

CEO MESSAGE FOR September 30, 2007

TO PONDER: *What happens is not as important as how you react to what happens.*
Thaddeus Golas

NEW FACES

On October 1, 2007 Bryan Huygen will be joining our Region. The Minister approached our Region with the possibility of having Bryan assist us. We were delighted with this possibility, given his background and strengths. There have been several times in the past when we have called upon his talents at the Ministry when we were faced with a situation we did not know the answer to. Now we only have to walk down the hallway! Please take the time to welcome Bryan.

UPDATES

The Board meeting on September 22 and 23, 2007 accepted in principle the Annual Report for 2006-07. They were also interested in several new initiatives and the events that are coming up in the next few months. For the remainder of this fiscal year we will renew our commitment and focus to ensure that General Council and the Settlement Councils are informed and engaged in our plans.

As a Management Team, we are in the process of realigning the duties under the managers as we continue to strengthen the organization and move ahead on several initiatives. All staff will be advised of these changes as soon as possible.

October 21 to 27 is Foster Family Awareness week and November is Family Violence Awareness month. We have arranged to do a presentation at the Women's Conference and there will also be a booth with information on our Region there.

On October 1, 2007 the legislative changes will be in effect and the *Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act* is law. Please take time to read the updates on Worklinks.

Two Dialogue Circles are being arranged by the Community Liaison Workers with respect to foster care and the aboriginal community. Their results will form part of the ongoing recruitment efforts for kinship, temporary and respite caregivers.

It has been identified at several meetings that I have attended that we need to make certain that data entered into CYIM is accurate. All the reports and data draw on this information and only through our diligent practice can we ensure that we are being credited for our efforts.

On a personal note, the birth of my grandbaby is so rewarding and thrilling. Jax is just a perfect baby. I want to thank all of you for your warm wishes and congratulations. Holding new life and knowing that they are part of you is every grandparent's dream. I feel so blessed. I also feel gratitude to each of you in knowing that we are doing our best for the children and families in our communities.

Take care and have a wonderful weekend.

Lillian