



# Apropos

## Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

### CHANGES FOR CLSCs

Changes are in store for our partner CLSCs. Three years ago we reached an agreement with all 29 CLSCs on the island, reflected in a written protocol called, "Collaboration Guidelines: CLSC-Batshaw". It explains the details of how we work together. CLSCs have child and family services, and school social services, both of which interact with Batshaw services. The changes scheduled to be implemented this summer come from an amendment to the Act respecting Health Services and Social Services. This calls for mergers of CLSCs with certain categories of hospitals (not university hospitals) and long-term care centres for the elderly. The idea is to make one administration responsible for the continuum of care related to medical services and care for seniors. We anticipate that the new institutions, to be called, "Centres de santé et services sociaux", will continue to respect the CLSC-Batshaw protocol. But we are somewhat concerned about how the CLSC child and family mandate will fare in a much larger organization focused principally on health and the elderly.

*There have been several special events over the last few weeks. Here are reports from our correspondents.*

### ANOTHER BIG BBQ SUCCESS!

*(Contributed by Kim Kurtz, Volunteer Services)*

Over 300 staff enjoyed the beautiful weather and barbecue on Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6 Weredale Park. The annual event has become a summer kickoff tradition for staff, while supporting a worthy cause. All proceeds from the event are used to send children to camp through the Batshaw Foundation Camp for Kids Fund. Once again, the St. James barbecue crew served up hundreds of hamburgers and hot dogs. Mix 96 provided the music, Clement Walker had everyone swaying with his smooth vocals and Ola Dupelycz had everyone reaching for their raffle ticket numbers as she emceed the event.

At last count, over \$2600 was raised. To all who gave so generously, from sponsors to staff and volunteers, we thank you.

### GARAGE SALE NEWS

*(Contributed by Claire Clifton-Newton, Human Relations Agent, Application of Measures Service, Division of Child and Family Services)*

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Application of Measures Service held its first annual fund-raising activity. The Montreal West/NDG/St. Henri Team organized a garage sale. Thanks to the tremendous contributions and support from the entire Batshaw Family (Staff), it was a huge success. To date, \$748 has been raised for the alternate funds to assist families in desperate need, and contributions are still coming in.

The entire staff should be proud of this achievement. The Montreal West/NDG/St. Henri team wants to extend a personal thank you.

P.S. We will be back next year for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Garage Sale" so start saving your oldies but goodies. Your old junk may be someone else's treasure.

We challenge the other AM teams to do better if they can. There are only winners in this event: **CHILDREN!** Once again, a great big **THANK YOU** to all!

### BUILDING BRIDGES

*(Contributed by Marie-Pierre Ulysse, Liaison with the CCC and FFA)*

On May 20, 2004, the Council for Clients and Community (CCC) and the Quebec Association of Educators (QAE) hosted a joint conference. It was a great success. Over 165 people participated: workers from Batshaw, managers, parents, foster parents, youth and a large number of community organizations. The workshops addressed important, relevant issues and they were well received by the participants. It was a day of fun and learning where excellence was recognized. QAE presented the *Excellence in Practice Award* to Pasquale (Pat) Piedimonte, Child Care Worker at Mountainview School in the Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents. The *Commitment to the Field Award*, was given to Loureen Guillaume, Child Care Worker in the Evaluation/Orientation Service of the Division of Youth Protection. Congratulations to both, and to the QAE and the CCC for this successful day.

### POWWOW!

Some 700 people attended the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Powwow at Prévost campus Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Under brilliant skies we heard the music and saw some of the culture of Mohawk, Cree and Inuit communities. There were so many wonderful aspects of this event that it will be the subject of a more detailed report in the summer edition of Apropos, to be published August 5<sup>th</sup>.

### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Batshaw was host to a group of about 20 Canadians from all walks of life. They were participants in the leadership conference, which is a two-week program of personal growth conducted in a group format. It focuses on what leadership means and how it is exercised in many different fields. The program takes place every four years and is financed by the Governor General's office. The theme of this year's version was 'diversity'. I was assisted in a presentation to the group by Felicia Agyekum who spoke about how Batshaw responds to racial and cultural diversity, Lynn Dion who spoke about diversity in sexual orientation and gender identity, and Serge Lalonde who spoke about diversity and the labor movement. I presented an overview of what child welfare work means in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in Canada. Later we had an excellent communal supper at Nick's Café. The participants were very complimentary about our hospitality, the important work we do with children and families, and the many efforts we make to take account of diversity among our clients, staff and community.

### ENJOY!

In the meantime, I wish everyone a very pleasant and relaxing summer.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Staff Picnic and Barbecue at Camp Weredale  
(For info: Kim Kurtz, 932-7161, local 340)

September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Staff Golf Tournament at Bonniebrook  
(For info: Leo Ferguson, 450-224-8234, local 315)