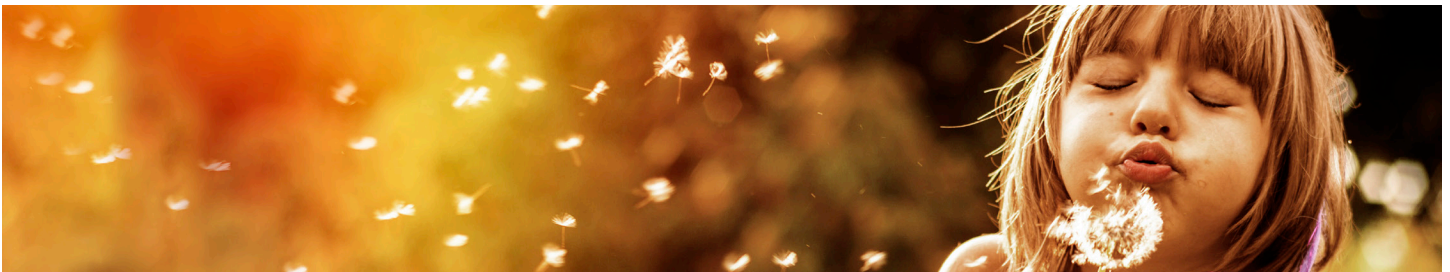


# FSC NATIONAL NEWS

Newsletter for members of Family Service Canada



## Message from the Board

The board met in April to continue to work on our strategy, focusing on two pieces of work, our business case and membership sustainability. As such we have updated our value proposition which led us to further explore why and how we come together as a network. This year we have changed the name of our annual meeting to reflect the feedback we've received from you in conjunction with the discussions we had at the board strategic day. We have landed on the concept of a "Community of Learners".

A Community of Learners is a group of people who share values and beliefs and who actively engage in learning from one another. Learning communities are connected, cooperative, and supportive. Peers are interdependent in that they have joint responsibility for learning and share resources and points of view, while sustaining a mutually respectful and cohesive environment.

This year we will be meeting in Edmonton on October 2nd and 3rd so please save the date. We expect the gathering will be cost effective and a wonderful opportunity to network and learn from each other.

### **Family Service Canada Value Proposition**

**"A national network to strengthen families in all their forms and through this increase your positive community impact".**

## CEO Spotlight: Patricia Jones

Patricia Jones is CEO of Catholic Family Service and The Unlocking Potential Foundation. As a well-respected leader in the human service sector, Patricia is known for her reverence for anyone experiencing vulnerability.

Patricia has invested over 25 years in the development and delivery of human services at CFS. Her background is in social work with a clinical specialty. Patricia was instrumental in bringing Families and Schools Together (F&ST) to Canada and to CFS and passionately believes in the power of serving families.

Patricia is passionate about barrier-free service, and leads the charge at CFS in treating those they serve with extraordinary respect and dignity. Patricia has been married for more than 28 years and has two children who are launching their own lives, yet still seem to show up for belonging, connection, and of course, food!



# Family Plus Receives Funding for Child Advocacy Centre

Child victims of sexual abuse need safe spaces where they can talk about the harm they have experienced and obtain services to help them heal. The Government of Canada is working to provide enhanced support for these victims and their non-offending family members by providing funding for the creation of multi-disciplinary, coordinated, child-focused services that are available in one location.

Wayne Long, Member of Parliament for Saint John-Rothesay, on behalf of the Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announced funding for Family Plus, a family service organization in Saint John New Brunswick. As a long-time member of the Saint John Sexual Maltreatment Committee and with their expertise in providing therapy and support to victims of sexual abuse, Family Plus is committed to providing project and administrative support to the development of these studies.



The Centre would assess, investigate, treat and seek to prevent cases of child sexual maltreatment, serving communities from Sussex to St. Stephen, NB. This one-time, \$50,000 agreement will fund a needs assessment followed by a feasibility study to identify services and opportunities, community impact, and a site location for a potential centre.

Heather Maughan, Executive Director of Family Plus, thanked Member of Parliament Wayne Long and the federal government for providing them with the funds to conduct these studies and to begin the process of developing a single point of access, offering victims and their non-offending family members wrap around services to law enforcement, medical intervention, child protection, therapeutic treatment and advocacy.

## Family Services of Peel

Family Services of Peel received funding for three years with a focus on Human Trafficking. The first phase of the project has focus research into the various aspects of the why's and how's as they relate to Human Trafficking.

In May of this year representatives from Family Services of Peel were invited to Ottawa to present as witnesses to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights specifically addressing the issue of Human Trafficking.

The committee requires a brief prior to the presentation of no more than 10 pages and the presentation is time limited. After the presentation the committee members have an opportunity to ask questions of the witness.

Prior to our presentation there were two Senators presenting on Human Trafficking to the committee and two individuals presenting via video conference.

At our last ELS the keynote for our AGM was Barb Gosse, CEO of Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking. I encouraged participants to connect with her to position themselves when the issue of Human Trafficking drew the attention of the Federal Leadership which is obviously happening now.

We hope that our presentation and those that preceded us will provide the Federal Government with the information and knowledge they need to develop a nationwide approach to address Human Trafficking.

Some data from our research to this point; there are 20.9 million victims worldwide; global sex trade generates 32 billion dollars annually; victims in Canada include women and girls from Indigenous communities, runaway and homeless youth (12 years of age and older), women with disabilities, and the list goes on. Men are victims as well, but the majority of those trafficked are young girls and women. The majority of women and girls trafficked in Canada are Canadians.

For more information please visit [www.fspeer.org](http://www.fspeer.org) and click on about us and click on research, Human Trafficking, where you will find a number of articles which guided our presentation.

We want to know what is happening in your agency. Let us know about your successes, new initiatives, important changes in staffing, anniversaries, etc. We will include them in future issues of our newsletter.

