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Fall - Winter EDITION



QUEBEC ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS

Association des Édicateurs et des Édicateurices du Québec

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.....	Tony Maciocia
Layout & design of Newsletters	
.....	by Sue Plaisance

CONTACT INFO

Mailing Address:

Quebec Association of
Educators
6 Weredale Park
Montreal, Quebec
H3Z 1Y6

Phone: (514) 932-7161 ex 1109

Fax: (514) 932-5036

e-mail:

tony_maciocia@sss.gouv.qc.ca

website :

www.cyccanada.ca

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

Batshaw Youth & Family
Centres

Bartimeaus Inc. (Quebec)

Concordia University

John Abbott College

Batshaw Excellence Award goes to one of our own!



Tony Maciocia receives Ruth & Manny Batshaw award from Mr. Batshaw

October 14th 2009, marked a day in the history of the QAE. Our very own Executive Director, Tony Maciocia, was the recipient of The Ruth and Manny Batshaw Award of Excellence. This prestigious award is given to a person who, over the last 5 years has:

1. Introduced an innovation that has had a positive impact on the ability of the organization and its staff to assist children and/or families;
2. Has taken action far beyond normal expectations to benefit children and families or permit the organization to have a similar impact;
3. Has accomplished his/her duties to a very high standard.

It was no surprise to those who submitted Mr. Maciocia's nomination that he should win, because in the eyes of his colleagues, he has gone far beyond the call of duty.

Tony inspires, motivates and mobilizes others to be the best they can be in their work with youth and their families.

There was a small reception to honour Mr. Maciocia's achievements and some tears were beginning to form as his colleagues stood up one by one to share their uplifting words of congratulations. He was described as being a very passionate individual as well as being dedicated to providing exceptional service, to youth and their families. Mr. Maciocia has globally brought our professional careers as Quebec Educators to the next echelon. He is one of the founding members of the QAE which began in the 1980's and because of his passion, he allows this association to grow and flourish. Today the QAE is known by educators and people in the helping profession at an international level. He has developed, organized and consulted on conferences all over the world. His philosophy has always been, that frontline workers are the heart and soul of the caring profession.

As Tony gracefully accepted the award, he acknowledged those around him, emphasizing that he cannot be where he is right now without those who supported him. It was clear that he won this award not only because he is an incredible, caring person but because he has enhanced the lives of countless individuals.

On behalf of the QAE board, we are truly proud to work along side Tony.

Melanie Fournier
QAE Vice President



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As you will read in my article entitled “To Be Posted” (*see page 3*), the future of the role played by Educators as we know it today, is in jeopardy (*is in danger*). During the last 25 years the role of the Educator has evolved from one of glorified babysitter/custodian, to that of clinician/professional. Professionals who make clinical decisions based on their observations, who make therapeutic intervention plans with children and families and who then carry out the interventions defined in those plans.

Bill 21 as it stands would set the Educator's functions back to 25 years. This Bill will have a major impact at Batshaw Youth and Family Centres (the largest educator employer) and other institutions that depend on the Educators.

The QAE has joined with other groups who represent Educators. Melanie Fournier, as QAE Vice-President and I, as President have been participating in meetings with the «**Regroupement québécois des associations professionnelles de l'éducation spécialisée**» and are in the process of informing the government about the realities of the role of the Educator in the hope of making changes to this Bill before it becomes Law.

We congratulate Tony Maciocia, one of the founders of the QAE, on having been the recipient of the Manny Batshaw Award this year. As some of you are well aware Tony has always believed in the value of the Educator role in the field of child and youth care. Over the years Tony has played an important role throughout Canada and the USA organizing and participating in a wide range of activities and conferences associated with child and youth care work. This award to Tony was well merited and we are proud that he was honored for his achievements in this area.

QAE board meetings are held every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6 Weredale Park, Room # 168. These meetings are open to all members and non-members.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members, their families and friends a safe and pleasant holidays.

