



Apropos...

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

ANOTHER GREAT CCC CONFERENCE

(Contributed by Barbara Kemp, Human Relations Agent, Executive Director's Office)

The members of the CCC were extremely pleased with the success of their 7th annual conference held on May 16. The attendance was the highest ever and the workshops were very well received. One of the factors that made this conference particularly good was the participation of so many community organizations. It has long been the goal of the CCC to work more closely with groups outside of Batshaw that work with the same clientele and this annual conference is one way to make this happen.

The conference in May also answered a long-asked question - can we still have the bbq if it rains? Thanks to Tony Maciocia and a few friends, the answer is yes! The CCC appreciated agency support so much - as always, it helped make the conference an important and worthwhile experience.

THE FOSTER FAMILY ASSOCIATION LUNCH

Every year a special appreciation lunch for Foster Parents is held, organized by the Resource Workers in the Foster Care department. Foster parents, children, and Batshaw staff are invited to show our appreciation for the assistance and caring that foster parents give to children in need of a family placement. The lunch has become something of a legend because of the terrific food that has become *de rigueur*: This year was no exception. Barry, the Master Chef at Tiffany's, served a wonderful array of food from the Caribbean. Over 100 people feasted as we showed our appreciation to foster parents and were entertained by *a capella* singing by well known entertainer Lorraine Klassen, Abenaki musician and poet Alanis Obomsawin, and Khai, a young person with a splendid voice and a potential future in music.

We took the time to thank Barbara Kemp for the many years of support she has given to the Batshaw Foster Family Association. Barbara will retire in June. We also showed our appreciation and admiration for Vonnie Ruggles. Vonnie has been a foster parent for 16 years. This year she received the Outstanding Achievement Award for a Foster Parent awarded by the Child Welfare League of Canada (CWLC). The award was presented to her on May 7th at a special luncheon held during the CWLC Canada's Children conference in Toronto.

ART CONFERENCE

(Contributed by Robert Calame, Human Relations Agent, Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents)

The Batshaw Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) conference, "Teaching Prosocial Skills to Aggressive Youth" with Mark Amendola and Bob Oliver was a successful event. The conference was attended by 226 people: 114 attendees were from outside the agency and nearly one third of the entire audience were from schools across Quebec. Batshaw sent 112 employees, a concerted effort was made to send as many youth care workers as possible. As a result, a large number of frontline staff were able to attend. Thanks to Michael Udy and Nick Paré and all concerned for supporting that goal.

The overall feedback from attendees was positive to extremely positive. Outside of the agency the response for people not yet exposed to ART was very strong. Some more experienced ART animators from Batshaw were looking for more in-depth training but enjoyed the conference nonetheless. The best feedback came from the question and answer workshop offered on the Friday. There were 42 people who attended this special session aimed at staff working in programs that are already using the ART program. Over 85% were youth care workers and the feedback was excellent.

The best comments received were from the presenters, who told us that this Montreal conference was one of their top conferences ever. The interactions they had with our staff left them greatly impressed with the quality of discussion and responses to the program and also the level of ART animation skills of our Batshaw staff. Great work!

RAISING DOLLARS TO HELP SEND KIDS TO CAMP

(Contributed by Kim Kurtz, Volunteer Services)

Mark this date and time on your calendar, Thursday, June 20th, 12- 1:30 p.m. It is the Second Annual 6 Weredale Park Staff BBQ. Through raffles, games, donations and activities we hope to raise \$2100. All funds raised will go towards helping children attend summer camps. A free BBQ lunch is served, with lots of prizes and entertainment. Mix 96 will provide the music. This year we will be having special prizes for staff singing the best camp song, both individual and team. Arts and crafts, baked goods and t-shirts will be for sale as well.

We are also asking staff once again to donate their Canadian Tire dollars at the event. All sorts of essentials for kids going to camp can be purchased with these additional dollars. If you cannot attend, you can send them by internal mail to Kim Kurtz at 6 Weredale Park. If you would like to donate a prize, have a major sponsor who will make a donation or wish to help out in some way, please call Kim Kurtz at 932-7161, extension 340.

QUÉBEC ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS AWARDS

(Contributed by Tony Macioca, Program Manager, St. James Group Home and Intensive Probation, Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents. Founding president and honorary member of the Quebec Association of Educators.)

The Quebec Association of Educators held its Annual "Excellence in Practice & Commitment to the Field" awards, during the luncheon of Batshaw's "ART Conference". Over 200 participants were in attendance.

The two Educator-recipient this year were both from Batshaw's division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents (DRTSA). The honours went to Lavine McIntyre, an Educator working at the St. James Group Home and Anne-Marie Carrière, an Educator working at the Bourbonnière group home. Both have over 20 years of experience and have demonstrated their active commitment to helping youth and their families.

Also honoured at the luncheon was the late Jerry Landau, who prior to retirement was a manager in DRTSA. Jerry was posthumously inducted in the Academy of Child and Youth Care Professionals, an organization that recognizes individuals who have made a valuable contribution to the field of child and youth care. During his career Jerry was very active on issues regarding professional development and professional ethics concerning child care work both inside Batshaw as well as in other North American associations. He also worked at Shawbridge Youth Centres as a manager at Lasalle Group Home and L'Avenir Cottage. Receiving the award and Plaque of Recognition was Jerry's wife, Irene Landau.

BATSHAW EVENTS CALENDAR

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| June 15th | 5th Annual Pow-wow
Prévost campus
For further information contact:
Dave Brown at 932-7722 |
| June 19th | Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation Annual General Meeting
6 Weredale Park, 12 p.m.
For further information contact:
Ghislaine Corbeil at 989-1885 |
| June 20th | Batshaw Board Meeting
6 Weredale Park
For further information contact:
Thérèse Gauthier at 989-1885 |
| June 20th | 2nd 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 |