

Sudbury-Manitoulin Foster Parent Association

P.O. Box 2172, Postal Station "A"

Sudbury, P3A 4S1

Sudburymanitoulinfap@gmail.com

NEWS LETTER

www.sudburymanitoulinfpa.com

September 2008

Membership Meeting – Sept. 30/08

- 6:30 at front door
- Conference Room "B"

We have over 300 foster parents in our system. If everyone gave us 4 hours per year we would accomplish all we need to plus. We have great plans for the betterment of Foster Parents. Please don't let a few carry the whole ball. We believe in you.

We're Back and We Have Decisions to Make

- The Foster Parent Association Executive has been busy over the summer and we are ready to show all the work we have done.
- There is a vote on the Legal Fund Decision. **This is a very important vote.** You will receive a ballot next week. The vote will take place at the membership meeting September 30th, 2008. If you cannot make the meeting – please mail the vote back in the self-addressed envelope; it will not be opened until the vote at the Membership Meeting.
- We have lots to share, and you need to hear all that will be shared. Please show us that you care enough to hear what we have done.
- We are going to Espanola to meet with the West Foster Parents on Sept. 15th, 11 – 12 Come have a coffee with us
- Tell Us Please what you want in training the Agency is willing, but would like to tailor them to our needs.
- Please remember to call in about the Foster Parent Appreciation Night – Oct. 24/08.
- We have a website up and running – it will be great as it is, but we will more perks added over the next few months.
- Don't forget our Logo Contest.
- We need those interested in the Breast Milk Issue to call in with your concerns.

Foster-Parents Association of ON Legal Fund

An information package about the Ontario Legal Fund, we of the FPA are proposing to join will arrive in early Sept. Please read it carefully, ask questions, be prepared, the vote will take place at the September 30th, membership meeting. This decision is a major one that is in your hands. If there is information you would like to check on, you can call, Denis, Nancy from the FPA numbers on back. You may also check on the Ontario Foster Parents Website, there is a link to the Legal Fund.

www.fosterparentssociety.org

President's Message

I hope everyone had a good summer. School is back and I'm sure that most of us are happy about that. Remember, the membership meeting on September 30th is extremely important. A big decision will be made about the legal fund and we need you there to vote. A package is being sent in the mail explaining everything. Make sure to read and call us if you have any questions. The voting card can be dropped off at the front desk at CAS. Also, at this meeting, we will have a guest speaker. Louise Jarvis sits on the Board of Directors and will be providing us with information on what the Board does and how it impacts us as foster parents. I hope to see you there.

Denis Boisvenue

Week of the Child

We need at least 15 Foster Parents to come to the Celebration of the Week of the Child. It is a Market Square, Saturday, September 27th, at 10:00 a.m. All are needed but we require at least 15, so come and join the fun.

Foster Parent Recognition Night

October 24, 2008

The Agency is going to a lot of trouble to put on a very wonderful and classy night as a thank you to us. Come out and see what they have in store for us. We as part of this – need to also reciprocate with a thank you by attending. If you have not attended before you are in for the treat of your life, if you have you know it is a show well worth attending. We as part of the executive would like you to come and be part of our table. Come and meet with us at the same time. Call Nancy or Denis from the executive and we will only be to happy to have you come and sit at one of our tables. We want to share this night with all of you and so does the Agency workers, so please let us all be at one great night together. **After you call Heather 566-5866 Ext. 2348 Call one of us, we want everyone to be there.**

MARILYN CALMAIN MEMORIAL AWARD

We have until October 14th, to nominate someone – please think about someone you feel is worthy – and send it in to the Agency – Foster parent Recognition

CRITERIA: Foster parents who are presently fostering and have gone above and beyond in their parenting role. They have demonstrated commitment to children's well-being, an ability to advocate on behalf of all parties, are able to focus on the strengths of others, are able to bring out the best in others, and give humbly and unselfishly.

SELECTION: Written nominations can be made by foster parents, the Foster Parents' Association, CAS staff, or the community and directed to Supervisor, Residential Services. The final selection will be made by consensus by the Foster Parent Recognition committee members.