Roger Fortin, President
Quebec Association of Educators



2009-2010 Q.A.E. MEETINGS

2009

May 21st
June 18th
September 17th

October 15th
November 19th
December 17th

2010

January 21st
February 18th
March 18th

April 15th
May 20th
June 17th

**ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 6 WEREDALE PARK
FROM 5:00 TO 7:00 P.M.**

**NOTE: QAE BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS.
FUTURE MEMBERS ARE WELCOMED TO ATTEND.**



TO BE POSTED AND READ BY ALL EDUCATORS

(Child & Youth Care Workers and professionals who support educators)

BEWARE!

The first steps in the process of adopting Bill 21 began in June 2009. For the next one and half years there will be hearings and adjustments to the Bill in order for it to become law by December 2010. Its aim is to permit only those who are members of their respective professional orders or corporations to execute certain professional "Acts". In our sector, this law will apply to the following professions: doctors, nurses, ergo therapists, guidance counselors, psycho-educators, psychologists, social-workers and family therapists. In this first reading of the law, (which happened in June), Law makers did not consider the "Educator" as a part of the list of professions.

The academic and practical training of the Educator provides him/her with the skills to make clinical observation, make an assessment and determine the appropriate strategies and measures within the context of the intervention planning process. Under this law the educator, who is not considered to be a professional, would no longer be permitted to perform professional Acts associated with intervention planning. Bill 21 also limits the Educator's ability to make a clinical decision concerning a client's suicidal or violent behavior, specifically when these behaviors would require the application of physical restraint or isolation. Only a professional, as listed above, would be permitted by law, to make this clinical decision.

In simple terms this means that this law diminishes the role of the Educator. The Educator would no longer be considered a professional but rather as an aid to the professionals listed above, much like a nurse's aide or a beneficiary attendant.

Batshaw Youth and Family Centre's policies recognize Educators' clinical skills and their ability to carry out clinical interventions. If this bill were to pass into law in its present form it would have major implications in Batshaw and all other health and social services agencies across Quebec.

The Q.A.E. has joined with other Quebec Educator associations, (*Regroupement québécois des associations professionnelles de l'éducation spécialisée*) and is participating at the hearings at the provincial level in an effort to sensitize the government about the importance of our profession.

This issue is about the survival of the Educator's role as a clinician.

More information is to come in the near future.

QAE Board meetings are held every 3rd Thursday of the month and are open to all members.

*Roger Fortin, President
Quebec Association of Educators
November 2009*

Visit our Q.A.E. webpage at:


WWW.
cyccanada.ca

Double click on the blue box indicating Q.A.E. on the left side of the home page...



YOUTH NEED CARING ADULT RELATIONSHIPS

When asked as to name someone who positively influenced our lives when we were young, no doubt we remember an adult who was passionate about helping young people. These unconditionally caring adults from our past could have been from our schools, churches, sports teams, youth organizations, neighborhoods, family or elsewhere.

Author Jolene Roehlkepartain says that to grow up healthy, young people need support, love and encouragement from caring, principled adults. They need homes, schools, organizations, and communities that are accepting, affirming, and safe, according to her book, *The Best of Building Assets Together**.

We should all encourage our children to cultivate caring adult relationships in their lives. Roehlkepartain suggests having your young person brainstorm examples of adults (other than parents) who are good at providing advice and support. Encourage teens to think of the adults they usually go to as well as other adults they could approach if needed. These examples could include teachers, mentors, coaches, youth volunteers and neighbors.

It is important that we don't evaluate or discard any of the young person's ideas so we don't inadvertently encourage barriers to healthy youth/adult relationships.

Let your teen create another list of qualities that make these people good sources of advice and support: patience, understanding, good eye contact, sense of humor and good listening skills. In discussing the lists you can encourage your young person to find ways to go out of his way to see at least one of the adults on the list this week.

If your teen feels too unsure of himself to initiate a healthy relationship with a positive, caring adult, have him evaluate his own relationship experiences on a scale of 1 (needs help) to 5 (well developed).

Rankings can be based on various communication skills, such as starting conversations with someone they don't know very well, asking someone his or her opinion, telling someone when he or she hurts their feelings, listening to a person when he or she needs to talk, doing something nice for someone and or hanging out with someone (especially if the person isn't considered "popular"). This exercise will help the young person visualize what communication skills he needs to work on and develop specific, actionable goals.

