

United Foster Parents of Canada Corporation
2014 - 2015



United Foster Parents of Canada

May 2015

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Emergency 1-855-273-0944

President's Message

It is our pleasure to provide you with the Annual Report for 2014-2015.

Since obtaining our Articles of Continuance and our new By-Laws, we have identified some corrections that needed to be made. These corrections have been approved by the Board and are being presented to the membership in June for their approval.

This year the UFPCC discovered that in 2013 Cowan Insurance partnered with DAS Canada to handle its legal expense coverage. This change brought with it several changes in procedure for making a claim for legal coverage, including a toll free number for you to call to commence a claim. You will need the Policy Number from your Society in order to commence a claim. Enquiries with numerous Societies throughout the Province indicate that most if not all are **NOT** aware of the changes.

In an effort to remove the uncertainty of "legal expenses" the Board has been in talks with DAS Canada to have a "Legal Expense" insurance policy issued to all of our members that have registered their names and address with us. Talks are progressing well and if successful will see each of our Registered Members receiving an increase in their coverage to \$100,000 from \$40,000. **Unregistered members will remain at the \$40,000 level until they provide us with their full contact details, at which point we will be able to purchase the insurance for them.**

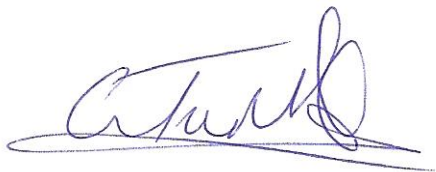
With the assistance of our auditors Welch & Co, of Belleville & Ottawa we have been able to bring the HST question to a successful conclusion without penalties, but with a \$4,132.00 interest charge.



Our new website is now fully operational; please take the time to view it at the following location www.ufpcc.com.

The Board has identified that the running of the Corporation has evolved beyond a Volunteer Board and has begun the search for an Executive Director, who will be responsible for the day to day running of the Corporation, under the direction of the Board.

The successes of the Corporation are only achieved through the tremendous efforts and commitment of our dedicated Directors, Area Representatives, Support Staff and Lawyers. Together, we work to provide positive support to foster parents and their families, when they need it most.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. Smith', written over a horizontal line.

President



Our Vision

Is that every foster family will become one of our members and can receive our support and guidance in the event of criminal proceedings against them arising from their fostering.

Current Projects

2014 Registration Project

Our Directors and Area Representatives continue to work with FPA Presidents and Agency Staff to have each and every Member fill out a Registration Form. This is a requirement of the Canada Corporations Act and ties in with the Electronic Voting project, in that members will get to register an email address for voting purposes. **This continues to be problematic** and is of even more importance now we are hoping to purchase Legal Insurance for each member.

Legal Insurance

If successful we will purchase a master policy for the Corporation, with each member receiving individual personalized certificates. The insurance company requires the names and addresses of each member in order to do this. Each "Certificate" is an individual purchase by the Corporation on the members' behalf.

This program will allow us to offer "Annual Membership & Insurance Coverage" to foster parents from other Provinces and Private Foster Homes throughout Canada, without any negative impact on the Corporation.

Electronic Voting

Is complete and has undergone a test run, which identified a couple of minor mistakes in passwords which have been corrected.



Web Site

Is now fully operation, you can send emails directly to Directors, download the required forms and access our new Affinity Program Directory. While the Affinity Program is new, it is growing weekly, our Group Rate Auto & Home insurance program is approved, as is the Health Insurance, both will be added very shortly.

What We Do

The UFPCC was formed to provide assistance to foster parents with the legal costs involved with a Police Investigation in regards to allegations made by foster children and their natural families.

While foster parents are covered by the Children's Aid liability insurance after being charged with an offence, their children and extended family members living in the home are not, neither are any caregivers.

The UFPCC provides assistance to these people as well as providing legal assistance to all natural members of the household if involved in a police investigation.

The UFPCC also provides upfront Retainer fees, so foster parents can get legal representation without waiting for the Agency to notify their Insurance Provider.

The UFPCC (on approval) provides funds to assist with an Appeal of a conviction in Criminal Court.

The Board

The Board consists of 12 volunteer Directors who are assisted by the Area Representatives of each area.

No Board Member receives a salary of any kind, but does receive reimbursement for approved expenses in relation to the Corporation's business.

The Board Members and Area Representatives are covered by Directors and Officers Insurance.



Our Members

The number of Foster Parent Associations involved has grown from 1 in 2001 to 32 in 2013.

This now represents a membership of approximately five thousand foster families and their dependents. (Active & Retired)

Our Lawyers

We have 11 Criminal Lawyers on retainer from Windsor to Ottawa and as far north as Thunder Bay. They can be accessed via the Executive Officers at any time.

We also retain the services of Anna Naud a Lawyer specializing in the “Not-for-Profit” Sector.

Calls for Assistance

In 2014 we had **36** calls for assistance from our members. This year at time of writing we have already received **22** calls for assistance.

There are currently **16** cases ongoing, seven of these are being funded by the Corporation and the remaining are funded by Agency Insurance, using UFPCC retained Lawyers.

Financials

Since 2001 the Corporation has grown to a value of \$1,339,182.00.

In the fiscal year 2014 we spent \$91,166.00 in lawyers' fees and collected \$252,014.00 in membership dues (a reduction of \$60,000 from last year, which can be attributed to the reduction of the number of children in care).



Funds valued at \$753,881.00 are invested through Scotia McLeod in a variety of GIC investments with a staggered expiry date, to provide the safest investment strategy, that Gordon Pape calls the “Ladder Effect”.

The remainder is currently held in our operational account and our Power Savers Account.

Contact Information

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