



NATIONAL
ALLIANCE FOR
CHILDREN AND
YOUTH
(NACY) /
L'ALLIANCE
NATIONALE
POUR
L'ENFANCE ET
LA JEUNESSE
(ANEJ)

CONTENTS

A time for a new mission on behalf of young people in Canada?	1
The Year at a Glance	3
Stay Connected	4
Taking Stock	5
Members	5
Balance Sheet	8
Income Statement — General Account	9
Income Statement — Project Account	10
Contact Information	11
Board of Directors	11

Annual Report 2009/2010

A time for a new mission on behalf of young people in Canada?

It is the sad truth that child and youth development occupies a low priority in the current public policy discourse in Canada. Of course, most Canadians are very interested in children and fully recognize that children “are our future”. However, somewhere between our belief and action, the connection breaks down and we are left with disappointing results. There are many factors that contribute to this breakdown including our understanding of the issues, their urgency and our relationship to our other priorities.

Most Canadians, for example, hold the belief that for the most part, our children are doing well. Although our children are growing up in the most affluent society in human history and they have access to opportunities and resources that are unparalleled, we also must be aware of the huge challenges and problems they face. The rate of children growing up in poverty remains at 16%, notwithstanding the commitment of all national political parties to eliminate this scourge ten years ago. Further, we know the circumstances for Aboriginal children (both on and off reserve) who are growing up facing epidemic problems of poverty, racism, poor housing, access to education, violence, crime and substance abuse. There are growing concerns for the population of Canadian children who are facing a poverty trap that denies them the opportunity to participate in the Canadian dream. Child neglect remains the primary reason for children being reported to child protection services, followed closely by children who are witnessing family violence. The data shows that during the past decade, these numbers have continued to grow.



Peter Dudding,
Board co-Chair

Although Canadian society has continued to become more affluent, it is also true that the schisms have amplified and the divide between poverty and wealth increases. It is also true that our affluence has become a source of risk for many young people with obesity, threatening to make this the first generation with a lower life expectancy. The pressures of a modern society have also raised real concerns about young people reporting diminished relationships with parents and families, increasing risk-taking behaviours, and greater exposure to exploitation through the internet to sex, gambling and other risks.

It seems as Charles Dickens noted in a Tale of Two Cities, that we live in both the “worst of times and the best of times”. It is also the case that Canadian children have continued to progress in areas such as educational attainment and reduced youth crime.

“NACY relies upon the dedication and participation of so many committed volunteers and organizations to support and build a network to promote a well-balanced approach to human development.”

Cont'd ...

However, it is both curious and problematical that in a rapidly aging Canadian society, we do not have greater interest, attention and focus on child and youth development. In fact, we are regressing rather than progressing. Our national action plan, “A Canada Fit for Children” was released in 2004. The plan was a comprehensive description of the issues in Canada, although it lacked goals and time frames. This important omission was the result of the continuing inability to resolve federal/provincial/territorial responsibilities in this area. Shortly thereafter, the federal cabinet post responsible for children was eliminated, and successive governments have ignored the repeated request for a federal children’s commission.

The recent history of child and youth policy development in Canada (and the national organizations that promote this work) has been difficult and challenging. The issues are all but ignored, and many of the national organizations have disappeared.

The purpose of the National Alliance on Children and Youth (NACY) is even more critical at present. Our organization is dedicated to promoting and advocating for this important public policy dialogue with decision makers and leaders. A sustainable Canada will depend upon how we integrate our economic and environmental policies with our social policies. It is clear that we can - and must - do better!

NACY relies upon the dedication and participation of so many committed volunteers and organizations to support and build a network to promote a well-balanced approach to human development. We are greatly appreciative of these efforts that span from local communities to the national level. We also recognize that the size, scope and urgency of these challenges continue to grow.

On behalf of the board and membership of NACY, I want to thank you for your support and ask for your continuing commitment to work with us to make Canada a better place for children to grow and thrive. A renewal of efforts with, and on behalf of, young people is required. We look forward to greater success in bringing these issues to the attention of all Canadians.

