



QUEBEC ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS

Association des Édicateurs et des Édicateurices du Québec

Member of the Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations (CCCYCA) and the Association des Édicateurs et des Édicateurices Spécialisés du Québec (AEESQ)

NEWSLETTER

2019-2020 FALL/WINTER EDITION

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ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS

- Batshaw Youth & Family Centres
- Bartimaeus Inc.
- Care Jeunesse
- Champlain College
- Concordia University
- Philip Clément, Royal LePage Champlain



www.qae-aeq.com

Facebook: QAE-AEQ – become a friend



Régine Laurent, president of the inquiry into Quebec's youth protection services



Jennifer Dupuis, president of Care Jeunesse & former QAE Board member

LAURENT COMMISSION BEGINS THEIR HEARINGS INTO THE YOUTH PROTECTION SYSTEM

The youth are saying there needs to be change' in Quebec's Youth Protection system...

The thousands of children and teens across Quebec who have been placed in foster care, group homes and Youth Protection centres “feel that they are unheard and unsupported”, a provincial commission was told on Wednesday.

Jennifer Dupuis described in detail the difficulties faced by young people who “age out” of the youth-protection system when they turn 18 years old.

“They’re feeling that they’re unheard and unsupported, and that there is a lack of resources for them,” Dupuis told a special commission into youth protection and the rights of children that was set up following the death of a neglected girl in Granby in April.

Dupuis testified that social workers are overloaded and burned out and waiting lists for services are too long in the youth-protection system, especially for anglophone teens. Dupuis, who herself grew up in youth protection, noted that children in the system “are moved too many times and there’s not a continuity of service.”

Cont’d on page 3



President's Message

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Fall/Winter edition of the QAE Newsletter

I hope you are keeping warm and cozy as the colder months approach!

Your QAE Board has been hard at work since the end of the summer compiling feedback from our last conference and working on creating another invigorating conference coming up this spring. Our website has been updated with information about the conference at Champlain College as well as some promotional videos from past conferences. Check it out...you might be in one of the videos! Qae-aeq.com

The Coalition, (QAE, Batshaw Alumni and CARE Jeunesse) continues to be active and is playing a critical role with the current Laurent Commission in reviewing our current Youth Protection system. CARE was one of the first to present at the Commission. We expect to be invited to also speak about the current conditions. CARE Jeunesse spoke about the serious lack of resources and the gap between the needs of users versus the services being received. This was a huge accomplishment and a step in the right direction for users across the Centre Jeunesse in Quebec. Once the Youth Protection Commission completes their investigations, positive changes will surely follow. A report is planned to be submitted by this time next year.

The QAE board is also looking for motivated members who would like to join the Board. We have 2 open positions available to be filled. If you are interested in joining a meeting to see what we do, please feel free to contact myself or Tony Maciocia (tonymaciocia@gmail.com). Our monthly meetings are generally held the 3rd Monday of the month, at 6 Weredale at 10 am.

The holidays are fast approaching, and I wanted to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe, warm and happy Holiday season. Enjoy the Newsletter!

Melanie Fournier
QAE President

THE Q.A.E. ANNUAL MEETINGS

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 6 WEREDALE PARK FROM 10:00 a.m. TO 11:30 a.m.



November 18, 2019	March 16, 2020
December 16, 2019	April 20, 2020
January 20, 2020	May 18, 2020
February 17, 2020	June 22, 2020
	July 20, 2020

Prior to attending, please check with Tony Maciocia by e-mail (tonymaciocia@gmail.com) to ensure meeting is taking place.

Cont'd from front page

CARE Jeunesse, founded in 2015, is comprised of volunteer “alumni” of the youth-protection system who help young adults make the transition to living on their own. The organization donates luggage to young adults so that “they don’t have to carry their belongings in garbage bags,” Dupuis said.

She complained that siblings in youth protection are often split apart and there is a lack of transparency by authorities to children. Dupuis cited as an example that the files of children are often destroyed by the Direction de la protection de la jeunesse (DPJ) when they become adults, so they can’t obtain any information on their past.

Some young adults would like to pursue post-secondary education but can’t even afford the \$100 fee to apply to CEGEP, Dupuis said. Finding adequate housing is also a big problem.

