



Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations Annual Issue, July 2007

Annual General Meeting Productive in Scope

This year, the Annual General Meeting was held in conjunction with **Connections 2007**, the provincial child and youth care conference that took place in Sudbury in June. Often, the non-national conference year meetings have a smaller group attending and it was so this year with only members from Newfoundland, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba at the table. Still, the group represented a quorum and one committed upon doing a serious amount of work.

For some time the Council has sought to address a review of its constitution, a scope of practice, a code of ethics and membership enhancements. Dennis McDermott brought his draft of the revised constitution to the meeting for a final review and editing. Once complete the constitution will be published to the web site. Addressing the scope of practice the Council will promote for child and youth care work has been in the works for some time. Heather Modlin brought working papers, which provided the

content for a serious discussion, exercises and draft suggestions which lead to the following being generated as the Scope of Practice statement:

The practice of Child and Youth Care occurs within the context of therapeutic relationships with children and youth who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Intervention takes place within the family, the community and other social institutions. The practice centers on promoting emotional, social and behavioural change and well being with the context of daily living.

A similar approach was taken with a code of ethics. The goal was to develop a document that is simple and straight forward yet comprehensive enough to guide current and future members in the complex situations that can emerge. The final copy of the code will be brought forward at the next meeting for final consideration.

Membership issues were also addressed. The first priority was to clarify the

membership definition itself. In fact, only individual child and youth care associations are legitimate members. Our documentation has referred to members of member associations as being members for many years now. While, it is the case each member of a child and youth care association is viewed as a member, for the purpose of the Council, the provincial association itself is historically and actually is the member for the Council true purpose to develop associations with representation from across the country. A number of decisions followed out of this refocusing. The recent membership categories of Associate Member and Affiliate Member were dropped. Their purpose was to attract and develop individuals who would work towards association generation in non-member provinces and territories. The goal of networking with individuals remains and will continue on an informal basis. To

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Prince Edward Island



David Connolly addressed the delegates to Connection 2007 inviting them to visit the gentle island in October 2008 to attend the 15th National Child and Youth Care Conference. To learn more about Prince Edward Island and its legendary island effect visit <http://www.GentleIsland.com>. The conference website can be accessed through www.cyccanda.ca, National Conference button. The Call for Papers form is now online. Additional information will be published to the web site over the coming months. Please consider this your invitation to attend our next National Child and Youth Care Conference.

2006 was a very productive year for the Child and Youth Care Association of Prince Edward Island Inc.

Over the course of last year the Association has solidified its board of directors and increased membership significantly.

The board has worked hard to promote our profession; advocates for certain issues, and increase our presence in the field on PEI in a variety of ways. In 2006, we hosted Charlie Appelstein and most recently hosted Michael Ungar in May of 2007. Both were very well attended with 70 plus participants each. The Association annually celebrates Child and Youth Care Worker Week during the first full week in May. Our annual workshop/conference is held during this time. Board members have attended public forums i.e. Youth Addictions Facility and information sessions i.e. The Family Place.

The PEI Association is pleased to be hosting the National Child and Youth Care Conference at the Delta Prince Edward, October 8, 9, and 10, 2008. It is the first time PEI has hosted the event. We have met and established various committees and work has begun. We are always seeking enthusiastic Child

and Youth Care Professionals to volunteer with any of our committees. Interest is building and I have received emails requesting information for both participants and presenters. The Association has and will continue to publish a bi-annual newsletter, which will outline our progress. We are always looking for interesting articles to add to our Newsletter.

On a National level, we have re-established our connection with the National Council as I sit on the National Council board as the Vice-president. The Council is focused on creating a National Scope of Practice and re-evaluating our Code of Ethics, which may be adopted by each Provincial Association. The Council also advocates on behalf of the Provincial Associations as well as topics and issues at a National level.

The Association added Paul Kiley, a lawyer with Stewart McKelvey, who created our By-laws, as well as reviewed our contract with the Delta Prince Edward, the host site of our Conference.

