



CONTINUITY NEWS

Supporting families in Manitoba to plan for an enriched quality of life
for their family member with an intellectual disability

SEPTEMBER 2010

Annual General Meeting

Continuity Care held its Annual General Meeting on June 23rd, 2010. The meeting was chaired by our new Board President Jane Schledewitz and was attended by 28 members. The agenda items included the presentation of Continuity Care's revised By Laws by Art Hock, an update on the hockey tournament fundraiser by Jeoff Chipman, Executive Director's report from Suzanne Swanton and the presentation of the new slate of Board Directors by Dolly Chudnow.

We were pleased to have Ryan Smoluk as our guest speaker. Ryan is a local, award winning artist whose art has been showcased internationally. Ryan eloquently shared some of his insights and experiences about living with Autism that was both inspiring and educational. He also brought along some of his artwork to display. The evening ended with a BBQ dinner and time for our members to spend making and renewing connections.

Thank you to everyone who attended and made our AGM an evening to remember.

Hard copies of the Annual Report, Year End Financials and the revised By Laws are available at the Continuity Care office. Our Annual Report can also be viewed on our website at www.continuitycare.ca

Continuity Care's Board of Directors 2010 – 2011

Jane Schledewitz *President*
Linda Ormonde *Past President*
Jo Verstraete *Secretary*
Merv Gunter *Treasurer*

Dolly Chudnow
Adeline Berg
Art Hock
Karen Leggat
Jeoff Chipman
Brian Coughlin
Jason Dyck



Inside this Issue

News from Manitoba government	pg 2
EIA and the RDSP	pg 2
Agency Awareness	pg 3
Resource Library additions	pg 3
Endowment Fund Update	pg 4
Fundraising Update	pg 4
Facilitators Wanted	pg 4
Baby Boomer Café	pg 4

News from the Province of Manitoba

Manitoba is developing Canada's first registry of people who abuse vulnerable adults, including seniors and people with disabilities or mental illnesses. This was announced on June 17th, 2010 by Minister Jim Rondeau (Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors), Minister Gord Mackintosh (Family Services and Consumer Affairs) and Minister Jennifer Howard (Labour and Immigration and Persons with Disabilities). "An abuse registry for incidents involving vulnerable adults will give caregivers, support agencies and volunteer organizations another tool that they need to more thoroughly screen potential employees," Rondeau said. "Families need to know that we will make every effort to ensure their loved ones are in good, caring hands."

A provincial committee with members from the departments of Health, Child and Family Services, along with the Winnipeg Police Service and the RCMP and people who work with seniors and adults with disabilities have been studying what other jurisdictions are doing and will make recommendations to the government for implementation of a Manitoba abuse registry.

In addition to a registry, the committee is looking at a number of options, improvements and legislative changes that will make it easier to discipline offenders and screen applications who want to work with vulnerable people.

(Source – Government of Manitoba News Release from June 17th, 2010 – the full release is available at www.gov.mb.ca/news)

EIA and the RDSP



The Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) program provides financial help and employment supports to Manitobans who have no other way to support themselves and/or their families. If you are in financial need, EIA can provide money to help with your home, living and health costs.

The Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) is exempt as an asset/income when determining eligibility for EIA.

- Contributions made directly into a RDSP by individuals, family members and other third parties up to a lifetime maximum of \$200,000 are not counted as income by EIA.
- Any money held in a RDSP (including grants, bonds and interest earned) is not counted as an asset and will not affect your EIA benefits.
- Any money withdrawn from an RDSP for any purpose is not counted as income and will not be deducted from your EIA benefits
- The liquid asset limit of \$4000 per person per year to a maximum of \$16,000 per family per year, does not apply to withdrawals from an RDSP

The Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs is currently considering options to allow EIA participants to have both, an EIA Disability Trust and an RDSP at the same time.

Continuity Care has been part of a Manitoba working group for the RDSP which includes representatives from the Province. We will continue to work on keeping up to date with any changes and developments to ensure we are providing current and accurate information to our members.

If you would like more information about Employment and Income Assistance, please call (204)948- 4000 or toll free at 1-877-812-0014 or visit their website at www.manitoba.ca/fs/assistance/eia.html. If you are an EIA participant you can speak with your EIA caseworker.

AGENCY AWARENESS

In each edition of our Newsletter, we will be profiling an agency or organization that provides services and supports to people with intellectual disabilities. We hope that this information will assist you to become more familiar with what is available in Winnipeg and surrounding areas. It is our intention to provide information and create awareness only, not to endorse or promote one agency above another.



EPIC OPPORTUNITIES, formerly known as Hope Centre Inc. has recently changed their name to better reflect who they are and the services they provide. They are invested in developing inclusive communities and apply their values to all people, not just people with intellectual disabilities.

Their Mission

Epic Opportunities exists to provide holistic, person centred supports to people with intellectual disabilities and to promote inclusive communities.

Their Values

Being rooted in Christian tradition, Epic Opportunities believes that everyone has inherent value and a purpose to fulfill. Everyone is deserving of unconditional acceptance. Our Christian roots are the foundation for our values.

