

BATSHAW YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRES





News from Margaret Douek, Executive Director

JUNE 2012

They are back! THE RUTH AND MANNY BATSHAW AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2012:

Claire Roy, Manager, Communications and Public Relations

This year again, to recognize the contribution of all, there are three categories:

- · Clinical Excellence Psychosocial
- · Clinical Excellence Residential
- Administrative and Support Excellence

The presentation of the Ruth and Manny Batshaw Awards of Excellence will take place on November 21st, during the Youth Centres Week.

Please visit intranet or extranet for all the details and for the nomination form.

Deadline for nominations: October 3rd



A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH LA SOURCE OF CJM-IU

Gérald Savoie, Advisor to the Executive Director

Over the last few decades, Batshaw Centres has had a working agreement with Le Centre jeunesse de Montréal-Institut universitaire (CJM-IU) to provide closed custody placements to adolescents referred under the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA). Curiously enough, this agreement was never formalised by the two establishments whose staff and management have continually worked in close collaboration to the benefit of our clients. Nevertheless, the time had come to develop a formal agreement and that is exactly what happened through a joint collaborative



Margaret Douek, Executive Director, Batshaw Centres and Jean-Marc Potvin, Executive Director, CJM-IU

process which provided the opportunity to clarify mutual responsibilities and document a rigorous clinical process based on state-of-the-art clinical expertise. The agreement also reiterates the importance of providing services that take into account the language and culture of clients, particularly in a context of increasing referrals from the aboriginal communities.

The ceremony highlighting the signing of the agreement was held on June 5 at the Cité des Prairies Campus of CJM-IU. It was followed by a guided tour of the unit by one of the adolescents which gave the opportunity to the members of the Batshaw Centres delegation to meet the staff and deepen their knowledge of the day-to-day reality of these youths.

MAY 17TH: INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA

Carlos Eduardo de Castro, Human Relations Agent, AM, DCFS

Once again this year, we observed the International Day Against Homophobia at Batshaw Centres. The theme this year was "Sexual Diversity in the work place, it pays off". Coincidently, Batshaw Centres has just finished writing up a policy on Diversity.



I invited Maureen Cohen, Director of Human Resources and Beverley Robinson, Coordinator of Violence Prevention, Health and Safety. Because Mrs. Robinson was part of the Diversity Policy Committee she was able to share with us the impact it can have on our working lives and practices. Mrs. Cohen discussed how diversity is important for Batshaw Centres, and she also explained how homophobic complaints are dealt with.

What is homophobia? It is generally defined as hostility towards or fear of gay people, negative feelings or attitudes towards non-heterosexual behaviour, identity, relationships and community, can lead to homophobic behaviour and is the root of the discrimination experienced by many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. Homophobia manifests itself in different forms, for example homophobic jokes, physical attacks, discrimination in the workplace and media representation. I truly believe that we are responsible for bringing a positive environment in our workplace.

An interesting article written by Antoine Aubert and published in the Advocate on April 19, 2012, reported that Statistics Canada released new data that indicate hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation are on the rise in Canada. Mr. Aubert says that in Québec hate crimes on sexual orientation continues to rise: from 94 in 2008, to 214 in 2010.

On a positive note, this year I watched Dr. Maya Angelou talking about the power of words. She stated: "You must be careful, careful about the words you use or the words you allow to be used in your house, careful about calling people out of their names, using racial pejoratives and sexual pejoratives, and all that ignorance."

4th Annual Youth Conference OUR VOICES "NUTURING RESILIENCE"

Melanie Fournier, QAE President, Educator, Services to Older Adolescents, DRTSA

On May 15th, the Quebec Association of Educators (QAE) teamed up with Batshaw Centres and the CCC to hold its 4th Annual Youth Conference. The youth conference is designed to empower youths in care to voice their opinions on the services they are receiving. This year's theme was 'Nurturing Resilience'. We surveyed 60 youths receiving services in homes, Dorval

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and Prévost campuses. We asked them questions relating to some of the developmental assets that promote resilience in young people. The results are eye opening to say the least and will no doubt promote a positive change in regards to future program planning.