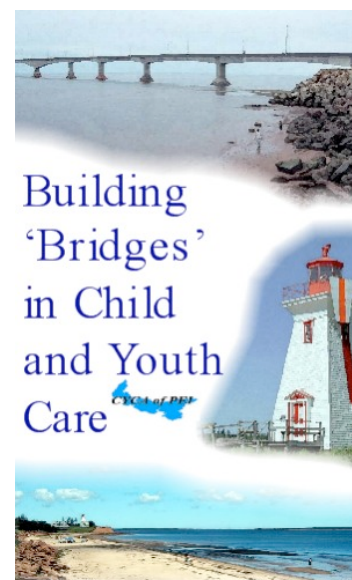
What will the future bring? I hope we can continue to add enthusiastic members to our board and increase our membership. The National Conference is the Association's main focus. I

have been in contact with Robert Wright as the Co-operators and our Association is eligible for professional liability insurance. The cost and specifics are being worked out. This was a request from the Family Preservation Program. We are going to continue to actively advocate for a Youth Addictions facility and increased services as well as CYCW's in our hospitals specifically Unit 9 at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. We are also looking at developing future relationships with CMHA's PEI division and other relevant organizations.

2006 was very successful and gives us many reasons to be optimistic about 2007!

David Connolly,

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



Manitoba

We continue to work on the renewal of CYCWAM. We have 84 individual members currently, with 10 corporate members.

The newsletter "Lifespace" is still published bi-annually spring and fall.

Our website is being revised to be more interactive and colourful. Please see www.cycwam.org.

We co-sponsored the 9th Annual Grad Luncheon event with Red River College again this year. The Keynote speaker was Billie Schibler, the provincial Child Advocate. We have been losing money with this event, so will need to find a way to maintain it without a loss as we are a very small organization. This is a wonderful event and really is the one big gathering of cypc's in Manitoba. 2008 will be the 10th annual grad celebration, so we will be planning ahead!

As in past reports, we continue with fundraising and promoting active individual membership. As in the past, we still do not adequately represent a broad base of child and youth care practitioners in the province. Most of our membership base is still made up of corporate agency partners and student members. We have very few "regular" individual members. This year two RRC students undertook a membership drive as a part of their

practicum's with the College. They were incredibly well received and their presentations sparked some interest in the association. They developed a poster, new pamphlets, and a Power Point presentation and visited at least ten individual units of agencies. Thus far, as a result, we have only four new paid members though, which was disappointing. But, we will keep working at it! The idea of providing Red River College students with an opportunity to complete a practicum by doing professional association work was a very good one and we will continue to pursue it. We intend to apply for some small grants to continue to do this work.

We continue with our certification initiative for this year. We met with the Minister of Family Services and Housing in April of this year and received support in principle for our certification proposal. Some of the issues raised by the Minister were accessibility of education and training throughout the province. Manitoba is currently undergoing a historic transformation of the child welfare system with the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry Child Welfare Initiative whereby responsibility for child welfare services has been devolved from a mainstream agency to Aboriginal agencies. There

have been no decisions regarding managed care treatment resources as of yet, this is next on the agenda. It was suggested that we may be able to participate in these discussions. However, the issue regarding accessibility of education and training is related to this entire system overhaul. The Minister stated he would bring our ideas to his colleagues in Justice and in Education. We hope to join the discussion with the Child and Family Support Branch after the provincial election. We felt the meeting was quite promising, but there remains a great deal of work to do in Manitoba. 'We would like to formally thank Heather Modlin and Pat Foran for their ongoing moral support of this project. It has been a very long journey and there is still a long way to go. We would like to request continued support from the CCCYCA for this project.