“Our youth are kind of left to fend for themselves,” Dupuis added.

As a result, some youth gravitate to gangs and the sex trade to find a sense of belonging. CARE Jeunesse — which receives no government funding and relies on private donations — organizes holiday parties to help instil a feeling of belonging.

Destiny Grégoire, a 21-year-old Indigenous woman who was raised in a foster family and who volunteers for CARE Jeunesse, said that children are never consulted by youth-protection authorities about the services they deserve.

“They live in a system that makes all the choices for them,” Grégoire told commission chairperson Régine Laurent.

“Our youth need to feel loved and understood in a world that is often chaotic.”

(Source: Gazette Oct.23.2019)

COMMISSION LAURENT - DPJ

“En vue de la Commission, Laurent CARE Jeunesse souhaite faire entendre la voix de jeunes placés et anciens placés. Si vous avez vécu un placement au sein de la DPJ, nous aimerions beaucoup que vous remplissiez un petit sondage. De plus nous vous invitons à soumettre vos témoignages par courriel directement à la Commission.”

“In view of the Commission, Laurent CARE Jeunesse wishes to make the voices of young people placed and in foster care heard. If you have had an investment in the DPJ, we would very much like you to complete a survey. In addition, we invite you to submit your testimonials by email directly to the Commission.”

<https://www.carejeunesse.info/>

PROMOTING OUR ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS

BATSHAW YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRES



www.ciuss-ouestmtl.gouv.qc.ca



www.bartimaeus.com



www.carejeunesse.info



www.champlainonline.com



www.concordia.ca

PHILIP CLÉMENT



Email : phil@pclement.ca



http://www.inspirationsnews.com/pdf/Editions/Inspirations_2018_fall-web.pdf



Champlain
COLLEGE SAINT-LAMBERT
CONTINUING EDUCATION – FORMATION CONTINUE

SAVE-THE-DATE!

Champlain College and
Quebec Association of Educators present

20/20 VISION

**The Roadmap to Foster Resilience:
In Ourselves, Clients and Communities**

5th annual one-day conference on special needs

Thursday, May 21, 2020

Hosted by: Champlain College, St. Lambert campus RAC/SCC

Sponsored by: Quebec Association of Educators (QAE)

Information:

tonymaciocia@gmail.com/Imalbogat@crcmail.net

www.qae-aeq.com

NB: As with previous years, this conference will be applying for 6 training hrs, from the Quebec Order of Social Workers.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING RESILIENCE

By *Angela Kelly*

We have all to one extent or another, faced difficult times, whether in our family, school or working lives. We have had to learn how to find a way through challenging times to go on with our lives. Some people, of course, manage this better than others.

Many of our children have already been through the emotional mill perhaps by not fitting in at school or feeling a failure in the eyes of others. For those young people in local authority 'Care', every day can be a challenge. Learning resilience does not come easy, but it can, quite literally, be a lifesaver.

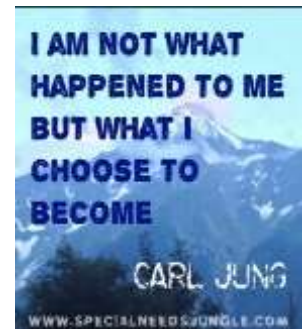
Children with SEN can present us with challenging behaviour. Then there are children with backgrounds that have been lacking in nurture, support and boundaries who may also exhibit difficult to manage behaviour or mental health issues. There are also children who seemingly take it all in their stride.

The incidence of mental health difficulties in children continues to rise, and, if they go unrecognised by carers and professionals involved in the child's world, they will remain unresolved and subsequently may continue into adulthood.

Denying there's a problem doesn't help either, 'helpful friends' will tell you that their child has experienced the same problems as yours, that they'll grow out of it and to stop fussing, but remember you know your child the best and if you feel things are not going right then it is probably time to get the help of a practitioner or professional (Such as your GP, Health Visitor or a teacher you know and trust at school). I know and understand what it's like, and I wish I knew then what I know now about boosting my own children's resilience.

