



BUILD THE FUTURE • We hope you will enjoy reading this brief report on the Foundation's recent activities

Message from the President

*Karma Hallward, President,
Batshaw Centres Foundation*

The important work of the Batshaw Centres Foundation is moving along at full speed. New developments include the arrival of Elizabeth Cundhill as a board member. We also welcome the foundation's first employee, Linda W. LeMoyné, who joins us part time as the Director of Development. Linda has extensive experience in philanthropic development work at several Montréal organizations. Linda will be an important player in carrying the work of the Batshaw Centres Foundation to the next level.

In the fall of 2010 we received support from The Kids are Alright Foundation for three initiatives: the first adding to our greenhouse project which is updated below, the second allowing expansion of a cooking program for youth in placement, also described below, and the third allowing Batshaw Centres to launch a new initiative to empower older adolescents as they enter young adulthood. More about that in a future issue.

Lastly, we bring you news about our recent fundraising evening which was both a success and a good time. If you were there, we thank you. If not it's always possible to go to our website at any time to give your support to our programs benefitting Batshaw Centres youth.

Prévost Campus Greenhouse

Dave Brown, Manager, Prévost Campus, Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents

The 2011 growing season is off to a great start with a fully operational greenhouse (thanks in part to the donation of our new wonderful generator from The Kids are Alright Foundation). The work study students are busy planting and transplanting a variety of seeds and seedlings which include a mix of annual flowers; giant dahlias, verbenas, million bells, New Guinea impatiens, geraniums, fuchsias, tuberous begonias and more.



Until recently, the vegetable garden was buried under two feet of snow however; the vegetable seeds are germinating within the greenhouse. Vegetables will include beef steak tomatoes, cherry tomatoes and yellow pear tomatoes, sweet corn, Habanero, Jalapeno and Sweet Bell peppers and lemon cucumbers.

An assortment of fresh herbs will be grown in the greenhouse as well; basil, chives, cilantro (coriander), mint, oregano and rosemary.

By mid May, the annual flower arrangements will be ready for sale. As for the vegetables and spices, harvesting will be throughout summer and early fall.

Finally, four meter tall Mammoth Sunflowers will be greeting you on campus in the outdoor vegetable patch. These were purchased especially for the program in California.

Musique et chocolat (and other good food)

*Michael Udy, Executive Director,
Batshaw Centres Foundation*

Québec is fortunate to count among its professional chefs Jean-François Archambault. Like celebrity chefs in the UK and the US, Mr. Archambault has become a champion of social causes. He inspired the creation of the *Tablée des chefs*, a collective of professional chefs active in supporting young people in youth centres via the subject of food. For example, they organized a *concert chocolaté* in December 2010 held at the Mary Queen of the World Cathedral, performed by l'Orchestre symphonique des jeunes de Montréal. They then distributed tickets to the youth centres close enough to Montréal to attend. The youth in youth centres are not often thought of as an audience for classical music. Nonetheless, fifteen Batshaw Centres youths attended this performance. Batshaw Centres manager Dave Brown wrote: "The kids had a great time, most have never seen an orchestra perform and were quite impressed. Would love to do it again sometime."



Mr. Archambault is something of a visionary. The *Tablée des chefs* offered every youth centre a budget for the necessary food and the time of a professional chef to teach young people in placement, likely to be on their own when they reach

18, some basics about making fun, nutritious food, in an atmosphere where it's fun to learn. Batshaw Centres took up this offer. A program was established at Prévost Campus, which has been quite successful. Batshaw Centres would like to expand this program to other parts of its residential services. However the *Tablée des chefs* only has enough resources to offer their program in one site per youth centre. It so happened that representatives of the Kids are Alright Foundation (KAAF) contacted the Batshaw Centres Foundation at about this time offering to support programs for youth. The KAAF is the charitable organization of two Montréal women who were looking for a unique way to make a difference in the lives of young people, particularly those who are entering the period of young adulthood. Supporting the expansion of the *Tablée des chefs* program was one of the things KAAF agreed to.

The program has already been expanded to three secure care units. At the time of writing, work was in progress to create a specially equipped space to host another version of the program at the Dorval Campus. Developing knowledge, interest and skill about nutrition and cuisine with older adolescents who will soon live independently is both difficult and necessary. Thanks to two visionary groups, Batshaw Centres youths are getting this opportunity.

Northwaters, a Wilderness Experience of a Lifetime!

Philip Segal and Daina Girard, Educators, Project Leaders for "Northwaters Wilderness Program"



In August 2010, two groups of adventure-seeking youths set out for the wilderness experience of a lifetime on the Batshaw Centres Northwaters canoe trip. After making it through the selection process and braving a rain-soaked, pre-trip training session on Mount Royal, ten youths and us were primed to get out on trail and spend ten days enjoying all that the beautiful Temagami region of northern Ontario has to offer.

In response to the demand of applicants, a younger boys' trip was planned in addition to the traditional older boys' trip. Five boys aged 12-15 made up our first group, and five 15-17 year olds on our second. As usual participants were selected from all points of service including foster and community group homes, campus, and clients receiving service while living with their families.

After enduring a nine-hour drive clients climbed aboard a floatplane and were whisked away to a remote basecamp located on an isolated island. There they spent two days receiving wilderness training between breaks for swimming, fishing and exploring. By sundown the participants were ready for bed, good thing because there's no electricity!

