

**Ontario Consumer Outreach Application Form**

**About the Conference**

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN is pleased to announce the 6th National Spinal Cord Injury Conference, Bioinformatics Inform SCI Rehabilitation. This year’s conference will be held at Allstream Centre from October 2nd – 4th, 2014.

The 6th National SCI Conference organizing committee is putting together an exciting program. It will include keynote speeches, podium and poster presentations, workshops and breakout sessions. We invite members of the general public who are living with a spinal cord injury (consumers) to take part in the general conference, a networking dinner with fellow consumers and an opening night reception with all conference delegates that will take place on Friday, October 3rd, 2014.

**Conference Website**: [www.sciconference.ca](http://www.sciconference.ca)

**Where**

Allstream Centre (Exhibition Place)

105 Princes’ Blvd,

Toronto, Ontario

M6K 3C3

**Consumer Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EVENT** | **DATE** | **TIME** | **DETAILS** |
| Consumer Orientation at Eaton Chelsea  | October 2 | 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm  | Meet with the Consumer Program Coordinator |
| Consumer Dinner at Eaton Chelsea  | October 2 | 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm  | Dinner with fellow Consumers and Consumer Program Coordinator  |
| Main ConferenceDay 1 | October 3 | 7:30 am **Breakfast & Registration** 8:30 am to 6:15 pm **Conference**6:15 pm to 7:30 pm **Reception**  | Today’s workshops, sessions and networking reception are open to everyone at the conference |
| Main Conference Day 2 | October 4 | 7:30 am **Breakfast & Registration** 8:30 am to 4:30 pm **Conference** | Today’s workshops and sessions are open to everyone at the conference |

**About the 2014 Consumer Outreach Program**

The Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN, SCI Ontario, and the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation (ONF) would like you, consumers living with a spinal cord injury, to be a part of the 6th National Spinal Cord Injury Conference held in Toronto, October 2nd – 4th, 2014.

The Outreach Program helps to pay the costs for you to attend if you would not usually be able to attend this national scientific conference.

In return for this support, we ask you to:

* Attend the full conference, Day 1 and Day 2, pre-course is excluded. You can still attend the pre-course, but the cost to attend is not covered by this Consumer Outreach Program, you will have to pay yourself.
* Complete an online evaluation for the Conference, to let the conference organizers know what you think about the presentations.
* Write about what you learned and experienced. We call this an “insight article” and will publish it in SCI Ontario’s *Outspoken* Magazine or ONF’s *Neuromatters* Newsletter.

These guidelines below explain the purpose of the fund, who can apply and how to apply.

**Guidelines**

* A Consumer is a member of the general public who is living with a spinal cord injury.
* The Consumer Outreach Fund is for people living with a spinal cord injury from across Ontario that would have no other way to pay for this kind of conference (for example, no employer sponsorship, no studentship, no fellowship or no research grant or academic support).
* The costs we cover are to attend the conference starting Thursday afternoon at 6:00pm with Consumer Orientation, followed by a Consumer Dinner, to Saturday afternoon at 5:00 pm. If you apply for this support, you must attend the full conference. If you cannot attend the full conference, please do not apply.
* If you want to attend pre-conference sessions then you will need to pay the pre-conference cost of $175.00 CAD. If you want to attend extra activities that are not part of the conference then you will need to pay for them. These extra activities must not take place during the conference.
* We welcome and encourage past applicants, but we will give priority to consumers who have not been to the conference before.
* This fund covers the full conference including:
	+ $150.00 VISA gift card to cover any expenses while in Toronto, including the Thursday night Consumer Dinner at the Eaton Chelsea Hotel
	+ Meals provided at the conference
	+ Reasonable travel costs:
		- **Mileage,** if you drive to the Conference, we will reimburse your mileage at $0.40/km

**OR**

* + - **Flight / Train**, if you fly or take the train we will purchase your flight or train ticket for you (economy class only)
		- **Accommodation**, we will book and pay for your accommodations (room only), 1 room for Thursday and Friday nights
* If you are chosen, we ask you to:
	+ Attend a pre-conference consumer meet and greet session and dinner
	+ Fill out an evaluation over email
	+ Write an Insight Article (see details above under “About the 2014 Consumer Outreach Program”) to the partner organizations. The article must be at least 300 words. We hope to read about how you will take what you learn during the conference back to your community to help others with spinal cord injuries.
* The deadline to submit the Insight Article to the partner organizations is
	+ December 2014
* Attendant services will be provided at the Conference on October 3rd from 7:30am to 7:30pm and October 4th from 7:30am to 4:30pm, if you need attendant services outside of conference hours (for example morning or evening care), you will need to pay for them. Travel costs for attendants may be considered as part of this program, but not guaranteed.

**How we choose**

* Anyone living in Ontario with a spinal cord injury that has finished a high school education can apply. We will consider applicants who would have trouble affording the cost of the conference first.
* There will be 2 parts to your application:
	1. a written application (see pages 5-7)
	2. a telephone interview that will last about 15 to 20 minutes
* Applicants who really want to attend the conference and have clear goals will be chosen.
* If your application is not accepted now, we will keep it on file for future conferences.
* We promise to keep your application private, whether it is accepted or not. Only the partner representatives involved in the review will see it.

**The application starts on the next page, page 5. If you have questions or concerns, please see page 8.**

**Application**

**Please answer the questions below and return it to UHN Education’s Conference Services (see page 8) by July 31st, 2014.**

1. **Contact Information**
	* **First Name:** Click here to enter text.
	* **Last Name:** Click here to enter text.
	* **Address:** Click here to enter text.
	* **City:** Click here to enter text.
	* **Postal Code:** Click here to enter text.
	* **Email:** Click here to enter text.
	* **Telephone Number:** Click here to enter text.
2. **Briefly tell us why you need financial support to attend the conference. (1000 characters, about 14 lines, maximum)**

Click here to enter text.

1. **How far will you have to travel to get to the conference?**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Can you attend the full conference from Thursday, October 2nd at 3:00 pm to Saturday, October 4th at 5:00 pm?**

***Please type “Yes” or “No” in the text box below:***

Click here to enter text.

1. **Will you need hotel accommodation?**

***Please type “Yes” or “No” in the text box below:***

Click here to enter text.

1. **Have you had this funding in the past?**

***Please type “Yes” or “No” in the text box below:***

Click here to enter text.

1. **Will you be travelling with an attendant? (Please note that funding will cover the cost of your hotel room. If an additional hotel room is needed for your attendant, we cannot guarantee that we can pay for the additional hotel room as well).**

***Please type “Yes” or “No” in the text box below:***

Click here to enter text.

1. **Please write other information that you feel will be help us review this application (1000 characters, about 14 lines, maximum)**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Please sign your name below if you agree to terms of the program:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Thank you for your application. We hope you will be able to join other consumers, clinicians and research scientists in Canada and North America who want to understand and achieve recovery for people living with spinal cord injuries.

Please return it by **July 31st, 2014** deadline to:

UHN Education’s Conference & Educational Technology Service Department

**🖰Email:** conferences@uhn.ca

**✆Phone:** 416-597-3422 x3844

**🖃Mail:**

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN

550 University Avenue, Room 3-213

Toronto, Ontario

M5G 2A2

**For questions about the Consumer Outreach Program, please contact:**

**🖰Email:** conferences@uhn.ca

**✆Phone:** 416-597-3422 x3844