



Apropos...

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

WIN A CAR AND HELP BATSHAW YOUTH GET AN EDUCATION AND A JOB!

The Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation has embarked on a multi-year campaign to double the \$200,000 it now raises, to help us with our work, to \$400,000 over the next three years. If successful, imagine how this is going to support us with the type of expenses we have trouble meeting with our budget (higher education and job preparation, family emergency support, needs like therapies and special programs for youth, camp, supports for independent living, etc.).

As part of that effort, the Foundation is trying a new fundraising technique. The purpose of the lottery is to raise money for the Lois Daly Scholarship Fund. This fund has existed for many years. Its purpose is to give financial support to youth who are or have been clients of Batshaw and who are attending CEGEP or University, or who are enrolled in a job preparation program (e.g. computers, hairdressing, welding.) The money can be used for tuition, living expenses and books. Students attending CEGEP or a job preparation program can receive up to \$900 per semester. Students in an undergraduate university program can receive up to \$1,500 per semester. Because funds are limited, we can't support graduate students at the moment, though we can give some transition support to students who achieve that level. Scholarships are renewable based on successful completion of the year in progress. Applications for scholarships are submitted to my office.

The scholarship fund (without a special name) was established in the 1970s in the context of the old Weredale House, which later became part of Youth Horizons, and now Batshaw. Mrs. Lois Daly was a member of the Board of Directors of Weredale House. On her death in 1982 the fund was named in her honour by the Youth Horizons Foundation to recognize the support she had given to helping young people achieve higher levels of education and success. Originally only for the boys who lived at Weredale House, then for Youth Horizons clients, the fund was opened up in the mid 1990s to all youth who had been in Batshaw residential programs. Since last year it has been open to all youth who have been clients of Batshaw, no matter which service they received.

As you can imagine, the demand has grown. We are now awarding scholarships totalling \$30,000 a year! And the demand keeps growing! While this is frustrating, it is good news that so many young people are working to improve their situation and chances for success, and that we already have that much to give. But they need more. I don't think I have to take long to convince you how many of the young people we meet in our work are quite vulnerable as young adults when the supports of the public system diminish. The transition to adulthood is an immense challenge for many, and the supports can be few. What better way to make a contribution to breaking a cycle of frustration and potential failure than to give a boost to a young person seeking the same level of accomplishment and wellbeing that we have had the chance to achieve as adults.

So here's how you can help. First, buy tickets yourself. Second, get involved selling tickets to people you know. Most people are quite willing to support the education and self improvement of young people. Tickets are \$10 each. You can buy your own by using the form attached below and sending it to France Lespérance at 5 Weredale, or at the fax number shown on the form.

You can also buy a ticket from any of the volunteer sales representatives in this list:

- Wayne Adams, Mervat Atta-Segal, Barbara Bass, Jean Belhumeur, Denys Chamberland, Linda Corbeil, Bruce Cummings, Henri Derome, Eric Dorais, Roy Durant, Madeleine Farley, Mario Foisy, Faith Fraser, Claude Galarneau, Antoinette Harper, Kathleen Hoelscher, France Lespérance, Mary Mariani, Howard Martin, Judy Martin, Nick Paré, Anmarie Pearson, Angela Pompura, Claire Quinn, Beverley Robinson, Keith Ross, Alice Sa, Janet Sand, Patsy Sheehan, David Spinner, Kim St-Hillaire, Robert St-Jules, Michael Udy, Géhane Zahran.

These people have agreed to volunteer their time and effort, and I thank them for their commitment and devotion to a worthy cause.

The effect of your help will multiply if you join this group of sales reps. Tickets come in books of 10. It won't take you long to sell a book. To join the group call France Lespérance at 514-989-1885.

The lottery is authorized by la Régie des Alcools, des courses et des jeux du Québec and operated according to their rules. The prizes are:

- A 2003 Toyota Corolla, value of \$21,000. The value could be applied to purchase any Toyota vehicle of greater value;
- One cash prize of \$1,000;
- Four cash prizes of \$500; and
- Four cash prizes of \$300.

There are some incentive prizes for the sales representatives.

There is a limit of 6,500 tickets. When all are sold, we will have raised \$32,000 clear after the cost of prizes, printing tickets etc.

At the staff BBQ at 6 Weredale Park on June 12th we will hold the draw of the winning tickets. It will be supervised by two members of an accredited professional corporation. Mark it in your calendar and join the fun and excitement.

Progress reports on the sale of tickets will appear on the Intranet.

Get involved now and help a young person get ahead!

Thank you in advance for your support and concern.

PLEASE FAX TO FRANCE LESPÉRANCE AT 514-989-7439, OR SEND BY INTERNAL MAIL

I wish to buy tickets for the Foundation draw using payroll deductions:

Number of tickets: _____
 Number of deductions: _____ (minimum \$5 per pay; maximum 12 payments)
 Name and surname: _____
 Address: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Preferred representative: _____

Note: Your tickets will be sent to you by internal mail. Thank you for your support.