

# Annual General Meeting



David Connolly (CYCAPEI), Pat Foran (CYCAA) and Ken Lee (CYCWAM) In the elections held at the meeting's close, David was elected the President and Ken, the Vice President.



Lise Babineau (CYCANB) and Kelly Shaw (NSCYCWA) were attending their first meeting as representatives from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

I'll admit it, I have a soft spot for those committed teams of association members who against their rational thoughts, take the plunge and take on hosting a national conference. Usually for a good few years they work away at something that has the promise of success but never the assurance of it. They do so, often well learning the ropes of organizing workshops into a venue, of constant negotiations with the venue itself and all the while knowing that as a business entity with a board, they are collectively on the hook for the event itself. As things move along local support develops and encourages. Finally, the opening day arrives and the delegates set about making the conference what it was intended to be, a biannual celebration of the child and youth care field in Canada.

For Council representatives, there is the welcome understanding that the sponsored national continues to be the premier child and youth care event in the country. It also means meetings, usually two days worth which can be intense for the amount of material digested and new directions taken. This is often made all the more enjoyable by the hospitality of the host conference committee. PEI certainly exceeded on that front, laying on a house party after the first day of meetings featuring a non-stop banquet of sea food prepared by Wayne MacFarlane. Representatives could only sit and wait for the next round of delights: cold cuts, veggies, oysters on the shell, mussels, scallops and bacon, lobster rolls and asparagus with Swiss cheese and ham all topped off with 'sweets' baked by Heather Power. The next day they got up again to set up the conference itself and then to guide delegates through all the contingencies, room assignments and media support issues for the duration. The CYCAPEI excelled at this and have provided a reminder that it can be done and done well. A thousand thanks to all involved for a fabulous conference experience. *Editor*





*Thank you for reading, perhaps even downloading and printing this issue. For financial reasons, the Council relies upon member associations, members and those interested to provide the hardcopy for this newsletter.*

*The purpose of this newsletter is to present the reports brought into the annual general meeting. For past directors the comparative view between provincial associations was often the source of new learning and ideas. For the reader, they will provide a snapshot of the association movement at this point in time.*

*For the most part, these reports have been presented as written but in some instances this editor has jumped in to make listed reports more readable. Also, some liberties or editorial moments have been taken profile representatives more than in the past. This is especially so for Heather and Dennis who have been prime movers for the Council for several terms now. Finally, a few tourist moments may slip in. The CYCAPEI, Charlottown and the island itself left us all with impressions of warmth, country beauty and charm that just may have a few of us coming back.*

*Editor: Garth Goodwin*

The Child and Youth Care Association of Prince Edward Island continued to promote our profession and increase our presence in the field on PEI in a variety of ways. In 2007 the board promoted the Association to both Holland College and CompuCollege's CYCW Programs; attended a Family Preservation meeting; participated in the Autism Society's Fundraiser Evening, attended the Nova Scotia Conference, as well as being recognized by Minister Currie in the Provincial Legislature on May 8, 2008, recognizing International Child and Youth Care Worker Week.

The Association continues to prepare for the National Child and Youth Care Conference which is going to be hosted at the Delta Prince Edward, October 7, 8, 9, 10, of 2008. It is the first time PEI has hosted the event. We have met and established various committees and work is well underway. The Association has and will continue to publish a bi-annual newsletter which will outline our progress as well as other relevant association information.

During last years Provincial AGM the Association added Bob Doyle as Treasurer, Janelle Bernard as Secretary and Directors Treena Smith and Wayne MaFarlane. Long time serving directors Heather Power, Pat Warren and Sandra Campbell remain involved with the Association. Paul Kiley also remains an active board member. These individuals provide a solid foundation in which we can continue to build upon. The Association needs a clear vision and it is my hope that early in the coming year we can map out our direction and have it available at the National Conference for all to see.

Our vision hopefully will include items such as professional liability insurance; actively advocate for a Youth Addictions facility and increased services as well as CYCWs in our hospitals specifically Unit 9 at the QEII; developing future relationships with other relevant organization, as well as many other ideas. I believe we will need to begin to find creative ways to increase funds as we will need to spend money in certain areas for the benefit of both the Association and the field of Child and Youth Care.

On a National level, our connection with the National Council remains strong as I remain actively involved as the Vice-president. During last year's AGM in Sudbury Ontario the Council finalized its *National Scope of Practice, definition and started* re-evaluating our *Code of Ethics* which will be a guide for each Provincial Association. The Council also advocates on behalf of the Provincial Associations as well as topics and issues at a National level. I have recently completed an Association Start-Up Manual for individuals or groups who are interested in starting a Provincial Association. This manual has recently been sent to an interested party in Saskatchewan.

