



THE CHRONICLE

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE



Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care, The Chronicle, Volume 31, Issue one, Summer Edition; bringing you quarterly reviews of the most up to date information and news written by students and leading professionals in our field.

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POWER
TO SAY, "I WILL NOT
LET THEIR STORY
END LIKE THIS!"

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Letter from the President

To the Members of the OACYC,

I wanted to start by thanking you for electing me to be your President. I acknowledge the significance of this role and I hope that I can fulfill your expectations. I am also aware that I have one incredible community of CYW/CYC's, who, like me, are willing to roll up their sleeves and step into the unknown to make things better. The unknown is certain in regards to building a more diverse and inclusive Association and field, as well as, the regulation of our profession. However, what we do know, is that we can work together as a team, we can build relationships and we can certainly listen and try to understand other people's perspectives. We can talk about it and we can grow from it.



Michelle Holbrook and Christine Gaitens both led the conversation towards regulation and you will see in this Chronicle how we will be continuing it. We have contracted a lobbyist and will take what they have done and continue to expand on it with a clear and concrete plan. I hope that each one of you will assist us in the call outs for committee members, opinions, thoughts and actions while we gather a consistent language about who we are, what we do, why we should be hired and regulated.

Now is also the time for not only our member's voices, but the voices of the community to be heard and to join together in regards to our efforts. The more unified we are and the louder we become the more we will be heard by others. Please encourage your friends and coworkers to join the conversation and the Association and for those of us holding more privilege, in management and academia. We should reach out to our front-line peers who often feel silenced by the precarious work we do to make joining conversations and belonging to the OACYC more equitable.

Over the past year, the OACYC has dedicated focus on diversity and inclusion. There have been many conversations to critically look at our historical challenges, as well as, our own personal and professional understanding of diversity and inclusion to address biases, discomfort and openness to growth. We have been aware for quite a while that we are not reflective or inclusive to all of the CYC's we represent; however, our silence, due to fear and lack of strategies has continued to perpetuate the divide instead of lessen it. We would like to end the silence and open up the discussion. We do not have the answers, but we know that if we can all work together, we can overcome some of the barriers. We invited Rick Kelly to the AGM to look at moving forward using a Restorative Practice lens. His presentation, along with our Board Member, Lasburn Gordon, was thought provoking and gave us a road map of where we can begin. Rick Kelly's suggestions are included in this Chronicle so please take the time to review and be a part of the conversation.

This year we are planning for an amazing Provincial Conference held on Michi Saagiig in Nogojiwanong (Peterborough) co-hosted with Fleming College, Sutherland Campus. The Conference is titled, *Weaving Perspectives: Challenging Ourselves and Others Through Storytelling and Narratives* and will be held on June 12-14, 2019. We will again use our incredible and growing Student Amplifiers to continue the positive energy they generated at the conference at Humber College in 2017. We can't wait to see you there.

I hope you take the time to look at the wonderful new slate of our Board of Directors. Aurora De Monte, Vice President, Rachelle Colman, Treasurer, Kysteli Needham, Secretary, Michelle Holbrook, Past President and Directors, Lasburn Gordon, Tina McCreith, Sarah Gerth, Patrick Frackowiak, Brittany Parsons and Shai Loyie.

I would like to say goodbye to the following Directors with a sincere thank you for all of their passion and hard work on the board, Christine Gaitens, Theresa Fraser, Catlin Thorne, Jennifer Foster and Rebecca Ward. Last but not least, I want to take a minute to thank the outgoing President of the OACYC. Michelle has been on the board two times and dedicated several years to us. She is passionate about our field and worked tirelessly on regulation, membership and the last conference. She is an incredible CYC and champion of our field. Thank you for all of your hard work Michelle.

I can't wait to see what we do and where we go this next year!

Sincerely,

Mardi Ennis-Gregory
OACYC President

The more unified we are and the louder we become the more we will be heard by others

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Ontario Association of CHILD AND YOUTH CARE
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OY.0418

2018-2019 Strategic Directions for the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care

Together, implement the consultant strategy for regulation of the field and maintain ongoing communication with membership

Increase involvement of our members on committees and transition leadership of committees and executive

Continue our collective journey towards fostering diversity and inclusion

Strategic planning for the organization and review of code of ethics with stakeholders

Plan and implement the June 2019 Provincial Conference and streamline awards process

OACYC Strategy for Regulation of the Field

Objective: To ensure optimal care for children, youth and their families in-care, education, and their community.