(For more information on this article, visit: www.specialneedsjungle.com/the-importance-of-learning-resilience)

When you attend our conference on May 21, 2020 you will hear real life examples of RESILIENCE and gain a better understanding of how best to work with children with special needs. Follow us at: www.qae-aeq.com





TRAIN YOUR BRAIN TO BUILD RESILIENCE

Getting back up when you stumble may seem easier for some than it does for others. The good news is, resilience is a like a muscle—here’s how you can strengthen yours over time.

By Linda Graham (September 15, 2019)

It’s one thing to misplace your keys or your wallet two minutes before you have to rush out the door for work. You do your best to breathe slowly, stay calm, and try to think if maybe you were wearing something else with pockets before the early morning mad dash. We all experience these hiccups in life—dropping the lasagna on the way to serve guests, leaving a laptop on a plane, learning that the car needs a new transmission—and these hiccups can create quite a startle in the nervous system. Our capacity to cope with these inevitable ups and downs is then further tested when we layer on our own critical messages: “You stupid klutz!” or “I can’t ever get anything right” or “I knew it.”

But usually we can right ourselves again. We put on our big-kid pants, face the distress of the moment, and deal.

Occasionally we are called on to deal with greater troubles and adversities, not just hiccups but earthquakes that overwhelm our capacities to cope, at least temporarily. They include troubles like infertility or infidelity, a diagnosis of cancer, losing a job several years out from retirement, a child arrested for selling pot, or a son wounded in combat overseas. When these bigger bumps happen, we have to dig deeper into our inner reserves of resilience and our memories of times when we’ve successfully coped before, while also drawing on external resources such as family and friends. Here, too, finding our way back to our center, our inner equilibrium and ability to cope, can be more difficult if we are told we are—or perceive ourselves as—less than capable, less than skillful, less than good enough, or unworthy of help.

When these bigger bumps happen, we have to dig deeper into our inner reserves of resilience and our memories of times when we’ve successfully coped before, while also drawing on external resources such as family and friends.

And then there are times when too damn many disasters happen all at once: We lose a child in a car accident, or cause a car accident, at the same time that an aging parent has a stroke and a freak thunderstorm causes flood damage to half the house. When catastrophes like these strike, we are vulnerable to losing our resilience altogether, temporarily or even for a long time. If we have experienced too many unresolved traumas in the past, we can be especially susceptible to falling apart and not being able to recover. When our reserves are already depleted, we can begin to feel like we’re just barely afloat and about to go under.

(To read more on this article go to: www.mindful.org/train-your-brain-to-build-resilience)

A letter to the Commission Spéciale sur la Protection de la Jeunesse from the Coalition of Batshaw Alumni, CARE Jeunesse and the Quebec Association of Educators

by Julia Paré

As you may remember from previous newsletters, this Coalition was formed in response to Bill 10 and the subsequent creation of the CIUSSS de l’Ouest-de-l’île . Its goal was to alert the Board and management of the CIUSSS to the rapidly declining services to clients and the poor working conditions for staff at Batshaw Youth and Family Centers. These developments were seen as the direct result of the merger.

Over the last 2 years the coalition has communicated with the CIUSSS Board and met with the Directors on three occasions to give them feedback from clients and staff about the ongoing crisis in the youth center. Despite the good intentions of management and their willingness to hear from us, the conditions for clients and staff continued to deteriorate over this time.

In September of this year when we learned of the Commission Spéciale sur la Protection de la Jeunesse , which had been formed to look into the youth centers in the province after the death of a child under the care of youth protection, the Coalition decided to address our concerns to the Commission.

Below you will find the English version of the letter that was sent to the Commission. The Commission has begun its investigation. CARE Jeunesse has been invited to speak with them last week and the Coalition is awaiting a date to do the same.

Cont’d on page 6

Mme Régine Laurent, Chair
La commission spéciale sur la protection de la jeunesse
September 6, 2019

Dear Mme Laurent,

The undersigned Coalition was formed in 2017 in response to Bill 10 and the creation of the CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'île. The negative impact that the merger caused had an almost immediate effect on clients and staff of Batshaw Youth and Family Centers (Les Centres de la Jeunesse et de la Families Batshaw).

