



YSAC UPDATE

A bi annual publication of the Canadian Youth Solvent Addiction Committee

May 2006

Volume 1, Number 1

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Sites of Interest

Our Website
CCSA Website

The Centres Websites

Charles J Andrew
Ka Na Chi Hih
Nimkee
Nupigawagan

Inhalants In the News

Caymen Islands
Kids, conceal inhalants n chip bags.

Sniffing a Rite?
One researcher describes sniffing as part of rites of passage.

Sniffing on the rise
USA Federal study shows inhalant use rising.

Thailand
Will alerting by bar codes help?

Communication is Key

On November 30, 2005, at the YSAC Quarterly meeting, the Youth Solvent Addiction Committee invited boards and regions to partake in a full day review and planning session of YSAC activities. The day was very informative and provided an excellent start to the development of the 2006- 2007 work plan for YSAC. We asked participants for feedback on a variety of topics related to Leadership of the centres, staffing the centres, buildings, environment, and direct client services. The following is a partial list of what participants said they wanted from our organization.

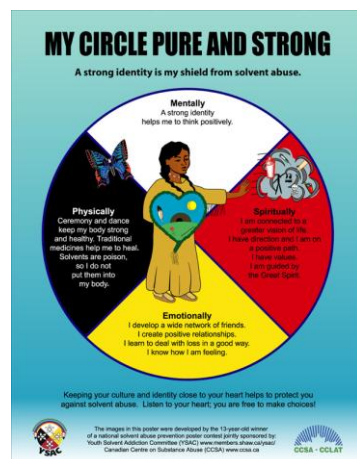
- ❑ Boards want help with recognizing management style issues
- ❑ Board orientations to addictions, and policy governance
- ❑ Assistance with appropriate Board bylaws and non-profit requirements.
- ❑ Assistance with Risk Management Planning
- ❑ Board Strategic Planning and training on critical success indicators
- ❑ A Standardized Board reporting Kit
- ❑ Cultural Protocols- Elders Roles in the Centre
- ❑ Standardized Client Curriculum
- ❑ Standardized Interview Questions for Key positions

These are just a few of the projects we will be working on through the 2006- 2007 work plan. As always we invite the participation of all levels of FNIHB, and the centres to join us as we work on these items. Twice a year we will release this email newsletter in order to meet the continuing communication and information needs of our partners.

Prevention Matters

Although the majority of our programs are residential services, over the last few years YSAC has made a concentrated effort to administer and support prevention based activities at a community and centre based level. A few of our prevention highlights for last year include

- ❑ The dissemination of over 500 solvent abuse prevention manuals to all First Nation Head start programs.
- ❑ The development of an eight-hour prevention training for communities.
- ❑ The development of a prevention poster that was the result of a national art contest for children and youth.



Posters are available through the YSAC centre in your area.

Contact Us

ysac@shaw.ca

Human Resource Highlights

Since 1996 when YSAC centres first began meeting, one of the key themes that has consistently emerged is the need for structures and systems related to human resource planning. Recruiting, retaining, and developing staff members always figures prominently on the YSAC agenda. To this end we have developed a variety of resources to aid the centres in this area including:

- ❑ Certified Trainings in Resiliency Theory, Emotional Intelligence, Valpar Motor Coordination Testing, Clinical Supervision, Research Methods and Follow Up.
- ❑ Co developed 4 training courses in conjunction with Nechi Institute in youth specific addictions areas.
- ❑ A standardized staff satisfaction survey
- ❑ Standardized Employee Orientation Kit
- ❑ Core Competency Assessments for Counsellors and Clinical Supervisors

The 2006-2007 work plan will include further developments in this area, including development and delivery of a module on Human Resource Planning for Directors, complete with a template for yearly review.

Our Meeting and Training Calendar

The following meeting list includes all general YSAC meetings and YSAC facilitated trainings. All trainings are certified through CCPC (Canadian Council of Professional Certification).

Date	Meeting/Course	Location
May 29-31, 2006	YSAC Meeting	Radisson Hotel, London
August 5 & 6, 2006	YSAC Meeting	Downtown Marriott, Edmonton
September 19-21, 2006	Clinical Supervision	Cedar Lodge, Saskatoon
October 16-20, 2006	Emotional Intelligence L1	Cedar Lodge, Saskatoon
November 14-16, 2007	YSAC Meeting	Ottawa
January 16-18, 2007	Resiliency Training	Cedar Lodge, Saskatoon
March 6-8, 2007	YSAC Meeting	Cedar Lodge, Saskatoon
March 26-31, 2007	Emotional Intelligence L2	Cedar Lodge, Saskatoon

Congratulations

- ❑ To Ka Na Chi Hih Centre on the grand opening of their new facility. After many years functioning in a portion of an old hospital the centre finally has a home of its own.
- ❑ To Charles J Andrew Centre on receiving a recent accreditation award that showed recommendations down from 40 to 8 this go round. The focus of accreditation is continuous quality improvement; this definitely is a marker of that improvement.
- ❑ To Wanda Smith, who became the new Director at White Buffalo Treatment Centre in 2005.



Dates to Note:

August 12, 2006, through October 2006 YSAC will host a seven member delegation from Australia. A researcher and six aboriginal community members will be attending the Healing Our Spirit Worldwide conference and then embarking on a national tour of at least four inhalant centres. The purpose of their trip is to learn from the Canadian experience as a prelude to the commencement of several residential inhalant centres in Australia.

Our Thoughts:

Our thoughts are with Director, Antoine Archie, from Nenqayni Treatment Centre. Antoine became very ill in January, and all of us at YSAC wish him a speedy recovery.

Regional News



First Nations Addictions and Wellness workers in British Columbia now have another option when it comes to counsellor credentialing. The Association of Treatment Directors in BC have successfully incorporated a new certification body. "First Nations Wellness/Addictions Counsellor Certification Board" is in stage one of the certification process. Application forms and standards manuals are downloadable from www.firstnationstreatment.org To read more about the process as well as other interesting articles, see the BC Treatment Directors Newsletter at <http://www.firstnationstreatment.org/pdffiles/keystohealing.pdf>

If you would like to publish any regional highlights or information in this newsletter please contact ysac@shaw.ca