At the conference, Batshaw Centres recognized four outstanding youths and presented them with its 1st Annual Youth Achievement Awards. The 2nd Annual Youth Art Project winners were acknowledged as well, and their art work was elegantly displayed for the public's pleasure. The QAE also



Tony Maciocia, Margaret Douek, Melanie Fournier, Clement Walker, Wendy Lavier (Teen Haven), Paul Ford, Nick Paré

presented its Excellence and Commitment to Practice Award to Clement Walker, an Educator who works at Batshaw Centres and Teen Haven. It was a morning spent applauding the success of those who clearly deserve merit. They proudly stood in front of the audience and were recognized as committed, artistic and determined individuals.

Among the audience, there were four very brave young people who came to participate as part of a panel discussion. Each of these youths are at a different developmental stage, however, they all have something in common. They are or have been in care at some point in their lives and have all overcome many challenges. They captivated the audience by sharing their story and within each story, their resilience shined. They sent hopeful messages to their peers and thanked the adults who made a difference in their lives.

The morning ended with a spectacular BBQ lunch on the front lawn of 5 Weredale where youths and adults casually mingled, taking in the warm sunshine we had been blessed with. It was a day to hear the voices of youths and to celebrate their accomplishments. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make this day a memorable one and I am personally looking forward to next year's youth conference!

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Sam Barile, Clinical Activities Specialist, DRTSA

This annual awards program recognizes the achievements of youths at Batshaw Centres. The awards will be given out every year at the Youth Conference. It is intended to honour those who have shown outstanding perseverance in the face of life challenges.

As successes are relative to each youth, we believe that all efforts need to be regarded as significant and applauded, and therefore our aim is to build up the spirit of our youths and encourage their paths toward their goals.

The award uses the Circle of Courage as a model and a guide in the areas they have been nominated in: Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity.

The nominees have been nominated from individuals associated with the youth for example; Batshaw Centre staff, family member(s), peers, teachers, foster parents, community partner, etc. These specific individuals each wrote a brief account of the youth's journey to triumph.



Silvana Scarapicchia, Educator, with a recipient of the Youth Achievement Awards

This year was the first time this award was given out. We had 22 nominees from all services of Batshaw Centres. The 4 winners come from Foster Care, Residential Services, and Services to Older Adolescents.

A book will be available on the intranet of the accumulation of the journeys our winners and nominees have taken.

 The youths demonstrated true resilience in all their experiences and continue to strive for success and achievement. These accounts have shown that the youths have acquired the ability to attain independence in their plights and have chosen a healthier path in their lives.

YOUTH ART PROJECT

Cynthia Davis, Lynn Dion and Sam Barile, Youth Art Project Committee

The Batshaw Centres Youth Art Project Committee announced the winners of the second agency-wide art competition at the "Our Voices" Youth Conference on May 15th. The winners, aged 7 to 17, were thrilled with the recognition and with the generous prizes. They received kits of art supplies as well as other gifts.

Artworks from many points of service were submitted to the Youth Art Project contest. All of the participants were recognized with an individualized certificate and some art supplies. The wonderful and encouraging individualized comments from our distinguished panel of judges were given to the winners and participants as well.

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The artwork was exhibited in room 117 at 6 Weredale Park on May 15th. Many clients, staff and family members came by and wrote overwhelmingly positive comments in the guestbook.

The 17 winning works of art will be installed permanently in various Batshaw Centres spaces.



The Youth Art Project Committee has begun to achieve its dual goals of improving the physical environment of Batshaw Centres and providing support and recognition to our young client artists.

Thanks to the following people for their support of the Batshaw Centres Youth Art Project: Margaret Douek, Nick Paré, Claude Laurendeau, Marc Helde, Jocelyn Labbé, Rhonda Greenfeld, Debbie Walsh and Courtney Sewell. Thanks to the judges: Judy Martin, Monique Laverdure, Susan Gallo, Iris Nowa and Lynda Shneider Granatstein. Thanks to our generous sponsor Artissimo, who donated the framing of the artwork.

