

Ontario Human  
Rights Commission

Chief Commissioner

180 Dundas Street West  
Toronto ON M7A 2R9  
Tel (416) 314-4541  
COURIER Postal Code:  
M5G 1Z8

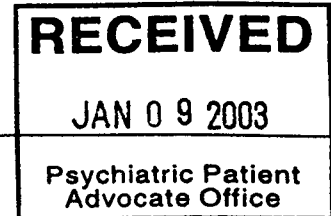
Tel. (416) 314-4537  
Facsimile: (416) 314-7752

Commission ontarienne  
des droits de la personne

Commissaire en chef

180 rue Dundas ouest  
Toronto ON M7A 2R9  
Tél (416) 314-4541  
Code Postal pour livraison  
M5G 1Z8

Tél. (416) 314-4537  
Télécopie: (416) 314-7752



December 31, 2002

Vahe Kehyayan, Director  
Psychiatric Patient Advocate Office  
Box #28, Suite 802  
55 St Clair Ave W  
Toronto, ON M4V 2Y7

Dear Vahe Kehyayan:

**RE: Disclosure of personal information relating to mental illness through  
police records searches**

I am responding to your letter of October 28, 2002 on the issue of non-criminal contact information regarding persons with mental illness being disclosed as a result of police records searches requested by potential employers, volunteer groups, sports clubs and other organizations that provide services to children or vulnerable persons.

I agree with your concern that such a practice might be discriminatory against persons with mental illness and impede their successful re-integration into the community and their pursuit of life and career aspirations as responsible citizens. I have decided to write to the Ministry of Public Safety and Security to inquire further into this matter and have attached my correspondence to them for your information.

Please note that if a complaint is received in relation to this matter, it will be processed in accordance with the Commission's usual procedure.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the number above. Alternatively, your staff may wish to contact Jeff Poirier, Senior Policy Analyst, at the Commission at 416-314-4539 to discuss the matter further.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Norton".

Keith C. Norton, Q.C., B.A., LL.B.  
Chief Commissioner