



APPROPOS

BATSHAW YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRES

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On January 18 a new board of directors assumes responsibility for governing Batshaw. Changes to the Health and Social Services Act, implemented over the fall of 2006, result in the following composition. (An asterisk indicates the person was a member of the outgoing board.)

Elected by the population:

- Noel Alexander:** President of the Jamaica Association.
- Ermina Codjoe*:** Batshaw foster parent; former president of Batshaw's Foster Family Association and Church Pastor.
- Judy Martin*:** Former President of the Batshaw Foundation and of the outgoing Batshaw board; Executive Director of the Hylcan Foundation.
- Robin Wright*:** Professor, McGill School of Social Work.

Designated by Batshaw's Council for Clients and Community (Batshaw's users' committee):

- Leon Essing:** Retired school principal; member of the CCC.
- Ruth Essing*:** Retired nurse; President of the CCC.

Designated by Batshaw's Multidisciplinary Council:

- Felicia Agyekum:** Human Relations Agent, Evaluation/Orientation – Division of Youth Protection; former President of Batshaw's Multiracial/Multicultural Committee.
- Leigh Johnston:** Coordinator of Resources - Division of Child and Family Services.

Designated by Batshaw's Nurses' Council:

- Shelja Arya:** Nurse in Health Services - Division of Professional Services.

Designated by Batshaw's non-clinical staff:

- Kim St.Hillaire:** Coordinator of Staff Training and Development - Division of Human Resources and Administrative Services.

Designated by the Batshaw Foundation:

- Karen Potter-Bienvenu*:** Member of the boards of both the Batshaw Foundation and of the *Association des centres jeunesse du Québec*.

Designated by the Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal :

- Stephanie Margoese*:** Child psychologist at the Jewish General Hospital.
- Seat vacant** following the death of Joy Lepage.

Coopted by all of the above:

- Anna Grafton*:** Chartered Accountant; Financial Reporter for the Paediatric Medical Group of the Montreal Children's Hospital.
- John Dalzell*:** Vice President, Risk Management, CN; former Assistant Director of the Montréal Police Service.

Executive Director:

Michael Udy*

The incoming board has a good mix of new and experienced members who will, I anticipate, offer wise stewardship of Batshaw's mission and resources.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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

Black History Month is just around the corner!

This year, the events will be held on Thursdays in order to increase participation from our clients and our staff! Block the

following Thursdays in your agenda: February 8, 22 and March 1st. An exciting program has been developed! All the details will be announced soon! Stay tuned!

We are asking for everyone's participation, either on stage or in the audience. Our clients, staff's children and members of the community have so many talents to be discovered! Agents of unknown artists, Get ready, On your mark, Get set, Go!

Please inform me of the result of your quest for talents! You can reach me at 514-989-1885, extension 216.

BATSHAW CENTRES SECOND "QUIT TO WIN" CAMPAIGN

(Contributed by Martha Foster, Human Relations Agent-VPHSS)

In support of Quebec's "Quit to win!" Challenge 2007, Batshaw Centres presents its second "Quit smoking" Campaign. Is this one of your New Year's resolutions for 2007? Congratulations! That's one of the best gifts you can give your loved ones... starting with yourself! You also get a chance to win great prizes!

Employees who register a pledge not to smoke between March 1st and April 11, 2007 inclusively, with the help of a partner of their choice (a smoking buddy who also wants to quit or a non-smoking sponsor). Survey results show that close to 70% of participants met the challenge not to smoke during the six-week period, and that 21% to 29% were still non-smokers after a year. This is one of the highest success rates among all such campaigns throughout the world!

Register by March 1st, 2007, at www.defitabac.qc.ca, and send a copy of your registration form to Lisa Brathwaite at VPHSS, 6 Weredale Park for added support.

HANNUKAH PARTY

(Contributed by Elliot Zelniker, Manager at AM, Nitzie Schwarcz and Yvan Fullum, both AM workers)

On December 18, 2006, a children's Hannukah party was organized by the AM-Cavendish team. Festivities began with everyone's favorite undertaker, Ross Paperman. Ross kept everybody "dying" of laughter while providing the families and staff with an entertaining art activity. Kids enjoyed spinning dreidels and dancing to a backdrop of Hannukah music performed by Yaacov Sassi. Rabbi Hoffman, the director of the Montreal Jewish Experience, lit the Hannukah candles and led a discussion about the meaning of Hannukah. The children were thrilled to open their presents at the end of the party. It was thanks to the generous outreach of the Montreal Jewish Experience that the presents were made available to the children. This organization actively raises funds within the Jewish community. The extravaganza was a huge hit, the eats were fantastic, the children were children, the organizers and their guests were in great form. It was touching to see staff and families enjoy themselves together to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

DID YOU KNOW?

...that the Rudel Group Home is so named in honour of Ruby Rudel, the first wife of John Merrill Rudel. Mr. Rudel passed away on December 18, 2006. During his career he was President of Rudel Machinery Company, and a vice-president of CAE. He devoted much effort to charity and social causes, having been President of Weredale House at one point, and donating the Ruby Rudel Home, as it was then called. We are grateful to his family for informing us of his passing and their generosity in mentioning in his obituary that donations may be made to the Batshaw Foundation for the benefit of the Rudel Group Home.