A special thanks to all of the staff who supported their clients by helping them submit their art and to the youths who shared their work and had the courage to put themselves out there by participating.

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Jeunes des centres jeunesse Committee A SUCCESSFUL SECOND EDITION!

Suzanne Décarie, Liaison Agent, Engagement jeunesse Montréal, ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale

The Jeunes des centres jeunesse Committee organized a second event for Montreal youth centre workers and social and vocational integration organization representatives. About 100 workers and managers from various networks participated.

In May 2011, the Jeunes des centres jeunesse Committee of Engagement jeunesse Montréal held a half-day of networking with the theme Mieux se connaître pour mieux travailler ensemble! The event was a true success, with 98% of workers willing to repeat the experience in 2012.

Committee members therefore decided to organize a second networking event with the theme Un réseau... en toute collaboration! This time, participants had a full day to share and create ties and become better acquainted with the services offered by their partners.

Let us mention that Service Canada financed part of the event and Emploi-Québec graciously offered business card holders to facilitate networking.

The focus of this second edition was to develop collaborative ties between workers who help youth centre clients transition from care into adulthood. The whole day was geared towards networking and creating alliances.

The purpose of the event was:

- to develop a common understanding of issues and obstacles facing youth centre clients and identify possible solutions;
- to increase awareness of available services to facilitate referrals;
- to get to know each other better and create intersectorial collaborations;
- to promote the mutual recognition of expertise and develop alliances.

Various networking activities were held during the day including: geometric networking, caucus 4-6 to discuss and share possible solutions to work together more effectively, four networking spaces on issues dealing with social and vocational integration of youth centre clients. Lunch gave everyone an opportunity to complete and exchange the business card holder given to each participant.

A quiz was also held to increase awareness of available programs, measures and services to facilitate referrals.

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The day ended with the signing of a recognition and collaboration framework by Montreal youth centres and social and vocational integration organizations, designed to secure these partnerships.



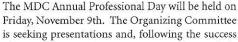
Signing of the Cadre de reconnaissance et de collaboration

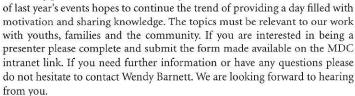
Jean-Marc Potvin, Executive Director, Centre jeunesse de Montréal-Institut universitaire,
Pierre Gingras, representing the social and vocational integration organisations and
Gérald Savoie, Advisor to the Executive Director, Batshaw Centres

Twenty-five organizations from various groupings signed the recognition and collaboration framework for the benefit of youth centre clients, a first of its kind! An entire network of partners has joined forces to develop intersectorial collaborations to support our clients in their transition to adulthood.

MDC PROFESSIONAL DAY, JOIN US AND CELEBRATE!

Tina Close, Member of the MDC Professional Day Organizing Committee, Educator, DRTSA





THE DIVISION OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENTS SERVICES FOR ADOLESCENTS – PART 3

Ideally, we would have loved to have all employees be featured on the photographs. Unfortunately this was not possible. No need to be disappointed, we will have other occasions to see them.

PRÉVOST CAMPUS

The Prévost Campus is situated 55 km north of Montreal, in the picturesque Laurentian town of Prévost, formerly called Shawbridge. It is nestled in a valley of the Laurentian hills with cliffs overlooking it that are home to several species of birds of prey, amongst them the rare Peregrine Falcon. The campus was founded in 1907 and was originally named "Boys' Farm and Training School". The name was changed to "Shawbridge Youth Centres" when it became co-ed in the mid 70's and then finally "Batshaw Youth and Family Centres" in 1993. We celebrated our centennial anniversary 5 years ago. There are 22 buildings



Front: Mervat Atta-Segal, Angela Pompura, Kim Parker Middle: Holly McDonough
Back: Johanne Richard, Sylvie Brown, Pamela Greenberg

on site including the living units, school, health unit, gymnasium, skating rink, pool house, Youth Activity Center, bandstand, kitchen, maintenance, garage and a sundry of outbuildings.