Peter Dudding,
NACY Board co-Chair



Dave W. Farthing
Board co-Chair &
Treasurer

The Year at a Glance

Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls.

~David Thomas

It is such an honor to reflect NACY's gratitude to the many people who have nobly and unselfishly helped to move forward the NACY mission to promote the health and wellbeing of children and youth in Canada. We have been fortunate to continue to receive the support and confidence of so many colleagues through membership fees and the voluntary efforts of our Board of Directors and volunteers. Thank you all sincerely!

As a result of our limited resources, we have continued to find creative solutions to maintain our presence and much of our focus for the past year was seeking out funding opportunities that will allow us to do our work. Some highlights of NACY's undertakings of the past year include:

Applied for HRSDC's, Social Development Partnership Program (SDPP) call for proposals. Out of 800 or so submissions, NACY was one of the 37 organizations that was approved for a 3-year project entitled *Taking Stock: Supporting Canadian Child and Youth Agencies in Economic Crisis*.

Co-applied as a fiscal agent, for the Status of Women of Canada's, Women's Community Fund call for proposals for a project entitled *InTelliGirls: A Mentoring Program to achieve INclusive, inTELLigent, Girls*.

NACY launched an initial Survey on the Economic Impact to understand how the economic turmoil of the past year (2008-2009) has affected the organizations we work with and to determine how we can best support our member agencies as we move forward by anticipating the needs.

NACY continued to participate on national advisory committee and attend national forums.

NACY continued to produce the popular monthly e-Digest full of important events, initiatives and policy work being done by the many great organizations in our sector. These bulletins continue to help feed our network of members with timely information and ideas. Special thanks again this year to Amanda and our "youth" board members Ben and Ilana for their leadership on this.

“Stay tuned as this new year will feature even more online developments that will make it easier to keep in touch and to share innovation across the country!”

Cont’d ...

NACY collaborated with other organizations on initiatives such as:

- The Child & Youth Mental Health Survey; allowing NACY to help shape the future of Canada’s child and youth mental health system,
- An Open Letter to all MP’s, highlighting results from the Child Care Human Resources Sector Council’s report, calling on the government to provide policy and funding leadership so that all parents have access to affordable high quality early childhood education and care services.
- An Open Letter to Premier Dalton McGuinty, encouraging him to implement his early learning advisor’s report on how Ontario can achieve more family-centered schools that are vibrant learning hubs for children and their parents.

Lastly, NACY responded to the private members Bill C-418, An Act to establish a Children’s Commissioner of Canada, presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Marc Garneau. We were able to meet with Mr. Garneau to discuss Bill C-418 to ensure participation of young people, the next steps in public support and the legislative process.

And we are not stopping here. Stay tuned as this new year will feature even more online developments that will make it easier to keep in touch and to share innovation across the country!

In closing, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank my hard working fellow board members, our coordinator Amanda Mayer, our “Taking Stock” Project team, Wai Young and Associates and Dr. Grant Charles and our dedicated Members. Without all of whom this year would not have been the successful year it was.

Yours in peace,

Dave W. Farthing
NACY Board Co-Chair & Treasurer

Stay connected ...

Follow us on **Twitter**

@NACY_ANEJ



Join us on **Facebook**

National Alliance for Children and Youth (NACY)



Check out our **Website**

www.nacy.ca



Taking Stock: Supporting Canadian Child & Youth Agencies during Economic Crisis

Project Background

In May 2008 the National Alliance for Children and Youth (NACY) Board of Directors submitted a 3 year project proposal to "Take Stock" of how the economic crisis was impacting the vulnerable child & youth sector in Canada and to identify solutions for how the sector could address important issues such as agency capacity, sustainability and efficiencies. Despite Canada being the last country to be impacted by the world economic crisis and the first and most stable economy emerging from it, the not-for-profit (NFP) sector in Canada was not immune from the economic crisis' rapid impact. Traditional sources of funding for the sector (community foundations, businesses, etc.) were in crisis themselves, putting NFP agencies serving children and youth at risk. The NACY Board believed that its unique role in Canada could provide the knowledge and leadership required to mobilize our member agencies in communities across Canada to take stock, gauge the impact of the economic crisis on the sector, and devise ways and means to sustain access to services by children & youth.

