

# Beyond Bars

## AU-DELÀ DES BARREAUX



Bulletin de la Société St-Léonard du Canada  
Newsletter of the St. Leonard's Society of Canada

Spring/Printemps 2006  
Vol. 12, No. 1

## Inside

### Homelessness

#### Reaching Out to Them

Tom Sidney, RSSW.....1

#### Pendleton Place

Melissa Phillips.....1

#### Forum of Concern

Stephanie Marcel, Skip Graham and Susan Haines ....5

### From Head Office

#### Better Practices Manual

Carole Mallows .....2

Bolton Day 2006 .....4

### Society News

Kawartha Club Bingo ..5

#### Clientèle desservie

Michel Gagnon.....6

Last Words .....8

#### About Us

AGM 2006

In Memoriam

Comings and Goings

## Focus on HOMELESSNESS

### Ottawa, Ont.: Reaching Out to Them, So They Can Feel Safe to Reach Out to Us

By Tom Sidney, RSSW

Operation Go Home (OGH) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping youth on the streets. Founded in 1971 by the late Rev. Norman Johnston (The Ottawa Police Service's Chaplin), OGH helps to reunite street youth with their families. When Rev. Johnston started helping the increasing number of youth on Ottawa streets, he found that many wanted to go home but were afraid of not being welcomed. He began by acting as a liaison to open a line of dialogue, helping reunite families, and assisting youth in making the return trip home. A Board of Directors adopted his mandate in 1985. OGH remains **the only organization in Canada** that reunites youth with their families. OGH is internationally respected as leading experts on

*Continued on p. 3*

### Halifax, N.S.: Pendleton Place

by Melissa Phillips

Pendleton Place is a cold-weather shelter for males and females, ages 16 and up, who experience homelessness, located on the ground floor of a church in downtown Halifax. Pendleton Place opened for its second consecutive year on November 1, 2005 and will operate until April 30, 2006. The shelter is operated by St. Leonard's Society of Nova Scotia (SLSNS) and is funded through the Department of Community Services.

Last winter Pendleton Place was operated as a 40 bed shelter for homeless individuals as a "last resort" shelter, intended to house only those people that other shelters could not accommodate. While last year was an immense success, SLSNS endeavored to improve upon this experience. This winter, the shelter is operating at a reduced capacity of 20 beds. This is due to improved referral practices and better communications among the shelter providers in the area.

*Continued on p. 3*



*Third generation SLSC-er Katie Robertson attended her first meeting with mother Renée in November, 2005.*

Photo: David Whiteley

## **Better Practices Manual for Community Residential Services**

*by Carole Mallows*

The Better Practices Manual for Community Residential Services Project has got off to a flying start. St. Leonard's Society of Canada has been able to put together a Project Steering Committee and an Advisory Group filled with dedicated professionals from various aspects of the community corrections field. These groups include government officials, affiliates of St. Leonard's, and service providers from all over Canada and representatives from the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom.

The first meeting of the Project Steering Committee took place on March 14, 2006 at the Bronson Centre in Ottawa. The goals of the day were to decide upon the structure and the basic themes of the manual and to explore ways of eliciting stories of better practices from Community Residential Facilities in Canada. Members spent an exhilarating day exploring the challenges and the triumphs of the business of running a Community Residential Facility. It was a fruitful discussion and the results were as follows:

### ***Title and Definition***

- Members decided on a title for the manual: "What Works: Good Practices for Community Residential Services"
- The committee agreed on the following definition of better practices: "Practices the practitioner has found useful in achieving mission and goals and specifically addressing the needs of stakeholders (including residents, clients, community and staff) and supported by independent observation."

### ***Structure and Themes of the manual***

Subject headings for sections of the manual were:

- **Resident Services:** Themes included: selection, case management, specialized houses, house environment, peer support, after aftercare, individual case management with correctional services, good practices with high need clients.
- **Community Relations:** Themes included: Board of Directors, relationships with: the public; neighbours; community resources; politicians/elected officials; police;

CAT; potential employers for clients; funders and the media.

- **Networking and Collaboration:** Themes included: Inter-agency communication, information sharing, resident flow, training and cross-training, statistics, sources of information (databases and research).