We are cosponsoring a variety of workshops in the next couple of months: May 23 & 24, CYCWAM is presenting James Lathlin, a former gang member speaking to youth and youth care workers about gang awareness in concert with Winnipeg's Globe Cinema. All proceeds go to CYCWAM. We are also bring in Lorraine Fox cosponsored by MacDonald Youth Services and the Addictions Foundation of

Manitoba on August 22, and Jack Phelan will be coming in October to speak about family focused practice cosponsored by CCCTC, MARTR, and CYCWAM. Deb Fast has been instrumental in organizing the Jack Phelan workshop.

We are hosting our second annual fundraising social in October as well. Last year we had about 70 people come out and we raised almost \$1000.00. We hope to surpass that this year. We are also planning a gathering for both youth and youth care workers in May 2008. We are very excited about his last gathering idea!

Always moving forward in the true spirit of child and youth care!

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ken Lee, CYCWAM
Representative to CCCYCA,*

*Dawne MacKay-Chiddenton,
Secretary, CYCWAM*



Jack Phelan will present on A Child and Youth Care Approach to Working With Families October 1, 2007

Newfoundland

“The provincial conference was very well attended this year with an additional twenty registrations and feedback from the sessions was very positive.”

The Child and Youth Care Association of Newfoundland and Labrador has had another busy year with membership expected to climb to close to a hundred active members. 2006/2007 included our regular events including the AGM, a fundraising

initiative, and the annual spring provincial conference. We have also made some initial steps toward the implementation of a degree program in the province.

The Annual General Meeting was held on May 9th and attendance was at an all time high. Members gathered to hear Mabel Anderson discuss her role as a consultant for Health and Community Services as she makes recommendations for setting standards for children and youth in care. There was no election of officers at the meeting as we are half way through the current term.

We held our annual fundraiser at the St. John's regatta again last August and were disappointed that the weather did not

cooperate. Plans are already in place to try again this year.

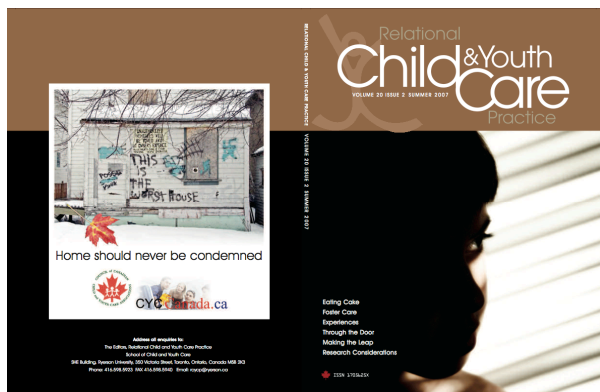
Charlie Applestien, author of the **Gus Chronicles** and **No Such Thing as a Bad Kid** was the keynote speaker at this year's Annual Provincial Conference. The provincial conference was very well attended this year with an additional twenty registrations and feedback from the sessions was very positive. Again this year there was significant coverage by local media, which provided the association a chance to talk about all the great work being done by Youth Care Workers in the province. The professional care community now looks forward to the conference and it is building a loyal following.

There is a real growing awareness of the need for provincial standards for child and youth care workers, including those who work in child welfare and youth corrections settings. A provincial committee is being established to begin addressing this issue.

Memorial University of Newfoundland has struck a committee to explore the possibility of offering a degree program in child and youth care. The CYCANL is actively involved in this process.

David Walsh, President CYCANL

The Poster Project



The Poster Project has surpassed the initial hopes when the idea was first generated.

The Poster Project has surpassed the initial hopes when the idea was first generated. Several associations have reproduced the posters for their provincial conferences. The CYCANL reproduced them at photographic quality and sold them at their provincial conference.

Recently, the Editors of the **Relational Child & Youth Care Practice** approached the Council with an invitation to use

the posters as back cover material for up coming issues. This will greatly expand the profile of The Poster Project. It also serves as a great example of partnership serving to bring individual initiatives together to broaden common goals of professional development for child and youth care.