Challenge

NACY member agencies in the sector across Canada were, and continue to experience:

- A front line sector with families on their doorsteps struggling with capacity, delivery and sustainability challenges;
- Working with complex and difficult situations to serve the most vulnerable and marginalized;
- Community agencies reliant on volunteers, community donations and goodwill surviving on inconsistent and patchwork funding;
- Documented evidence that Canadian families are at risk, as evidenced by increased child and family poverty statistics, educational and health thresholds not being met, and increased homelessness.

These service delivery factors have contributed to increasingly isolated or clusters of homegrown services working in silos without networking support/learning capacity or economies of scale within many communities. Much experience, learning, efficiency models, mentorships, or new approaches have not been captured or shared to improve services, increase capacity, or to help a struggling services survive.

Taking Stock Cont'd ...

The Taking Stock Project

Through this project, NACY proposes to strengthen NACY member agencies to:

1. Take stock of current economic realities impacting member agencies in the child & youth sector in the areas of: capacity building, knowledge acquisition/mentorship and sustainability,
2. Identify the best crisis management, models and/or approaches available or being practiced by agencies in these areas, and
3. Share, germinate ideas, solutions and approaches in the Child & Youth sector to support agencies to:
 - (a) build increased capacity and/or more efficiencies;
 - (b) gain more knowledge/mentorship abilities to support agencies facing crisis;
 - (c) support and strengthen agencies to achieve greater sustainability.

After an Ottawa Think Tank session with sector leaders which lead to recommended activity changes, a submission has been made to amend the original project activities to include the following

- Identify, document and share 15 evidence-based case studies to capture transformational change ideas and solutions in the Atlantic, Western and Central regions of Canada.
- Plan and facilitate regional Child and Youth Sector Think Tank Sessions and Focus Groups to share sector challenges, solutions and information.
- Conduct 2 national surveys to capture baseline and downstream information about the Child & Youth sector's status, challenges and needs.
- Conduct a Literature Review to capture and provide information on capacity building, service delivery efficiencies and sustainability for knowledge transfer to the sector.
- Build a robust NACY sector website to facilitate knowledge transfer and sector support.

In fall 2009, NACY received confirmation of this project's funding from the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnerships Program and in January 2010, was able to launch the "Taking Stock" project.

NACY members will be able to get more information about our exciting "Taking Stock" project as it is implemented and available on the NACY website.

For more information, please contact:

- the NACY Taking Stock Committee members: Nancy Birnbaum (nbirnbaum@rogers.com) and Tara Stang (tstang@muttart.org) or
- the Project Director, Wai Young (takingstock@nacy.ca)

Members 2009-2010

Active Healthy Kids Canada
Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada
Canadian AIDS Society
Canadian Association for Community Living
Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Canadian Association of Social Workers
Canadian 4-H Council
Canadian Nurses Association
Canadian Paediatric Society
Canadian Parents for French
Canadian Psychological Association
Canadian Public Health Association
Canadian Teachers' Federation
Canadian Unitarian Council
Canadian Women's Foundation
Child Welfare League of Canada
Equitas – International Centre for Human Rights Education
Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada
Invest in Kids
Kids Help Phone
Laidlaw Foundation
Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth
Muttart Foundation (The)
National Association of Friendship Centres
PREVNet
Public Health Agency of Canada – Division of Childhood and Adolescence
Resource Assistant for Youth
Scouts Canada
Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada
United Way of Canada - Centraide Canada
Vanier Institute of the Family (The)
YOUCAN
YMCA Canada
YWCA Canada



We have been fortunate to continue to receive the support and confidence of so many colleagues through membership fees and the voluntary efforts of our Board of Directors and volunteers.

