

**Child and Youth Care Association of Alberta
Annual General Meeting and Executive Meeting
February 22nd, 2003.
Hull Child and Family Services.**

Present: Pat Foran, Dana Beresh, Tara Reimer, Sheri Gessner, Bruce Clarke, Jenn Howard, James Bialecki, Jason Stein, Sabrina Brock, Debbie Zobell, Angela McAllister, Laura Fulmer, Selene Sorensen.

Pat has developed a **powerpoint presentation** complete with pictures and logo's. It is ready to use but he is still working on the accompanying notes. If anyone wants to use it, e-mail Pat and he can e-mail it to you.

2. **History of the Association.** For the benefit of the new members Pat gave a history of the Association. Talked about the last attempt for legislation, our approval by the review board and the denial by the Ministry. Also commented on the subsequent loss of interest in the Association and the recent turnaround. Highlights have been conferences in 2000 and 2001, partnerships with the College's, meeting with the Ministry re legislation, being awarded the 2004 National conference, an active website and a regular newsletter.
3. **Report from Newfoundland.** We were awarded the 2004 National conference, please note that the dates are now October 13, 14, 15. We were able to promote the conference using cowboy hats and we got a great response from the Newfoundland delegates. Pat, Tara, Dana, and Sara attended the pre-conference day aimed at establishing national standards for Child and Youth Care. It was a very successful start to the process and was attended by over 50 of the leaders in the field. Pat also attended the **Council of Canadian Child and Youth care Association's** 2 day meeting. The meetings were also very productive and resulted in the Council agreeing to take a lead role in developing the National standards. Pat, as the Alberta rep agreed to lead the competency sub-committee. The sub-committee's are 1. Models of practice/standards 2. Unique theories and concepts/competencies 3. Outcomes 4. Membership enhancement 5. Advocacy/P.R./communication to other sectors. The council also agreed to take a strong role in enhancing other Associations.
4. **Legislation committee update.** Pat and Jack Phelan from Grant McEwan College met with John McDermott and Molly Turner from the Ministry in Nov. Jack was invited due to his long history with the Association and the fact that he was one of the prime architects of the Association's by-laws and the previous attempt at legislation. The meeting went very well, they were supportive of our goals and want us to write a letter to the minister with a possible follow up meeting. Pat and his committee are working on this.
5. **2004 conference committee update.** We have had 3 steering committee meetings already. We have 6 sub-committee's, each with it's own chairperson. We have booked the Westin Hotel as the venue. We went over the contract, all agreed that it looked good. **Pat motioned that we sign the contract and pay the \$1,500.00 down payment, seconded by Bruce, all in favor.** We have partnered up with the College's, West jet, Hull Services, the Ministry, Tourism Calgary, and the Youth in Care Network. The first day will be youth day with a number of presentations by youth in care and their mentors. We will plan a number of social events to coincide with the conference as well as some inspirational and aboriginal sessions. The focus on many of the sessions will be experiential, have positive energy, and inspirational speakers. We are in the process of contacting a number of high profile speakers, if anyone in the membership has suggestions for speakers please contact Varley Weisman, chair of the program sub-committee.
6. **Newsletter update.** Sara has done an excellent job at expanding the newsletter, getting interesting articles, and putting it out on a regular basis. The board has also done an

excellent job at providing articles and inserts. An update is that Sara will keep her position on the board but will pass on her newsletter duties to Dana. Thanks Dana for the offer and glad to have you stay involved Sara.