Goal #1: Establish a united language about our field, regulation and how to ask for it.

Methods:

- Create three one-page reports. 1) What is a CYC and the OACYC 2) Why we want to regulate 3) Talking points for members to discuss with MPP's and other officials
- Disperse packages to members

Goal #2: Ensure service providers and stakeholders are in a position to and understand why they should employ CYCPs.

Methods:

- Create a letter to go out to employers of CYC's or potential employers with the one pagers about CYC's about why our profession is important.
- Send letters out
- Create a social media campaign educating employers why they should hire CYC's.

Goal #3: Educate the general public about CYCPs.

Methods:

- Create a social media campaign about CYC's.
- Encourage all to share, re-tweet, etc

Goal #4: Continue to advocate for regulation.

Methods:

- Send packages to MPP's and Ministries building relationships and awareness of who we are.
- Met with MPP's
- Plan a day at Queen's Park

Featured Article

DLE Training to Trainer

As CYC's we know that making meaningful moments with children and youth is a core philosophy for us, however, the Purposeful Use of Daily Life Events (DLE) training will offer specific insight into the micro-seconds of a single moment that could change a child's life forever.

Through the 2-day training workshop you will explore topics such as the foundations, themes and opportunities, meaning-making, the process of change and of course, intervening into daily life events. Your trainer will delve into and break down each category into single seconds, making you re-think your approach and re-discover who you want to be as a CYC.

It's the little things. The routines and rituals; events, such as school or work or the evolving daily circumstances, like mom getting pregnant, that true work can take place. As stated in the DLE Participants Guide, "Focusing on small important moments and experiences is a part of the history of working with young people," (2018). We know this as a foundation and breaking it down into smaller parts over the 2 days of training, helps put things into perspective. Thom Garfat, one of the creators of this training, is defined by your response to it". thought into our daily interactions.

Themes and opportunities everyday interactions, featured to recognize the individualized those opportunities from different serve a purpose. It's our job to

Towards the end of this all of these topics together and have to be all encompassing, well planned out interventions. Interventions can take place in seconds and may catch you off guard, but first, you need to notice. You need to make the choice to notice. Being self-aware and actively participating in your self-awareness is a must. You owe it to the children and youth you work with to be conscious of self at all times. Don't make assumptions. This is a mistake we've all made and may continue to make; but if you're working on it and bettering yourself to be more present in the moments, then that's all we can ask for. Although some situations call for a reaction, don't be a reactive worker. Work on being a proactive worker to situations, breaking down those moments and recognizing the need for intervention before it occurs.

Not only have I learned through this two-day training, I've also travelled to Winnipeg to become a trainer in this inspiring workshop as I believe in it so much. I would recommend this training for anyone who hasn't received it yet, as it will inspire and open your eyes to a continuous way of being with children and youth. It takes moments and breaks them down, making you a better CYC for it.



a single moment that could change a child's life forever

once said, "the meaning of the moment This statement alone, evokes so much

are another topic that show up in our within this training. It will teach you therapeutic opportunities and to view perspectives. Remember, all behaviours interpret what that need may be.

wonderful training, you'll start to piece look at the interventions. These do not

Jaylene Poirier, CYW, CYCP (Cert.)

jaylene.poirier@gmail.com

Featured Member

Name: Jacob Conkin
City or Town: Trenton
College attended: Loyalist College
Programs of Study: Child & Youth Care
Graduation Date: June 7th, 2018
Current place of employment: Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board (ALCDSB) – Supply Educational Assistant



A memorable CYC moment:

While on placement in a grade 3 classroom I was working with a young boy to develop his anger management skills. It felt like anything I tried did not work with him and that he would continue to not talk to me. Then one day, out of the blue during class, he came up to me and calmly said to me “Jacob, I’m feeling mad right now and I need to go for a walk”. At this moment, I realized that being a CYCP is learning to understand that everything you do does have an impact on the children and youth you’re working with – even if you can’t see it day-to-day. This is my most memorable CYC moment.

The most important thing a CYCP can do for a young person:

I believe that the single most important thing that a CYCP can do for a young person is to listen to them. Actually listen, hear what they are saying and empathize and acknowledge what they are saying too.

