



Giving Thanks and Celebrating

As we approach the holidays and the end of 2013, Peel Children's Centre extends our heartfelt gratitude to the individuals, companies, foundations and community groups in our "Caring Community Working Together for Children and Youth." Your generosity makes it possible for us to enrich the lives of children and youth who experience social, emotional and/or behavioural challenges.

The holidays are also a time to celebrate. Please join us in recognizing the achievements of our staff and volunteers in service excellence, knowledge-sharing, innovation, and advancing our agency's Diversity journey. Peel Children's Centre is truly fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented workforce.

Thanks to our generous supporters

- PCC's 23rd Annual Holiday Brunch and Auction was our most successful ever, raising \$55,000 for our programs and services. Many thanks to Rogues Restaurant owner Tony Pereira, Chef Bevan Terry and Rogues staff for again hosting the event and providing an exquisite meal.

Sincere thanks to our

- **Event Sponsors:** Collette Vacations; Scotiabank; Ipacs Law Office; RBC Royal Bank; Erin Mills Town Centre; Sobey's; King Masonry Yard Ltd.; Pallett Valo LLP; and Royal LePage.
- **Event Supporters:** Amrit Khaper; Binswanger Hectare; Brookfield Residential; City of Brampton; Evton Capital Partners; Magna International Inc; and PCC's Board of Directors.

Thanks to everyone who donated auction items, purchased tickets and bid on auction items.

Special thanks to our guest speaker, NASCAR driver

Ron Fellows, who entertained and inspired us. Thanks as well to the volunteers who helped to organize and run the event. You are all making a positive difference in the lives of children, youth and their families in our community.



Photo by Iain Colpitts, The Mississauga News.

- Warm thanks to the following organizations that generously donated items or sponsored client families to enable them to enjoy the holidays:
 - Boys and Girls Club
 - King Masonry Yard
 - Novartis
 - Peel Paramedics
 - Salvation Army
 - St. Vincent de Paul
 - Telmetrics
 - Toys for Tots.

Thanks as well to all the PCC employees who sponsored families this holiday season.



We are extremely grateful for the following gifts valued at \$5,000 or more.

- RBC again provided a \$40,000 grant for PCC's Group Services, raising RBC's cumulative support to \$225,000.
 - CIBC donated \$10,000 towards our ICF 17-17 program, raising CIBC's cumulative support to more than \$100,000 over the past decade.
 - Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund supported our summer camp to help children and youth retain their treatment gains over the summer, raising the fund's cumulative support over 15 years to more than \$80,000.
 - Hydro One Brampton donated \$14,000 from the proceeds of its golf tournament, raising its cumulative support over the past three years to \$46,500.
- Thanks to everyone who sponsored, bowled, pledged, or provided donations to PCC's **9th Annual Cosmic Bowl**, as reported in our last newsletter. This year's event raised more than \$35,000!
 - Thanks as well to Staples Business Depot's Argentia Road store for again choosing Peel Children's Centre for its school supplies drive. In its eighth year, the drive raised \$4,600 to send our clients back to school with the supplies they needed for school success.
 - A shout-out to our **generous employees** at PCC and our partner agency, Nexus Youth Services, who raised over \$14,500 for the **United Way**. Special thanks to our United Way committee: co-chairs Carl Blacquiere and Andrea Duncan, and members Colleen Bennett, Karen Brozina-Hawley, Christy Carter, John Choi, Philip Nicho, Nancy Pereira, Meena Radhakrishnan, Mirella Santarossa and Renée Sloos. They ran a very creative campaign, with several fun events to complement the staff payroll giving campaign.



We greatly value the support we have received from all our community partners. Please visit www.peelcc.org for a more comprehensive list of our generous supporters.

Celebrating staff and volunteer achievement

PCC is pleased to feature this year's winners of our two annual awards, the Mary Neville Award and the Ron Lenyk Volunteer of the Year Award. We also recognize staff who are making a difference through knowledge-sharing, mentorship and leadership - both within our agency and in the community. Our sincere thanks to all our staff who work so hard to fulfill PCC's mission "To enrich the lives of children and youth who experience social, emotional and/or behavioural challenges by providing a continuum of high quality mental health services."



