

Winter 2013

newsbreak

your community living newsletter

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Eight National Inclusive Education Awards presented to New Brunswick residents

Eight national awards were presented to New Brunswickers from around the province in recognition of their commitment to inclusive education, in a special event held Feb. 7th at Fredericton's Government House.

The Canadian Association for Community Living's 2013 National Inclusive Education Awards honoured educators, school teams, and students who strive every day to include all students both inside and outside the classroom.

The Hon. Graydon Nicholas, Lt.-Gov. of New Brunswick, NBACL president Joy Bacon, and the Hon. Jody Carr, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, were present to bestow the national awards to their recipients.

"Striving to be truly inclusive requires serious reflection and evaluation of our educational practices," said Bacon. "Inclusion means recognizing students for what they can do, rather than for what they can't do.

"We are here today to recognize New Brunswick educators and learners who understand what inclusion really means, and practice it every day."

Held during National Inclusive Education Month, the ceremony was the heart of NBACL's monthly events.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Joy Bacon, NBACL president, Anne-Marie Taylor, award recipient, Hon. Graydon Nicholas, Lt.-Gov. of New Brunswick.

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President's Message

Every day, NBACL works to ensure persons with an intellectual disability feel included, accepted, and valued. We work to create communities where everyone can get a job, have their own apartment, and be supported by friends. We, along with many of you, have been working towards this vision for over 55 years now!

This past February, as we celebrated Inclusive Education Month, NBACL honoured a few of those who share our vision through the National Inclusive Education Awards, on behalf of the Canadian Association for Community Living. The profiles of those who received these national awards were diverse – educators, school teams, and students (more on page 3). Through their varying backgrounds and life experiences, they too concluded that inclusive education is fundamental for our youth. In many cases, their opinions were contagious – student Annica Collette collected over 300 signatures for the “Spread the Word to End the Word” campaign, and school teams at St. Malachy’s Memorial High School and École Marie-Esther took it upon themselves to research best practices in inclusive education and applying this newfound information in their daily work. The passion and commitment of the 2013 New Brunswick award recipients are examples of champions of inclusion both inside and outside of the classroom. I would like to extend a large “*Congratulations!*” to this year’s recipients!

In recent months, other well-deserving champions of inclusion have been recognized for their efforts. Four of our very own dedicated volunteers received Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medals at ceremonies held across the country. Lorraine Silliphant, David Jory, Daniel Collette and Jean-Claude Jalbert all have long-standing involvement in the ACL movement at the local, provincial and national level. We are incredibly proud to see our volunteers nationally celebrated in their efforts to promote the ideals of inclusion and respect for the human rights of all New Brunswickers. Read more about their work on page 5 and share with me in extending another heart-felt “*Congratulations!*” to these four pioneers!

With 2013 off to an exciting start, we’re looking forward to sharing more with you throughout the year. We’ve had several new staff members join us, including a new team of Early Learning Inclusion Facilitators, who are working in early learning environments across the province as part of our Focus on Inclusion initiative. At our recent Focus on Inclusion forum in Fredericton, speakers from across Canada and the United States discussed inclusion in the early years and shared best practices so children can grow and learn in inclusive environments.

We could not work towards our common goals without the support of each other – self-advocates, families, volunteers, stakeholders, staff, community. As Queen’s Jubilee recipient David Jory recently reminded us, “You are part of a big movement ...if what you’re doing is right, you will have allies outside the movement in unexpected places.” As we begin a new year, let us celebrate the incredible work of our movement and its allies.

Joy Bacon,
NBACL President



Inclusive Education Awards continued...

NBACL presented eight National Inclusive Education Awards this year on behalf of the Canadian Association for Community Living, recognizing one tutor, one student, two educational assistants, one teacher, two school teams, and one professor for their commitment to including all students in activities both inside and outside the classroom.

Building Bridges

Anne-Marie Taylor, Tutor, Fredericton

Taylor was nominated by parent Patricia Dineen, whose daughter Julia was tutored by Taylor for 12 years. She was credited with working with Julia's learning style to develop innovative teaching styles which appealed to Julia's strengths.

Student

Annica Collette, Miramichi Valley High School, Miramichi

Annica was recognized for spearheading a "Spread the Word to End the Word" campaign at her school, collecting over 300 pledges to stop the use of the R-word. She also initiated a Best Buddies program at her school.