Your CYCP Mentor:

Rose Marie Reid – Professor/Coordinator, Loyalist College is my CYCP mentor, not only because she has helped me educationally but has also helped me accomplish my professional goals too.

Best place you’ve ever visited:

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee - Home of Dolly Parton.

A favourite quote:

“The key to making progress is to recognize how to take that very first step. Then you start your journey. You hope for the best and you stick with it, day in, day out. Even if you’re tired, even if you want to walk away, you don’t. Because you are a pioneer. And nobody ever said it’d be easy” — Dr. Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo), Grey’s Anatomy, Season 10: Man on the Moon

Favourites: Food: Pizza; Movie: Still Alice; TV Show: Grey’s Anatomy; Musician/artist/band/group: Tarja Turunen – Finnish singer/song-writer; Book: A Series of Unfortunate Events – Lemony Snicket

Social Media: Twitter: @JacobConkin

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jacobconkin/>

Legislation Update

Firstly, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all those individuals who paved the path for this association to continue with advocacy efforts at becoming a legislated profession. It is those dedicated people, and their tireless efforts at pursuing this cause that allows for continued engagement to be at the forefront of the OACYC agenda. Secondly, I welcome those who choose to continue, as well as those who would like to join this committee as new members. Although the last few months have been a transitional period for both this committee and the OACYC Board itself, rest assured that steps have been taken to continue with our legislative endeavor. This includes the appointment of a new Committee Chair and Board Director, myself, Patrick Frackowiak. As well, with the recent provincial election the OACYC has reached out to the newly appointed Hon. Christine Elliott, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, and the Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services. Letters to both Ministers were sent on behalf of the association, outlining the crucial importance of safeguarding the well-being of children and youth across this province by qualified professionals, which currently is not the case, as anyone is able to call themselves a child and youth care practitioner.



IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS
 INTERESTED IN BEING FEATURED IN AN
 UPCOMING ISSUE OF THE OACYC CHRONICLE,
 PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL EXPRESSING
 YOUR INTEREST TO OFFICE@OACYC.ORG!

Conveying the importance of addressing this paramount issue, the OACYC requested a meeting with both Ministers. In response, I am happy to report that the Hon. Lisa MacLeod replied to the aforementioned letter, agreeing to meet with the OACYC. Unfortunately, this meeting has been cancelled by the Minister's office due to scheduling; however, the association has asked for another meeting date to be scheduled. While the above efforts unfolded during the summer months, the OACYC Board also voted on a motion to hire an outside agency to conduct and strategize a plan toward legislative efforts. This plan, which was recently presented to the OACYC membership during the September 22nd AGM may be viewed below. With the below plan as the foundation for our legislative attainment moving forward, I invite all members to partake in providing feedback by taking a moment to reflect on and specify language relevant to our field. Help us in promoting our voice as a profession by taking a moment and forwarding your response to the below goal by e-mailing office@oacyc.org. Your response will be compiled along with other member's feedback to begin a dialogue which can be conveyed in a form of a report, outlying our field and importance of its regulation.

Goal 1

Establish a united language about our field, regulation and how to ask for it. I, along with the OACYC welcome any member interested in joining this legislative committee and thank in advance those providing feedback to Goal 1, as outlined above. There is much work to be done while we outline, plan and execute efforts aimed at continued advocacy toward a legislative Child and Youth Care profession. As these efforts unfold in the coming months, the OACYC will continue to update our members.

Thank you,
Patrick Frackowiak

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:
THE OACYC AWARDS COMMITTEE WILL SOON BE LOOKING FOR 10-12 OACYC Members to form our 2019 Awards Selection Panel.
MORE DETAILS TO BE RELEASED IN OCTOBER. STAY TUNED AND FOLLOW OUR Social Media feeds for more information!
- OACYC Awards Committee

Diversity & Inclusion Time for Repair & Transformation

This is the suggested pathway that was recommended using a Restorative lens and approach to address the issues and challenges to hear and ensure there are diverse voices and perspectives represented and included in all aspects of the OACYC.

The pathway needs to be staged over three broad stages.

