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Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

August 15, 2012

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to the readers of this special joint issue of the *Journal on Developmental Disabilities* (JoDD) and the *International Journal of Down Syndrome* (IJDS).

Canada is a country that thrives on celebrating its diversity and uniqueness. Together, through the collective efforts of the many groups that call this country home, we have built a quality of life that is second to none.

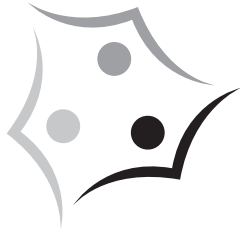
I would like to recognize the role of JoDD and IJDS in advancing knowledge about Down syndrome and fostering dialogue about relevant issues in the field of developmental disabilities. Through research and education, you are helping to create an inclusive society that empowers people with a developmental disability to reach their full potential and become active participants in their communities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to send my regards to everyone attending the 2012 World Down Syndrome Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. I am confident that this year's program will provide all participants with the knowledge and tools they need to build on their work to improve the lives of people with Down syndrome.

Please accept my best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dalton McGuinty'.

Dalton McGuinty
Premier



Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities

July 3, 2012

Dear JoDD and IJDS readers:

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities (OADD) is delighted to support the first ever joint publication of the Journal on Developmental Disabilities (JoDD) and the International Journal on Down Syndrome (IJDS). This undertaking is a collaborative effort of many individuals from both journals resulting in a very unique and inspiring publication.

The Journal on Developmental Disabilities, under the direct sponsorship of OADD, is Ontario based and is distinguished by its expertise in providing peer-reviewed research articles on various topics of interest and importance in the field of developmental disabilities by national and international authors. These professional journals assist in expanding knowledge and in helping readers to understand and define best practices within the field. JoDD has published two to three issues yearly since 1992 for a wide readership within Ontario, Canada, and internationally. JoDD is now published primarily on-line making access to its work more accessible world-wide. It is exciting to be able to work in partnership with the International Journal on Down Syndrome and to see such a wonderful product from these collaborative efforts.

Congratulations to both JoDD and IJDS for the tremendous effort and expertise in jointly putting this valued journal together. Special thanks to Roy Brown of IJDS for editing this issue and the IJDS and JoDD editorial boards for their support of the project. The result is in front of you now and will reach a wide and varied audience throughout the world.

Respectfully,

Wade E. Durling
Chair
Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities

The Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities
exists to support professionals and students working and pursuing careers in the field of developmental disabilities.



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June 14, 2012

Chief Editorial Board
Journal On Developmental Disabilities
Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities
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Dear Members of Chief Editorial Board,

We are proud to collaborate with the Journal on Developmental Disabilities on the first joint issue of JoDD and the new International Journal of Down syndrome (formerly Down Syndrome Quarterly).

The Down Syndrome Quarterly journal was first published in March of 1996, by then Editor in Chief, Samuel J. Thios Ph.D. with the support of Denison University, The Nisonger Center and Ohio State University, and ran for seven years, until 2002. The Down Syndrome Research Foundation was honoured when asked to take over publication of the journal in 2005, and in 2006 we produced the next issue, a special issue covering topics from the World Down Syndrome Congress which was held in Vancouver in August of 2006. Since then Down Syndrome Research Foundation has published 12 issues with the most recent being the double issue in 2011.

Our thanks to the Editorial Board and Staff of JoDD, and to DSQ Co-Editors Dr. Jake Burack and Dr. Roy Brown for their efforts in assisting with this joint publication.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn A. McKenna
Executive Director



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17 July 2012

To our colleagues and friends at the Journal on Developmental Disabilities,

Down Syndrome International is very grateful to the Journal on Developmental Disabilities for co-sponsoring this special issue of the International Journal of Down Syndrome. For us it is the first issue under the Journal's new name, formerly Down Syndrome Quarterly.

We appreciate the co-operation as well as your enthusiastic support and interest in Down syndrome and your recognition of the need to make clear research and applied implications arising from this important area. Knowledge transfer, particularly in developing countries, is one of our missions, as well as passing on critical research to all families with children with Down syndrome who are increasingly being accepted into the world community.

This joint issue will be made available to all participants at the World Down Syndrome Congress to be held in Cape Town, South Africa from 15-17 August 2012.

Thank you for all your interest, support and practical help in making this happen!

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Penny Robertson', written in a cursive style.

PENNY ROBERTSON O.A.M
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Editorial Policy

The Journal on Developmental Disabilities is published three times yearly by the Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities (OADD). The Association has established the following objective for the journal:

To foster and promote thoughtful and critical dialogue about relevant issues in the field of developmental disabilities, including those broader social issues that impact on persons with developmental disabilities.

Content

Each issue features a selection of research, conceptual, informational, and editorial papers. An issue may have a central theme. Reviews of relevant books, movies, websites, software, and other resources are welcomed, as are letters to the editor. In this way we strive to collectively enrich our understanding of issues, encourage stimulating debate among those working in the field, and improve services.

Language

Submissions are invited in either French or English and, if accepted, will be printed in the language of submission with an abstract in the other language. Submissions must be free of any gender and ethnic bias. People-first language (e.g., persons with developmental disabilities) must be used throughout the manuscript (including figures and tables). Submissions must also use the non-possessive form in eponyms (e.g., Down Syndrome not Down's Syndrome).

Editorial Process

Each submission will undergo a peer review by two or more reviewers with relevant expertise. The authors of the manuscripts will not be identified to the reviewers. The reviewers will recommend for or against publication and provide their reasons. Reviewers are asked to judge the manuscript on several criteria including its contribution to increasing our knowledge and clarity of communication. The reviewers are asked to write in a positive and constructive manner to help the authors improve their work, if necessary. Reviewers are asked to complete the reviews within two weeks using electronic communication.

Final Decision

The Editor-in-Chief, or guest editor, reserves the final decision regarding publication of a submission. To promote the publication of theme issues, the Editor reserves the right to decide in which issue to publish the article if it has been accepted.

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