



Apropos...

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

BOARD NEWS

At its May meeting the Batshaw board adopted a Code of Ethics applicable to board members, with provisions to handle conflicts of interest. This is a requirement of all boards under the law. The board also approved an agreement with the Cree Health and Social Services Board regarding how Cree youth will use Batshaw services, as well as how Batshaw will assist the Cree board and staff, through staff development and field placements. Another agreement with the Baron de Hirsch Institute was approved which allows for the continuation of Foyer Baron de Hirsch as an intermediate resource for up to eight predominantly Jewish children.

At the June board meeting the board received the financial report for the year ending March 31st, 2002. The year ended with a surplus of \$230,000. It is anticipated that the regional board will allow Batshaw to use this money for non-recurrent projects in the coming year. The board also approved the Batshaw Development Plan for 2002-2007, and the specific objectives for 2002-2003. At the same time, the board approved the budget for 2002-2003.

The policy and procedure for management staff performance bonuses was approved. This refers to an amount of money taken from the provincial management salary envelope which cannot be used for any other purpose, and can only be distributed if the board has approved a mechanism for distribution based on evaluations. Finally, an agreement with AMCAL was approved which foresees AMCAL becoming the provider of the supervised visiting program at Batshaw.

HERE COMES THE JUDGE!

As you may know from a previous announcement, Michèle Lefebvre, former Director of Legal Services at Batshaw, was named as a judge of the Québec Court, Youth Division on May 31st, 2002. Over 100 family, friends and colleagues from Batshaw and the network gathered at the Youth Court on Friday June 21st to attend the swearing-in of Judge Lefebvre, to whom we express our congratulations and warm wishes as she begins a new chapter in her career.

ANOTHER POW WOW DEFIES THE RAIN!

On Saturday, June 15th, over 100 hardy souls braved the rain, chilly temperatures and wind under the covered arena at the Prévost campus to experience the Annual Pow Wow. We celebrated yet another successful chapter in this annual event organized jointly by Batshaw and members of the Kahnawake community. Traditional dancers, an amazing hoop dancer, and singers Donna Jacobs and Claude McKenzie (of Kashtin fame) helped us forget about the weather and absorb more of the rich Mohawk and Aboriginal cultures. The Prévost bbq pros served up excellent food. Vendors from Kahnawake were on hand with a variety of Mohawk and Aboriginal wares for sale. Batshaw's own multi-talented Silvio Bicari, had his latest sculpture with an Aboriginal theme on display in the library.

Thanks go to the Batshaw organizing committee: Dave Brown, Merv Atta-Segal and Andy Simon, supported by many Prévost staff and youth, and Rudy Montour, an elder of Kahnawake who was the founder of this wonderful event. At the end of the day Rudy presented a number of Batshaw staff with beautiful medallions, symbolic Mohawk gifts bestowing honor and power on the recipients. Next year it's got to be sunny! The date is already set, Saturday June 14th, 2003.

LETTER OF THANKS

(Contributed by Lavine McIntyre, Child Care Worker, St. James Group Home)

On May 22nd I attended the *Teaching Prosocial Behavior to Aggressive Youth Conference* and was the recipient of an award recognizing my years of service and quality of work that I've done since being in this field. To say the least, I was caught totally off guard. When I was on the podium receiving the award, I was still in shock and overcome with so many emotions I couldn't speak and barely managed to say my thanks. It was an amazing experience. As

time passed I kept repeating the event in my mind and wished that I was in control enough to thank the people who, throughout my years of working, have been there for me and continue to be a source of inspiration. I would like to do this now.

I would like to thank Roy Durant, who was there in my rookie years as a house parent. He taught me a lot by giving me room to make mistakes and learn from them. I would also like to thank Julia Paré who is always there for me and has been a pillar of support throughout my years in social services. I would like to thank Tony Maciocia who is my present manager and a good friend. Tony has managed to keep the fire burning with new ideas and introducing strategies that are both challenging and interesting. He is a true inspiration. To my many colleagues who gave me congratulations, I say a big "thank you". Last but not least, I thank Batshaw and the Quebec Association of Educators for giving me this award. It's an honour and a moment I will always remember. Thank you.

WEREDALE PARK BBQ FUN!

The Annual BBQ at Weredale Park was a great success. Over 250 staff and visitors descended onto the lawn in front of 6 Weredale where the St James group home BBQ wizards served up vast quantities of hot dogs, hamburgers and sausages. Batshaw's Ce Ce Walker and Serena Voltaire from Acciss serenaded us with their warm harmonies. Speedster John Quinteros from DYP won the title of BBQ Scooter Race Champion. Camp Amy Molson, Camp Trails End, Camp Chapleau, Camp Weredale, Pointe Claire Pool, Dawson Community Centre and the West Island Black Community were on site to inform us about their programs.

The purpose of the event was to raise additional funds to enable Batshaw's camp service to send as many children as possible to camp. The goal was to raise \$2100, over \$5,000 was raised! Staff were encouraged to bring in their Canadian Tire money, make cash donations on the spot, and buy raffle tickets for prizes. We were also presented with a \$235 from Joseph Quinn, representing the Saint Lawrence Optimist Club and another \$1,000 by Mix 96 and CHOM's Terry Dimonte and Rob Kemp. Also on hand was Generations founders Adrian and Nathalie Bercovicci. Their foundation has helped Batshaw clients in many ways over the past few years, including subsidizing almost the total cost of 100 camp places this year!

Through the generosity shown by those present at the bbq, the Generations Foundation, and the Boys' Farm and Training School Foundation, children in their own homes and in foster homes will have an opportunity to have some summer fun and relaxation. Congratulations to the bbq organizing committee: Cathy Carroll, Darlene Job, Kim Kurtz, Ted Larivière and Jim Parris. A very big **THANK YOU** to all involved!

Have a great summer!

BATSHAW EVENTS CALENDAR

- August 23rd, 24th** Inter-Youth Centre Softball Tournament
Saint-Georges de Beauce
For further information contact:
Bob Davey at 636-0910
- September 13th** Batshaw Staff Golf Tournament
for the non-superstitious at Bonniebrook
For further information contact:
David Ney at 932-7722
- September 16th** Board Meeting
6 Weredale Park
For further information contact:
Thérèse Gauthier at: 989-1885