



August 2005

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## **NCA News**

### **1. Dates to Remember**

- ❑ September 9: Steering Committee meeting 12:30 – 4:00, NCA office
- ❑ September 12: Aboriginal Working Group call 1:00pm Ottawa time
- ❑ September 20: Ottawa Member's Feasibility Study Meeting 9:00 – 12:00, location TBA, sign-up required
- ❑ September 23: Deadline for submissions for next E-digest.
- ❑ September 30: E-digest
- ❑ September 26: Launch of the NCA Public Health Working Group
- ❑ September 28: NCA Ottawa Member's Meeting, 9:30 – 11:30, National Press Club following the NAPO youth poverty launch
- ❑ September 28: NCA Steering Committee regular meeting immediately after the Member's Meeting, location TBA
- ❑ October 12: Toronto Feasibility Study Meeting and Member's Meeting, 12:00 – 4:00, location TBA, sign-up required

### **2. Public Health Working Group – Members Needed**

The NCA is launching a Public Health Working Group to work from a population health lens to define critical issues for NCA policy development and advocacy work. The first meeting will be Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Canadian Public Health Association boardroom, 1565 Carling Ave. Please let us know if you would like to join the working group.

### **3. NCA Feasibility Study**

Over the next few months the NCA will be continuing its strategic planning process to consider financial sustainability options. Recently, Social Development Canada has indicated that the current type of funding arrangement will not be continued beyond December 2006. It will become necessary for the NCA to apply through their existing funding programs. This would require

changes to the current structure and operating principles of the NCA.

Member organizations need to make a decision about the future of the NCA over the next few months. It is an opportunity to assess its current mandate and structure as well as explore various funding options. In order to respond to this change in funding, a decision-making process has been developed. The first step is a series of member meetings throughout September and October. The objectives of these sessions will be to reassess the need for a national coalition focused on children's issues based on NCA's current mission and mandate and to determine future organizational structure and funding options. It is critical that member organizations participate – if you are unable to do so we will arrange key informant interviews. A special member mail out next week will include registration information. There will be an on-line survey as part of the next e-digest for input beyond the member organizations.

## **Member News**

### **1. Dates to Remember**

- ❑ September 28: NAPO national youth poverty initiative launch ***Our Future Now!***, 7:45am – 9:30am National Press Club call (613) 789-0096 for more information
- ❑ October 3 – 10 Mental Illness Awareness Week
- ❑ June 17-20, 2006: Canadian Association of Social Workers Conference. Visit [www.nsasw.org](http://www.nsasw.org) for information.

### **2. NAPO Youth Poverty Initiative**

On September 28, 2005 the National Anti-Poverty Organization is launching its national ***Our Future Now!*** youth poverty initiative in Ottawa. There are two major objectives of the campaign: to raise public awareness of the issue and to push for specific policy changes that will improve the situation of young people in low income. NAPO has brought together a diverse group of individuals and organizations across the country that will take on the issue and advocate for change. The campaign also involves youth in as many ways possible.

You are invited come to the launch in Ottawa on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:45am - 9:30am at the National Press Club with Ed Broadbent as one of the speakers. (invitation below) October 17<sup>th</sup> will see a number of actions on youth poverty in collaboration with the Make Poverty History campaign and the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Details will be made available at a later date.

If you would like more information on how to become involved in the **Our Future Now!** initiative, call the NAPO office at 613-789-0096.



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You are cordially invited to the launch

### 3. CPCHE Childproofing Campaign

The Canadian Partnership for Children's Health and Environment (CPCHE) will launch a Childproofing for the Environment Campaign on September 22, 2005, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (location TBA). The campaign aims to educate parents and caregivers on what they can do to better protect children in their homes, schools and communities. CPCHE is also launching several resources including **Child Health and Environment: Primer** and a brochure **Play it Safe** providing tips to protect children from potentially harmful toxics and other exposures in our environment.