- **Operations:** Themes included: Review and evaluation, record keeping, compliance with legislation, staff (role, training and retention), EAP, Boards of Directors, benefits, work load management, financial management, physical plant, risk management/liability etc.

- **Reintegration:** Themes included: Community projects and community involvement, public safety, Circles of Support and Accountability.

Each section will provide specific information on special populations e.g. women, Aboriginal peoples.

### ***Questionnaire***

A survey will be sent to Canadian Community Residential Facilities via the Regional Halfway House Associations and others in order to elicit frontline practical knowledge of good practices.

Thanks to everyone for their valuable input. Additional input may be addressed to Carole Mallows at [research@on.aibn.com](mailto:research@on.aibn.com). 

***Carole Mallows is the Project Manager for SLSC's Better Practices Manual project.***



*Carole Mallows and her new grandchild, Mia Grace. Photo: Stéphane Leclerc*

## *Voir au-delà des barreaux : Donner une deuxième chance.*


*Reaching Out to Them (cont. from p. 1)*

high-risk youth and street involved youth. In 2002 we created additional services to better meet the ever-changing issues/needs of street-involved youth. The unique approach to the clients empowers them to want to change. The five key services are first rate and offer positive life altering opportunities, The **Drop-In, Employment Services, Prevention Services, Educational Services** and **Reunite** all play an instrumental role in the life of a youth. Having the opportunity to go to the only youth drop-in open in the morning in all of Ottawa is vital to a positive start to their day. They can utilize our computers to communicate with family and friends, look for jobs, receive counselling or just get something to eat. They can come and not be judged, they can come and be safe.

The Employment Counsellors understand where the youth are coming from and design the programs accordingly. OGH takes into account issues such as they may not have bathed in a while or their attitude may need some adjusting, it may be as simple as providing some motivation and support because they may have never experienced it. OGH takes that youth and helps them transform into respectful employees.

Prevention is key to not only limiting future street involved youth but also in preventing current street youth from making harsher, more risky decisions. The Prevention program offers harm reduction services and outreach services in partnership with other social service providers as well as the Ottawa Police. An instrumental tool is offering fun, interactive and dynamic presentations to high schools on the decisions being made today and how they can lead to the outcomes of tomorrow. The goal is to motivate students to make the right choices at the same time educating them on the realities of street life as a means to deter them from that life.

The clients of OGH have a unique opportunity to obtain their high school credits or GED through our Steps and Credits program. They receive support via a certified teacher and youth worker while they make steps to achieving their education. These main programs are umbrellas to over fourteen programs offered by OGH. In the event that the youth does not require these programs or services or that they are not in Ottawa, they can contact us 24 hrs a day 365 day a year from anywhere in Canada and we can reunite them with their family.\*

OGH offers all these services to the youth because we believe in them and know that they all have a place, sometimes they need to be empowered to look beyond their immediate situation to see what's over the next hill and while they are looking at that journey or beginning to take the positive steps to climb those hills, we help them with today. *"We will walk to the ends of the earth with them, but once we get there they have to take that final step."* 

**Tom Sidney is the Manager of Prevention and Public Education for Operation Go Home – National Office**  
**tom@operationgohome.ca – www.operationgohome.ca**


\* The OGH Reunite Program is for youth that have run away or been kicked out from home and are finding themselves living in shelter or on the streets. All programs in Ottawa are for ages 16-25.

*Pendleton Place (cont. from p. 1)*

All persons who arrive at Pendleton Place are assessed for suitability by being referred to other existing shelters first. There are a variety of reasons why clients may be unable to access other shelters. These may include not meeting admission requirements based on gender or age, other shelters being at capacity, being turned away due to past behavioral concerns, or being under the influence of intoxicants. Pendleton Place is committed to working with all clients who experience barriers in accessing shelter and operates under a harm-reduction model which houses individuals who may be under the influence of intoxicants.