Due to its geographic location, the campus is a tightly knit community. There is a cooperative approach between all units, programs and departments. Our administrative staff, recreation department, night supervisors, health services, kitchen, maintenance and intervention services (security & transport) as well as the teachers and staff of our on-site high school "Mountainview North" all work with the units towards the ultimate goal that is, the well-being and safety of our youths and their families.

The Campus houses 7 residential treatment units for clients between the ages of 12 and 18 and is comprised of:

- 4 open units for boys (L'Avenir, Lindsay, Lorien and Springfield),
- 2 closed units (Dara for boys and Jeanne-Sauvé for girls)
- · 1 open back-up co-ed unit (Bridges)

Also off campus (in Laval)

 1 closed unit in Centre jeunesse de Laval building of Cartier (Northview)

The residential teams consist of: 9-12 educators, 1 head of living unit (team leader), 2 residential night supervisors and 1 program manager. Bridges also has an intervention agent on the floor working side by side with the educators. Each unit caters to the needs of a specific type of client and age group. All programs offer family centered services aimed at reducing at-risk behaviour and returning youths to the community. Diverse activity programs, recreation, social skill development, work experience (provided by the work-study program) and group work are part of the programming. Individual and family needs are recognized and diversity of values, cultures, lifestyles, religion, and sexual orientation are respected. On-campus schooling is provided at Mountainview High School North, of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

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Bridges



Front: Sheldon Segal, Andy Simon, David Stilglich, Andrea Wood Back: Nathalie Dumontier, Phil Segal, Mike Di Fruscia, Katherine Suchostawski, Renée Lapointe, Daina Girard, Kaela (stagiaire), Lee Ann Brandt Missing: Wayne Kyle, Brad Beare, Lucy Alahaydoyan, Cassandra Leveillé

Bridges, a co-ed, open but highly structured unit, serves all residential as well as community based programs as a back-up for clients in crisis as well as engorgement clients. The program provides a neutral place to look at issues within a specific and planned time frame making it invaluable to campus and community based programs (ages 12-18)

Jeanne Sauvé



Front: Phil McKenzie, Julie Gerber, Allyson Abbot, John Torreblanca
Back: Vanessa Glasgow, Tania Gesualdi, Steven Parker, Bob Brunet, Larry Markowicz
Missing: Gary Lacelle, Barbara Duval, Adrienne Keith, Neesa Harroche,
Bonnie Freeman, Sharon Saddick

Jeanne Sauvé is a closed unit for girls (ages 12-18). It provides "Encadrement intensif" under the Youth Protection Act as well as detention and closed custody placements for those under the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA). Clients receive counselling in a highly structured setting which includes a school program.

Dara



Front: Olive Kirnon, Julie Beaudin, Jason Parris
Back: Vincent Gruber, Scott Nicholls, Paul Marzinotto, Georges Gawel, Marino Ficca
Missing: Yves Paproki, Charles Williams, Stan Gornicki, Leslie Huggins,
Sonia Beckhofer-Fialho, Paul Marzinotto, Steve Parker, Khadija Parris

Dara is a closed unit for boys (ages 12-18). It provides "Encadrement intensif" under the Youth Protection Act as well as detention and closed custody placements for those under the Youth Criminal Justice Act. Clients receive counselling in a highly structured setting with an enclosed school program.

L'Avenir



Front: Krystina Konopa, Ingrid Theberge, Charles Williams Back: Tina Close, Tim Baxter, Daniel Milton Missing: Julia Carter, Andrea Kennedy, Angela Vipond, Jeff Kornai

L'Avenir has traditionally housed older boys (ages 15-18). Their goal is preparing youths for adulthood and autonomy. Clients are prepared for independent living, a group home setting or reintegration to home. This would be their last opportunity to acquire pro-social skills and mature behaviours before adulthood thus assuring their successful re-entry into the community.

