



Apropos...

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

MULTIDISCIPLINARY COUNCIL IN ACTION!

Last June, the MDC voted to approve changes to its bylaws. Over the summer a new Executive Committee was elected. (Did you know that the interactive capacity of the Batshaw intranet was used for the first time to permit on-line voting for the Executive? Congratulations to Webmaster Francis Sergerie!)

The Executive is composed of: Andrea Jones (RTS/EO/SES/VT), John Denham (Family Preservation), Nelson Pimentel (Young Offenders Services), Sandra Baines (Access), Vice President, Pascale Berardino (Legal Services), President, Colm Mc Namee (RTSA group homes), Wendy Potter (RTSA open campus units), Jason Vickers (RTSA closed campus units), Zalman Bitensky (Application of Measures), Marie-Josée Tremblay (Adoption/Retrouvailles/Mixed Bank), Karen Fox (Professional Services). Two seats remain vacant, Preadolescent Residential Services and Foster Care and Resources.

The MDC will hold the 3rd Annual MDC Professional Day on November 14, 2003, at 6 Weredale Park. This year's theme 'Challenges and Changes in Practices -Strengthening Services for Children, Youth and Families'. The event is open to all Batshaw clinical staff. A series of workshops will be offered, covering a wide variety of clinical issues. Send in your suggestions for workshops to Joanne Marcotte at 932-7161, #335.

THEY NOTICED

(Submitted by Nick Paré, Director of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents)

The 7th International Child and Youth Care Conference (Promise Into Practice) was held in Victoria, B.C., from August 20th- 23rd. This conference, attended by about 700 delegates, was truly international with participation from the U.S., Canada, Africa, Australia, Europe and Asia.

Batshaw presenters included Phil Alleyne, Robert Calame, Sherwin Laptiste, Varda Mann-Feder, Lavine McIntyre, Kim Parker and Trish White.

Both the level of Batshaw's participation and the quality of the presentations were noted by conference attendees. After the conference the Batshaw attendees received an e-mail with the following comment: "It was my pleasure to find your "Batshaw" community within the community of the international conference. I was struck with the integrity of your community, the passion with which each of you spoke about what it is you do within the community at large. "

Also of note was the closing ceremony where the Association of Child and Youth Care Practice honoured four contributors to the field of Child and Youth Care. They were Mark Kreuger and Karen Vander Ven from the U.S. and two Canadians (from Batshaw!!): Tony Maciocia (mainly for his contributions in organizing Child and Youth Care Conferences over the years and his participation in Child and Youth Care Associations) and Varda Mann-Feder (mainly for her having edited the Journal of Child and Youth Care over the last few years.) Congratulations to Tony and Varda for their richly deserved recognition. It was clear that their international colleagues hold them in high regard.

One final item: It was announced that Montreal will host the 8th International Conference in 2006, so those interested in volunteering/participating can expect to be contacted by Tony very shortly...

ART AT CROSSROADS

(Submitted by Anna Marie Ferro, Child Care Worker, Crossroads, Division of Child and Family Services)

It is my pleasure to report that our youngsters from Crossroads took part in a wonderful Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) project. It was a morals and values project dedicated to sharing and kindness. This exercise came about after reading a book on sharing and kindness, as well as other books on underdeveloped countries. I am proud to say that our youngsters connected the two and thought we, as a group, could do something to help those in need. Thus, the idea of S.C.A.W. (Sleeping Children Around the World) came to life.

S.C.A.W. is a non-profit Canadian charitable organization that raises funds to provide bed kits for children in underdeveloped countries. We decided to raise \$30 in order to provide a bed kit for one child. This bed kit includes a ground sheet, mattress, blanket, mosquito netting, pajamas and personal care items.

Our youngsters at Crossroads thought it would be a good idea to involve other kids from Batshaw, therefore, each home who showed interest was encouraged to fill a pop bottle. When filled, this bottle would contain \$30, enough to provide one child with a bed kit. My goal was to teach the children to share from their personal resources as well as encourage each other to share with less fortunate, and practice the values related to peace, sharing and kindness. This was a success because not only were our Crossroads youngsters able to raise the money, but they managed to encourage others to participate in such a special cause. THANK YOU to the youngsters at Crossroads. A special heartfelt THANK YOU also goes out to everyone at Dornal and Colton homes for their dedication to this project. WAY TO GO!!!!

Should anyone be interested in participating in this worthy project anytime during the year, simply collect the money and make the cheque payable to: S.C.A.W., 28 Pinehurst Crescent, Islington, Ontario H9A 3A5.

BATSHAW GOLF TOURNAMENT

(Submitted by Leo Ferguson, Case Worker in the Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents and Chair of the Golf Tournament Organizing Committee)

With the golf gods taking care of the weather, the Batshaw staff's annual golf tournament held on September 12, 2003, was bound to be a success. Over 100 participants took to the links at Bonniebrook Golf Club while chasing the "big prize." In a playoff, the winning foursome in the men's category were: Nick Paré, Alan Macfarlane, Fred Spencer and James Alexander. In the women's category, the winners were: Pam Greenberg, Maria Colantonio, Laurie Meyer, and Kim Van De Water. (If anyone knows the whereabouts of their trophy, contact Pam.)

Amidst the fun, we were able to collect over \$600 for Camp Weredale and the client's Ways and Means Committee at Prévost. Thanks to everyone that helped out and all the participants. Next year's date is tentatively set for September 17, 2004.

BATSHAW EVENTS CALENDAR

October 19 th to 25 th	Foster Family Week
November	Batshaw Foundation Fundraising Campaign Information and donations contact: Ghislaine Corbeil at 989-1885, #201
November 3 rd to 7 th	Staff Appreciation Week & Dinner (Nov 6 th) Contact: Thérèse Gauthier at 989-1885, #202
November 17 th	Board Meeting
November 10 th to 14 th	Substance Abuse Prevention Week
November 17 th to 21 st	Confidentiality Week