Mary Neville Award

Dr. Susan Berry, a psychologist at Peel Children's Centre until her recent retirement, was the 2013 winner of PCC's annual Mary Neville Award, which recognizes efforts and dedication towards prevention and early intervention in children's mental health. An expert in personality development, children's behaviour and child-parent relationships, Susan is highly respected for her contributions to the field of early child development. Kudos to Susan for this well-deserved recognition.



Photo by Rob Beintema, The Mississauga News

Ron Lenyk Volunteer of the Year Award



This year's winner of our Ron Lenyk Volunteer of the Year Award is **Donna Pasqua** of Brampton. A volunteer in PCC's Driver Program for the past five years, Donna drives an average of 5,000 km/month in all types of weather to ensure that children and families facing transportation barriers get to their appointments and programs at PCC. On behalf of our client families, thank you, Donna, and congratulations. You have truly made a difference!

Photo by Fred Loek, The Mississauga News

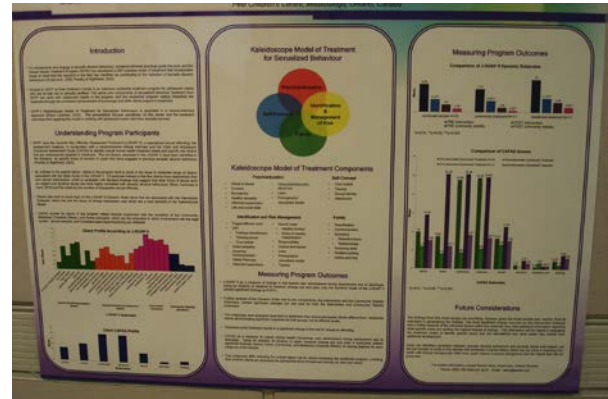
Learning, Innovation and Growth

- PCC's staff, directors, clients and community partners all contributed to our preparation for accreditation with the Canadian Centre for Accreditation (CCA), culminating in the CCA Review Team's week-long site visit in late November. Special thanks to our Accreditation Team: Dr. Kathy Sdao-Jarvie, team lead; Sherry Sklar, coordinator; and members Sukh Bassi, Linda Berkowitz, Carl Blacchiere, Lauren Chicorli, Ceri Harnden, Bhupinder Heer, Sheila Lavallee, Janet McKernan, Nancy Pereira, Julie Rizzo, Nella Secondino, Pamela Teixeira, Dianna Thomson-So, Mora Thompson and Jennifer Watson. The team submitted 300+ documents and 100+ narratives as evidence for 136 standards which include 537 indicators! The CCA's accreditation award decision will be announced in February.
- Dr. Kathy Sdao-Jarvie, Director, Clinical Standards and Development, joined Drs. Patricia Lingley-Pottie and Patrick McGrath of Dalhousie University and the IWK Health Centre when they received the \$100,000 Encana Principal Award, top prize amongst the Ernest C. Manning Innovation Awards, for **Strongest Families**, a telephone-based program that gives families timely and easy access to mental health services in the comfort of their homes. PCC piloted this innovative, evidence-based intervention for disruptive behavior and anxiety disorders with 40 Peel families.



- **Humphrey Mitchell**, CEO of PCC, joined by **Steve Lough**, Partner, Lough Barnes Consulting Group, led the workshop, *An Integrated Approach to Strategic Planning*, at Children's Mental Health Ontario's annual conference in November. The workshop was based on PCC's recent strategic planning process, which culminated in the release of our *Strategic Plan, 2013-18*.

- **Renée Sloos**, Supervisor, Clinical Services, did a poster presentation entitled *Evidence-Informed Effective Treatment for Youth Who Sexually Harm* at the same conference. Well done, Renée!