Educational Assistants

Pam Skinner, George Street Middle School, Fredericton

Skinner was recognized for providing clear directions and models the moment they are needed. Over the years, she collected multiple teaching strategies for explaining difficult concepts to students, proving herself to be a valuable classroom resource.

Margaret Martin, Rexton Elementary School, Rexton

Martin was recognized for working with students with disabilities with compassion, drive, and success. On one occasion, she discovered that when a boy with autism donned a top hat, he got over his stage fright and immediately went into character during a class performance, forgetting his shyness and stage fright.

Educator

Laurie MacNaughton, Havelock School, Saint John

MacNaughton was recognized for her special efforts to include all her students, her inspiring optimism, and her continual professional development efforts.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, Annica Collette, student, Miramichi Valley High School, Hon. Robert Trevors, Miramichi Centre MLA, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, Pam Skinner, Educational Assistant, George Street Middle School, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, Cynthia Wood, Teacher, Janice Mingrone, Educational Assistant, Rexton Elementary School, accepting on behalf of Margaret Martin, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, Laurie MacNaughton, Teacher, Havelock School, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.

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Inclusive Education Awards continued...

“Striving to be truly inclusive requires serious reflection and evaluation of our educational practices...Inclusion means recognizing students for what they can do, rather than for what they can’t do.”

- Joy Bacon, NBACL President

School Teams

Education Support Team, St. Malachy’s Memorial High School, Saint John

The school was recognized for creating an atmosphere of belonging and showing strong leadership. Staff took training, sometimes outside working hours, to become better informed and effective with students with disabilities who do not communicate with words.

Équipe de direction, École Marie-Esther, Shippagan

The school was recognized for maintaining continuous inclusive education efforts, in addition to a continuous inclusive dialogue, among staff and students. They made immediate changes to create an inclusive environment for all students when principal Denise Haché-Mallet joined the team.

Postsecondary Education

Raymond Vienneau, Professor, Université de Moncton, Moncton

Vienneau was recognized for his longtime dedication to the cause of inclusive education, as a researcher, teacher, and advocate for every student having their place in the classroom.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, St. Malachy’s Memorial High School Education Support Team, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, École Marie-Esther staff members, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.



Left to right: Hon. Jody Carr, Joy Bacon, Jean-François Richard, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Education, Université de Moncton, accepting on behalf of Raymond Vienneau, Hon. Graydon Nicholas.

Parent Participation wanted for Children with Special Needs Program Survey!

Are you a parent or caregiver of a child with a disability that has experience applying for supports under the Community Based Services for Children with Special Needs (CSN) Program? Was your application for supports through the CSN Program denied, approved, or waitlisted? Has your child transitioned from receiving supports through the CSN Program to receiving supports through the adult Disability Support Program (DSP)?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the New Brunswick Association for Community Living would appreciate your participation in a brief survey!

The government of New Brunswick has committed to improving the Community Based Services for Children with Special Needs (CSN) Program, as well as committed to consult with families and disability organizations before making improvements. NBACL has created a survey to ask families about their experiences with the CSN program. This will help us better understand the main concerns that families have as well as hear from families about ways that this program can be improved. The survey results will also help us to develop a document to help guide families through Social Development’s CSN consultation process which is expected to take place later this year.

To complete the survey in English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CSNSurveyEn>

For questions regarding the research, please contact Elizabeth Kearns, NBACL Manager of Family Support by e-mail at ekearns@nbnet.nb.ca or by telephone at (506) 453-4400.

Four NBACL volunteers honoured with Queen's Jubilee Medals for inclusive efforts

Four NBACL volunteers have been honoured with Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medals for their work creating a more inclusive community for people with an intellectual disability.

Daniel Collette received his medal Feb. 15th in a Diamond Jubilee ceremony at Fredericton's Government House, alongside other New Brunswick recipients. Collette has always had a passion for music and radio and dreamed of having his own radio show. He attended community college for two years, where he studied radio announcing. He now has his own weekly radio show in Shediac. Collette is also a current member of NBACL's Board of Directors.

Collette uses his position as a radio announcer to communicate a message of inclusion to his listeners.

"It's something that's really close to my heart," said Collette, adding that he would like to end the use of the word "disabled."

