

ONGWANADA



## Media Release

### Ongwanada Holds 38th Annual General Meeting

**Kingston-** Ongwanada unveiled its 2008/09 Annual Report yesterday at its 38<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. Entitled “Celebrating 60” the report outlined the many new initiatives and developments that have occurred at Ongwanada over the past year as the organization marked its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

“This year gave us, as an organization, a chance to pause and reflect on our progress, and no day better symbolized the progress in our sector than March 31, 2009.” said Board President Janice Spencer. “On that day, the doors closed to the final three of Ontario’s large institutions. Ongwanada has been working closely with the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) to move people with developmental disabilities into the community. We further achieved that goal by accepting clients from Rideau Regional and moving them into the community this year.”

Among other accomplishments she noted that Ongwanada also opened the Southeastern Transitional Treatment Home in 2008/09. This home builds upon existing strengths and addresses previous gaps in service in Ontario while providing support to individuals who require intensive treatment that cannot be met in their current environment.

During his address, Executive Director R.W. Seaby stated, “At the heart of all this progress has been our commitment to our clients and their rights to be supported and responding to their changing needs. We take this mission very seriously and work every day to ensure we meet these goals.”

Ongwanada is a non-profit charitable organization that provides programs and services to more than 600 adults and children with developmental disabilities and their families in Kingston and the surrounding area. Programs and services are delivered at three sites, in 26 community residences and other homes and offices in the region. Ongwanada is accredited with the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation.

For more information or interviews contact:

John Pereira  
Information Services Coordinator  
613-548-4417 ext. 1218  
jpereira@ongwanada.com