2008 will require a great deal of energy and focus on the part of all board members. It is also a very exciting time for the field of child and youth care on Prince Edward Island with the National Conference. It is my hope that our hard work will pay dividends for the Association as well as the field.

David Connolly –President of the Child and Youth Care Association of Prince Edward Island Inc.





On behalf of the Child and Youth Care Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, I would like to extend our best wishes to the organizing committee for *Building Bridges in Child and Youth Care* in the beautiful province of Prince Edward Island. It is wonderful to see the growth and interest in child



and youth care practice across Canada.

Locally, the Child and Youth Care Association of Newfoundland and Labrador has had a busy year highlighted by another very successful provincial conference held in June entitled Reclaiming Children and Youth. With over 160 delegates in attendance, the conference offered a blend of sessions including an in-depth look at the Circle of Courage presented by our keynote speaker Dr. Larry Brendtro. Another highlight of the conference was the pre-conference day focusing on standards and regulations for child and youth care work. Twenty three practitioners and stakeholders gathered to discuss what it means to be a Child and Youth Care Worker; employee training; the necessity of educational standards and various forms of regulation pertaining to the minimal educational standards which should be required before working as a Child and Youth Care Worker. A provincial steering committee has been established to continue to examine, discuss and lobby for appropriate standards in the child and youth care field in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Jackie Kelly, a long time worker in the child and youth care field, was named the Provincial Child and Youth Care Worker of the Year during the annual general meeting of the association. Miss Kelly was recognized for her commitment to building trusting relationships with all youth she has worked with over the years as well as her commitment to enhancing training for all child and youth care workers in the province. Miss Kelly regularly provides week long training in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention to current and aspiring Child and Youth Care Workers and has

*Heather Modlin has served as the NL representative to the Council since the meeting in Edmonton in 1994. As she passes on the presidency this year to David Connolly, she does so having taken the Role and Purpose statements of those early meetings and acting upon them in several ways. With Carol Stuart, she saw pre-conference working days added to the biannual nationals setting out an approach wherein the membership can be canvassed for input around initiatives. She initiated teleconferences extending the meeting times of the Board and thus their commitment to the agenda. She has networked broadly to attempt to inspire association in the Yukon and Saskatchewan and help revive New Brunswick and British Columbia. In our efforts developing web, print and profile communications, Heather has been a constant and patient support to me. She continues as Canadian Chair of the next International in Fort Lauderdale in 2009. Her commitment to the presidency serves as an example of the kind of extended attention associations like ours need to become established. In time, the Standards and Regulations Project may emerge again to advance that ambitious agenda. I suspect Heather would be there for that.*

been a great role model to staff at her current workplace-Waypoints. A new executive was elected at the AGM as well; Hugo McCarthy is the new president of the association taking over from outgoing president David Walsh. Angela Squires is our new Vice President; Barbara Phillips, Treasurer; and Angela Short has the position of Secretary. Heather Modlin continues to do her role as Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations representative on the executive. The new executive looks forward to providing its current membership of 110 child and youth care workers with ongoing support and leadership aimed at enhancing member's professional development and the experience for our youth.

The association unveiled a new website in July: [www.cycanl.ca](http://www.cycanl.ca). The website will provide updated information on the association and better connect Child and Youth Care Workers throughout our large geographical area. Our local association newsletter, ABEONA is published three times a year and has become a great way for members to highlight best practices and share anecdotes from the field.

Yours in Child and Youth Care,

Hugo McCarthy, President CYCANL





The Child and Youth Care Worker's Association of Manitoba is looking forward to hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> National Child and Youth Care Conference in Winnipeg in May 2010. The venue of the downtown Delta hotel has been decided upon. The title of the conference was announced just before this meeting: *Making Connections*. The delegates to the 15<sup>th</sup> were invited to attend at the close by the considerable Manitoba delegation.

The association publishes a biannual newsletter-Lifespace. The website is going to be revised in the near future.

The association board meets monthly. A fund raising social last October was not that well attended and hopefully the one planned for this year will be. Looking ahead, this social may be moved to May to coincide with Child and Youth Care Week.

Partnerships are import to the Board. The tenth annual Graduate Luncheon co-hosted with Red River College Child and Youth Care Program remains well attended. Select grads receive awards donated by local agencies and facilities. The keynote speaker this year was Bev Wiebe. A 2007 workshop with Lorraine Fox was co-sponsored with the Alcohol Foundation of Manitoba and MacDonald Youth Services. A second workshop featuring Jack Phelan co-sponsored by the private (MARTYR) and public (CCCTC) residential care and treatment facilities. In August, Lorraine Fox returned drawing 185 to a presentation on group work at Marymound.