"It's something very special for me."

Lorraine Silliphant, received her medal in Ottawa in a ceremony during the national conference of the Canadian Association for Community Living.

Silliphant has spent over 40 years pushing for greater rights and dignity of people with a disability, especially those with an intellectual disability. Her involvement began in the late 1960s. She later became president of NBACL, eventually joining the staff and becoming the association's Executive Director from 1990-2000.

In the 1980s, Silliphant's determination led the provincial government to support children within their homes and families. As a result, the William F. Roberts Hospital School was closed. She was also active in the creation of Bill 85, allowing children with a disability to attend regular classes with others, and the creation of early intervention services for children with intellectual and other disabilities.

"Lorraine Silliphant is one of those people who 'walks the walk' in her personal efforts to respect people's rights," said Krista Carr, Executive Director of NBACL. "She has acted with great integrity all along the way and I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with her for many years."

Jean-Claude Jalbert received his award in a special presentation at the NBACL Annual General Meeting. Jalbert was the first self-advocate in Canada to become president of a provincial Association for Community Living, having previously served as President of NBACL, a fact in which he takes great pride. He has also sat on the Boards and executive committees of local, provincial, and national Associations for Community Living, and was a member of the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission.

"Jean-Claude Jalbert lives the message of inclusion every single day," said Joy Bacon, President of NBACL. "Having a disability himself, he has been an inspiration to many and a living example of the gifts and contributions people with disabilities have to offer their communities."

David Jory received his award alongside Jalbert. Like Silliphant, Jory was active in moving forward the implementation of Bill 85 in the early 1980's. A decade later, Jory showed leadership as President of NBACL when government granting policy changes left the Association with financial troubles. He also played a key role in the Association's efforts to replace the provincial government's proposed Long Term Care Strategy with a more personal and flexible Disability Support Program.



Daniel Collette received his medal Feb. 15 at Fredericton's Government House, alongside other New Brunswick recipients. Lieutenant-Governor Graydon Nicholas presented Collette with his medal.

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NBACL Changemaker: Bob Hatheway

Four years ago, NBACL launched our first ever multiple-year giving society, *The ChangeMaker Society*, where people and/or organizations could donate \$1000 per year for five years or more. In this edition of Newsbreak, we are profiling ChangeMaker Bob Hatheway, who is helping us make a difference in the lives of children and adults with an intellectual disability and their families.

Bob was interviewed by Sheri Shannon, NBACL's Community Giving Coordinator, about his involvement as an NBACL ChangeMaker.

Can you tell us a little about yourself?

I am a born and raised Frederictonian and have lived in this city most of my life. I am a practicing orthodontist in Fredericton with satellite clinics in Woodstock and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. I have three children – two girls aged 12 and 9, and a boy aged 7. My wife Sherri and I will be married 18 years this year. I am involved in my community, participating in fundraisers, sports with my kids, and events related to my work environment in orthodontics.

I describe myself as a business person trapped inside an orthodontist's body, and have a couple other business interests. I am the principal owner of Orthodontic Supply of Canada, previously located in Toronto. I moved it to Fredericton after acquiring it in 2007. My other area of interest is flying and I am involved in an aviation business called Capital Airways, located at the Fredericton Airport.

Why did you choose to support NBACL and why is this important to you?

Quite frankly, I did not have any idea what NBACL was all about or that an organization such as this even existed until I was invited to a breakfast tour at your office a number of years ago. When I was a kid growing up it seemed like individuals were getting segregated out, or there were kids struggling and no one really knew why they were struggling. They would be in my class for a while and then they would get put somewhere else. You would see these kids in the community and play with them but we never seemed to have any time with them at school.

In retrospect, I now understand that inclusive education and including all kids in everything was missing when I was a kid growing up, so when I had the opportunity to go to a breakfast and see what NBACL actually does, it was a real "a-ha!" moment for me. I didn't become a ChangeMaker right away because I was initially trying to process what the organization did. As I learned more about this organization, I knew I wanted to become involved not only financially but as a volunteer as well.

Why do you feel it is important for others to get to know NBACL and to support the work we do?