Ontario

The OACYC has had a productive year serving its 2106 members. Three provincial conferences were planned. Chatham attracted 160 registrants for a one day regional conference. Close to 200 registered for the three day provincial, Connections 2007, held in Sudbury. Bob Heeney took over the coordinating role in a masterly fashion producing a successful conference experience. In April of 2008, a regional conference is in the planning stages for Thunder Bay.

The OACYC will move to a single-date membership renewal on October 15 annually. This will create a cash flow problem due to the pro-rated renewal period. A loan from the Council to cover anticipated operating expense short falls was approved in Sudbury. The membership voted for an incremental increase in membership fees currently being phased in. The impact of the final \$125.00 fee will not be known until the fall. Residential

Committee to Private Practice, Educators and Hospital committees were added to the sector committees. A new committee-Theory & Practice Committee is being struck to develop theory and writing re child and youth care work in part to answer the lack of/multiple definition mentioned in last year's report [1) the traditional one based on therapeutic milieu and troubled children/youth (that used by the OACYC); 2) generic mental health work with children/youth (used by many employers); 3) generic work with any children/youth (now being used by the American CYC Association, ACYCP)]

Concern re standards of new CYW programs lessened since a number of faculty have CYW training and most seem committed to promoting the OACYC amongst students and faculty. The Educators Committee is to draft guidelines for programs and one college



Andrew Leggett and Dennis McDermott manning the Registration and retail table at Cambrian College.

has offered/requested to pilot guidelines (but preferred accreditation, i.e., standards, to guidelines).

The OACYC initiated a major promotion for International Child and Youth Care Week beginning in 1990. It is the only event we have allows for participation on a province wide basis as members can request a celebration 'kit' that includes posters, a draft proclamation document for local municipalities and event suggestions.

As of June 11, 2007 the membership numbers were Full-1071, Certified-816, Student-923, Organizational-66 and Complimentary-22. All categories increased with the exception of a slight drop in student memberships.

*Dennis McDermott,
Executive Director,
OACYC*

Partnership in 9th International

Heather Modlin is the Council's Canadian Conference Chair to the 9th International Child and Youth Care Conference to be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in May of 2009.

The theme of the 9th will

be Global Warning, based upon the plight of youth worldwide and the lifesaving interventions and best practices designed to carve out a better future for children and families.

This will be the fourth partnership between the Council and the Association for the Child and Youth Care Practice for an International building upon Cleveland-2000, Victoria-2003 and

Montreal-2006. Canadians have made significant contributions to past Internationals as presenters and registrants and the hope is spring in Florida will extend this turnout.

Nova Scotia

I've been mulling over all the possible topics I could address. I would have liked to come here today to discuss the amount of change and forward progress that has occurred, illustrated how this executive has made the NSCYCWA stronger, and spoken on the fact that we are moving steadily closer to making child and youth work legitimate on the professional stage. I would have liked to dispense the pleasantries with heads of organizations and to have spoken about how much we have grown due to their continued support, and brought in government officials to elaborate on our progress. However, as I stand before you, I cannot speak of many of the above. We continue to have the admiration and support of few organizations. We continue to strive towards becoming legitimate. The NSCYCWA has been established since 1990, despite the fact that the wheels have been in motion long before that. We have changed with time, while not changing with the times. We have struggled to implement new ideas or philosophies, and we continue to fall back on what has worked in the past.