Pendleton Place exists through the continued support and involvement of other community agencies. An advisory committee composed of other shelter operators and service providers ensure continued communication and problem-solving. Pendleton Place works with various agencies to support and refer clients. The shelter is client driven, and seeks to work with homeless individuals at their level of comfort. Thus, there are no treatment programs or services imposed on any clients who have not requested these services. Mental health is often a high need area among individuals housed at this shelter and addiction issues are also prevalent. Some partnerships include Shared Care Mental Health Services, Mobile Crisis, and Halifax Regional Police, among others, when working with clients.

Pendleton Place opens at 4 pm and remains open until 8 am each day. Clients who have been unsuccessfully referred elsewhere are checked in daily. They are assigned a locker to secure their personal belongings in overnight. A light meal is provided for those who may have been unable to eat elsewhere and there are shower facilities and a washer and dryer on site for clients.

Pendleton Place is unique in many ways from other homeless shelters in Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). Pendleton Place is the only shelter in HRM which houses animals, when accompanied by their owners. Without our services many people would be forced to sleep on the streets and consequently many people's lives have doubtlessly been saved. 

**Melissa Phillips is Shelter Director for SLS Nova Scotia's Pendleton Place.**



## BOLTON DAY 2006:

# HOMELESSNESS AND HOPE: MODELS FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

A SYMPOSIUM ADDRESSING SAFETY, STRUCTURE AND SUPPORT IN RESPONSE TO THE RISKS OF HOMELESSNESS

*Friday June 2, 2006 — 9 a.m. Registration, 9:30 a.m. Conference Begins*

*Whetung Theatre, Room 519, Sutherland Campus, Fleming College, 599 Brealey Drive, Peterborough, Ontario*

At this day long symposium focussed on models of supportive housing, you will learn about some exciting innovations in the world of supportive housing, share your own better practices, and explore new/potential means of responding to the needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. St. Leonard's Society of Canada and St. Leonard's Society of Peterborough invite you to join concerned colleagues and friends at Fleming College in Peterborough. Plenary sessions will focus on:

- **Innovative Direct Services and Programs**, with presentations by: St. Leonard's Society of Nova Scotia, Operation Go Home, Maison « Cross Roads », St. Leonard's Society of Peterborough and St. Leonard's House (Peel)
- **Collaborations and Relationships that Work**, with presentations by: St. Leonard's House (Peel), Rotary Club of Brampton and Regional Municipality of Peel

Also featured will be a **Homeless Services Marketplace**, during which you will have the opportunity to interact with representatives from a number of direct service providers to learn about their programs and practices, exchange information and establish contacts.

Participation is limited and will be on a first-come basis. Register now to reserve your space and qualify for the early bird rate.

**For further information please contact Joanne Knox, Conference Registrar:**

**Phone (613) 545-0253 — Fax (613) 545-9241 — Email: Joanne\_Knox@on.aibn.com.**

*✎ The support of Fleming College for Bolton Day 2006 is gratefully acknowledged. ✎*

## Bolton Day 2006 Registration Form

Enclosed is my cheque, payable to St. Leonard's Society of Canada, for:

- \$50 (Student Rate)  
 \$80 (Before April 15)  
 \$100 (On or after April 15)

Registration fee includes lunch, breaks and materials.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Diet: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form, detach and return it along with your cheque or money order payable to St. Leonard's Society of Canada, to:

**Conference Registrar  
 SLSC — Kingston Office  
 P.O. Box 35003  
 Kingston, ON K7L 5S5**

*N.B. Registrations cannot be processed without payment. If an organization is paying for your registration, you may complete and pass on the invoice provided below, in cases where this will facilitate processing this fee.*

## Invoice

**Amount Due:**

- \$50 (Student Rate)  
 \$80 (Before April 15)  
 \$100 (On or after April 15)

**From** (sponsoring organization):  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**For** (individual attending Bolton 2006):  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Payable to:**

**St. Leonard's Society of Canada**  
*Please remit payment along with the attached registration form to the address listed above.*

## Windsor, Ont.: Forum of Concern

### *Band-aids and Solutions*

*By Stephanie Marcil, Skip Graham and Susan Haines*

On Saturday, November 5, 2005, 85 concerned citizens and community service providers gathered at the Downtown Mission to attend a community forum entitled “Homelessness: Band-aids and Solutions” in Windsor, Ontario.