NCA members, the Canadian Childcare Federation and Pollution Probe, are co-hosting the launch event. To be notified of the event location, email Tonya Surman, Project Director, [tonya@commons.ca](mailto:tonya@commons.ca)

### 4. Mental Illness Awareness Week

The Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) is planning an awareness campaign for Mental Illness Awareness Week. The campaign is to not only raise awareness of mental health issues, but also to reduce the stigma of mental health illness and to provide education. There are numerous ways to become involved. CASW has prepared promotional material for distribution which can be

ordered at <http://www.cpa-apc.org/MIAW/OrderFormMIAW2004.asp> For more details visit [www.miaaw.ca](http://www.miaaw.ca)

## **From the Hill**

### **1. 2005 Pre-Budget Consultations**

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance is planning on holding its public hearings on the consultations from September 26 to November 4, 2005. The deadline to appear has passed however, organizations can send in a brief to Richard Dupuis, Clerk, Standing Committee on Finance, House of Commons [Fina@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Fina@parl.gc.ca) Briefs should be less than 10 pages long and include a one page executive summary prioritizing your proposals. An outline of the main themes as well as a list of dates and cities is available from the committee clerk.

### **2. Bill C-2 Receives Royal Assent**

Bill C-2, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (Protection of Children and Other Vulnerable Persons) and the Canada Evidence Act received royal assent on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Bill C-2 is an important initiative to protect children from abuse, neglect and sexual exploitation. NCA member, the Child Welfare League of Canada, has worked diligently to ensure the passage of this legislation and will continue to work for good policy and dedicated resources to make sure the enacted changes are implemented.

**Justice Canada News Release:**

[http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/news/nr/2005/doc\\_31582.html](http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/news/nr/2005/doc_31582.html)

**For details of Bill C-2 see:**

[www.parl.gc.ca/common/bills\\_ls.asp?Parl=38&Ses=1&ls=c2](http://www.parl.gc.ca/common/bills_ls.asp?Parl=38&Ses=1&ls=c2)

**Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs  
Report on Bill C-2:**

[www.parl.gc.ca/38/1/parlbus/commbus/senate/com-e/lega-e/rep-e/rep11jul05-e.htm](http://www.parl.gc.ca/38/1/parlbus/commbus/senate/com-e/lega-e/rep-e/rep11jul05-e.htm)

**For information on the position of the CWLC on Bill C-2 go to:  
[www.cwlc.ca/policy\\_e.htm](http://www.cwlc.ca/policy_e.htm)**

## **Other News**

### **1. Canadian Subsidy Directory**

The Canadian Subsidy Directory is a guide containing more than 3100 listings of grants and loans offered by both the federal and provincial governments. It also includes foundations and associations. It is available in a CD version: \$69.95 or print: \$149.95. To order call (450) 224-9275.

### **2. Voluntary Sector Awareness Project**

The Voluntary Sector Awareness Project has been launched by a group of national organizations to raise awareness about the Canadian voluntary sector. The project is funded by Social Development Canada and led by Imagine Canada. It's purpose is to generate dialogue and solicit feedback from a range of charities and non-profits. During the summer of 2006, an awareness campaign will deliver the communications resources developed as a result of the project.

For further information or to become involved please contact the Project Manager, Paddy Bowen at [paddy.bowen@magma.ca](mailto:paddy.bowen@magma.ca)

### **3. Literature Review on Social Determinants of Health for Urban Youth**

The Ryerson-Wellesley SDOH website has published the results of an extensive literature review on the social determinants of health for urban youth. The site presents a series of papers including reviews specific to six vulnerable groups of youth commonly found in urban communities. [www.ryerson.ca/~sdohyout](http://www.ryerson.ca/~sdohyout)

### **4. Canadian Parenting Workshops: Preparing Children for School Success**

The Canadian Coalition of Immigrant Children and Youth (CCICY) has launched a new parent education program that is the result of a research program led by Dr. Judith Bernhard from Ryerson University. The workshops are targeted towards newcomer families. CCICY hopes that sponsoring agencies will deliver the workshops in the

home languages in the communities they serve. For more information visit:

<http://www.ryerson.ca/~bernhard/canadian.html>

## **5. National Youth Anti-Racism Network**

The mission of NYAN is to unite a national anti-racism youth voice in Canada. They encourage youth, particularly those affected by racism, namely Aboriginal youth and youth of colour, to mobilize to fight the causes of racism in their communities. NYAN's newsletter contains resources, tools and information for youth. To sign at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nyangeneral>

## **6. Canadian Coalition on Community Health and Well-being**

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) has begun a new initiative that will enable the law enforcement community to form partnerships with national associations with which they have not had a working relationship with in the past. The Coalition will raise public awareness of the role communities can play in sustainable social development that will result in prevention of crime. It will also encourage all levels of government to use sustainable social development as a key factor in their decision-making on public safety issues. The NCA has been invited to participate in the Coalition.