

**CYCAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006
MINUTES**

The meeting was held at Chimo Youth Retreat Centre in Edmonton.

1. Meeting called to order by Pat Foran 11:05 a.m.
2. Introductions: Pat Foran, President CYCAA, Hull Homes
Nicole Almond, Vice President –North CYCAA Chimo Youth
John Meston, Executive Director of AACSF
Dorothy Hall, Teachers Assistant Calgary Board of Education
Donna Jamieson, Instructor Child & Youth Program GMC
Laura Fulmer, Terra Assoc.
Gail Homeniuk, Executive Assistant CYCAA
Louise Bureau, Chair Child & Youth Program GMC
Kris Hickey, Hull Homes
Christina Wersch, Hull Homes
Carlos Torres, Hull Homes
Tara Reimer, Director CYCAA
Bruce Clarke, Director CYCAA
Jack Phelan, Instructor Child & Youth Program GMC
3. **Review of 2005 AGM Minutes and Review of the 2005 Goals.**
 - First Goal to have two sessions with Child & Youth Care GMC to offer to members. Plans are in place to have the first one fall 2006.
 - 2009 Conference in Banff – making application to Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations in Montreal this year.
 - Second goal was to establish scholarships at 5 of the colleges for a Child & Youth Care Student – completed
 - Third goal – continue work to build relationship with the Ministers office to address legislation issue. The Ministry office in onboard despite change in Ministers.
 - Financial Status – conference proceeds have been finalized and ready to be transferred to the Association.
4. **History of the CYCAA** – The Association was started in 1972 by people working in the field to look at professionalism. The Government wanted Child and Youth Workers to identify themselves as professionals with Certification. CYCAA took on the Certification program in 1985 with the help of the government and the Alberta Association of Services for Children and Families. The Children's Service Ministry has been quite involved with the Association, hence their participation in conferences.

In 1990 an application was made for legislation. The committee met with the government to see if CYCAA met the criteria for legislations. The Association was recommended but not approved at that time. Unfortunately, the CYCAA board stagnated. Bylaws are in place to move forward with legislation.

Since the revival of the board 6 years ago, several conferences have been held including

mini-seminars for members locally. There has been a 3 year commitment to make application for legislation and membership has more than doubled. There is a belief that the CYCAA has lots of support for legislation including the College of Social Workers.

5. Presidents Report: Consideration for what other professionals think of CYCW and where we are now in the eyes of these professionals we understand how long it has taken them to get legislated therefore we need to recognize the time commitment needed and commitment from a group of people to take legislation forward if this attempt fails.

Tara noted that Child & youth workers are in a good place right now. CYCAA is in a good place right now politically in the Alberta Government. Dave Rodney is very supportive of CYCAA and accesses Hull Homes for meetings and is familiar with the work Child & Youth Workers do. Hull Homes only hires staff with child & youth backgrounds. Child & Youth program curriculum is being compared amongst provinces for degree program standardization. Child & Youth workers are at risk in their work but have a specific set of skills to support these young people.

6. Where are we now....

853 members almost tripled compared to 4 years ago.

Certification is a lot more user friendly compared to the old program

Lots of hope on moving forward, Pat Foran's goal was to get the Association vibrant and organized again.

Goal is to have members on the board that are experienced and have knowledge of history the board.

The Association is very accepting of what goes on in the executive board's personal lives and how that may effect being at meetings.

7. Vice President –South Report – see attached

8. Vice President –North Report

Nicole Almond reports that there is lots of interest from members to help with the legislation process. Pat called for Edmonton members to get involved with this project because of their proximity to the Legislature. After the Health Professions Board approves the process a political process needs to take place which can take a couple of years to accomplish before approval.

Legislation

John Meston met with Rod Adecechi, the Executive Director of the College of Social Workers recently, Rod has indicated his support for CYCAA. Everyone under the Health Professions Act needs to support our application by recognizing Child and Youth Care workers as professionals. Further, Board members will need to access their MLA's to inform them of who we are and how they can help us. Dave Rodney has committed to meet with Heather Forsythe to promote our case.

Tara Reimer is waiting for the political situation in Medicine Hat to cool down before approaching her MLA

The powerpoint needs working on in order to present professionally when meeting with the Ministry.

We have received a letter from Heather Forsythe that speaks positive and supportively.

Jack recommended getting involvement from members in Northern communities.

Legislation committee needs to be strong.

