



**July 2005**

**Greetings LABC Members**

*A message from Kathryn Wilkins  
As another school year has ended we hope  
you have a wonderful, rejuvenating summer.*

The LABC has now submitted its application for a charitable donation number and we have received a notice that our Trillium funding request will be reviewed in the next 120 days.

Depending on funding there are plans for a homebase and for some projects and programs underway by late fall.

We are currently setting up a fundraising committee. If that is something you would be interested in please drop us a line. If you are planning a garage sale and would like to share the proceeds with us ☺ contact us and we will provide you with a logo sheet so that folks know who you are supporting.

In keeping with this theme, if you have heard of a fabulous fund raising idea you would like to see in London that is unique and will carry a message with it, please forward it to us.

The LABC Board will continue to meet over the summer and will be available to answer your questions, hear your stories and provide some information and/or resources. Please continue to send your stories for our binder.

We are planning to touch base with all of the Home and School representatives and School Council presidents in the London Area. Please forward us your schools contact information for

these people upon election, so we can pass on information to all schools in a timely fashion.

Once again, we appreciate your support and we wish you a happy and peaceful summer!!!

**TVDSB High School Survey**

*On behalf of the Board of Directors, Chris Curry, reviewed the Thames Valley District School Board Safe Schools Survey.*

His summary is attached to the e-mail and link below will take you to the results of the Safe School Survey.

[http://www.tvdsb.on.ca/safeschools/report\\_spring2005.shtml](http://www.tvdsb.on.ca/safeschools/report_spring2005.shtml)

**New Board Members**

We have welcomed four new board members to the table in the last two months.

They are committed, like the rest of us, to serve our community by getting involved to eliminate bullying.

*Juan Gomez brings his human resources expertise to the team and will help us with Humans Resources and polices and procedures for the organization. His knowledge will help us with interviewing potential board members and volunteers.*

*Cyndi Mills replaces Fran Webster as a Director for LABC. Cyndi adds her journalism expertise to the team and will also be coordinating the media releases.*

*Deb Emerson brings to the table her experience in business. She has her own non-for profit organization called Toys for Tots that has been up and running for nine years.*

*Tyson Cragg brings to the table his political science knowledge as well as his business experience and experience with non-profit agencies. He was Director for the Waterloo Regional Crime Stoppers for two years; he also was the Business Sector Chair for the Perth*

County United Way Board of Directors for three years.

### **Board Members Wanted**

We are currently looking for people who have experience in the area of law and police services. If you or someone you know may be interested please let us know.

### **Web Designer Needed**

We are looking for a computer savvy individual to design our website for us. Please contact Corina ASAP if you or someone you know is interested.

### **What we have been up to...**

#### **Mission – Vision – Goals – History**

#### **OUR MISSION**

Many voices – One Vision to eliminate bullying.

#### **OUR VISION**

The London Anti-Bullying Coalition is an independent non-profit, educational organization, which strives to foster a culture of fairness, respect and equality for all students in every school; thus eliminating the problem of bullying.

#### **GOALS**

##### **Raising Awareness:**

To increase awareness of the nature, extent and impact of bullying in our community.

##### **Education:**

To advocate for the development, evaluation and sharing of skills and resources to address bullying.

##### **Coordinated Community Collaboration:**

To facilitate change amongst all levels of the community through recognition, ownership and responsibility for bullying.

#### **HISTORY**

The London Anti-Bullying Coalition was founded by concerned mothers in London, who were brought together by the tragic commonality of their children being bullied and victimized while in school.

These parents were faced with a challenge they knew they could not ignore. A tragedy they knew not only touched the lives of their children, but of countless other children in their community who had no voice.

They were incensed by the news of the tragic death of a local teenager who took his own life due to the relentless bullying he suffered at the hands of his peers.

These mothers selflessly began to advocate for their children and others by forming a coalition now known as the LABC. Their mantra was “never again shall we lose a child to bullying.”

They created a non-profit, grass roots organization that was representative of a diverse group of people in our community that would address not only the issue of bullying, violence and harassment in our children’s schools but also an organization that would focus on the promotion of fairness, respect and equality in every school for every child.

#### **Letter to Senator Landon Pearson**

In the early part of spring the coalition was contacted by a concerned parent regarding a series of history books aimed towards students ages 9-14, being published by Jackfruit Press documenting the lives of Canadian Prime Ministers.

Concerns about a few of the titles- the title of book about Sir Wilfred Laurier - “**The Weakling Who Stood His Ground**” and the title of the book about Lester B. Pearson - “**The Disarming Geek Who Made Canada Proud.**” These are the words we are trying to eliminate.

We contacted Senator Landon Pearson, who also thought the titles were offensive. She contacted the publisher; however the publisher to date has not changed the titles.

For more information about the publishing company go to [www.jackfruitpress.com](http://www.jackfruitpress.com)

### **Have you heard....**

#### **Play Station (UK)**

A new game called 'Bully' from the people who brought us Grand Theft Auto! It is apparently scheduled for release in October. For more information:

[http://uk.playstation.com/news/newsStory.jhtml?storyId=106871\\_en\\_GB\\_NEWS&linktype=MPC](http://uk.playstation.com/news/newsStory.jhtml?storyId=106871_en_GB_NEWS&linktype=MPC)

### **Did You Read About Us?**

The Vox Pop letter regarding the Safe Schools Survey was finally printed in the London Free Press on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **We Really Appreciate**

Denis Gadwa, Marta Dankiewicz and Amanda Griffith for all of their assistance over the last seven months with helping us to get the coalition up and going.

Walter Sayers for the logo design.

Ian Shewan at Lerner's law firm who has helped us with the Incorporation, By-laws and Charitable Status forms.

To Lisa Swart and the Ottawa Anti-Bullying Coalition, for sending 400 extra copies of their anti-bullying poster/calendars to us and to Superintendent Ian Peer and the London Police Department for making it possible to have them distributed during Police Education Week.

Lynn Trute for taking the time to sit down and give us expert advice in the setting up a non-profit organization.

And all the people who continue to touch base with us to encourage us to keep moving forward with the coalition.

### **Resources**

Check out the Child and Youth Friendly Ottawa newsletter for more information on bullying issues in other parts of the world.

<http://www.cayfo.ca/2004/news/newsletters/bannewsletter.php?q=3>

### **To Ponder**

*"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin?"*

*In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any map of the world.*

*Yet they are the world of the individual person: the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works.*

*Such are the places where every man, woman and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination.*

*Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere.*

*Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for the progress in the larger world."*

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact us at 473-5214 or [c.morrison@ody.ca](mailto:c.morrison@ody.ca)

**And remember: We need your stories.**