The NSCYCWA in 2006 was able to deliver a conference at the Citadel in Halifax, the first time in five years we did a conference outside of the NSCC. We are here again. We are fortunate

for the relationship that has been fostered, and we are appreciative of what the NSCC has offered us continued support however we needed it. The NSCYCWA is also looking towards a future that will break down the perceptions and barriers that lead individuals to believe that the NSCYCWA is not a global organization. The focus since 2000 has been to demonstrate the NSCYCWA's drive towards a more global vision. While reading back through president's reports from years gone by, Wilfred Jackson, Trish O'Brien, Sue Cater, Joe Markey to name a few, all had it in mind to branch out, and to be more inclusive. We continued with that in 2006 with inviting resource professionals to our conference. We have kept connection with that audience throughout the year and some were involved in the Information Session in January. We also had that idea with starting a new version of the newsletter, of doing the conference at a different locations, of bringing different institutions closer to us to illustrate what it is we envision for youth care workers, to illustrate to students that our progress is something to invest in, to continue to develop relationships with our communities, and above all to strive towards legitimizing what we do. Initiatives have already started in 2007. The poster project has been a Canadian Council initiative

to encourage membership into provincial associations. You can download the posters from the Canadian Council website, cyccanada.ca. For the first time in NSCYCWA history, we will be having a second Provincial Conference in the fall. Dates for this conference and presenters will be determined. In addition to this, the idea of having the Annual Provincial Conference hosted by different organizations has been discussed. The original thought is to have organizations/institutions make proposals to secure location of the conference. This needs to be further developed before the NSCYCWA adopts this as a practice.

There will be a re-vamping of the current bylaws that govern the NSCYCWA and its practices. We will be setting up a general meeting for members to vote on the proposed changes. No changes will be made without support of the membership. The newsletter will become a more prevalent medium to connect members with the ongoing of the NSCYCWA. We are looking into the possibility of it becoming an on-line project. This would be ideal, and more inclusive as members would have easier access to us. Currently the NSCYCWA has been involved in the reshaping of the membership process. Over the past two years the NSCYCWA has had difficulty with not being able to provide

information, certificates, renewal forms etc. to the membership. We are confident we have found a solution for this, and hope to see a marked difference within the next few months.

As president I am encouraged by the connections that have been established and or maintained this past year. The NSCYCWA has not yet come to be a known entity in many realms outside of youth care, and it is our hope that our continued struggle will bring with it a public profile. Throughout this past year we have been invited and presented at various educational institutions (though we know we need to get out to more), and overall the response has been positive.

The Poster Project is one thing that will have an impact on this on our profile on a national level. In addition to this, there continues to be a debate within Associations throughout Canada as to whether we (as an organization) will be representing ourselves in the media when/if situations regarding youth arise. There has yet to be a stance developed or established on this, and it will continue to be discussed on the provincial and national level.

As you can see the NSCYCWA has been busy. We hope to be able to communicate our involvements to the membership with more consistency this year. As

much as the NSCYCWA will contribute to change, we will be looking forward to our membership to take an active role as well. We are in this together. The last note is regarding change, and how we contribute to it. I was recently on a team retreat where Mahatma Ghandi's philosophy was

shared: "Be the change you want to see in the world". At the time I gave it little notice. Though as I read it a second and third time, I looked into this and I found myself thinking about changes throughout history and another quote came to mind:

"The fact of the matter is that change happens as a result of courage and commitment of individuals. People like Joan of Ark, Albert Einstein, Clara Barton, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Edison, and Rosa Parks. They might not have done it alone, but they were, without

question, the change makers".

Michael Angier

Let's make 2007 about becoming change makers. Respectfully,
Jason Matthews,
President, NSCYCWA

Alberta

2007 is shaping up as our most successful year to date. We are currently sitting at just over 800 members and anticipate that this number will continue to grow as the year progresses. It is interesting to note that of the 800 members, 400 are fully certified. Considering that being fully certified means at least one year of experience in the field, an endorsement from you current supervisor, successful completion of a 3 hour written exam, a 3 hour oral exam by a panel of your peers, both exams based on our comprehensive certification materials, this is significant achievement for our Association. We continue to expand our volunteer base as more and more members are willing to assist us in our goal of professionalization of the field. Our legislation committee has expanded from 6 members to 12 in the last few months. This commitment is much needed as this committee has been working diligently in

preparing for an application for legislation for our field under the Health Professions Act of Alberta. An application is a tremendous amount of work and the entire process of a review by the Health Professions board can take up to 5 years. As the old saying goes, Rome was not built in a day, and legislation will take some time before becoming a reality.