The Batshaw Alumni Association promotes activities to support retirees, staff and clients of Batshaw. CARE Jeunesse is a non-profit organization comprised of former youth in care which provides support and advocacy for youth leaving care from youth protection services. The Quebec Association of Educators provides a forum for practitioners to discuss services to youth and families, to exchange information and to promote the development of standards in the field of youth care.

In June of 2017 this Coalition presented an open letter to the Board of the CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'île. The letter alerted the Board to an erosion of programs, a decline in the quality of services to youth and families and a deterioration in staff morale at the center. It noted that these developments were seen as directly related to the impact of the merger and in no way reflected on the management of the center. It asked if the Board was aware of the developing crisis in Youth Centers and if so, what steps were being taken to rectify the situation.

We were directed to discuss our concerns with the Directors at Batshaw. We have had three meetings with the Directors since that time during which they have been open to hearing our concerns and forthcoming about initiatives to address some of the most pressing issues; none of which have been able to correct the fundamental problems related to the current state of affairs in the protection of children and the welfare of staff.

In October 2018 we sent a letter to Mr. Richard Legault, the President of the Board of the CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'île with copies to the Directors of the Youth Center, the CEO of the CIUSSS and the Chair of the Board's Vigilance Committee for Quality and Services.

This letter reported on our memberships' feedback about a further and serious decline in services to clients and a devastating impact on staff. The letter remarked on the dangerously long waiting list and the impossibility to adequately and safely serve children at risk with the center's client/staffing ratios and the manager/staff ratios. On behalf of the clients and staff at Batshaw the Coalition asked if the Board was aware of the crisis in Youth Protection Services and the potential for tragic outcomes unless there was meaningful and sustained change. (see attached). We were referred back to the Directors at Batshaw who met with us for the third time and highlighted their planned initiatives to address problems.

We have concluded that the ongoing crises cannot be solved at the youth center level despite the best efforts of management. The root of the problems lies in the 2015 merger with the CIUSSS. With little autonomy to prioritize its needs, develop its programs and forge links with the community, the center's ability to carry out its mission to protect children has been significantly diminished. Its identity as a specialized, community social service organization has been eroded by and overshadowed by the much larger and more vocal demands of the health sector of the CIUSSS. It is restricted from spontaneously responding to the crises and risks its client face on a daily basis. Its staff has lost a focused philosophy and a working culture that supported it.

Prior to the 2015 merger Batshaw, of course, faced incidents of crisis and times of staff dissatisfaction, however the management and board were able to respond in a timely and informed manner largely due to their knowledge of and relationships in the day to day workings of the center. Batshaw's long history of serving the community and its pre-merger success in retaining staff, many for their entire careers, says a lot about its past stability, pride and sense of community, all of which are vital to a healthy organization.

With an autonomous board and control of a sustainable budget, we believe that the center would have a much better chance to re establish its foundation and rebuild its programs and services as well as its community relations. Anything less would be band aid solutions, leaving the center vulnerable to more tragic outcomes, similar to the ones we have increasingly witnessed since 2015.

We sincerely hope that your commission will look at the impact and after-effects of Bill 10 in relation to youth centers and recognize the merger as the crux in the breakdown of services to children and families at risk. We would be willing to address these concerns in person at your commission.

Yours truly,

Batshaw Alumni Association, Julia Paré and Robin Bondaroff (juliapare@hotmail.com) (rbondaroff@sympatico.ca)

CARE Jeunesse, Amanda Keller (a.lynn.keller@gmail.com)

Quebec Association of Educators, Tony Maciocia (tonymaciocia@gmail.com)

CC: Mr. Richard Legault President of the Board, CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'île

Ms. Lynne McVey, President and CEO, CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'île

Ms. Katherine Moxness, Director of Youth Programs CIUSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'île

OH CANADA!



Conferences are calling all CYC Students

By Susan Hunt, CYC-P-Staff Writer

[Editor's Note: We are very pleased to introduce Susan Hunt as our new staff writer for the Oh Canada! Column. Please see below for her interesting bio.]

Please join us for the 2020 National CYC Conference in Newfoundland and Labrador!