Louise pointed out that having support from the aboriginal community will support legislation.

Long-term planning will need to be done with employers so that they are prepared for staff changes due to legislation.

John encouraged networking at the AACSF AGM in June.

Judith Ryan from Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. Requested advertising (posters) from CYCAA to post in her area.

9. **Recipients of the CYCAA scholarships** will be in the next newsletter. The individual Colleges will send digital pictures of the recipients.
10. **Posters** have been printed and laminated, however it is noted that there is a printing error and they will be redone.
11. **Treasurers Report:** Balance of \$7443.00 in the bank with the association owing Certification board \$6300, however membership dues are coming to help cover the expenditures. (See attached financial reports for 2005)
12. **Membership Committee:** Members have volunteered to encourage lapsed members to renew, Tara has 170 members that haven't renewed. Tara is looking to split the work up over the province to make calls.
13. Edmonton Public School Board has been in touch with Gail to inquire about the certification process for their Teaching Assistants – this is following the connection with the Calgary Board of Education. Dorothy Hall, from the Calgary Board of Education has gone through the certification process already with 12 other Teaching Assistants however only 4 completed the process. Now Dorothy is instructing the certification process for her union members.
Pat noted that Certification Board is having difficulty with examination/marking of exams for certification. The CYCAA Directors wondered if executive members of the Certification Board would like to attend the Board of Directors' Meetings. The Certification is an arms-length board of the Association but are welcome to attend all meetings.

Question: is there a **special fee for retired members** of the Association? Yes there is a reduced rate for retired or inactive members as well as a reduced rate for certified members for the maintenance part of their dues. The Certification Board is still finetuning the policy for maintenance requirements and will be announcing the requirements for that in the near future.
14. Hull is piggybacking on Calgary Board of Education E-Learning to take on-line courses – it is an idea for Certification Board to look at doing the same thing.
15. Tara Reimer offered help to Jennifer to visit agencies to get them onboard for memberships. Legislation committee to follow-up with agency visits too.

16. **Conference Report:**

- Pat Foran, Nicole Almond, Jack Phelan and Louise Bureau will be attending the conference in Montreal.
- It is our goal to apply to hold the 2009 International Conference
- Money from the 2004 Conference will be transferred forthwith
- We will be working on smaller conferences in Calgary and Edmonton. Three have taken place in Calgary with good attendance. We need someone in Edmonton to take the planning of mini conferences on.
- Jack recommended to access the College's as venues for mini-seminars, Louise can mention that the Educators take on Provincial Conferences.
- Donna Jamison and Priscilla Asamoah will do the 211 seminar in the fall.

17. Newsletter:

- Gail needs articles pictures, recognitions or where CYC people are now?
- Need a membership to get a newsletter
- Reports of successful attraction to agency because of advertisement in newsletter.
- Pat acknowledged the good job on the newsletter
- Website has been updated on a regular basis. Debbie Zobell has been helping with postings on the website but since she has resigned from the board we need another person to help – Carlo Torres volunteered.

18. Membership Dues – Board will discuss increasing dues – at the next meeting. However there is no overwhelming support to raise dues right now in push of membership.

ELECTIONS.

- President –** Pat Foran letting his name stand. Nicole nominated Tara Reimer seconded. Bonnie Trottier proxy vote for Pat Foran. All in Favor Passed
- Recording Secretary –** Kelly Zahara Nicole Almond nominated Louise Bureau Seconded. All in favor Passed
- Treasurer -** Donna Jamieson Nominated by Laura Fulmer. Seconded by Nicole Almond. All in favor. Passed
- Director 2 Year –** Tereasa Thursby. Nicole Almond nominated. Christina Wersch Seconded. All in Favor Passed
- Director 2 Year –** Brian Dougherty. Nicole Almond Nominated. Jack Phelan seconded. All in favor Passed
- Director 2 Year –** Fay Swanson Donna Jamieson Nominated Dorothy Hall seconded All in favor Passed
- Director 2 Year** Dorothy Hall Nominated by proxy Pat Seconded by Nicole Almond All in favor Passed
- Director 2 Year** Lawrence Haroun Nominated by Pat Seconded by Jack Phelan All in favor Passed
- Director 2 Year** Laura Fulmer Nominated by Jack Phelan Seconded by Louise Bureau All in favor Passed
- Associate Director** James Bialecki Nominated by Pat For an Seconded by Christina Wersch All in favor Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 1:20 p.m.