

United Foster Parents of Canada Corporation  
2015 - 2016



United Foster Parents of Canada Corporation

May 2016

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**Emergency 1-855- 273 0944**

## Executive Directors Report

It is our pleasure to provide you with the Annual Report for 2015-2016.

As you will all know we have partnered with DAS Legal Canada to provide all of our registered members with Legal Expense Insurance that mirrors the Cowan Policy for your family members and doubles the coverage that you as foster parents receive from your relevant societies. Please take the time to read over the policies that were emailed to you, copies can be obtained from your Area Representatives if you have misplaced your copy. **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 change to the insurance model we have identified needed alterations to our By-Law. These changes were approved by the Board in April of this year and will be presented to the members for ratification on June 04. Also included in the new By-Law is an amendment to who is eligible for election as a Director, effectively increasing our pool of eligible Directors.

We have been successful in obtaining Auto and Home Insurance at group rates for our members, the rates are available to all family members living at the same address and our members retain the group rates when they retire unlike other group policies.

This year we are commencing our Bursaries, for the children and grandchildren of our members.



Executive Director



## President's Report

This year has brought many changes to the UFPCC. We have purchased insurance policies for all our registered members. These policies provide our members with access to a free legal advice phone line, in addition to a legal policy that raises previous \$40,000 coverage to \$100,000. We are reaching out to our members by exploring and expanding our online presence through both our website and Facebook, and hope to pursue LinkedIn and Twitter in the near future.

We have worked on updating our By-laws to reflect the changing face of fostering, and to allow our board to become reflective of the new goal of the Corporation, expanding our pool of potential directors.

We have hired a highly effective Executive Director, Graeme Turrell, who along with the Board, are dedicated to the continued growth of the Corporation.

Our goal for the future is to provide coverage for foster parents across Canada, where coverage is currently unavailable or inferior. We also hope to provide coverage for all Foster Parents within Ontario, whether providing care for children or adults.

Sincerely

Allison Asselstine

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 trying to purchase Legal Insurance for each member.

### **Legal Insurance**

Is now in effect and providing our registered members with increased benefits.

### **Web Site**

Is now fully operation, you can send emails directly to Directors, download the required forms and access our new Affinity Program Directory.

### **What We Do**

The UFPC 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 care givers.

Our children and extended family members are now covered by the Insurance Policy and the care givers are assisted by the Corporation.

### **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.



## Contact Information

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## 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.

## 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 have also recently retained the services of Anna Naud a Lawyer specializing in the "Not For Profit" Sector.

We now also have access through the DAS Legal line to unlimited Telephone Legal Advice on any subject.

## Calls for Assistance

In 2015 we had **41** calls for assistance from our members. This year at time of writing we have already received **8** calls for assistance.



There are currently **19** cases ongoing, nine of these are being funded by the Corporation and the remaining cases are funded by Agency Insurance, using UFPC retained Lawyers.

## **Financials**

Since 2001 the Corporation has grown to a value of \$1,278,921.00.

In the fiscal year 2015 we spent \$127,388.00 in lawyers' and insurance fees and collected \$221,761.00 in membership dues (a reduction of \$30,453 from last year, which can be attributed to the reduction of the number of children in care).

Funds valued at \$766,923.00 are invested through Scotia McLeod and Invesco 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.

