

SPCRS NEWSLETTER

January - March 2006

South Peace Community Resources Society

is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to meeting the social, educational, and personal needs of the community by providing services that develop skills for living.

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International Women's Day

South Peace Community Resources Society hosted an International Women's Day celebration on Friday March 10th at the Kiwanis Arts Centre. Inspired by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich's famous quote "Well-behaved women seldom make history", once again we paid tribute to the "Misbehaving Women" of our community. This year 10 amazing women were nominated - women who have contributed to our history by daring



to do it differently, by taking risks, by challenging the status quo and; in turn, have created meaningful change for women in our community - Cynthia Livingstone, Jacqueline Janssen, Aunt Lizzy (Rose Colledge), Rose Aasteveit, Monica Dobrowolski, Leah Sieben, Christina McLennan, Arlene Delawsky, Dorothy Smith, and Glenda Wagar.

Visit our web site @ www.spcrs.ca

International Women's Day

Our gracious MC's for the evening were the dynamic duo, Donna Cooper and Nyla LePine who kept the festivities alive with humour, wit and charm. Darren Johnson and Allan Dawson offered their support by greeting the guests upon their arrival. Both Darren and Allan looked quite spectacular in their suits! Planning committee members Jane Harper, Connie Buck, Colette Bourque, and Maureen Crystal assisted throughout the evening to ensure that all went smoothly. Lurind Jeaneaux and Sherry McLeod, also on the planning committee but unable to attend the event, were with us in spirit. Even Deanna Sudnik and upcoming event planning superstar Rebecca Sudnik were there to provide a helping hand. The Mizpah Transition House staff took the time to create gifts bags for all 100 guests – thank you so much! Allyson Hayes, her sister Crystal, Suzanne Hamm, and Wendi Hamilton all provided invaluable administrative and creative support to make the evening a huge success. We also say a special thank you to Terry Calderwood who volunteered her time to provide additional 'refreshments'.

The evening was catered by Tara's Gourmet Café and the international cuisine was incredible - truly a delicious journey around the world! Other community partners who contributed to this event include; Olde Creek Store, Joyce Lee Jewelry, Curves, Finishing Figures Spa and Salon, Organic Farms Bakery, Uniglobe Travel, Northern Lights College, Brannigan's Athletic Club, White Spot Restaurant, Read's Books, Picture It Framing & Gallery, Hypertension Escape, In Touch Massage, Head to Toe Esthetics, Centre Cinema, Buzz Bin and See Thru Art.

A very special thanks goes to Joe Bourque, who with the support of Pat MacMurchy, created Ruby Rebar, the infamous SPCRS mascot who was found cruising around town the week of International Women's Day. She caused quite a stir. At one point she was even abducted by a City Worker, but after a few hours of investigation it was deemed an unintentional error and Ruby Rebar was returned unharmed.

Thank you again to everyone who made this event such an incredible experience.

*Submitted by Sian Lewis
Department Manager
Family Safety, Counselling & Support Services*

Dawson Creek Outreach



The Dawson Creek Outreach Program has been busy since January setting up office furniture and rearranging the downstairs office that is shared with the Professional Resource Worker, Wendi Hamilton.

Clients are finding their way to the program so services have begun. Lurind was away for a 3 day Community Leadership Training workshop held in Vancouver, where she had the opportunity to meet other Outreach Program workers from across the Province. Also attending the workshop was Tanya Sanderson, the Tumbler Ridge Outreach Worker recently hired by SPCRS. Tanya's program is located at the Health Centre in Tumbler Ridge. Along with part-time outreach work she will be doing CWWA part-time.

Tanya and Lurind will be keeping in touch in the future to assist each other.

At this time the Chetwynd Outreach position remains unfilled.

Management News

As many of you know, our accreditation status with the Council on Accreditation for Child and Family Services will expire in February 2007. That means that this coming year will be a busy one for all of us in documenting our compliance with standards, reviewing and revising policy and procedure and preparing for a site visit from three peer reviewers who will come from anywhere in North America.

The version of standards with which we must comply has been completely revised so our past evidence will not be very helpful to us. One of the new standards is called Performance and Quality Improvement and this standard ensures that we are constantly looking at our community, our services and the needs of our service recipients and making changes to better meet those changing needs. This involves everyone in SPCRS as feedback is essential from service recipients, employees, other agencies, funders and other stakeholders to continually improve the quality of service we offer. To this end, several people have been trained in Performance and Quality Improvement and more will be trained in May. These people will create a system where evidence is gathered, studied and recommendations for change are made to Management. Each employee has a role to play in gathering good data, interpreting the data collected, suggesting improvements to service, staying informed of changes to service and making those changes quickly and in a seamless manner for the clients. SPCRS has always been a leader in keeping our services current and now we will be formalizing that process through the PQI method. Stay tuned for further updates.



HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

NEW HIRES	PROGRAM
Colleen Rogers	Child Care Resource & Referral Program – Liard
Jim Woodworth	Reconnect Youth Program
Tanya Sanderson	Outreach & Children Who Witness Program – Tumbler Ridge
Cheryl Breitreutz	Child Care Resource & Referral Program – North Peace
Bonnie Avey	Supported Child Development Consultant
Kate Meier	Child Care Resource & Referral Program – North & South Peace Areas
Vanessa Maillet	Community Support & Assisted Living Residential
Bube Edomwonyi	Child Care Support Worker, Supported Child Development - Dawson Creek
Susan Sipe	Community Support Worker, M.Y. Res.
Deborah Cox	Temp. Residential Counsellor, Mizpah Transition House

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL NEW AND CURRENT EMPLOYEES!!!

JL Residence

JL has not been very busy shovelling snow this winter, not that he minds. He is still working at Bremer Construction on Fridays and the Salvation Army Monday to Thursday.

JL went to Provincial Time Trials for skiing in February and came home with two first place ribbons and one second place. He did extremely well for his first time racing and came home with many pictures and made a new friend. JL qualified for the BC Special Olympics and is very excited.

JL has been playing the drums at church on Sundays and guitar Saturday evenings with a church group.

*Submitted by
JL Residence Staff*

TRAINING UPDATES

Basic Medication Training – ongoing training for new Community Support Workers.

Medication Refresher Course – yearly course to refresh Community Support Workers on the delivery of medications.

Delegation of Task – regular training for a specific medication delivery.

Basic Skills Module Training - nine employees from CSAL Department are presently enrolled in the independent study course. The course finishes in May 2006.

Foundations Training – five employees attended the new Foundations Course in Grande Prairie – the course will soon take the place of the BST course presently offered through the Alberta Association of Rehabilitation Centers.

Crisis Prevention Intervention Training – three employees attended the CPI course offered through the Professional Resource Program. The CPI course will soon be replacing the Non-physical and Physical Intervention Training that the agency has been using....look for upcoming training in early June.



Transition House Module Training – Modules, 2, 3, and 5 – all permanent employees of the T-House have had an opportunity to attend the Transition House training in various communities in the province offered by the BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses.

Expressive Arts and Play – two employees attended this training in Vancouver, which was sponsored by the BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses.

Infant Attachment – eleven employees attended this popular training sponsored by MCFD, City of Dawson Creek, School District #59, Northern Health, Catholic Social Services and SPCRS.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Training – one employee attended this two day session in Fort St. John, providing basic working knowledge of FAS/E and how it impacts day-to-day living of affected individuals.

Sign Language – Level 2 – four employees are presently enrolled in the 12 week sign language course.

TRAINING UPDATES Continued



Community Leadership Skills Training – two employees attended this training, which was sponsored by the BCASVACP in Vancouver. Participants had an opportunity to increase their leadership skills in working with interdisciplinary coordination initiatives.

Crime Prevention through Social Development – an RCMP initiative attended by three employees.

Working Across Disciplines to Support Children Exposed to Domestic Violence – four employees attended the training that was sponsored by North Peace Community Resources in partnership with the BCYTHS. The two-day course enhanced participant's knowledge and skills in collaborative practices and leadership to stimulate professional and community collaboration in supporting children exposed to domestic violence.

Safe Spaces Program – one employee attended the bully prevention program for group licensed child care centers.

Brain Gym Training – a program of physical movements that enhance learning and performance in all areas.

**Look for upcoming training in April, May and June -
Crisis Prevention Intervention Training, Person Centered Training and First Aid**

MY Residence

MY had a good three months as far as her health is concerned. MY enjoyed many activities including watching movies with JL and RC, attending the Nawican supper, and a fun-filled day in Grande Prairie. MY also celebrated her birthday in January with her many guests and received wonderful gifts. MY continues to do volunteer work and always looks forward to going out for lunch and supper. She had a great time when her mom brought an old friend from out of town over for a visit. MY got a new couch and loveseat and loves stretching out on the couch to watch TV and look at magazines.