This writer attended the Council meetings in Sudbury and Charlottown representing the 76 members of the association, primarily RRC students and grads. There are 14 corporate sponsors for the association.

Finally, please accept this as your invitation to attend *Making Connections*. The CYCAPEI has set the bar high for our committee and that is motivating.

Ken Lee



*Jack Phelan's workshop focused upon the explosive child and the collaborative approach to intervention. Well over 100 from all sectors of the youth care system in Winnipeg attended.*



**Ken is a good photographer using images often with the youth he works with. Playing tourist comes naturally therefore and seeing the Confederation Bridge was a must-do for him. Andy Leggette had a rental car and generously took Ken, this editor and Pat Foran**

**over to the bridge. It is definitely worth the fuss. From the air, it looks like a tiny thread of a thing but up close it truly is a wonder of human engineering. The span sections look substantial but in fact, are hollow containing power and utility lines. Each rests down on the trusses using gravity alone. Travel to the island is free, leaving involves paying up, a point of much humour for islanders.**



**MAKING  
FAIRING  
CONNECTIONS**





Dennis has been a familiar presence to a decade or more of delegates who have attended the Ontario provincials and Council nationals. His great humour, much of it built upon self-depreciation has created memorable moments for many. This only masks a strong passion and sharp perception of things associational I have witnessed over the years. I can only echo Andy Leggette's view: *"In my opinion, Mr. McDermott has done as much for our profession in this country as anyone I know."* He was the first to apply business principles to operating an association and applying a relentless memory and positive regard toward its members. It was good to see him relaxed, enjoying the workshops and always appreciating the younger persons coming up, secure in knowing the association movement is thriving.

The Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors remains one of the most robust in Canada. For 2008, the association moved to the final phase of its membership increase at \$145 with a single date renewal. An expected loss of members was anticipated in the short term of around 7%. Current membership levels include: Full-955; Individual-36; Student-859; and Organizational-56 for a total of 1929.

The membership receives a range of services other provinces would like to enjoy. These include a professional Executive Director with administrative support. Dennis continues in this role as the search for a suitable candidate for this position continues. The Board continues to be organized into sector committees: School-based, Residential, Private Practice, Educators, Hospital and three regional. The association continues to offer insurance for private practitioners which attracts and maintains members from across Canada for this service.

In April 2008, a two day regional conference, Beyond Superior was held in Thunder Bay. For the first time, a major youth component was added. It featured a half day session and a youth keynote. Planning is underway for the 50<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary Conference, *Achieving Gold* to be held in Toronto. A conference coordinator has been hired for the event.

The Chronicle continues to be published bimonthly. It is attracting more and more contributions and advertising creating layout challenges that are welcome. The association's CYC Week kit has more posters added. There are new college and university program up and running: 4 colleges and a full time BA in CYC at Ryerson. Also, the original CYC training program in Ontario and North America, Thistletown, has its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Finally, the Board is working on a Policies and Procedure Manual to support the next phase of organization with greater Board responsibility/direction and a new ED. Child and youth care professionals are invited to our celebration with 500-600 being expected at this time.

Dennis E. McDermott



Greetings Canadian Council! Firstly, I would like to apologize for my absence. Kelly Shaw will be attending on our behalf.



The Child and Youth Care Association of New Brunswick is currently going through a transition phase. We are recruiting new board and committee members, as well as, creating a new framework to focus on reviving the association. It is our intention to rebuild our association to better suit the needs of Child and Youth Care Workers within New Brunswick.

*Lise just became the President and representative to the Council a few weeks prior to the annual general meeting. She will be attending to the reincorporation of the association, its public profile and renewing memberships.*

The NSCYCWA is growing, marginally over the last 2 years. This has not been attributed to anything in particular. However, we were able to deliver two conferences before the end of 2007, and have our Annual in May of 08. We do hope to continue this trend and be able to provide more opportunities for our members to connect and network.

Commitment to the Board has been something we have been trying to build on, and we have been open to other's points of view. We have taken in different opinions (have a board which includes non-cyc individuals to provide diversity, branch out a bit more-form satellite groups which will function for their region only and connect with the Central committee; involve student members more by creating committees for them to chair-as they have different needs than those already in the field). Thus far we have yet to settle into any of these.

The NSCYCWA has been able to contribute \$800.00 to CYC-Net this year. This was a substantial amount due to our membership increase.

We are currently working on an ongoing advertisement in the local paper. We have the opportunity to have a picture and a caption, minimal amount of words, to be used as a public service alternative when vacancies are created when paying customers pull their ads or do not get them in on time.