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Lindsay



Rachel Soussan, Jason Parris, Keely Ryan, Ron Golfman, Natasha Couvrette, Nia Stassos Missing: Stan Eidse, Adam Clarke, Hans Bongers, Nadine McNab

Lindsay provides a safe and structured program for younger and less mature boys (ages 12-15) with the aim to return them to their family, community or group home. The program's focus is interactive and relationship based.

Lorien



Front: Mathieu Guerin, Tracy Bissonnette, Eddie Beaucage Back: Steve Ambrose (student) Lucia Di Paolo, Cassandra Leveille, Dave Brown Missing: Laurie Meyer, Pam Elliot, Robert Di Ielsi, Dionne Felix, Andrea Wood

Lorien helps younger boys who have long term placement orders (ages 14-17). Lorien works with youths with specialized needs requiring an individualized and creative approach to programming and individual and family intervention.

Springfield



Front: Norman Goldberg, Micheal Frank Back: Hawa Conteh, Allyson Abbot, Jamilla Jean, Kim Monette, Barbara Halpert Missing: Chris Kelly, Nathalie Marinier, Costa Koutrokois, Jason Puklicz, Alex Biagioni

Springfield works with boys aged ages 14 -18 and their families. The unit works in collaboration with its partners to prepare and encourage youths to make good choices and decisions for themselves as they enter into adulthood.

Recreation



Bill MacArthur, Eric Moran, Terry Nowostawski, Ron Golfman

The recreation team organizes and implements recreational and leisure activities throughout the year such as hockey, soccer, softball, weight training and fitness, bowling, basketball, swimming, camping, snowshoeing, biking, hiking, skiing, X-country skiing, water polo and general pool activities. They provide training for swimming badges and run a junior lifeguard program. They also run an extensive 8 week summer camping program as well as 8 week skill set programs (hockey, football softball)

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Northview



Front: Arris Vossos, James Seguin, Maria Colantonio, Amanda Joseph, Andre Papadopoulos, Bruce Riddel (Inset: Vicky Volokakis, Perry Nicholson) Back: Jason Vickers (Inset: Richard Bedwani, Arlene Crossdale)

Northview is located in *Centre jeunesse de Laval*'s Cartier building. In the context of YCJA, youths are held in provisional detention, in pre-decisional detention, in closed custody. Northview also provides back-up services to youths placed in open or closed settings.

OTHER PROGRAMS:

Work-Study Program:



Gabrielle Latendresse, Wayne Wallingford, Dave Brown, Lucy Alahaydoyan

It is run collaboratively between the Prévost Campus and Mountainview School North. Clients who meet certain scholastic criteria can work part-time and go to school part-time. The program runs vocational training in lamination, snow removal and landscaping. The youths in the program receive wages for their work. The wages are funded through the Batshaw Centres Foundation.

Ways and Means:

Is a community-based leadership program designed to provide a link between the youths on campus and the recreational services provided them. It is a hands-on therapeutic approach that allows every youth on the Prévost Campus to have a say, get involved in and take charge of their services.



Scott Laekas

Some examples of recent community youth projects include:

- Design and set-up of the Holiday/Christmas parties and festivities
- Campus haunted house, movie night and trick-or-treating
- · Hockey game vs. the local fire department
- · Graffiti club program design and set-up (ongoing)
- · Campus fitness and health program
- · Black history activities design and implementation

Resident's Committee:

The committee is made up of a group of clients that are elected by their peers to address issues concerning material needs in the units, client/staff relationships and general programs on campus.

Social Circus:



Hans Bongers

In this program clients develop circus, street games and sports skills in an auto-didactic way. It focuses on creative energy, physical and mental coordination, concentration, cooperation and is a great self-esteem booster.

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Music Program:

It focuses on teaching clients not only how to play musical instruments and read music but also to learn cooperation and team work. The four quadrants of the Circle of Courage are used as a learning tool.



Adam Clarke, Kris Brown

Cooking Program:

Clients learn the practical skills of cooking and the process of meal preparation, gearing them to become more confident, self sufficient and to develop problem solving skills.