St. Leonard’s House Windsor, in partnership with Correctional Service of Canada, the Downtown Mission and the Ontario Multifaith Council, coordinated this event to bring stakeholders and community members together to examine the reintegration process for offenders returning to the community.

The forum began with a Community Resource Fair allowing agencies to promote their services and connect with fellow service providers, volunteers, and other forum participants. This gave local agencies the opportunity to promote and share information about their services, while service providers were able to connect faces to names and determine who is doing what in meeting the needs of offenders in and around the Windsor area.

The City of Windsor’s Well-Come Home Centre, Legal Assistance of Windsor, the New Song Church, and the Yonge St. Mission each sent a representative to speak to guests about various issues impacting homelessness including funding challenges, advocacy, special populations, community collaboration and examples of success and struggles. David Adcock, Managing Director of the Yonge Street Mission, gave an inspirational talk on Community Partnership.

The forum also included a tour of the Downtown Mission and St. Leonard’s House Windsor. As a sign of support and action, forum participants were invited to mix and mingle during lunch with clients and guests.

Several new volunteers were recruited and a sub-committee of St. Leonard’s Chaplaincy Services has developed an approach to involve the business community in addressing the needs of clients as a result of this community forum.

Thank you to everyone who made “Homelessness: Band-aids and Solutions” a success! Your participation and information sharing help to create a stronger and healthier community. 


## Society News



*Darrell Rowe and Lynn Cassidy celebrating the opening of the Kawartha Club Bingo Site. Photo: Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation*

## St. Leonard’s Society of Peterborough

### *Kawartha Club Bingo Site Opens*

This beautiful new facility in Peterborough is the third E bingo location in Ontario. “Darrell Rowe of SLS Peterborough was instrumental in overseeing the construction and planning in conjunction with the operator,” says Lynn Cassidy, Executive Director of Ontario Charitable Gaming Association. 



*Kawartha Club Bingo Site facilities.*

Photo: Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation

*Stephanie Marcil is a volunteer with SLSC. Skip Graham is Executive Director of SLH Windsor. Susan Haines is Researcher and Policy Advisor for SLSC.*

## **Maison « Cross Roads » (Mtl)**

### ***Clientèle desservie en communauté***

Tout près de 80 clients (en incluant ceux qui ont continué d'être suivis en communauté par les intervenants en établissement) ont profité des services de l'intervenant Option-Vie communautaire au cours de la dernière année. À cela, il faut ajouter les 18 clients rencontrés à la prison Rivière-des-Prairies, avant leur transfert au pénitencier.

En voici quelques exemples :

#### ***Éric, un client en semi-liberté :***

Il est libéré après presque 20 ans d'incarcération. Il a changé ses valeurs. Il est rempli de bonne volonté et il ne veut plus retourner en prison. Il s'installe avec sa copine avec qui il a un petit garçon de quatre ans. Sa copine a déjà deux enfants : un garçon de 15 ans et une fille de 17 ans. La dame souffre de dépression nerveuse chronique, l'appartement est presque démoli (trous dans les murs et les portes)... c'est affreusement sale.

Tout le monde a conseillé à Éric de ne pas retourner avec cette dame qu'il dit ne plus aimer, car il risque de succomber encore à la pression et de retourner en prison (plusieurs échecs antérieurs). Il ne se sent pas capable de le faire car il éprouve de la pitié pour elle et il pense antérieurs. Il ne se sent pas capable de le faire car il éprouve de la pitié pour elle et il pense que le fait de rester avec elle sera plus bénéfique pour son garçon.

Il sort et va vivre chez elle. Très tôt, on sent qu'il éprouve des difficultés. Une seule chose lui permet de garder la tête hors de l'eau : il est transparent et n'hésite pas à demander de l'aide. Il travaille toute la journée et arrive à la maison le soir pour faire du ménage jusqu'à l'heure du coucher. Il faut tout recommencer... tous les jours. Il se rend compte que la Direction de la protection de la jeunesse (DPJ) est sur le point d'enlever son garçon à la garde de sa mère. Il est découragé et se dit qu'il était mieux en prison. Il ne voit plus le bout du tunnel. Comble de malheur, on veut les expulser de leur logement. Il ne sait plus où donner de la tête. Il nous appelle, encore et encore. On le voit et on discute avec lui. Cela lui fait du bien. Mais il lui faut prendre une décision pour se protéger car le découragement fait de plus en plus de ravages et le spectre de la prison pointe à l'horizon. Il se défoule en voiture et les contraventions s'accumulent...

