



April 2006

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NCA News

1. Dates to Remember

- May 2: Middle Childhood Working Group call, 1:00 Ottawa time
- May 10: Steering Committee Meeting, 1:00-4:00, NCA Office
- May 24: Deadline for Submissions to E-digest
- May 31: Next E-digest
- June 7: Steering Committee Meeting, 1:00-4:00, NCA Office
- **June 15: Deadline for Member response to proposed organizational development plan**

2. NCA Welcomes New Interim Executive Director

The National Children's Alliance is pleased to announce the appointment of Larry Gemmel as Interim Executive Director effective 15 May, 2006. Working closely with the Steering Committee, Larry will help lead the process of organizational change to incorporate and restructure the NCA to become an independent not-for-profit organization with a stable funding base by December, 2006. Building on the collaborative leadership model that has made the NCA successful, we look forward to benefiting from Larry's considerable organizational and management skills.

Larry brings more than 20 years of experience in the United Way-Centraide Movement in Canada in areas of fund raising, fund distribution, leadership, and technology development. Most recently Larry has been working as Project Manager of the Global Standards Initiative of United Way International, developing a set of standards that will guide the work and development of local United Way organizations in 47 countries around the world.

Prior to that, Larry served as Chief Information Officer of United Way of Canada – Centraide Canada, responsible for the overall strategic direction for technology and information systems, with emphasis on creating, managing, and communicating information, both internally and amongst local United Way-Centraides. Larry played a leadership role in supporting work with national corporations as UWC-CC's representative on the Corporate Community Investment Council of the Conference Board of Canada and as staff leader for the National Corporate Strategy project. He also provided liaison for technology initiatives in Canada and with United Way of America.

Prior to joining UWC-CC, Larry was the founding Project Director for Rainbow Collaborative Technologies, a consortium of United Way organizations that is dedicated to creating new computer software to support all business functions of United Way-Centraides in Canada. Prior to that, Larry was Executive Director of United Way of St. Catharines and District, Senior Campaign Manager at United Way of Greater Toronto, Campaign Director at United Way of Peterborough and District, and Executive Assistant to the Vice President at Trent University in Peterborough.

Larry lives with his wife Béatrice and 10 year old daughter Céline in Val-des-Monts, Québec, Canada. You can reach Larry in the meantime at 819-671-0207 or by email at larry@nationalchildrensalliance.com

3. Organizational Development Update

As a result of many months of consultations, the NCA has provided the document **The NCA Moving Forward to a New Vision and Model** to its members. This is a culmination of the Feasibility Study, member consultations and feedback. We have asked members to give their written support to the new model for the NCA by June 15th. We have begun the process of developing the bylaws of the new organization and will apply for incorporation this summer. If you have any questions, please contact us.



NCADiscussionpaper
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Member reply
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Member News

1. Dates to Remember

- June 15-17: CCCF *Leading the Way to Quality* Conference, Calgary, Alberta
- June 17-19: Canadian Council for Refugees International Conference, Toronto, Ontario
- May 25: Surprise Retirement Party for Maggie Fietz

2. CCCF *Leading the Way to Quality* Conference

Don't forget to register for the *Leading the Way to Quality* Conference in Calgary, Alberta, June 15-17, 2006. Visit the CCCF website for all the details on this exciting early learning and child care conference and register on line at www.cccf-fcsgc.ca. **Best of all -- the early bird rate has been extended to May 15.** Be sure to encourage students to attend; the student registration is only \$75 and includes lunch!

3. Canadian Council for Refugees International Conference

CCR is bringing together representatives of NGO's committed to refugee protection from around the world. The goal is to develop strategies to ensure that NGO's work together more effectively across borders to protect the rights of refugees. Refugees and youth are encouraged to participate. For more information email ccr@web.ca or visit www.web.ca/ccr

4. CCSD Launches 2006 Edition of *Progress of Canada's Children and Youth*

CCSD has launched the 2006 Progress report. This 7th edition reports on many indicators, including family life, economic security, physical safety, learning, and more. Because the report tracks this information over time, it helps identify trends, successes, and challenges. Hard copies are available for purchase, or you can download the publication and additional materials from

www.ccsd.ca/pccy/2006/

5. Retirement Party for Maggie Fietz from Family Service Canada

Many of you have had the good fortune of knowing and working with Maggie and consider her a valued and steadfast colleague. For others, she is highly esteemed as a dear friend. But you all know Maggie Fietz as a strong and vibrant leader in the field of family services and a passionate advocate for change in the best interests of all Canadian families.

You are cordially invited to attend a retirement reception for Maggie Fietz on Thursday, May 25, 2006 at the Courtyard Restaurant, located at 21 George Street in Ottawa. Cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$45 and include dinner. The event will feature a cash bar. Please respond by May 5. **Please note this is a surprise!**



Ticket Form.doc

6. Canadian Association of Social Workers Report on “Blue Social Policy”

The CASW has released the publication “Blue Social Policy and the Speech from the Throne: Evaluating the Four Top Social Policy Priorities of the Conservative Government”. This report is a comprehensive analysis of the social policy priorities of the government.

<http://www.casw-acts.ca/advocacy/blue.pdf>

Other

1. CCL Adult Knowledge Centre Symposium

The Canadian Council on Learning is hosting a National Symposium of the Adult Learning Centre in Fredericton, NB on June 21-23. This bilingual symposium will provide an opportunity for dialogue between stakeholders in the practice and research of adult learning. For more information visit www.ccl-cca.ca

2. CCL Lessons in Learning

The Canadian Council on Learning, in support of its mandate to promote knowledge mobilization and knowledge exchange, will issue a weekly electronic report entitled *Lessons in Learning*. They are asking for submissions of reports pertaining to specific learning issues that collectively will cover all the phases of learning from early childhood through the workplace and beyond. The target audience is researchers, policy makers, educators, learners and the general public. All articles must be supported by sound research but be written in accessible language. Authors will be compensated for their work. For more information contact Robert Aucoin at the Health & Learning Knowledge Centre rcaucoin@uvic.ca

If you have any comments or questions please contact Barbara@nationalchildrensalliance.com or call 613-560-5843 ext. 230.