The Child and Youth Care Association of Newfoundland and Labrador is pleased to announce that they are hosting the 2020 National Conference entitled: Connecting Through Culture happening on June 24-26, 2020!

Culture is defined as the beliefs, values, behaviors, objects, and other characteristics shared by groups of people. There are many different types of culture, including ethnic, racial, gender and sexuality-based, societal, familial, generational, occupational and organizational. Child and youth care, as a field, has a culture, with shared practices, language, and ways of being. Our goal at this conference is to highlight multiple manifestations of culture, enhance cultural understanding and celebrate cultural diversity.

Workshop proposals are currently being accepted!! Visit: www.cycanl.ca/2019/05/01/2020-national-conference-become-a-workshop-presenter/ to submit your proposal.

Hope to you see you there!

Accreditation Progress in CYC Education!

With a vision of leading excellence in child and youth care post-secondary education across Canada and around the globe, The Child and Youth Care Educational Accreditation Board of Canada (CYCEAB) is charged with the accreditation of child and youth care post-secondary programs. The Child and Youth Care (CYC) Educational Program Accreditation Task Force was created in 2006 and was a time-limited and focused group

tasked with developing a flexible model of accreditation for post-secondary Child and Youth Care programs in Canada.

FOUNDING BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHILD AND YOUTH CARE (CYC) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

The founding board represented Colleges and Universities from across Canada as well as two representatives from the Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations. Individual board members were Carol Stuart (Ryerson University), Anne Black (George Brown College), Dawne MacKay-Chiddenton (Red River College), Doug Magnuson (University of Victoria), Heather Modlin (Child and Youth Care Association of Newfoundland and Labrador/Memorial University), Kelly Shaw (Nova Scotia Community College), Margaret Sullivan (New Brunswick Community College), Varda Mann-Feder (Concordia University), Wendy Weninger (Lethbridge College), Rob Bates (Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations) and David Connolly (Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations).

This Board's mandate was to create and develop a model of accreditation that was unique to Child and Youth Care with the hope that the CYC Educational Program Accreditation Board would be able to fully accredit programs by the end of 2015.

In 2015 the Child and Youth Care Educational Accreditation Board transitioned from a Founding Board to a Governing Board and, by 2016, the first education programs began to be accredited. According to the 2018 Annual Report, the CYCEAB's membership has grown to 29 post-secondary institutions with a total of 11 programs currently in varying stages of the accreditation process. Retrieved from: <http://cycaccreditation.ca>

ABOUT SUSAN HUNT

Susan is a Certified Child and Youth Care professional with 25 years of experience in the field of supporting vulnerable children, youth and their families. Throughout her careers, she has worked within school districts, community-based and family support programs, mental health facilities, residential programs/group homes, and office-based settings. With a comprehensive understanding of child development, issues of mental health and illness, and the impact of trauma as it relates to behavior, coping, development and relationships; Susan supports families through an attachment and trauma-informed perspective. Several years ago, Susan succeeded in upgrading her education by earning her BA in Child and Youth Care (CYC) from the University of the Fraser Valley in British Columbia, Canada. She has also since completed the North American Child and Youth Care Certification process to become one of the first certified CYC Professionals in the Province BC. She currently holds positions as an Executive Board member on the CYC Certification Board (CYCCB) as well as the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice (ACYCP). Susan believes that the ethics, beliefs, and philosophies of the Child and Youth Care profession align well with the principles of attachment, family systems, life space interventions and trauma informed work with families.

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:

Prévost Campus: (514) 932-7722 (reception)

6 Weredale: (514) 932-7161 extension 1025

Amy Singer: (514) 989-1885 extension 1210

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

Champlain College: Laura Malbogat
(450) 672-7360 extension 456

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

Any other enquiries can be directed to:

tonymaciocia@gmail.com



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 (where available)
- STUDENT \$30.00 (two-year rate)
- ASSOCIATE \$40.00 CHEQUE
- ORGANIZATION \$250.00

(Annual receipts available upon request)

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
c/o Amy Singer
6 Weredale Park
Montreal (Westmount), Quebec
H3Z 1Y6