On the third day the canoes are loaded with gear and we head out for eight days in the wild. Participants were challenged physically and emotionally by both the rigors of a canoe trip and the rugged terrain and inclement as they travelled the 120 kilometre journey. Participants

were pushed out of their comfort zones by the harsh conditions which enable them to open up about deeper issues that are often buried by the distractions of modern life. There were memorable moments along the way for the boys as well. From the rush of cliff jumping to constructing enormous birch bark infernos, to catching record-setting pike and bass, the boys were able to enjoy the outdoors and engage in newfound experiences. Portaging can be difficult for the strongest of people, but watching a 70-pound participant portage a 45-pound canoe for a kilometre was a sight to behold. There were also inspirational moments, watching participants come together to form a community, to help each other in difficult times and to share in the successes. On the last day participants paddle in to main camp to a hero's welcome and banquet where they tell their proudest stories.

Months after their return all the participants rejoined their trip leaders for another day in the woods. This time the boys climbed high in the trees for a ziplining experience they won't soon forget. There they received photos from their trips, as well as a map of the route they travelled. Participants shared how the Northwaters experience influenced them and helped to show them that life's obstacles can be overcome with persistence and a belief in themselves.

We would like to thank the Batshaw Centres Foundation for continuously supporting our youths in being part of such a therapeutic once in a lifetime experience.

The Ruth and Manny Batshaw Awards of Excellence

Michael Udy, Executive Director, Batshaw Centres Foundation

Manny Batshaw contributed an endowment to the Batshaw Centres Foundation to support a program that recognizes excellence among the Batshaw Centres staff each year. There is a formal nomination and selection process in which a Foundation board member participates. The award format was changed in 2010 to recognize excellence in three categories: clinical excellence-residential, clinical excellence-psychosocial and administrative and support excellence. Batshaw Centres is blessed by having many highly skilled and exceptionally dedicated staff. They are heroes, though the public will never know them. Below we present the winners for 2010, with excerpts from their nominations to help us glimpse why their colleagues and clients value them:

- **Clinical Excellence - Psychosocial:**
Marlene Baumel, Nurse, Prévost Campus

"If attitude makes the difference between getting the work done and making it fun and at the same time meaningful and beneficial to clients, Marlene is the epitome of a great attitude. She inspires everyone around her with her dedication, caring and respect of clients independent of the differences in their histories, language, and cultural backgrounds." "This is well illustrated by her experience serving the Inuit clients which she did with the highest standard of practice while dealing with language and cultural barriers."



- **Clinical Excellence - Residential:**
Rodney Selman, Child Care Worker, Bourbonnière group home

"Rodney has repeatedly demonstrated a keen sense of understanding the risks presented by the clients, and on one occasion, intervened in a suicide attempt by a client which resulted in the client's life being saved. This example highlights another crucial element in the practice of a child care worker, which is having the courage to act."



- **Administrative and Support Excellence:**
Rhéa Neveu, Housekeeper-Cook, Colton group home

"Rhéa could be described as the "glue" that holds the unit together, or the "mom" of the household. Much of what she does is evidenced by how organized the unit is, how clean and uncluttered, by how well the children eat and appreciate her meals." The nomination form goes on to describe the many, many extras, Rhéa provided even going so far as cooking things at home and bringing them in for the kids. All these expressions of caring that Rhéa, now retired, added to the everyday life of children at the Colton group home, and of the staff who worked with her.



Certificates of meritorious achievement were awarded to:

- Danny Nathanblut: Clinical Excellence - Psychosocial
- Hans Bongers: Clinical Excellence - Residential
- Sue Plaisance: Administrative and Support Excellence

Holiday Toy Drive

Linda W. LeMoyné, Director of Development, Batshaw Centres Foundation

This past December marked the 25th anniversary of a very important holiday event at Batshaw - **The Holiday Toy Drive**. Since 1985 Frank Campanile, an Administrative Agent in our Archives department, has spearheaded this effort and organized the collection of thousands



of gifts for children across the island of Montreal. What started out as a humble act of kindness has now turned into a significant annual contribution. This past holiday season saw an all-time high of 462 gifts collected by Frank from Montréal-area companies.

This campaign takes months for Frank to organize. From contacting the companies, to researching how many children and youth will need gifts, and to assuring that the correct number of appropriate gifts are donated. This is a huge undertaking and Frank seems to do this effortlessly aided by the support of his colleagues.

Therefore we wish to offer a big thank you to Frank, his numerous fellow colleagues (also known as the elves!) and to the following

corporations for providing so much magic and happiness during the Holiday Season to Montreal children!

20 - 25 Years
Ernst & Young
RSM Richter Chamberland

5 - 10 Years
Computershare Trust Co. of Canada
IBM Application Processing
Canadian Salt Company Ltd

1 - 5 Years
Investissements PSP Investments
Air Transat
Copoloff Insurance Agencies

If you wish to participate in this campaign, or know of a company that would like to help us, please contact Frank Campanile at 514-932-7161 local 1274.

A Fabulous Evening

Vanessa Udy, Participant at the Annual Fundraiser



The Batshaw Centres Foundation held its annual fundraiser on April 12 at the Parisian Laundry. Our guests gathered to sample cocktails created by some of Montreal's top mixologists and voted for their favorite drink. The atmosphere was warm and convivial, aided by the Foundation's board members, who greeted guests and made them feel welcome. Thanks to the many volunteers and sponsors, who so generously donated their time and resources to make a fun event out of a good cause, the evening was a great success.

Though the Burgundy Lion's bartending team walked away with the esteemed prize for best cocktail and a few lucky guests received some fabulous raffle prizes, the clear winners of the evening are the children who benefit from the support of the Foundation. Close to \$38 000 was raised through ticket sales and the raffle. The proceeds will be used to support the Foundation's scholarship, tutoring and therapy programs. Each year, the Batshaw Centres Foundation helps over 500 children, youth and families build a better future. The majority of funds raised help the clients of the Batshaw Centres who have experienced abuse or neglect.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone for their hard work and contributions. We hope to see you again next year!



Three members of the Foundation Board of Directors, Karma Hallward, President, Tina Khan, Director and Barbara Molson, Vice President