Stage 1: Preparation: Cleaning the lenses

“We see the world, not as it is, but as we are-or, as we are conditioned to see it.” Steve Covey

For the leadership to engage in reflective sessions for:

1. Understanding implicit bias
2. Acknowledging privilege and its absence
3. Levering privilege to be an ally

Stage 2: Repair and Restore

“The wound is the place where the Light enters you.” Rumi

1. Go forward in teams of at least two.... Allyship
(Note: This is intended to ensure that true listening can occur).
2. Conduct a series of virtual (e.g Facebook) and actual listening circles using restorative questions

- a. Circle 1: Ensuring voice and search for understanding. Hear and collect from current, past and prospective members what they see and experience as : Facts, thoughts, impacts, needs
- b. Circle 2: Design solutions and make recommendations. Based on the first round of circles bring summary of the collective input, identify key priorities and make recommendations for solutions which includes: actions to repair, restore, transform and responsibility for actions (individual and shared).

Stage 3: Transformation

“If the structure does not permit dialogue the structure must be changed.” Paulo Friere

1. Leadership presents final action plan for implementation.
2. Implement plan with measurable outcomes (process and end results) and timeframes.



**Rick Kelly, M.Sc., (Restorative Practices), B.A, C.C.W, CYC (Cert.)
Trainer /Consultant/Owner; Just Us: A Centre for Restorative Practices**

SAVE THE DATE

OACYC Provincial Conference 2019

Weaving Perspectives: Challenging Ourselves and Others Through Storytelling & Narratives

June 12-14, 2019

Hosted on the traditional territory
of the Michi Saagiig in
Nogojwanong (Peterborough)
Fleming College, Sutherland Campus

Fleming College is an accessible campus and the OACYC
is committed to giving persons with disabilities the same
opportunities and will make every effort to provide accommodations.

For more information, please contact the OACYC at office@oacyc.ca or
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Ontario Association of
CHILD AND YOUTH CARE
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D'ÉDUCATION SPÉCIALISÉE

2019 Provincial Conference

The OACYC June 2019 *Weaving Perspectives: Challenging Ourselves and Others Through Storytelling and Narratives* Conference is hosted on the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig in Nogojwanong (Peterborough), Fleming College, Sutherland Campus. We seek to partner with Indigenous Traditional Knowledge Holders and non-Indigenous practitioners to deepen understanding and ways of knowing relevant to working alongside young peoples and families in Child and Youth Care (CYC) practice. The conference goal is to engage in greater experiential learning opportunities; learning by doing together. We will follow Fleming College's Miigwewin Gifting Process to ensure reciprocal appreciation for the teachings shared with Conference participants.

Child and Youth Care practice is in a state of change and growth in Ontario and we acknowledge that in this space, discomfort and/or vulnerability may be present. Let us welcome and reflect on these states of being and our practice as we often have much to learn personally and professionally from them. Our hope for *Weaving Perspectives* is to engage CYC practitioners and community to respectfully challenge dominant narratives and stories, giving voices to new ones in the process.

We sincerely hope that you join us in learning and sharing together in Nogojwanong June 12 (pre-conference education/activities day) and June 13-14, 2019 (conference workshops)!

Please stay tuned for more information regarding workshop proposal submissions in Fall 2018!

Sincerely,
The OACYC Conference Committee

Upcoming Workshops & Trainings

November

Certification Exam:

November 10th, 2018 - Chatham, St. Clair College at
10:00 a.m

Incorporating DBT Informed Practice when Working with Families and Adolescents:

November 23rd, 2018 - SickKids Centre for Community Mental Health Learning Institute, Toronto, ON
<http://www.cvent.com/d/wgqch3>

Creative Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Interventions for Children with Anxiety:

November 29th, 2018 - SickKids Centre for Community Mental Health Learning Institute, Toronto, ON
<http://www.cvent.com/d/wgq2fv>

December

Collaborative and Proactive Solutions:

December 4 & 5, 2018 - SickKids Centre for Community Mental Health Learning Institute, Toronto, ON
<http://www.cvent.com/d/lgq2jc>

Anxiety and the Gift of the Imagination:

December 14th, 2018 - SickKids Centre for Community Mental Health Learning Institute, Toronto, ON
<http://www.cvent.com/d/6gqncc>

For more information on registration
please visit <http://www.oacyc.org/professional-development>



CYCCB Certification Exam

If you have 5 or more CYCPs in a city in Ontario, interested in taking the exam, a proctor can be arranged for you! For more information you can contact www.oacyc.com or www.cyccb.org .

**If you have an interesting article,
research piece, poem, picture, upcoming events etc.
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information to
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