When General Colin Powell spoke in Evansville for the Celebration of Diversity Distinguished Lecture Series, he commended Evansville for being awarded the America's Promise: 100 Best Communities for Young People designation. The application process required various youth-serving agencies to work together to prove Evansville exceeds its national peers in offering The Five Promises that the America's Promise organization deems as essential supports for young people's success in life.

It is no surprise that the first of the five promises is having the support of caring adults.

If you're not sure where to find healthy adult relationships for your teens, feel free to call any of the youth serving agencies in Evansville — we care.

Ann Burnworth
24 November 2009

The Best of Building Assets Together by Jolene Roehlkepartain



Boundaries III



I have a question that I really have trouble finding an answer for in any print literature:

How far are we called to go as child and youth workers? I have a really tough time setting boundaries, and I take on the burdens of the children in my life. What is the easiest way to distance yourself, without leaving a child left hurt?

If anyone has any advice, I would greatly appreciate it!
Stephanie McIntyre

Dear Stephanie:

Boundaries are not a matter of distance but of clarity. Within our personal and professional boundaries we enact certain roles, in this case, child and youth care worker. A role is nothing other than a set of expected behaviors; when we act outside of that set, we are outside of the role and most probably have crossed a boundary, e.g., a child care worker seeking to be the child's friend. There is a difference between being friendly and being a friend. The first is an attitude; the second is a role. The child is with us for our role as child and youth care worker and everything which that involves. How do you know you are crossing a boundary? Learn the "red flags" which will tell you that you are on the slippery slope to a boundary violation. An example of a "red flag": You find yourself about to say "Yes" when "No" is the correct answer, and you are tempted to do this because you want the child to like you. There is greater hurt when you do not do what is expected of you than when you disappoint a child by denying him something he wants.

*Nick Smiar
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire*

Just asking the question indicates to me that you will never leave a child hurt. Often the kids that we are with have so little positive attention that any builds them up. Depending on your employment situation that may assist you in establishing some boundaries. The others you will have to find your own limits. You need time for yourself for what I like to call "input" because we are always called upon for "output". Good luck it is a tricky line to find :)

Heather French

Hi Stephanie,

*The simple answer is to create a distance and remain available. Boundaries are about making contact and you cannot do this if you don't create the space for yourself. You may wish to take a look at the two pieces I wrote on this topic in *Relational Child & Youth Care Practice*.*

*Cheers,
Gerry Fewster*

For more responses go to: <http://www.cyc-net.org/threads/boundaries3.html>



UPCOMING CONFERENCES



Early Years Conference 2010
The Rights of the Child
February 4 - 6, 2010

The Victoria Conference Centre, 720 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC, Canada

Conference web site: http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Early_Years_2010.html



Child and Youth Care Association of Alberta Provincial Child and Youth Care Conference
Community: Everybody Matters
Grant MacEwan University, Edmonton, AB

May 5-7, 2010

Call for Proposals

The Alberta Provincial Child and Youth Care Conference is being held in Edmonton from May 5-7, 2010. There has not been a CYC conference in Alberta since 2004, so this will be an event for child and youth care practitioners and other professionals who work with children, youth and families to network, share experiences, and participate in an exciting learning opportunity.

For workshop submissions, please provide and attach the following information:

- Title
- Content/Description of the Workshop (250-300 Words Max)
- Preferred Length of the Workshop (1.5 or 3 Hours)
- Seating Design (i.e. Desks, Circle, etc.)
- Minimum and Maximum Number of Participants
- Presenter(s) Biography (50 Words Max)
- Agency Information
- Contact Information (Address, Phone, and Email)
- The conference committee will provide flip charts and overhead projectors - the provision of all other audiovisual equipment required will be the responsibility of the presenter

Presenter Information:

- One presenter per workshop will receive free registration for the conference
- In the event of similar submissions, or excess submissions, preference will be given to CYCAA members
- Topics may include but are not limited to: community development or involvement; family; group care; activity programming; mental health; professionalism; resiliency, addictions; therapeutic interventions.

