



Children First

Children's Centre Foundation Bulletin



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W I N T E R 2 0 0 7

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 3rd Annual Lisa Laco 49 & Holding Birthday Bash 2
- Make It Short Movie Project 2
- Mental Illness Awareness Week 2
- Recent & Upcoming Events 3
- Project LEAD 3
- A Message From our President 4
- Board of Directors 4



New Year Brings Exciting Projects!

The past year has been an exciting one for the Children's Centre Foundation, and 2008 will be no exception! We are looking forward to some new projects and partnerships, and will continue with our mission to improve the mental health of children and families in our community.

One very exciting project that is being launched in January is the "Safeway We Care" charity program. Each Safeway location across Canada accepts applications from registered charities that will fit into their yearly theme. This

year's theme is "Supporting Children and Families Living with Physical and Developmental Disabilities".



Our Foundation successfully applied on behalf of CCTB's Early Intervention Program. This means that from January to April, Safeway (Arthur Street location) will be fundraising on our behalf, with the support of our volunteers.

The funds raised through this program will help to fund items, equipment and parental/client education for those in the Early Intervention Program (EIP). We are looking forward to this new partnership, and all the benefits it will have for children and families.

If you are interested in volunteering for an event in support of EIP, please contact Laura at (807) 343-5012.



What Have We Been Up To?

Lisa Laco "holds at 49" for the **3rd Annual Birthday Bash** fundraiser!



Foundation receives proceeds from the **Make It Short Movie Project**



Mental Illness Awareness Week: October 1—7, 2007





Lisa celebrates her birthday with the Hot Rods... and 350 friends!



One of our volunteers, Karlie, helping at the large outdoor filming day for the Make It Short movie, "G8".



It was a full house at our first 'Brainwaves' coffeehouse.



Lisa Laco's 49 & Holding Birthday Bash

On November 16, 2007, CBC Radio host Lisa Laco celebrated her 49th birthday... again! This year marked the 3rd birthday bash put on by the Foundation, and Lisa has pledged to remain 49 until she has helped to raise \$49,000. The fundraiser event brought in approxi-

mately \$8,300 this year.

Over 350 people came out to the Da Vinci Centre for an evening of fun, prizes, raffles, and dancing to the music of the Sensational Hot Rods. The seats in the venue filled quickly, but it was the dance floor that remained full for the entire evening.

If you have not yet attended this fundraiser, be sure to join us for more fun next year!

Overall, the evening was a success, and we would like to thank Lisa, all of our sponsors, prize donors, supporters and volunteers.



Make It Short Movie Project: Thumbs Up!

The Make It Short Movie Project is a community 'not-for-profit' event that seeks to entertain and educate the community about film production, while raising funds for local charities—this year, for the Children's Centre Foundation. Auditions were held in

August; the filming began in September, and the official World Premiere was held on November 29, 2007 at Silvercity. This year's film, "G8", is a 'family friendly mini-thriller with a pinch of action'. This project is unique in that a professional short film is created,

with all of the components local, including the script, cast and crew! This year, the project raised over \$1,200 for the Foundation! For more information, visit:

www.makeitshort.ca



Mental Illness Awareness Week 2007

Mental Illness Awareness Week ran from October 1-7, 2007. A variety of activities and presentations were held throughout the community, including Photovoice, Blacklight Theatre, a screening of 'Seeking Bimadziwin',

Margaret Trudeau and The Recovery Monologues. We also held 'Brainwaves' coffeehouse, an empowering evening put on by local mental health consumer/survivors. The coffeehouse featured art, crafts, poetry, sing-

ing, music and more. Congratulations to all who attended and took part.

Educate yourself on mental illness, and help to reduce the stigma! For some great information, visit: kidsmentalhealth.ca



Recent & Upcoming Events

Throughout the year, the Foundation takes part in a variety of events. As always, our special event committees are comprised of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, we welcome you to call 343-5012.

Halloween Howler

It was a night of costumes and dancing on October 27th at the Polish Hall. The Halloween Howler was a chance for ghouls

and ghosts to bring their friends and have some fun, while supporting our Foundation. Overall, the evening helped to raise over \$700—all of which supports children and families right here in our community facing mental health issues.



2nd Annual WineSations

It's back! We are looking forward to our second partnership with Lot 66 for an evening of fine wine and food



pairings. WineSations will be held on April 14, 2008. If you would like to be placed on our ticket list, please call 343-5012. Don't miss out—last year's event was sold out!

Stay tuned for upcoming information on Thunder Bay's **Youth Week**, as well as **Mental Health Week**—both are coming up in May 2008. More details to follow...



*Children's
Mental Health
Week is May
4—10, 2008.*

A New Youth Engagement Project: L E A D

The Children's Centre Foundation has developed a new youth focused mental health initiative called **Project LEAD** (Leadership through Engaging youth, Awareness of resources, and Developing partnerships). This is an exciting new project funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation. One component of this project is a child and family public education resource inventory, which will be published and distributed throughout the community. This will be

available throughout the year to inform the public of child/family related learning opportunities.

Additionally, there is a 'for youth, by youth' component, in which a group of volunteers will meet, identify common youth mental health issues, plan youth conferences, help to develop materials for a public awareness campaign, learn about child and youth mental health, and teach their peers. This is a positive opportunity to give youth a voice, gain some

experience and volunteer hours, learn, meet new people, and have an influence on how information is relayed to peers and the general public.

We are currently seeking youth volunteers, so if you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Youth Leader, or would like more details, you are invited to contact Laura Chown at 343-5012, or email laura@childrenscentre.ca

Join Us! Become a Youth Leader!

*This project
is made
possible by
the Ontario
Trillium
Foundation*



A Message From Our President

We have enjoyed another great year for our Children's Centre Foundation. It has been successful thanks to the hard work, creative energy and dedication of all those who have worked with us on our various endeavors. We have been very fortunate to have a Foundation Coordinator and a great fundraising committee. I think everyone involved deserves a huge award. We are especially grateful to Connie McLeod for all her work as our fundraising chair. Our sincere thanks and gratitude to all the staff of the Children's Centre who have worked with the Foundation.

Our Board of Directors continues to add to all of our work, and we welcome our new members who will contribute to our skill set base. Our hope for the New Year before us is that we will go onward and upward to make our Foundation dream a true reality!

Evelyn Bradley

President,
Children's Centre Foundation Thunder Bay



Board of Directors

We would like to thank our Board of Directors for their dedication to making our Foundation a success. We are proud to have the following sit on our Board:

Evelyn Bradley

Jill Johnson

Steve Melnik

Glenn Brassard

Don Morrison

Sue McCartney

And a special welcome to our newest member,

Tracy Tieman

President

Vice President

Secretary/Treasurer

Director

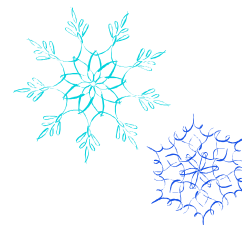
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