Mike Di Fruscia, Sonia Beckhoffer-Fialho

Greenhouse:

This is run by the clients with the assistance of an educator. The program teaches responsibility and nurturing. The clients plant all the flowers and vegetables from seed. The vegetables are used by our kitchen services in meal preparations. The greenhouse was funded by the Batshaw Centres Foundation at the onset. The goal is to make it self-funding by the sales of the flowers and vegetables that the clients grow.

John Stuart House:

The John Stuart House is a home in close proximity to the campus (walking distance). It is available to families who have a child residing on the campus. This provides parent and child an opportunity to spend time together with the occasional visit from the Youth Care Workers. It can also be used by Batshaw Centres clients and their families from the community, who need respite for a few days.

Angela Pompura: Program Coordinator. Her responsibilities include the campus units; and central programming

Pamela Greenberg: Program Coordinator On-Site Team. Her responsibilities include the on-site team, night supervisors, recall staff as well as Bridges and Northview units

Johanne Richard: Administrative Agent

Holly McDonough & Sylvie Brown: Administrative agents for On-Site

Kim Parker: Coordinates and helps to implement A.R.T. and Family Ties in the Prévost living units.

OTHER SERVICES ON CAMPUS:

Health Unit:



Jennifer Vendette, Sarah Rassenti

Our two nurses, Sarah and Jennifer, take care of the medical needs of the youths at Prévost and at Northview. They run a clinic with the paediatrician Dr. Baltzer on Mondays, routinely check and update the medicine cabinets in all living units, update client medications with

the pharmacy, arrange for medical, dental, psychological and therapeutic appointments and the transport to get them there.

Food Services:

The meals prepared by the kitchen staff is geared to the nutritional needs of growing teens. This requires a lot of creativity and talent to keep meals appetizing and interesting for the youths.

Maintenance:



Stephane Foisy, Daniel Trempe, Elizabeth Smeaton, Yves Levac, Mark Robberts

This team keeps all the buildings and grounds on campus in top shape and repair.

ENTESSE ET DE LA FAMILLE BAISHAW

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EUNESSE ET DE LA FAMILLE BATSHAW

Mountainview High School:

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Front: Pam Deakin, Carole Okiri-Youdaga, Elizabeth DeWilde, Miles Blatnicky Middle: Amanda Dowbyhuz, Marion Lewis-Brown, Barbara Deskin, Sylvie Landry Back: Maureen Lundy, Ross Sherrifs, Sylvie Archambault, Penny Crawley, Aleta Durant, Caroline Lambert, Jocelyne Trepannier, Mariane Billette, Bob Berry

The school's philosophy is based on the recognition that each student arrives with a unique educational and personal background. The teacher's objective is to provide a program, individualized as needed, which emphasizes not only academic progress but also the acquisition of the social skills, behaviours and attitudes which will ease the transition into educational or work community. Each unit on campus has a liaison teacher that keeps the team apprised of the student's progress.

Night Supervisors:

Very important but often overlooked members of the team, they have the responsibility of the safety of the clients and keep watch over them during the overnight hours.

Security:



Front: Pierre Fontaine, Stephane Hamel, Sylvain Beauchamps, Mario Foisy, André Faquette, Patsy Sheehan, Tom Harris, Marc Larocque, Jean Senecal, Raymond Dupuis Back: Mike Boyd, Kevin Smith, Rejean Huot, Yvon Tourangeau, Bruno Thorburn, Richard Chapados, Peter Laurion, Marvin Charles

The two branches of this department (Static = Security and Mobile = transport) are integral components of the campus. All intervention agents are geared towards the safety and security of all (youths and employees). All agents are trained in TCI and use a non-confrontational approach when dealing with clients in crisis to keep physical interventions to a minimum.

Volunteers:

Tutors in reading and math. (McGill students)

Other species also call the Prévost Campus home or visit regularly...













THE BATSHAW CENTRES CALENDAR

September 24th Bilan DPJ

Information:

Claire Roy, ext.1017

November 9th MDC Professional Day

November 21st Batshaw Awards

Information:

Claire Roy, ext.1017