The NACYCWA has also (very recently) been invited to become a member of the Child Welfare League of Canada. The cost of such a membership is quite handsome (\$5000). As a smaller membership association this would be quite substantial. The board has not been fully briefed on this of yet and would appreciate the view of other Council representatives around this particular membership issue.

Contact with other governmental sectors has been attempted. Currently, in Nova Scotia, we are going through Residential Redesign. *Kelly explained this would involve a levels scheme being applied to the care system.* To date, we have not been included or updated about the changes that will be affecting our line of work.

Recently we have been approached by a university student whose grandfather is challenging the 'systems' treatment of youth in residential facilities based on the Charter of Rights (UN Constitution and Human Rights Codes). The initial contact was made through email, and we have yet to hear follow up as to whom these individuals are or why they would be involved in this particular task? The input from other directors on the Council would be appreciated around this request.

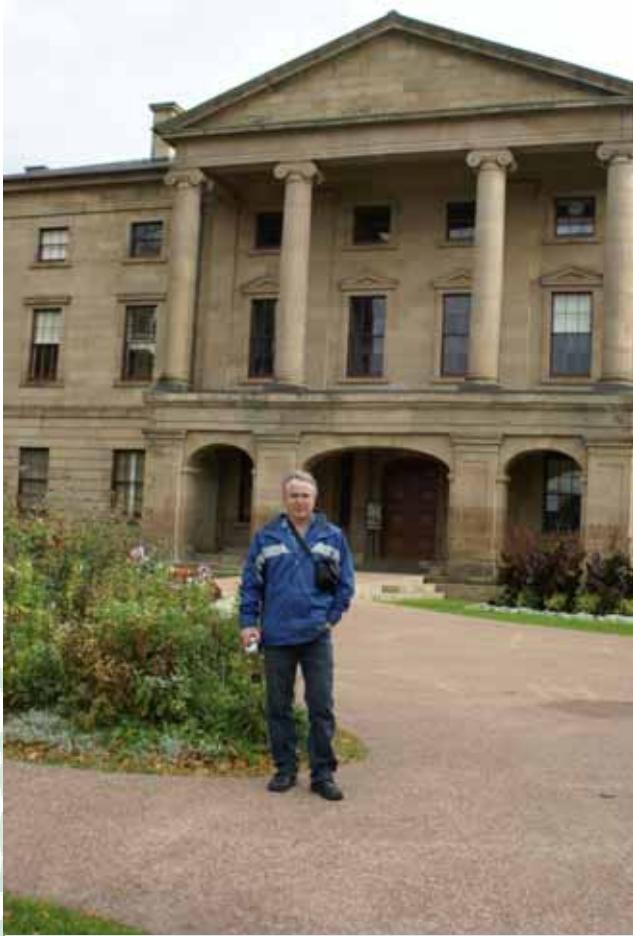
One of the major discussion pieces has been Certification. This continues to be a debateable subject as the association does not have the profile needed to be pushing this. More research and discussion is necessary in this area.

Jason Matthews

President

NSCYCWA





**Pat Foran has been the long time President of the CYCAA and representative to the Council. Over that time he has seen his association work tirelessly to have its certification component elevated to regulated status in Alberta. The association has a newsletter, a website that has a loyal following in the tens of thousands of hits per month. They have also hosted significant provincial conferences and of course, a truly memorable national in 2004. Looking forward, the association would like to host the next International/national at the Banff School of Fine Arts with a focus upon self care.**

Like many Albertans, Pat is a displaced Maritime native who returns to his family's legacy cottage in New Brunswick each summer. He totally enjoyed his time on the island but then with three golf courses in the top ten in Canada, the temptation must have been severe to slip away for a round. He would not admit to that but my hope is he did indeed get out and onto those emerald links.

The Alberta Child and Youth Care Association has had another great year. We are now approaching 900 members, our highest membership numbers ever. Of those 900, 350 are fully certified. In Alberta, full certification means that you have worked at least a year in the field; have a related degree or diploma, have the endorsement of your supervisor and you have successfully passed a 3 hour written and a 3 hour oral examination. This certification program is very well respected in our province and many Agencies require certification for leadership positions.

Our newsletter is sent to all of our members 3 times a year and celebrates individuals and Agencies from across our province. Our website, [cycaa.com](http://cycaa.com), gets several hundred hits a week and is used to post for jobs, to advertise for workshops, conferences, college and University programs, research proposals and provides information on important issues in our field. We co-hosted 4 workshops over the last year and hope to co-host a provincial conference in 2009.

