



# Apropos...

## Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

### TRIBUTE TO ENA BLACKMAN

APRIL 7, 1938 - APRIL 22, 2002

(Contributed by Julia Pare, Program Coordinator, Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents)

On April 30, 2002, some of us had the honour to participate in a celebration of Ena Blackman's life. Over a thousand people gathered at Trinity Memorial Church to remember Ena. A special tribute from the staff and clients of Batshaw Youth and Family Centres was delivered by Phillip Alleyne and Doreen Lothian, followed by a solo by Clement Walker. In the early 70's Ena was a houseparent in the LaSalle Group Home, she worked in many Shawbridge programs and retired from Bourbonnière Group Home in 1998.

The congregation heard from Doreen Lothian that, "with unwavering kindness and generosity, Ena was the mother of all mothers, whom staff and clients turned to for comfort, nurturance and understanding. The enthusiasm and warmth she brought to the job the day she entered into Batshaw was with her the day she left." And from Phil Alleyne, "the love and respect we all have for Ena cannot be measured. The kids followed her directions because they trusted her, felt safe with her, respected her and loved her. They knew that they were not allowed to act out when Ena came to work. She would look over her glasses, and in a low and heavy voice she would say, "not on my shift." To Ena's husband, Les, and her sons, Sheldon and Kevin, Phil expressed sincere condolences from his family and the families of Batshaw Youth and Family Centres.

### FAMILY WEEK IN QUEBEC

(Extract from the text of the organizing committee, posted on the internet)

Family Week in Quebec will be held from May 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, the following is a first communiqué to announce the theme for 2002.

**WE CHANGE...we still care about one another!**  
**Change is part of family life.**

Family is central to our existence, filled with change and evolution. Family life transforms those who are committed to and invest in it.

Through the quality of relationships we develop, we can ensure these changes or transitions are periods of growth.

When we think of some events associated with family life: a couple planning their first living arrangement; leaving the family nest; the birth of a child, especially the first-born, adolescence; ageing parents and the consequences; parents going separate ways; health problems or other incidents (handicapped, loss of employment, etc.).

As long as we are prepared, we can deal with these moments of change and transition in the best way possible for ourselves. The family evolves in a world of change.

The outside world impacts on family evolution. It can lead to new behaviours, new realities and new values. During these times of transition, the quality of the relationships and experiences we have with our families should be a strong reference point.

**WE CHANGE...we still care about one another!**  
**Change is part of family life.**

This is the theme of Family Week in Quebec 2002.

Let's work together.

### 5TH ANNUAL POW-WOW

On Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002, from noon to 4 p.m., the people of Kahnawake and Batshaw Youth and Family Centres will host a "6 Nations" Pow-wow and celebration "Honouring our Youth" at the Prévost campus. This colourful feast of rhythms, dance and culture promises to be bigger than previous years, and those were spectacular successes.

Admission is free to all and there is plenty of free parking. Native crafts will be on site for both display and sale. There will also be Native food for sale. Bring the family for a unique experience, to the only Pow-wow in the Laurentians, rain or shine.

For further information please contact the Prévost campus (514) 932-7722 and ask for: Merv (ext. 0), Dave (ext. 232) or Andy (ext. 269).

### SPRING CLEANING OR MOVING TIME?

(Contributed by Keith Ross, Camp Director, Camp Weredale)

Want to help out a worthy cause and recycle your used goods? Camp Weredale which provides summer camp for Batshaw and Montreal area youngsters is in need of the following items: furniture - sofas, dressers, tables, lamps, mattresses and beds, functional and complete board games (no puzzles please), children's books (ages 8-16), kitchen supplies, even your old forks and knives!

If you have any of these items in good condition, we will pick them up. Please contact 989-1885, extension 301. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

### CLARIFICATION

Some people have commented to me about possible confusion that might arise from the piece that appeared in the last Apropos, regarding the exploitation of children.

To clarify, all citizens of Québec have the legal obligation to report the situation of any child whose security and development they believe is, or may be compromised to the Director of Youth Protection. This obligation cannot be modified by any procedure or instruction that might be made by any employer or institution. Therefore, my invitation to staff to report situations of potential exploitation of children to Elisabeth Pusztai of the Professional Services Division is *in addition* to every employee's responsibility under the law to report such incidents to the Director of Youth Protection.

### BATSHAW EVENTS CALENDAR

May 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>      **la Semaine québécoise des familles**

May 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>      **Batshaw Aggression Replacement Therapy Conference**  
For further information contact:  
Louise Auclair at 932-7161

June 15<sup>th</sup>              **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Pow-wow**  
Prévost campus  
For further information contact:  
Dave Brown at 932-7722

June 20<sup>th</sup>              **Batshaw Board Meeting**  
6 Weredale Park  
For further information contact:  
Thérèse Gauthier at 989-1885

June 20<sup>th</sup>              **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Staff BBQ**  
Raising funds to help send kids to camp  
6 Weredale Park, 12- 1:30 p.m.  
For further information contact:  
Kim Kurtz at 932-7161