

Annual Staff Meeting

The 2010 Annual Staff Meeting was held on June 10, 2010 and attended by 52 employees. This year, the Land Ambulance Program staff hosted the meeting and therefore was responsible for the agenda. Dan McCormick, Health Services Manager, assisted by Ed Carlson and Trevor Johnson, EMS Supervisors, presented information on Stress Management and Critical Incident Stress Management. Several excellent suggestions were provided on how to deal with the stress we all encounter in our personal and professional lives. Well done! (The role play session identified many fine actors in the group!)

The following employees were recognized for their years of service:

5 years Bobbi-Jo Arrigo
 Stephanie Cain
 Maureen Thomson
 Fred Sinninghe
 Amy Welsh

10 years Dave Black
 Verne Craven
 Donna Dittaro
 Gary Godin
 Therese Gouliquer
 Pat Livicker
 Shelley Shute

20 years Rob Altbauer

Riverview Manor Aging at Home

Kristan Miclash, Executive Director, Northwestern Independent Living Services Inc (NILS) continues to meet with the Northwest LHIN to seek funding for support staff at Riverview Manor in Rainy River. Unfortunately, the Northwest LHIN has not yet approved funding to provide on-site staff for personal support services. Kristan reports that the NWLHIN is in the process of completing an internal review and a review of the current supportive housing stock which they hope to have finished by October. Following the review, a Supportive Housing Working Group will be developed – the terms of reference are not known. Given that we are

in the process of renovating Riverview Manor and wish to place our first tenants in the modified units over the summer, we are somewhat discouraged to see the process for staffing stalled at this point. We will continue to follow any progress in this regard. In the meantime, should you wish to support the NLS Proposal for support staff at Riverview Manor, please forward your comments/letters of support to Kristan as follows:

Kristan Miclash
Executive Director
Northwestern Independent Living Services Inc.
PO Box 199, 916 Ottawa St.
Keewatin, On P0X 1C0

Email: kmiclash@nils.ca
Ph: (807) 547-3486
Fx: (807) 547-3551
Toll Free: 1-888-939-0993

Extended Day Fee Subsidy Funding

On June 22nd, the Ministry of Education's Early Learning Division released a memorandum detailing the administration of fee subsidies for the extended day component of the full-day kindergarten program. Of particular note is the central role assigned to consolidated municipal service managers (CMSMs) and DSSABs in this administration role.

According to the new guidelines, CMSMs and DSSABs are required to review the fee subsidy process annually, to use the existing fee subsidy policies to guide the subsidy determination process for parents (income testing), to continue to manage the wait lists, to establish overall framework agreements with school boards for the management of the fee subsidy systems, and to continue to report fee subsidy data to the province including data for extended school day subsidies.

In our District, Northstar Public School and St. Patrick's School will be the first schools to offer the full-day kindergarten program beginning in September, 2010. Before- and after-school care and holiday care will not be provided in the schools in Atikokan, given the apparent lack of interest, however child care services will continue to be offered by Atikokan Non-Profit Day Care. Robert Moore and St. Michaels Schools will offer the full-day kindergarten program beginning in September, 2011. The ability to offer extended child care services at these schools have not yet been determined.

Emergency Energy Fund

Several municipalities were involved in a class action lawsuit regarding the overcharging of late fees; the settlement requires each hydro authority to contribute a portion of a pre-determined amount of the late fees to an organization which assists low income individuals with energy costs. To date, the communities of Rainy River, Atikokan and Fort Frances have advised us that they will be putting our name forward as a recipient of funding for our Emergency Energy Fund (EEF). The EEF provides financial assistance to low-income families and individuals facing energy-related emergencies throughout our District. The fund covers costs equivalent to a maximum of two months of energy arrears in addition to security deposits and reconnection fees. Our provincial allocation is only \$4,900 per year which goes very quickly so the additional funds will be well received. If approved, we will receive over \$10,000 through the class action settlement to benefit our District. Thank you to those communities for their generous offer.

Human Resources

The following Human Resource activity has taken place since last reported:

Name	Title	Status	Start/Effective Date
Tera Boettcher	Mtce/Custodian Assistant	Summer Student	18 May/10
Teri Cain	Mtce/Custodian Assistant	Summer Student	18 May/10
Robin Wakefield	Primary Care Paramedic	Interim FT	17 June/10
Riki Manuge	Integrated Intake Worker	Resignation	2 July/10
Michelle Mondor	Integrated Intake Worker	FT Replacement	28 Jun/10
Fred Sinnighe	Accounting Clerk	.8 to .6	12 July/10
Anna Carlson	Accounting Clerk	21 hr/wk to 18 hr/wk	12 July/10

Respectfully Submitted,

/d Dittaro