Our legislation committee had started another proposal for legislation under the Health Professions Act, however this has been put on hold due to a provincial election and having 3 different Children's Services Ministers over the last 2 ½ years. We will continue to make legislation one of our top priorities and to advocate for legislation with our provincial government.

Our partnership with our provincial College's is still an integral part of our activities. We have instituted 5 annual scholarships for CYC students and we sit on the advisory board for 4 of our provincial CYC College programs.

We have also been very active and supportive of the provincial "who cares" campaign, a group from related Associations and organizations who have come together to ask the provincial government to provide the financial support necessary to help all Albertans affected by our economic boom in the province. Visit [whocaresalberta.com](http://whocaresalberta.com), for more details.

Patrick Foran

President,



Child and Youth Care Association of Alberta



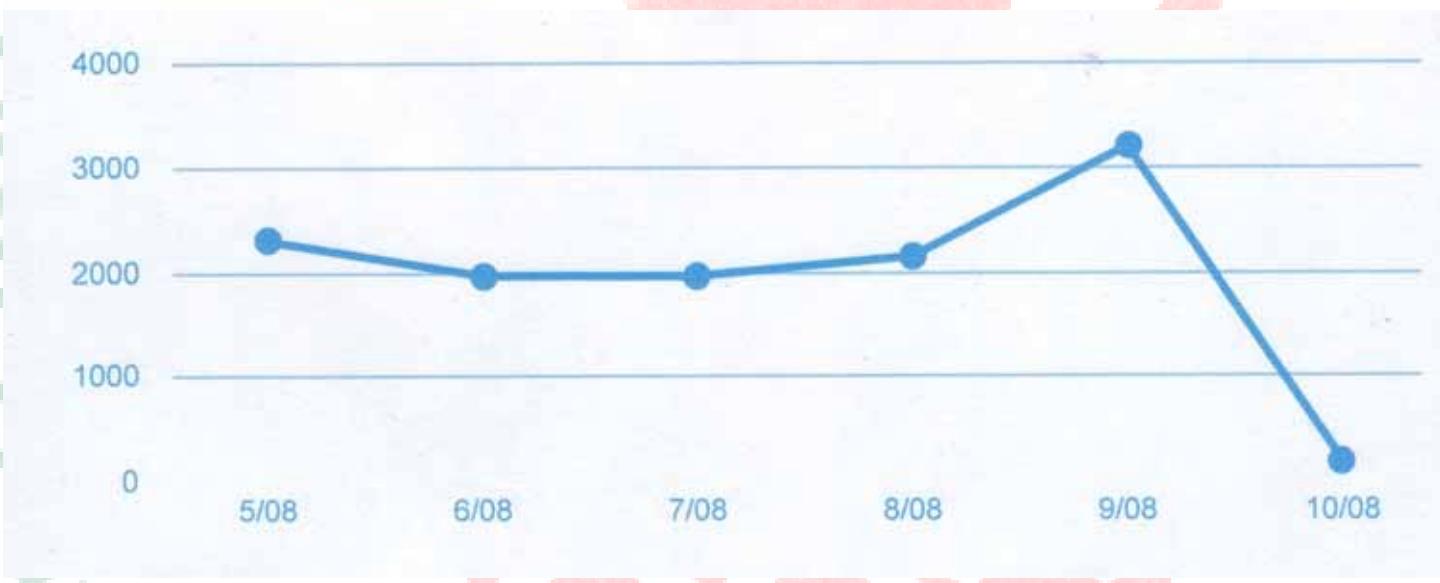


The newsletter was published shortly after the last annual meeting. My thanks go out to member associations who published it to their membership.

A galley for this year's newsletter has been drafted going into the meeting, indeed on the plane!

I have also started a supplementary publication for the National CYC Award, explaining the initiative and reporting on this year's award candidate and those to come.

I have also worked with David on preparing documents for the national conference with an attempt to harmonize the content with the web site.



The national conference has been the main driver for the web site this year with about as many visiting it as to the main page of the Council. The graph above displays the overall traffic to [garthgoodwin.info](http://garthgoodwin.info) since May 2008. As this conference neared, that traffic increased to over 3000 guests per month. As you can see it is usually around 2000 with anywhere from 500 – 700 going to the Main Page for the Council each month.

Up-dating of the conference site is constant with navigation being rationalized most recently. Two new posters were added to The Poster Project with the hope that some may emerge out of Charlottown.

The issue of content remains a concern with almost no communication with member associations around contributions to the national web site. The goal remains to bring provincial member items forward for the national audience and conversely to generate interest in member associations. The emergence of association administered websites is encouraged as is their active use to inform local membership on a news/service basis. ~ Garth Goodwin