Balance Sheet 2009 - 2010

ASSETS

Cash

TD Chequing — General	2,720.36
TD Chequing — Project	<u>69,747.78</u>
Cash Total	72,468.14

OTHER ASSETS

GST Receivable	<u>1,941.92</u>
Other Assets Total	1,941.92

CAPITAL ASSETS

Laptop computers	2,698.83
Data projector	<u>610.08</u>
Capital Assets Total	3,308.91

TOTAL ASSETS

77,718.97
=====

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	67,614.36
Accured Liabilities	<u>800.00</u>
Total Liabilities	68,414.36

EQUITY

Retained Earnings	9,911.55
Current Earnings	<u>(606.94)</u>
Total Equity	9,304.61

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

\$77,718.97
=====



Income Statement 2009 - 2010

General Account

REVENUE

Membership	7,000.00
------------	----------

TOTAL REVENUE	<u>7,000.00</u>
----------------------	-----------------

EXPENSE

Bank Charges	40.71
--------------	-------

Contracted Services	8,345.00
---------------------	----------

Insurance	186.30
-----------	--------

Professional Fees	1,500.00
-------------------	----------

Professional Memberships	230.00
--------------------------	--------

Telecommunications	138.33
--------------------	--------

Travel & Accommodation	475.16
------------------------	--------

TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>10,915.50</u>
----------------------	------------------

NET INCOME	(\$3,915.50)
-------------------	---------------------

=====

In order to further our objectives, NACY continues to seek funding from a variety of sources including governments, foundations, corporations, and individuals.



Income Statement 2009 - 2010

Project Account

REVENUE

Project Funding	96,000.00
-----------------	-----------

TOTAL REVENUE	<u>96,000.00</u>
----------------------	------------------

EXPENSE

Accounting	2,716.75
------------	----------

Bank Charges	11.95
--------------	-------

Communications Consultants	3,514.28
----------------------------	----------

Design Consultants	1,200.00
--------------------	----------

Insurance	558.90
-----------	--------

Meals	92.46
-------	-------

Postage & Courier	57.22
-------------------	-------

Professional Fees	42,519.45
-------------------	-----------

Project Administration	6,900.00
------------------------	----------

Rent	1,820.00
------	----------

Speciality Consultants	5,125.00
------------------------	----------

Supplies & Materials	3,187.34
----------------------	----------

Technology Support	6,150.00
--------------------	----------

Telecommunications	437.10
--------------------	--------

Think Tank Expenses	18,192.92
---------------------	-----------

Travel & Accommodation	<u>208.07</u>
------------------------	---------------

TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>92,691.44</u>
----------------------	------------------

NET INCOME	\$3,308.56
-------------------	-------------------

=====



National Alliance for Children and Youth (NACY) / L'alliance nationale pour l'enfance et la jeunesse (ANEJ)

130 Albert Street, Suite 1705
Ottawa, ON
K1P 5G4

Phone: 613.292.0569
E-mail: info@nacy.ca
Website: www.nacy.ca

The National Alliance for Children and Youth (NACY) brings diverse nonprofit organizations together in a collaborative network dedicated to enhancing the well-being and health of children and youth in Canada.

NACY provides leadership and knowledge dedicated to mobilizing and linking practice and research to policy development to support the changing and diverse needs of families on a pan-Canadian basis.



Board of Directors 2009-2010

Nancy Birnbaum
Invest in Kids
Toronto (ON)

Jennifer Dickson (Secretary)
Canadian Unitarian Council
Toronto (ON)

Wendy Craig
Queen's University
Kingston (ON)

Peter Dudding (Co-Chair)
Child Welfare League of Canada
Ottawa (ON)

Dave W. Farthing
(Co-Chair & Treasurer)
YOUCAN Ottawa (ON)

Ilana Lockwood
University of Ottawa (Student)
Ottawa (ON)

Janice MacAulay
FRP Canada
Ottawa (ON)

Ben O'Bright
Carleton University (Student)
Ottawa (ON)

Tara Stang
Muttart Foundation
Edmonton (AB)