On lui fournit du support légal pour éviter l'expulsion et pour prendre des arrangements au sujet des contraventions. Il retrouve son calme et décide, dans son intérêt et dans celui de l'enfant, de quitter sa copine et de s'installer dans son propre

appartement. Après quelques semaines, il se demande s'il a bien fait : l'état de sa copine se détériore davantage et la DPJ prend des procédures pour lui enlever l'enfant. On lui dit qu'il est maintenant en mesure de s'occuper lui-même de son garçon. Il dit que la DPJ ne lui donnera jamais cette chance. On fait les démarches avec lui, on l'accompagne lors des auditions et finalement... on lui accorde la garde de son garçon. On l'aide à faire son budget, on continue de le supporter régulièrement et... Tout va très bien pour lui maintenant.

Il nous a dit que, sans notre support, il n'aurait pas passé au travers de cette période d'adaptation...

#### ***John, un client en libération conditionnelle totale***

Condamné pour meurtre et agression sexuelle... avec une problématique sévère de toxicomanie. Il a travaillé fort durant son incarcération et a complété tous les programmes reliés à ses facteurs criminogènes. En processus de réintégration depuis quelques années, chacune de ses tentatives a dû être suspendue suite à une rechute dans la cocaïne et les membres de la Commission sont devenus très inquiets de son comportement.

Nous avons travaillé avec lui et l'avons rencontré sur une base régulière. Cela l'a rassuré de pouvoir compter sur un intervenant Option-Vie lors de son retour en communauté pour un troisième essai. Son agent de libération conditionnelle en communauté était heureux de pouvoir compter sur notre collaboration dans ce dossier. Les membres de la Commission nationale des libérations conditionnelles ont demandé expressément que nous gardions un lien étroit avec ce monsieur, du moins au cours des premiers mois de son retour en communauté. « Ses bonnes intentions ont besoin d'encouragement et de support régulier de votre part » avait dit l'un des commissaires.

Ce fut un plaisir de rencontrer John, à son travail, en jouant aux quilles, son nouveau passe-temps, ou chez lui. John n'était pas difficile à contacter, c'est lui qui nous appelait chaque semaine pour nous parler de ses projets, de ses inquiétudes, des problèmes qu'ils rencontraient dont certains plus difficiles que d'autres. Nous avons parlé ensemble de sa nouvelle copine, de ses trois enfants qui vivaient avec leur père au Nouveau-Brunswick, de sa maladie (hépatite), de ses envies de consommer, fréquentes au début et qui se sont estompées au fil des semaines car le fait de pouvoir en parler librement lui

donnait l'impression d'avoir le contrôle sur la situation et cela enlevait beaucoup de pouvoir à la dépendance.

Nous lui avons trouvé des meubles gratuits lorsqu'il a obtenu sa libération conditionnelle totale. Nous avons aussi parlé de ses impôts de façon à ce qu'il soit en règle avec ses affaires.

Il n'a jamais consommé, il est bien installé, il a un bon travail et il commence à être bien dans sa peau. Il a encore besoin de nous et il appelle encore régulièrement.

### ***Marcel, un client en semi-liberté***

Marcel est un client âgé qui a commis un crime horrible. Durant toute sa sentence, il a eu peur que les autres découvrent ce qu'il a fait et qu'on lui fasse un mauvais parti. Il a donc développé une méfiance extraordinaire envers autrui... pendant les 20 ans de prison qu'il a purgés.

Âgé, malade et très méfiant, il a obtenu sa semi-liberté un peu avant de recevoir sa pension de vieillesse. Extrêmement insécure, il était incapable de rencontrer son intervenant de la maison de transition sans notre présence. Heureusement, cela faisait également l'affaire de l'agent qui sentait à quel point notre présence pouvait rassurer son client, lui permettant ainsi d'obtenir une meilleure écoute de Marcel.