- **Jana Venditti** and **Samanta Cumberbatch-Mejian**, Clinicians in PCC's Sexual Abuse Treatment Program, undertook a journey to contribute to the resources for treating sexual abuse in children and youth by writing a book. They recently published *Finding My Voice: One Boy's Story of Sexual Abuse*; and *Finding My Voice: One Girl's Story of Sexual Abuse*. Congratulations, Jana and Samanta!

- Our "Reflections on Practice" series continued in October with **Jennifer Carvalho (Wraparound)** and **Michael Taran (Intensive Services)**. Earlier in the year, staff learned from the reflections of our **School-Based Services** and **ICF 7-17** teams, as well as our colleagues in **Nexus Youth Services**.

Sincere thanks to all clinical staff who take the time to share their reflections on practice.



- The **FASD Awareness Committee** organized *A Taste of BreakFASD* to increase colleagues' understanding of **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)**. The "menu" included: **Sensory Experience, Identifying FASD, Stigma and Assessment; Youth; Resources; and Strategies**. Many thanks to committee members **Mirella DiSanto, Jacqueline Kamel, Heather McDonald, Michelle Patey El-Ayari, Crystal Robertson** and **Nella Secondino** for a highly creative and informative event.

Our Diversity journey

PCC's Diversity journey continues to advance, thanks to the leadership and commitment of a great many staff. 2013 milestones included:

- **Annual Black History Month** celebration in February featuring:
 - guest speaker, **Dr. Lew Golding** of CAMH;
 - a lunch celebration with food, dance, music, and spoken word; and
 - daily facts, weekly quizzes and prizes to make learning FUN!



A round of applause for our PCC and Nexus Black History Month Committee members Garth Buckley, Darren Dennie, Aliyah Douglas, Lorianne Fedée, Joanne Leo, Coralie Martens, Jona Ombao and Danita Thompson for organizing this year's presentations and events for all of us to enjoy.

• **Lunch-and-learns:**

- *Culturally Sensitive Practice with Middle Eastern Clients in a Mental Health Setting*, led by PCC clinicians Jacqueline Kamel and Nancy Cannella
- *First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspective*, with guest Simon Bain, Community Wellness Coordinator, Métis Nation of Ontario.

Warm thanks to our presenters and to the other members of the Diversity Training and Education Committee, Frank Ennis and Laurie Sheff, for these exceptional opportunities to learn together.



- Our 9th Annual Pride Week in June offered a "rainbow" of opportunities to learn, share and celebrate:
 - Guest speakers Kevin Rambally (AYSP), Ashley Lake (East Mississauga Community Health Centre), Constable Krista Noakes (Peel Regional Police) and Michael Skynner (Family Services of Peel)
 - Fun activities including the colour of the day, trivia, a video, mocktails and rainbow ice-cream sundaes.

Special thanks to our speakers and to our 2013 Pride Committee members: Andria Amato, Karen Anslow, Karen Brozina-Hawley, Tarryn Chatz, Lauren Chicorli, Edit Farun, Kelly Kack, Jacqueline Kamel, Lisa Laing, Crystal Robertson, Sherry Sklar and Chantal Williams.

- A Diwali celebration in November organized by Sukh Bassi, Pearl Fernandez, Bhupinder Heer, Deepa Kaushik, Amrit Khaper, Randeep Mann, Meena Radhakrishnan and Kothai Sandrasegaran. Highlights of the celebration included staff Bollywood dancers, who were coached by Deepa; and a buffet provided by the members of the organizing committee. Bravo, "Diwali Diwaz," chefs and organizers!
- More welcoming and inclusive client spaces, with new diversity-themed art, décor, toys and books. A shout-out to the Welcoming Space Committee: Nancy Pereira, Katie Pipitone, Nella Secondino, Stephanie Thom and Mora Thompson.
- New resources about cultural competence for staff, books reflecting our philosophy of inclusion for families, and information sheets about mental health in several languages. Kudos to our Diversity Resources Committee, Stephanie Hiebert and Cathy O'Sullivan.