*Submitted by
MY Residence Staff*

Meet our staff

Caroline Nicholson

Caroline works in the MY Residence Program. She moved to the Peace River area when she was in high school. After graduating from South Peace Secondary School, Caroline worked at a bank for a year as a posting clerk. She married Gordon and they raised two sons, both of whom live in Edmonton. She has one grandson. After both of their boys were in school, Caroline went back to work part-time as a store clerk, honey plant worker, and at the Peace River Block News for seven years. She started in this field as a Home Support Worker in 1986, and in 1988 entered the residential Care Worker Program at the College. Caroline did personal care at Home Support for two years then went back to college in 1990 to complete the Community Support Worker Program. She has been working with special needs and Community Living clients since 1991. Caroline went back and forth between two Societies, working in different programs, but has settled into her present position at MY Residence and enjoys her work and the knowledge she has acquired. Caroline's leisure time is spent enjoying her grandson, taking care of her family and travelling. She also volunteers with Special Olympics and helps out at Peace River Haven when needed.

Jennifer LeRoux

Jennifer is a graduate of the University of Northern British Columbia, with a bachelor degree in Social Work, specializing in *Child Welfare*. Jen is currently working for us at Reconnect and for School District #59 as an Intervention Support Worker for one of their alternate programs. She has three children and plays volleyball on a women's league. Jennifer has been busy overseeing renovations, painting and decorating the house purchased for Reconnect. She is looking forward to increased activities for the youth who access the services in this new location.

SB Residence

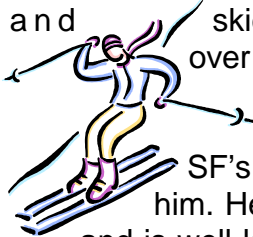
SB was busy with her recycling after all the Christmas and New Years Holidays and added two new customers to her list. During the last few months SB attended craft classes and made a fridge magnet and a nicely decorated popcorn jar with help from her staff. SB had a good time at a friend's birthday party. She visited the airport and stopped for a treat at the Fly North Café. SB and her roommate went up to Bear Mountain and watched all the activities around her while having a snack at the ski chalet. SB went out for lunch and supper with friends. She also invited friends over to her house for dinner and a movie. One day SB watched RC and JL bowling at the bowling alley and enjoyed the busy atmosphere, especially the music. On February 26th SB celebrated her own birthday and invited all her friends to come and have a good time. SB still goes swimming at the CDC where all the lifeguards know her and put music on for her. On St. Patrick's Day, SB danced at the Opportunity Center Irish Pup afternoon and drank lime green pop to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Welcome to Vanessa who joined our team.

Submitted by the SB Residence team

SF Residence

SF continues to be as busy as ever. Besides his weekday mail run for SPCRS he spends time with his friend Ken every Monday. SF attended birthday parties and had friends over to his house for supper and a movie. Twice a month he goes out for lunch and supper and especially enjoys buffets where he can see and choose what he likes to eat. SF enjoys drawing pictures and bought himself a colouring book and crayons. He is working on wooden puzzles regularly and by now is able to fit the pieces together in a short period of time. SF likes to go to the library where he looks through magazines and listens to staff reading different books to him. During the winter month SF watches skaters practice and perform at the local ice arena and snowboarders and skiers making their way down the Bear Mountain Ski Hills. He walked over to KPAC and enjoyed a music and dance performance. SF attended an auction sale, was quite impressed by the fast talking auctioneer, and could not stop smiling! A local business woman could not resist SF's frequent pointing at her guitar anymore and performed a song for him. He even joined in to sing along! SF frequents a lot of stores downtown and is well known for his friendly smile. He visits with his Mom at her house and can hardly wait to see her truck stop outside when she comes to pick him up. He always returns home happy and excited.

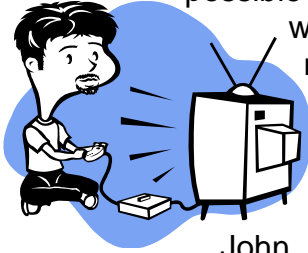


Welcome to the newest additions to our team, Vanessa and Keltie.

Submitted by the SF Residence team

RC Residence

RC, the entrepreneur, is busy as ever with his recycling business. He was able to add another few customers to his ever growing customer list. All his hard work made it possible for him to finally purchase a Play Station 2 with new games. RC



went to Quesnel with the Special Olympic team for a curling tournament. He and his team curled very well and enjoyed the trip and time spent together. He also took part in a curling/bowling competition in Fort St. John, saw old friends again and made new ones during the supper and dance afterwards. He and his friends from Dawson Creek had a great time traveling to Fort St.

John. RC's Mom came down from Fort St. John twice to visit with him and spend the day. He was really proud to show her around and to introduce her to his friends. She was able to watch him bowl and he enjoyed having her there. RC checked out new furniture for his living room and thanks to the Bingo Fund was able to purchase two new loveseats. Now he is thinking about how to paint the living room walls to make it look even better. With all the colour choices out there this will not be an easy decision! At the moment RC is planning his upcoming birthday party. He already handed out invitation cards to his friends and made reservations for a room to celebrate his big day.

Submitted by the RC Residence team