



Apropos...

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

STAFF BBQ COMING UP!

If you like BBQs by the lake, don't forget the annual staff family BBQ at Camp Weredale on Lac L'Achigan. This year it will take place on Sunday, August 17th, from noon on. Come with your family, your friends, your children's friends. There is a free lunch and plenty of activities on land and in the water for all ages in one of the most beautiful lakeside spots in the Laurentians. Note the date and watch for the posters that will appear soon. I'll see you there.

FOUNDATION FUND-RAISING UPDATE

In 2002-2003, the Batshaw Foundation was busy raising funds. They surpassed their target and put the funds to work to benefit Batshaw clients. Here is the summary of what was accomplished:

The Lois Daly Fund

Just over \$29,000 was awarded to 19 young people to attend job training programs, CEGEP or university.

The Helping Hand Fund

By March 31st, 2003, almost \$23,000 was given to assist young people and their families in the following ways:

- \$5,300 assisted 13 young people moving towards independent living.
- \$8,200 helped 17 young people receive different types of therapy and individual assistance.
- \$9,400 helped 14 families get through crises regarding basic family needs, permitting their children to remain at home.

Special Projects

- Some \$18,000 was spent, of which \$9,200 helped 60 young people.
- The Child Welfare League of Canada received \$4,300 from the Foundation to reprint a pamphlet prepared by the League and distributed Canada-wide in 15 languages advising parents that there are ways to discipline children without hurting them.

Camp Weredale

- Approximately \$130,000 was contributed to Camp Weredale. Along with other revenues that fund the Camp, some 360 young people who have experienced difficulty were able to have a successful ten-day camp stay.

A grand total of 464 young people and some of their families benefited from donations to the Foundation in 2002-03.

We thank all of the members of the Foundation board for their diligent and productive work, particularly outgoing President, Judy Martin, and long-time Executive Director, Howard Martin. Both will continue to serve on the board and support our efforts.

GOLF FOR DUMMIES

You don't have to know how to play golf to enjoy the Annual Batshaw Staff Golf Tournament, and I am happy to be among those who are the proof of this. It is a splendid day, in good company, followed by a delicious supper and prizes, all at a modest price. Playing good golf is a luxury extra. Sign up now! See the Batshaw calendar below for further details.

"WE NOTICE"

(Contributed by Jacqueline Gaudreau, Secretary at Prévost Campus, Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents.)

While I consider myself truly blessed to be considered a co-worker of the most personable group of dedicated people I've ever worked with, I have to say that Merv Atta-Segal, our Prévost switchboard receptionist, has my highest and most sincere admiration. Merv is always friendly in her usual, easy way, and seems to give projects her all. She is generous with her time and patience, and we often benefit from her initiative and her common-sense approach to the projects she helps with – projects including among others, the Pow Wows at Prévost, as well as her recent supportive commitment to make Claire Quinn's (transport) large retirement farewell dinner a wonderful and heartfelt success. Prévost campus would be much "less" without her daily presence, and I know that so many others feel the same way too.

CAMPUS UPDATE

I am often asked about the progress of our campus project. Recently, I have been asked if the project has been negatively affected by announcements that the new Liberal government will review (i.e. scale down) large government projects. I have had several meetings about the campus project recently, attended by Ministry representatives, and not once have I heard that our project is on hold or modified.

On the subject of a site, which has been the main focus over the last two years, I am pleased to advise you that we recently entered into exploratory discussions with the Douglas Hospital with a view to the campus being located on hospital property.

These discussions are very preliminary, and no definitive decisions have been taken. Nonetheless, I want to bring you up to date on the project and will keep you advised as we work with our colleagues at the Douglas on evaluating the merits of this venture. Much work remains to be done. I expect to have more news in the fall.

To revisit briefly the rationale for the project, a single campus on the island of Montreal will lead to improved services for the youth and the families that we serve, as well as cost efficiencies. Young English-speaking Montrealers will benefit from being closer to their families and the resources of the community, and from living in English-speaking environments. Furthermore, a single campus will enable us to deliver services in a much more efficient and timely way.

BATSHAW CALENDAR

August 17th Staff Family BBQ at Camp Weredale
For information contact: Kim Kurtz at 932-7161, #340

September 12th Staff Golf Tournament at Bonniebrook.
For information contact: Leo Ferguson at 932-7722, #315

September 22nd Board Meeting and Annual Public Information Meeting.
For information contact: Thérèse Gauthier at 989-1885, #202