PHILOSOPHY: To acknowledge the deep caring and commitment to the quality of care that children receive: a life-long goal and value that Marilyn strived for each and every day

*** It is being requested that if foster parents would like to either submit a photo or have their file photo used for a slideshow that will be shown during the course of foster parent recognition night in October if they could call in to Heather Maltais x, 2348 and/or submit prior to middle September - it would be most appreciated.*

Don't Forget to Vote: well if the States and Canada can have a vote, how about the Foster Parent Association. We have one that will affect every foster parent on Sept. 30. All future and all present Foster Parents are required to be there or mail their ballot in. Island and Western Regions wanting to bring their ballots to the meeting on September 15th, at Winkels, please do so we will seal it in an envelope until the Membership Meeting.

LOGO CONTEST

We are in need of a Logo for our Foster Parent Association. We are asking all Children of all ages, parents or immediate families to submit a design. Prizes will be available and your logo just may be the one that will make you famous. Please submit your Logo by October 17th, 2008 to the Foster Parent Assoc. Box 2171, Station "A", Sudbury, ON P3A 4S1. The judging will take place at the October 28th, membership meeting and all names will be published with a great thanks for all you have done.

Sudbury West – Manitoulin

We need your input and your voice.

There is a meeting in Espanola for all members of FPA especially from the Western part of our Area.

Winkles Independent Grocers, Hwy 6 – upstairs in the meeting room.

Time: 10 – 12 a.m.

September 15th

Part of the FPA and CAS Executive will be there for any questions you may have.

Congratulation to Jacqueline and Dana Singer. The Sudbury-Manitoulin Children's Aid Society Board of Directors recognizes them with the honour of Honorary Society Members. The Singer's have been fostering for 32 years and are still going strong.

Training

CPR and First Aid – Sept. 17 and 18, 6:00 – 10:00 Training Centre

Car Seat Clinic Oct. 30/08 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Quality Inn, Senator Road

Active Parenting of Teens – Oct. 24/08 and Dec. 12/08 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Training Centre

Call:

Heather Maltais

Foster Care Services T.A.

Ext 2348

Heather Maltais is our contact at Ext. 2348

Heather.Maltais@casdsm.on.ca

It is so cost efficient to send our newsletter and information out by electronic mail

Meet the Executive

Hello, My name is Shell Hagglund and I am one of your Director At Large Executive Members. I have been fostering for no less than 8 years and I can tell you that through my experiences of fostering that I have laughed with such great joy and learned a great deal about myself through the complex issues that our vulnerable children bring.

I am a single mom with one beautiful 9-year-old girl, Catherine and have lived in British Columbia before returning to my home area here. I am here for all who may need assistance. I am working now on some policies important to so many Foster Parents.

Recruitment

The CAS Recruitment Committee and your FPA would like to remind you about the importance of recruiting. We always have to think of new people to bring in. If your efforts lead the home to be open and approved, you will receive a \$50 cheque from CAS.



School is hard, and some children need more support and resources in order to succeed.



Refer a child for EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Homework Club Wednesday nights 6-7:45
1:1 Tutoring for children in care



Contact the children's service worker to request a referral be made.

For further questions, contact: Roxanne Mikkelsen, Volunteer Coordinator, Specialized Support Services Unit, EXT 2322.

Homework Hotline

Need Help with Homework? We are just a phone call or email away. When sitting at home and frustrated or confused with homework we have a helping hand. *Monday through Thursday* between the *hours of four to six*, we are here to offer assistance and helpful tips.

Call 566-5866 Ext. 2462 or email homework.hotline1@gmail.com within 20 minutes some assistance will be in touch with you.

For further information: Call Roxanne Mikkelsen, 566-5866 ext. 2322

This information will be on the sudburymanitoulinfpa.com website with further information.

Sudbury-Manitoulin Foster Parent Assoc – Executive.

Denis Boisvenue, President
Sissy (Linda) Thibeault, Vice-Pres.
Nancy McFarlane, Secretary
Joanne Zambelli, Treasurer
Bernie Cascanette, Dir. At Large
Shelly Hagglund, Dir. At Large
Alverna Newbury, Dir. At Large
Kim Mulack Area Rep. West Esp. Manitoulin
Rachel Ross, Area Rep. South-East

Christmas Party

We are having our Christmas Party:

Wahnapiatae Hall – (Bottom of the hill, right hand side, just before the town) This hall donated to us from their board (thank you so much)

1:00 P.m. November 29th, 2008

Santa, Games, Lunch, Gifts, Prizes – Watch the newsletters for more news.

Please call one of your executive and give them the name of your children and their ages. This is for children of all ages. All Foster Parents and their foster as well as, biological children are included. Agency Workers are welcome to come and have their children and themselves mingle with all of us (Please call an executive member about this)