7. **Membership update.** Our numbers continue to climb, currently at app. 550, thanks to the recent members from the College's. The official membership drive has been on hold for the last little while as we have focussed our energies on making the Association a fully functioning board again. Now that we have accomplished this we will start some membership initiatives. A big one is the partnerships with the College's that Jenn and Curtis started. Jenn is now on the advisory board for Mt. Royal and Tara has agreed to join the advisory board for Medicine Hat College. We will use the new powerpoint presentation, new color brochures and the flyer for the 2004 conference to do presentation to interested groups.
8. **A.A.S.F.C., The Alberta Association of Services for Children and Families,** has contacted Pat, wanting to develop a closer partnership. Pat and Catherine are trying to connect to work out the details but this is a perfect fit for both organizations. They set the standards for Alberta and are a good model for the national standards we are working on and they could be a good support for legislation.
9. **Report from the office.** We have hired two consultants to help Gail learn and input MYOB, an accounting software program. This has helped us to finally get our books in a format that is easier to read. We have bought a new computer for Gail, got her new office furniture, hired her consultants, visit her at the office, and Pat has been available on a daily basis via e-mail to answer all of her questions.
10. **Treasurer's report.** Selene presented the profit and loss statement from Gail. It appears that we spent \$6000.00 more than last year, most of this due to the Edmonton conference. Now that we have an accurate picture of the budget, Selene and Bruce will get together with Gail to develop a projected budget for the year. The GST issue remains unresolved although it looks like we will have to pay. The unpaid GST dates back several years and pre-dates any of the current executive, we were unaware until recently that we had to pay GST. We will be able to get credit for any GST paid but will still owe quite a bit, we will likely go on a payment plan. We could owe as much as \$13,000.00.
11. **A motion was put forward by Pat for a STEP student for Gail for the summer.** Seconded by Sheri, all in favor. Cost to each board is app. \$1,300.00 but is well worth it as the Govt. matches our costs.
12. **A motion was put forward by Pat to allow members to take a leave and pay a reduced fee and maintain certification.** Seconded by Dana, all in favor. If someone is on maternity or has left the field they can maintain their Association membership and their certification standing until such time as they return to the field. The cost would be \$75.00, down from \$115.00 for certified members, \$25.00, down from \$50.00 for associate members, and student rate would remain the same at \$15.00.
13. **A motion was put forward by Sheri to have an incentive in place for paying your dues on time.** Seconded by Selene, all in favor. Gail will keep track of this and if paid on time your name will go into a draw for a free membership re-imbusement.
14. **A motion was put forward by Tara to have executive members dues waived.** Seconded by Pat, all in favor. The parameters will be as follows, the members must initiate this process, it is not automatic. The member must have been an active board member for at least a year, the member must be a chair or an active contributing member of a committee, and the member must maintain regular attendance at meetings.

15. Elections. A discussion was held to allow 2 people, Tara and Jenn, to share the position of Vice President South, all agreed to this idea. A discussion was also held to allow 2 members from out of the province, James in Wales, and Mark in the Yukon to hold an associate director title as they both want to stay involved and will both likely be back in Alberta some day. This could also lead to a partnership with their regions as well and strengthen Child and Youth Care across regions.

- **Pat Foran was nominated for President for a two year term by Dana, seconded by Sheri, all in favor.**
- **Jenn Howard was nominated for a two year term as co-Vice President South by Pat, seconded by Sheri, all in favor.**
- **Tara Reimer was nominated for a two year term as co-Vice President South by James, seconded by Pat, all in favor.**
- **Bruce Clarke was nominated for a two year term as Vice President North by Pat, seconded by Tara, all in favor.**
- **Selene Sorensen was nominated for a two year term as Treasurer by Bruce, seconded by Pat, all in favor.**
- **Dana Beresh was nominated for a two year term as recording secretary by Selene, seconded by Bruce, all in favor.**
- **Sabrina Brock was nominated for a one year term as a director by Sheri, seconded by James, all in favor.**
- **Mark Kelly was nominated for a one year term as an associate director by Dana, seconded Pat, all in favor.**
- **James Bialecki was nominated for a one year term as an associate director by Sheri, seconded by Selene, all in favor.**
- **Jason Stein was nominated for a two year term as a director by Sheri, seconded by Pat, all in favor.**
- **Laura Fulmer was nominated for a one year term as a director by Bruce, seconded by Pat, all in favor.**
- **Angela McAllister was nominated for a one year term as a director by James, seconded by Tara, all in favor.**
- **Debbie Zobell was nominated for a one year term as a director by Tara, seconded Sheri, all in favor.**

16. Student Involvement update by Jenn. Jenn handed out notes from the last Liason meeting. There is a need to have an updated brochure, Pat and Jenn will complete. The scholarship for Mt. Royal students is now in place, Jenn is in the process of setting one up for Medicine Hat and would like to get one at the other three institutions as well.

17. Our next meeting will be Saturday, April the 12, at 10:00 a.m. in Edmonton.