



Appropos

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

YOUTH SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

(Contributed by Lynn Dion, Resource person on STI/HIV prevention and youth sexuality)

It's been a year now that the Batshaw Board adopted the policy and procedures on "Sexual Exploitation of Youth: Prevention and Intervention".

This is a reminder about this policy. No matter what service you are in, if you are aware of a situation where you believe a young person is being exploited you must:

- Signal the matter to the Director of Youth Protection: (514) 935-6196.
- Inform your manager about the situation who, in turn, will inform the BYFC Resource person on STI/HIV and youth sexuality, Lynn Dion (Dorval Campus: 636-0910 extension 142 or by e-mail: lynn_dion@ssss.gouv.qc.ca).

One of the measures put in place by the procedures was the identification of a centralized staff person to whom all "sexual exploitation" situations are to be reported. The purpose of this procedure is to assure that all the information we have collectively is seen by one person who can detect trends. The central person has the responsibility to track information and trends, and be the liaison with the Police Service of Montréal that permits close collaboration. This procedure in no way replaces the responsibility under the law to signal to the Director of Youth Protection any situation where it is believed that a child is at risk. It is an additional measure to be taken afterwards.

Based on the information received over the past year, the Police Service of Montréal conducted investigations that lead to the arrest of alleged pimps and recruiters. Everyone's support and cooperation is crucial to provide more protection for our youth clientele.

RESOURCE KIT ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION FOR EDUCATORS AND YOUTH WORKERS

(Contributed by Lynn Dion, Resource person on STI/HIV prevention and youth sexuality related issues)

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres are proud to be associated with the Resource Kit "A New Understanding of Homosexuality", a tool meant to facilitate the work of educators and youth workers. The kit was produced by la Direction de la Santé Publique de Montréal, in partnership with different organizations. This kit consists of resources to help youth workers raise awareness regarding sexual diversity among youth in schools but also in organizations serving youth such as Batshaw. Workers who want to raise the question of sexual orientation can refer on the user's guide provided with the kit to draw on its guidelines concerning our role as agents of change. Suggestions are provided for the different groups or individuals with whom you may work. There is an activity guide providing a variety of ready-made strategies for awareness raising, intervention and discussion on various aspects of the subject. This is a very useful tool that supplements the training course entitled "For a New Understanding of Homosexuality".

Those of you who would like to have more information about the kit or the training course, please contact me at Dorval Campus, 636-0910, ext. 142.

BATSHAW FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING EVENT, JUNE 6TH

(Contributed by Erin O'Brien, President of the Foundation and Kim Drummond Dlouhy, Board Member, Chair of the Organizing Committee)

On June 6th, Batshaw Youth & Family Centres Foundation will be hosting its second annual fundraising event – *An Evening with Riopelle* – at The Parisian Laundry, a new Montreal art gallery. All profits generated by this event will go directly toward Camp-

related activities. The evening will consist of an exhibit of Jean-Paul Riopelle's paintings, a recreation of Riopelle's studio in Paris in the 1950s, the presentation of a number of fashions by Montreal designer Michel Desjardins, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction.

An Evening with Riopelle

PARISIAN LAUNDRY

3550 St. Antoine West, (5 blocks west of Atwater St.)

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres 6:30 till 9 p.m.

Please call Ghislaine Corbeil for tickets (\$75 – a portion is tax deductible) at (514) 989-1885, ext: 201.

CCC / QAE CONFERENCE

The CCC and QAE will once again pool their resources to host the annual CCC conference. The theme is "Lifeskill development = smoother transition to adulthood". The conference will take place on Thursday, May 11th, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 6 Weredale Park. For information or registration, please contact: Marie-Pierre Ulysse at 989-1885, #268

EQUIP: A SUCCESS STORY

(Contributed by Claire Roy, Manager, Communications and Public Relations)

In December 2005, CFCF aired a broadcast on the EQUIP Program that told the story of two Youth Centre clients: Alexandre, who received no follow-up after turning 18 and Kamil, who participated in the EQUIP Program. On February 28, employees were invited to a special presentation of this broadcast, followed by a discussion with the producer, Kamil and Danny, the educator who supported her throughout the program. Given the length and intensity of the program, EQUIP is certainly unique. Kamil stressed the importance of a "one-on-one" approach versus group workshops. She gave as an example an activity designed to prepare them for grocery shopping that took place in a closed room with flyers and compared it to her own experience with Danny at the supermarket.

Kamil described the trusting relationship she developed over the years with her educator. Danny supported her every step of the way and helped her develop a network that would allow her to meet all of her needs once she lived on her own. Kamil won over employees who were touched by her story and applauded her courage.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MANNY!

I am sure you will join me in offering best wishes to Manny Batshaw, who celebrated his 91st birthday on April 17th.

THE BATSHAW CALENDAR

May 11th: CCC/QAE Conference:
Information: Marie-Pierre Ulysse,
989-1885, #268

May 15th : Board meeting:
Information: Thérèse Gauthier :
989-1885, #202

May 26th: MDC Annual General Meeting:
Information: Joanne Marcotte,
932-7161, #335.

June 6th: Fundraising Event – Batshaw Foundation:
Information: Ghislaine Corbeil :
989-1885, #201