Deadline for proposals is December 4, 2009

Notification of acceptance of proposals will be January 29, 2010

Please submit to: Conference Program Committee

Alberta Provincial Child and Youth Care Conference

#204 12013 76Street

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5B 2C9

Contact info: (780) 448-7254 (phone); (709) 448-9159 (fax); cycaa@telus.net

Or visit our website for more information at www.cycaa.com



UPCOMING CONFERENCES



WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Midwest Regional Youth Care Conference 25, 26 and 27 May 2010

Web site: www.wacycp.org



SPONSOR

HOST



Child Care Worker Association of Manitoba

Call for Papers

The Child and Youth Care Workers Association of Manitoba (CYCWAM) is privileged to be hosting the 2010 National Child and Youth Care Conference. The Association invites Child and Youth Care professionals, and others with an interest in promoting best practice in the care of vulnerable children and their families to submit proposals for presentations, workshops, or other means to express their ideas about how we approach our work.

The theme for the 2010 National Conference is Making Connections. There is a particular interest in seeing proposals that include this theme as part of the proposal content; however given the scope of Child and Youth Care practice, all proposals will be reviewed with interest.



Ruth and Manny Batshaw Award of Excellence 2009

Award of Excellence and Certificates

The Committee also gave three certificates of meritorious achievement to:

SANDRA PARKES,

Educator, Dorval Campus - Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents

EDDIE BEAUCAGE,

Educator, Lorient, Prévost Campus – Division of Residential Treatment Services to Adolescents

DARLENE JOB,

Educator, Tobin House / Camping Services – Division of Child and Family Services



From left to right:

Eddie Beaucage (Q.A.E. Member), Darlene Job, Mr. Batshaw, Sandy Parkes (Q.A.E. Member), Phil Alleyne (Q.A.E. member)

WELCOME

To the new QAE members that joined the association in 2009

Marsha Alexander
Nathaniel Ambnian
Eva Antoniou
Tamarah Banks
Melissa Baril
Maude Couturier

Robert Di Elsi
Tania Gesualdi
Sandra Jollimore
Melissa Keller
Melissa Kessous
Sharon Mahbeer

Stephen Parker
Kathryn Stewart
Elaine Strang
Sandu Strunga
Lisa Tomlinson





MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

If you are in the field of child/youth care or life span care, as an Educator, Supervisor, Researcher, Trainer, Director, Administrator, then you need to join the growing numbers of professionals that are promoting the field of child and youth/life-span care.

Joining the Q.A.E. is one concrete way to demonstrate your commitment towards the further development and promotion of Educators and their profession.

There are three categories of membership (full members, associate and student membership)

You can get applications to join the Q.A.E. by approaching the following people or selected locations:

BATSHAW RECEPTION DESKS AT:

*Dorval (514) 636-0910
Prévost (514) 932-7722
6 Weredale (514) 932-7161*

➤ Concordia University: Dr. Varda Mann-Feder
(514) 848-2266

➤ Teen Haven: Clement Walker (514) 769-5050

You can also ask any of the Q.A.E. Board Members listed in the front of the Newsletter

Also: go to www.cyccanada.ca

Any other enquiries can also be directed to:
tony_maciocia@ssss.gouv.qc.ca



JOIN THE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS OF CORRESPONDENCE

CITY: _____

PROV: _____ POS. CODE _____

TEL(H): _____ TEL(W): _____

e-mail: _____

PLACE OF WORK: _____

POSITION: _____ SINCE _____

EDUCATION:
CEGEP _____ TO _____

CONCENTRATION _____

UNIVERSITY (SPECIFY) _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- FULL: \$45.00 CHEQUE
- OR \$1.73/PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS (Batshaw only)
- STUDENT \$30.00 (two year rate)
- ASSOCIATE \$40.00 CHEQUE
- ORGANIZATION \$250.00

(Receipts are issued annually for tax deductions)
(payroll deductions are on T4 slips)

AUTHORIZATION FOR PAY DEDUCTIONS (WHERE APPLICABLE)

I hereby authorize the payroll to deduct the indicated amount from my paycheque. I realize that I will have to cancel this agreement when I want to cancel my membership in the association.

SIGNATURE

Forward to :

Quebec Association of Educators
6 Weredale Park
Montreal (Westmount), Quebec
H3Z 1Y6