce transmission of HIV and ensure the health and well-being of people with HIV by:

- strategically partnering to leverage funding and maximize impact;
- continually evaluating services and balancing resources (staff, funding);
- diversifying our funding base.

In 2008-2009, CATIE's ongoing efforts to evaluate services, assess needs, and balance resources accordingly, led to the creation of several new positions to help CATIE pursue its new strategic plan. Dave McKay joined CATIE in the role of Director of Information Technology, with a focus on CATIE's expanding efforts in the area of online knowledge exchange.

The position of Health Publications Manager was created to oversee and expand the CATIE Ordering Centre and supervise a new Resources Coordinator position. The Resources Coordinator assists with placing resource orders and directing queries. An additional Writer and Editor was added to the team to contribute to increasing content development work. The CATIE marketing team expanded with staff dedicated to events, promoting and supporting CATIE membership and subscriptions, and building awareness of CATIE services and new resources.

CATIE's formal evaluation efforts included the completion of a front-line needs assessment and the evaluation of 4 major CATIE programs: our 2008 educational conference, the capacity building program, the Hepatitis C program, and the HIV Disclosure and the Law workshop series. In each of the evaluation surveys, 95% or more of respondents indicated that they were satisfied or extremely satisfied and that they have the ability to use the information gained in their work.

During this time, CATIE also continued efforts to ensure diversified funding that supports the sustainability of our work. This included working with corporate supporters to balance the relative stability of our core public funding with the financial flexibility to pursue emerging opportunities as they are identified. CATIE is grateful for the financial support of our public funders, corporate partners, and individual donors.

Financial Supporters

CATIE would like to acknowledge and thank the financial supporters who have helped us provide high-quality services for people living with or vulnerable to HIV and the organizations that serve them.

Government Funding

Public Health Agency of Canada
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, AIDS Bureau
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Hepatitis C Secretariat
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

Corporate Donors

Diamond Donors (\$70,000 and over)

Abbott Laboratories Ltd.
Gilead Sciences (Canada) Inc.

Platinum Donors (\$50,000 to \$69,999)

There were no platinum donors in 2008-2009.

Gold Donors (\$20,000 to \$49,999)

Bristol-Myers Squibb (Canada) Ltd.
GlaxoSmithKline in partnership with Shire Canada
Pfizer (Canada) Inc.

Silver Donors (\$5,000 to \$19,999)

Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd.
Schering-Plough (Canada)

Other Donors

Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd.