Marcel nous a fait suffisamment confiance pour nous raconter son crime. Ce ne fut pas facile pour lui, mais cela lui a fait énormément de bien. Il s'est ainsi délesté d'un fardeau qu'il traînait depuis tant d'années et il profite mieux de la vie maintenant. Il vient nous voir à Entrée libre chaque semaine, et on le voit enfin sourire...

Il est encore insécure et il a peur de quitter la maison de transition mais... qu'à cela ne tienne, la partie est gagnée!

### ***André, un client en libération conditionnelle totale***

André a commis son crime sous l'effet de l'alcool. Il n'est pas criminalisé et son attitude à l'intérieur des murs est très adéquate. Les pronostics semblent très bons dans son cas. Il est donc libéré en maison de transition... puis en libération conditionnelle totale. C'est là que la situation se gâte. Dès qu'il se retrouve seul, il sombre dans la consommation abusive d'alcool.

On nous appelle à la rescousse. On le déménage de Québec à Montréal. On l'installe à la Résidence Leo's Boys. Rien n'y fait. Dès que nous le laissons seul, il se jette sur la bouteille. On le ramène en thérapie dans un CRC qui offre un bon programme. Il va très bien. Dès qu'il en sort, et qu'il se retrouve seul, il retourne à la consommation.

Malheureusement, il se montre tout à fait incapable de réintégrer la société de façon autonome et les mesures doivent être prises pour le retour en établissement afin de freiner la désorganisation.


Nous l'avons accompagné dans le constat de cet échec et l'avons encouragé à prendre les moyens nécessaires pour régler son problème de consommation afin de pouvoir réussir la prochaine fois. Nous lui avons dit que nous serions encore là pour lui.

### ***Yvon, Unité spéciale de détention***

Dans quelques mois, Yvon sera libéré de l'unité spéciale de détention. Il ne purge pas une sentence à perpétuité et cette dernière arrivera à terme en juin prochain : il l'aura purgé jusqu'au dernier jour et il sera libéré d'un endroit où il est enfermé en cellule 23 heures sur 24. C'est une situation plutôt inquiétante. L'aumônier de l'établissement a communiqué avec nous et nous a demandés d'intervenir auprès de ce monsieur.

Sans la moindre hésitation, nous avons accepté. Nous avons accepté parce que cet homme, sans aucune ressource à l'extérieur, peut représenter un grave danger pour la société et pour lui-même s'il se retrouve tout seul sur la rue après douze années de prison vécues dans des conditions de tension extrême.

Heureusement, il a accepté de nous rencontrer et il se montre ouvert à l'aide que nous allons pouvoir lui apporter. Nous en sommes encore à définir ses besoins réels et nous devrions être prêts lorsqu'il sera libéré. On parle ici de logement, de meubles, de ressources alimentaires, mais aussi et surtout de présence rassurante et d'une oreille attentive à une multitude de frustrations qui ne manqueront pas de s'exprimer.

Voilà quelques exemples qui représentent bien les divers types de clientèle avec laquelle l'intervenant communautaire Option-Vie travaillent. Bien sûr, il y en a plusieurs qui ne demandent pas autant d'attention et de présence. Ils ont de bonnes ressources à l'extérieur, ils ont un bon bagage émotionnel et intellectuel, ils ont de bonnes aptitudes sociales qui leur permettent de traverser plus aisément la phase d'adaptation à leur nouvelle vie en société. Avec ceux-là notre travail est de beaucoup simplifié et nos interventions se veulent plus ponctuelles car les besoins sont moins criants. 

