



APPROPOS

BATSHAW YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRES



SPECIAL DOUBLE EDITION (cont'd) - Other subjects...

KIM, YOU WERE IN ALL OUR HEARTS...

On May 28th, all Batshaw Youth and Family Centres' participants in the Montreal portion of La Route sans fin wore a pink ribbon in honour of Kim Van Der Water, an educator who lost her battle against cancer. Last year, she rode along with the youths and this year she helped them get ready for the event even if her health was declining.

Kim, you were in all our hearts...

A NEW PROTOCOL FOR OUR YOUTHS ENTERING ADULTHOOD

Tony Maciocia, Coordinator, DRTSA

On May 12th, Batshaw Centres, *Centre jeunesse de Montréal - Institut universitaire (CJM-IU)* and *Emploi-Québec de l'Île-de-Montréal*, signed a new Protocol, that will see giving access to youth entering adulthood (16-24), a better way to get information about employability and securing funds to help them make the transition to the community.

The protocol was signed by our Executive Director, Margaret Douek, Jean-Marc Potvin Executive Director CJM-IU and Louise Poisson Regional Director *Emploi-Québec de l'Île-de-Montréal*. The event was hosted by the *Agence* and was well attended by many community partners. As well, a delegation of staff from the SOA services attended the signing and followed by a cocktail with a great opportunity to network with community partners.

We look forward to having a strong collaboration with *Emploi-Québec* in the coming years!!

RESOURCE FAIR

Danny Hoelscher, Educator, EQUIP Program, DRTSA

Batshaw Centres' Services to Older Adolescents has always acknowledged the importance of collaborating with and exposing our youth to community resources. Early on in the EQUIP pilot project program, our colleagues in the Outaouais region organized a *Matinée Jeunesse* bringing together youth and community resources in the Gatineau area. In the spring of 2005, Batshaw Centres held its own version calling it the Community Resource Fair. Two other fairs were held in 2007 and 2008. On April 19th, 2011 at Mountainview High School, our fourth Community Resource Fair was held.

Using the Circle of Courage theme, eight different organizations presented their services to forty youth from both Batshaw Centres and the community. Each quadrant of the Circle of Courage was represented by two different partners. Generosity was included in the presentations by our partners, Share the Warmth and Friends for Mental Health. Mastery had representatives from the Lester B. Pearson School Board and the *Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi* from Côte-

des-Neiges. Belonging had Portage West Island and *L'Autre Maison* present their services. Finally, Services to Older Adolescents' main focus of Independence included our partners from *Héberjeune* and Head and Hands.

The forty youth were divided into groups of ten and moved around the school listening in on each of the organizations' ten-minute presentation. The morning concluded with door prizes and a pizza lunch for everybody. Overall, the collaborative effort by all involved proved to be very successful with positive feedback given by both youth and presenters. The Services to Older Adolescents team is now discussing making the Community Resource Fair a regular event.

MISSINGKIDS.CA, A NEW WEBSITE TO ADD TO YOUR FAVORITES

Margaret Godbeer, Access Liaison, DYP

The Canadian Centre for Child Protection wants families of missing children to know that they don't have to search alone. On the eve of International Missing Children's Day, the *Canadian Centre* launched *MissingKids.ca* – Canada's national missing children resource centre.

MissingKids.ca compliments the important work of law enforcement by offering families additional resources to help find their missing children. The service provides a central place for families to register their missing child to request support from a trained caseworker, as well as critical educational information to help prevent children from going missing.

Using new technologies, *MissingKids.ca* uses innovative online search tools that bring a modern approach to the traditional way of searching for lost or missing children. From the online registration process to the use of social media such as Facebook and wireless technologies (cell phones, text messages), the service helps parents understand and leverage these helpful tools to locate their missing children. The Canadian public can also sign up to receive missing child alerts so individuals may become a part of the search for the nation's missing children.

MissingKids.ca is proud to work in collaboration with *Enfant-Retour Québec* to provide missing children's services to residents of Québec. *Enfant-Retour* will partner to provide case management services to searching parents/guardians from this province and will work in collaboration with *MissingKids.ca* caseworkers on other cases across Canada when needed. The website is bilingual.

Check it out. <http://missingkids.ca>