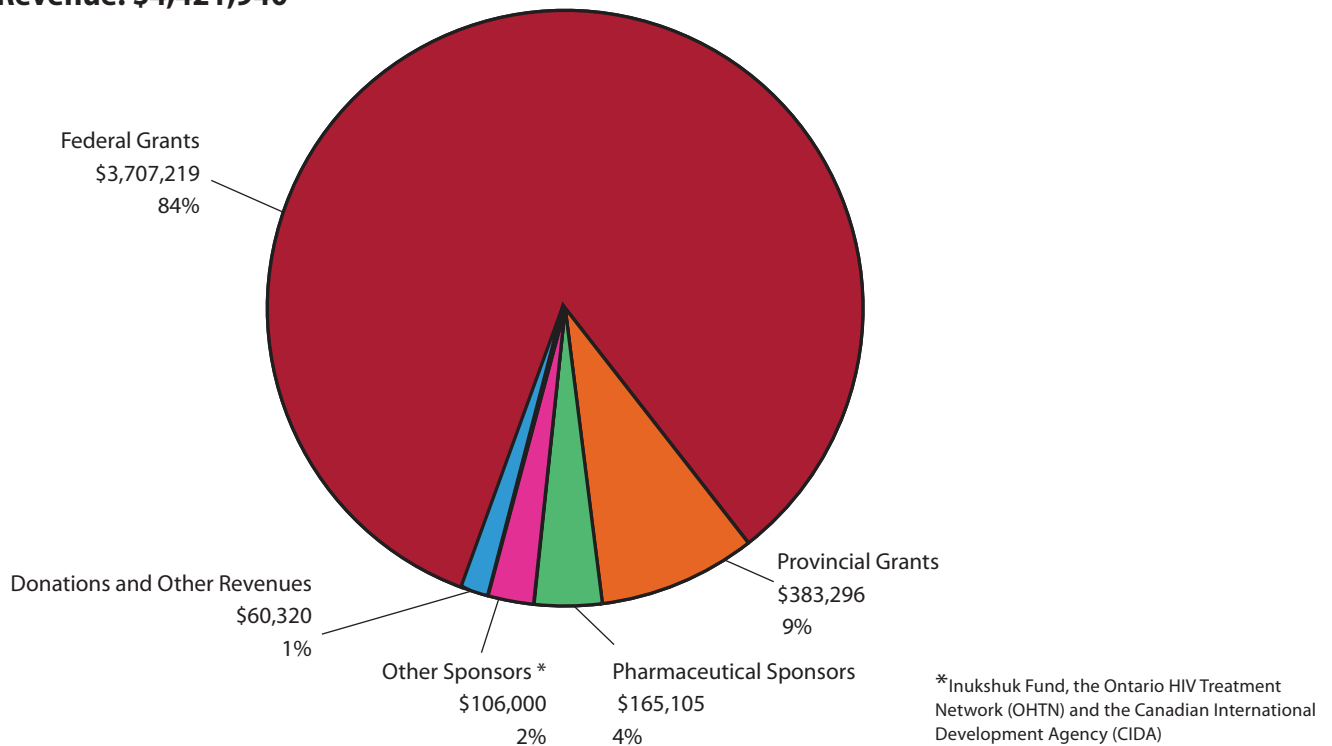
Gifts in kind

Shepell•fgi
Pink Triangle Press (Xtra!)

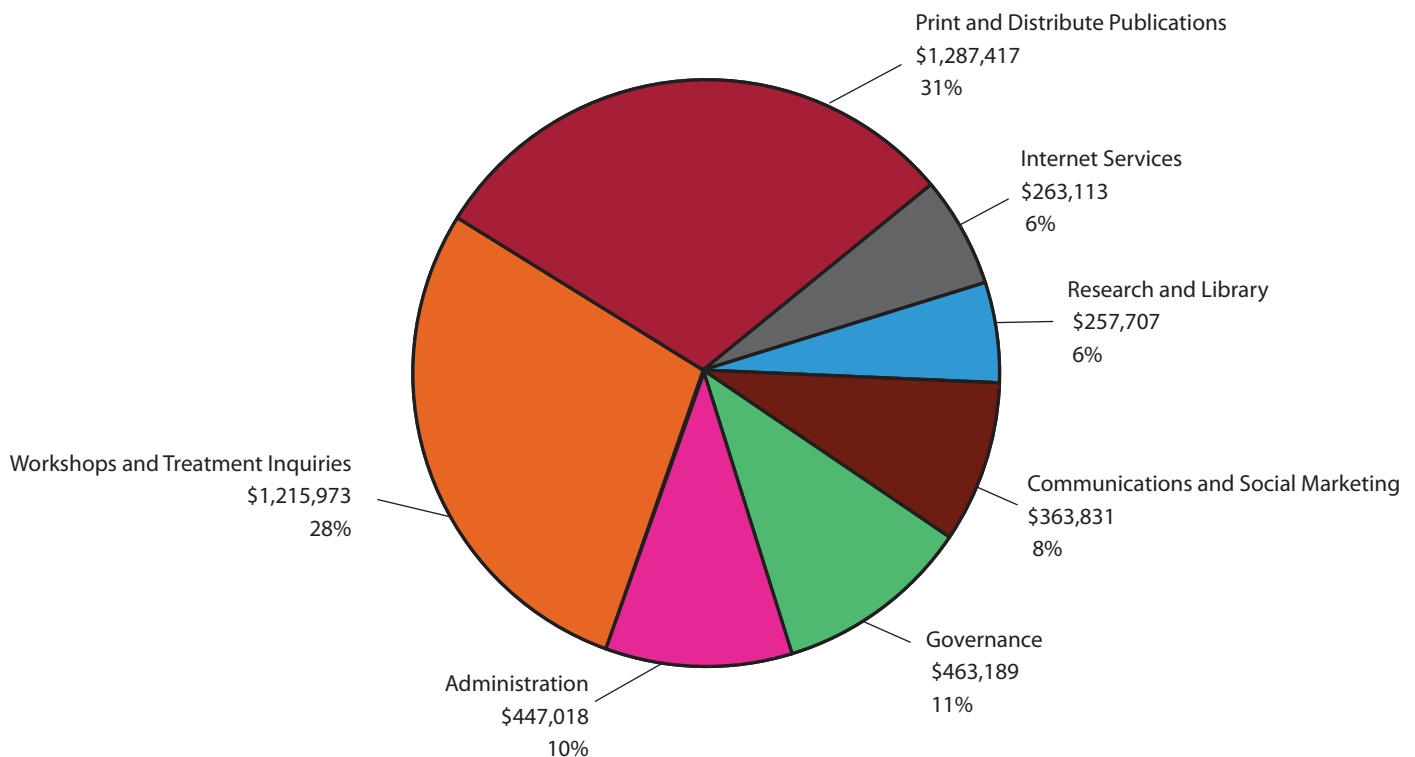
We also extend our thanks to the many friends of CATIE who generously supported our work with personal donations and gifts of time and talent.

2008/2009 Financials

Total Revenue: \$4,421,940



Total Expenditures: \$4,298,248



CATIE

www.catie.ca
1-800-263-1638
info@catie.ca

Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange
555 Richmond Street West
Toronto, ON M5V 3B1
Charitable Registration # 132258740 RR0001