## ABOUT US . . .

St. Leonard's Society of Canada is a membership-based, charitable organization dedicated to community safety. The mission of SLSC is to promote a humane and informed justice policy and responsible leadership to foster safe communities.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society or its members. Submissions, inquiries and comments are welcomed. Please contact us at:

### SLSC Head Office (Ottawa)

208 - 211 Bronson Ave.  
Ottawa ON K1R 6H5  
Tel: (613) 233-5170  
Fax: (613) 233-5122  
[slsc@on.aibn.com](mailto:slsc@on.aibn.com)  
[www.stleonards.ca](http://www.stleonards.ca)

We can also be reached at:

### SLSC Kingston Office

P. O. Box 35003  
Kingston ON K7L 5S5  
Tel: (613) 545-0253  
Fax: (613) 545-9241

Executive Director:  
Elizabeth White

Kingston Program Director:  
Joanne Knox

LifeLine In-Reach Worker:  
Gerald Bissett

Ottawa Program Director:  
David Whiteley

Researcher and Policy Advisor:  
Susan Haines

Your support helps us to do more. All donations will receive a tax receipt. Thank you. Registered Charitable Organization #12894 6829 RR0001.

### PRIVACY STATEMENT:

St. Leonard's Society of Canada respects your privacy. In compliance with the law, SLSC protects any personal information that we have for our members and donors. We do not rent, sell or trade our mailing lists. Any information we have is used to deliver services and keep you informed of our activities, programs, services, special events and opportunities to volunteer or donate. If at any time you wish to be removed from our contact listing, please contact us toll-free at 1-888-560-9760 or by e-mail at [slsc@on.aibn.com](mailto:slsc@on.aibn.com), and we will accommodate your request.

# Last Words

## AGM 2006

St. Leonard's Society of Canada will be holding its Annual General Meeting at the Elmhirst Resort in Keene, Ontario on Saturday June 3, 2006. Agenda items include: approval of agenda, minutes of previous AGM, actions of Board of Directors, Strategic Plan and Operating plan to 2010, receipt of reports of Board of Directors and Auditor, appointment of Auditor, disposition of policy resolutions, and an election to determine Directors of the Society.

Registration is required for attendance at the AGM and related activities. Registration forms, detailed information on the AGM agenda and other weekend activities are available from SLSC's Head Office in Ottawa.

## In Memoriam

### Tom Hayes

On February 3, 2006 we were saddened to learn of the passing of Tom Hayes. Tom was an addiction counsellor with St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton for many years. He was well known and respected within St. Leonard's Society and his field. Tom's dedication and commitment were inspirational to everyone he worked with, including co-workers and clients. He will be sadly missed by all, especially his wife Janet Hayes and their children.

### Kevin Mills

Former SLS Nova Scotia staffer Kevin Mills passed away the morning of March 22, 2006 at the age of only 39, after a two years illness. Kevin served as House Director for the TAPS facility and many St. Leonard's staff and Board members will remember him as their guide for the New Minas tour during the highly successful 2001 AGM in Nova Scotia.

## Comings and Goings

The new year has brought with it a few new faces to St. Leonard's Society of Canada. Most notably are our new Directors: we welcome **Lindsay Broderick** from Larch House in Sudbury to the National Board, as well as welcoming back **Lynne Watts** from St. Leonard's Home Windsor and **Merrickay Snelgrove** from St. Leonard's Society of North Vancouver.

We would also like to welcome **Carole Mallows** back to the Society. After crafting a successful proposal to the National Crime Prevention Centre, Carole began as Project Manager of the Better Practices Manual project in February. She provides a positive, calm and warm-hearted presence to the Ottawa office and we are thankful to have her working with us.

University of Ottawa criminology placement student **Kim Marsh** completed her placement with us in December of last year. While the student placements are sometimes *too* short and sweet, we thank her for the contribution to our work, particularly on her research into mental health issues. We wish her all the best for the future.

SLSC also lost Carleton international student from Spain, **Begoña Villarroya** in February. Begoña helped with much of the day to day operations while she improved her business English skills. We miss her enthusiasm around the office but plan to keep in touch. We are hopeful that the Applied Language Studies school of Carleton will allow us the opportunity to place another international student in the future.

**Stephanie Marcil**, a third year criminology and psychology student from Carleton University has joined the National Office team this week. We are grateful to have the help of a bright student to provide administrative support in the office and to assist with the Better Practices Manual and Mental Health project as needed. Thank you Stephanie, we look forward to working with you!