Working and Learning in Community (day service)

Epic Opportunities offers holistic, person centered day supports to empower people to learn, work and enjoy life in the community. Services are available at 4 locations across Winnipeg. Each location offers a wide range of supports based on individual interests, needs and goals.

Living in Community (residential service)

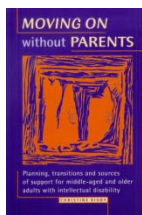
Epic Opportunities offer person centred, holistic supports to empower people to live full and meaningful lives in their own homes. They focus on each person's emotional, physical, mental and spiritual well-being. People have access to a wide range of supports based on their unique interests, needs and goals.

For more information about Epic Opportunities

Please contact their Head Office at 982-4673, by email info@epicmb.ca or visit their website at www.epicmb.ca

New to the Continuity Care Resource Library

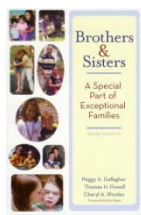
Did you know that with your Continuity Care membership, you can access our Resource Library? Call the office at 779-1679 if you are interested in borrowing these books or any other item from our library.



Moving on Without Parents

Planning, transitions and sources of support for middle-aged and older adults with intellectual disabilities

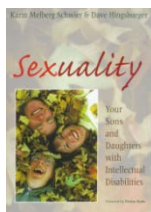
by Christine Bigby (2000)



Brothers and Sisters – A Special Part of Exceptional Families

Filled with inspiring personal stories, facts and wisdom, and practical advice to help understand and celebrate the special bond between siblings

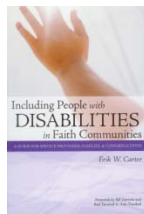
by Peggy A. Gallagher, Thomas H. Powell and Cheryl A. Rhodes (2006)



Sexuality – Your Sons and Daughters with Intellectual Disabilities

Learn how to interact with your child – of any age or ability – to increase self-esteem, encourage appropriate behaviour, empower them to recognize and respond to abuse, and enable them to develop lifelong relationships

by Karin Melberg Schwier and Dave Hisburger (2000)



Including People with Disabilities in Faith Communities

A guide for services providers, families and congregations to assist with including people with disabilities in a welcoming, supportive community of faith

by Erik W. Carter (2007)

Endowment Fund Update

Our Endowment Fund held with The Winnipeg Foundation was established in 1998. A goal of 2 million dollars was set by the Capital Campaign Board of Directors to sustain the basic operation of our organization in perpetuity. Each year, we receive quarterly payments from the interest earned on our fund based on the spending policy set by the Winnipeg Foundation. As of July 31st, 2010, the market value of our fund was \$1,777,381.36.

Continuity Care does not rely on government funding. We need your assistance to make us financially secure and a donation to our fund will help sustain our organization.

Donations can be made by credit card at www.wpgfdn.org or cheques can be made out to Continuity Care's Endowment Fund and mailed directly to:



The Winnipeg Foundation
1350 – One Lombard Place
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0X3

Facilitators Wanted

Continuity Care is currently looking to hire Facilitators for our new Sharing Circle of Support Program for Selkirk and Altona areas.

What is involved?

- One year contract
- Flexible schedule mainly evenings & weekends
- Approx. 3-5 hrs per month, per circle
- Approx. 2-3 circles per Facilitator
- Training and supervision provided
- Criminal Record & Child Abuse Registry checks
- Ability to work independently and as a team

For more information, please contact Suzanne at (204) 779-1679 or by email at contcare@mts.net



This Celebrity Hockey classic, in support of the Manitoba Moose Yearling Foundation and Continuity Care, allows the everyday hockey enthusiasts to team up with former NHL greats to play hockey and raise funds for various Charities in Manitoba.

The team that raises the most money will receive first round draft pick of an NHL Superstar at an unforgettable "Draft Day Experience" on Thursday November 11th. Teams will hit the ice on Friday November 12th at the brand new state of the art MTS Iceplex, with VIP treatment before and after the games.

For more information about the event and how you can pledge a player or team, please visit www.keanehockeyclassic.com

Baby Boomer Café



As our parents pass away, our siblings with a disability need relationships and friends more than ever. The Baby Boomer Café is a place where you and your sibling can build relationships and community. Come and join us!

Next gathering: Sunday November 21st, 2010
1590 Henderson Hwy
4 – 8pm

Please contact Jane Schledewitz @ 667-4596 for more information

Don't forget to renew your membership with Continuity Care Inc.

1 Year Family Membership \$20
Lifetime Family Membership \$250

With your membership enjoy free workshops during the year, voting privileges at AGM, one to one planning and a copy of The Circle of Life workbook.

We are now able to accept membership fees and donations by VISA or MasterCard



(see our website for a membership form)

Continuity Care Inc.
2-120 Maryland St.
Winnipeg, MB
R3G 1L1

Ph: (204) 779-1679
Fax: (204) 786-6766
contcare@mts.net
www.continuitycare.ca



If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact our office