One of the big tasks that this committee has taken on is developing our scope of practice. Our questionnaire on the scope of practice is available for reviewing and feedback online at our website <http://www.cycaa.com/>. The scope of practice is fairly brief and succinct and there is good rationale for this. In consulting with the Health Professions board the committee was advised to write the scope of practice in a brief succinct manner as we will have the opportunity to describe in much more detail our day to day activities in other areas of the application for legislation.

Another huge task that this committee has been working on is an updated PowerPoint slideshow for the Association. They have produced 2 drafts so far and it is eye-catching, current and will be a useful tool to educate others about our work.

A spin off of this committee has been the creation of a new committee, the Public Relations Committee. This committee will be looking at promoting our message as most people in the community have skewed or inaccurate ideas about what we do. We have also continued to provide free workshops for our membership. In May, Dr. Niall McElwee from Ireland presented on several topics in both Edmonton and Calgary, including drug use, legislation and activism, family work and the current labor shortage in our field. These all day workshops were very well attended with over 100 delegates at each workshop and the members provided us with very positive feedback on all the sessions. Thank you to Hull Child and Family Services in Calgary and Grant MacEwan

College in Edmonton for hosting these sessions. We also recently had a 2 hour presentation on attachment issues by Dr. John Pearce, again hosted by Hull Services. This was a very well attended workshop, with over 60 delegates and we are going to schedule a follow up presentation due to the interest this topic generated, details to follow.

There have been many other activities over the last few months including our annual AGM, the appointment of Jenn Howard as the new certification board chairperson, our newsletter, an ongoing update of our website and all of the other day to day activities of the committee's and the head office. A special congratulations to our only paid employee, Gail Homeniuk, our office manager who is celebrating her 20th year with the Association, we don't know what we would do without you Gail, thank you for your continued dedication.

Patrick Foran
President.

AGM Productive in Scope *continued*

Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cyccanada.ca

The images used in the front and end pages display a few of the delights of the Sudbury, Ontario region in summer. They serve as a reminder of the beauty and privilege of this country and the brief time we have to get out and enjoy it all. May your summer journeys be safe and recreating!



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promote association development more formally, a Manual for Child and Youth Care Association development will be drafted and published. For years now, members attending the annual general meetings have been taking learning realized by other member associations, applying them and moving forward. The leading association in size and development, the OACYC has often set the bar in several areas for members to consider. Over the years, some member associations have faltered and become disbanded. The Council can do much to help individuals revive and rebuild such associations. The forming and storming phases are difficult enough without having to reinvent the wheel at every turn. The hope is that the manual will also act as a guide for current associations regarding future growth as well. The board is aware that the foundation for national initiatives for certification, training, standards and professional development exist in substantial form in

member associations.

The issue is one of numbers growing to sufficient levels to justify national implementation of such initiatives.

The Council will assist member associations by publishing a brochure to promote membership growth by outlining the Council's role as national networking body for the child and youth care association movement. Similarly, the web site will be redrafted to reflect the decisions taken in Sudbury.

The goal of seeing active child and youth care associations established and thriving in all ten provinces and the three territories remains for the Council. The Council invites all those individuals in Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, and the territories with an interest in association development to get in touch through our email contact address online. We will make every effort to put you in touch with others with a similar interest.

The OACYC, Sudbury and Cambrian College were our hosts for this Annual General Meeting. Our thanks go out to each for the warm welcome, incredible

weather and fine facilities. A special thank you also for Andy Leggett for being there at the registration table throughout the conference and while socializing in the off hours. Andy's career and character as a child and youth care practitioner and foster care provider working on the more desperate frontiers for children and youth in Canada is to be commended.

Best Wishes for a wonderful summer!

Garth Goodwin

Editor, Webmaster

CCCYCA