We all live in a bit of a bubble. I am very blessed to have three healthy children who do well in school, and who are very social, so you do not realize there are families that may need financial help, emotional support, or educational support for their children with an intellectual disability. I feel it is a responsibility of mine as a community-minded person to be involved and help out where I can. I really like that NBACL is the *New Brunswick* Association for Community Living. It is truly an organization that works province-wide to improve the lives of the kids, parents or adults who are living with an intellectual disability – all people who are very much part of their communities.

People can choose what they want to be involved with, and I choose to be involved with this organization because you can see the difference it makes in people's and families' lives throughout the province. That is a big deal to me.



NBACL ChangeMaker Bob Hatheway.

Queen's Jubilee Medals continued...

"This is one of the most surprising things that ever happened to me," said Jory in his acceptance speech. "I feel gratified and deeply honoured that people thought I deserved this award. I am not sure I do. I never thought I was doing anything special and certainly not anything requiring a reward. I was just doing what seemed to me to need doing. There was no great vision of a perfect future but as I looked around after our son with Down's syndrome was born I saw things that needed to change."

Joy Bacon said Jory sees opportunities that others do not, and was willing to take risks and move forward in areas before others were.

"He is always on the edge of the most progressive ways to look at the issues of persons with disabilities enabling their full citizenship," said Bacon.

During his acceptance speech, Jory shared some inspiring advice he had learned through his experiences. He advised the next generation of ACL advocates to:

- "Look, listen and learn all the time. Especially listen to people with intellectual disabilities – your family member first, if you have one, but all the others you get a chance to listen to. Look at how they live, listen to them when they tell you how they want to live, and learn how to make change happen so they can.
- However good you think things are, there are probably better things somewhere. Find out about them, talk to the people running them; if possible go there. In 15 minutes you will know whether it is really good or just good public relations. If it is good, borrow it, and work to have it implemented here.
- Remember you are part of a big movement – not a team, a movement. It is very unlikely you will accomplish anything useful on your own – I never have, anyway. You and like-minded people in the movement should set goals and aim for them. But as you get close to those goals you will see better goals behind them – so don't hesitate to move the goalposts.
- A difference between 1979 and today is that the movement has clarified its values and principles. These are vital. Never allow others to make you abandon or negotiate away your values and principles. When times get tough, they are all you have. When disaster strikes, it is the strength of your commitment to your values and principles that will allow you to get up and go on with the struggle with renewed vigour.
- If you are doing what is right, you will find that you have allies outside the movement in unexpected places. You may never know they exist or you may find out years later how much a secret ally – I am thinking here of some provincial and federal public servants – helped our cause when it counted."



Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal recipient, and long time ACL volunteer David Jory.



NBACL receives grant from UPS Fredericton

Left to right: Sheri Shannon, NBACL's Community Giving Coordinator, accepted a donation Dec. 21st from Stacey MacDonald and Kris Caron of UPS. The donation, from the local UPS Grant Committee, will go towards the purchase of audiovisual equipment for presentations, workshops, and meetings for the Family Support Program in the Saint John and Moncton offices. UPS Fredericton has provided donations and volunteers to NBACL throughout the past 10 years. Thank you to our friends at UPS!

Upcoming Events

PATH - PLANNING ALTERNATIVE TOMORROWS WITH HOPE

PATH is a person-centred planning tool that helps individuals plan for their future. Used widely with persons who have a disability though not limited to this use, the process involves a carefully ordered structure that uses graphics to focus energy and support memory. PATH also identifies supports and people that will help to accomplish the goals identified, guiding the individual toward the future they desire. PATH outcomes are achieved through a collaborative process by first planning backwards, from the vision of a desirable future to a detailed action plan.

Workshop participants who attend the full two day training will be certified as PATH Facilitators. Learn how to guide a future life plan with instruction and colorful illustrations and how to facilitate dreaming into action in this exciting “hands on” workshop!

PATH was developed by Marsha Forest, Jack Pearpoint and John O'Brien of the Inclusion Network. Workshop trainers Tara Brinston and Amy Murray received their PATH Facilitation certification and PATH Trainer certification through Jack Pearpoint and Lynda Kahn of the Inclusion Network.



Date: May 28th & 29th, 2013 **Time:** 9am —4 pm (both days) **Registration Deadline:** May 21st, 2013
Cost: \$300 Workshop includes lunch, nutrition breaks and refreshments **Location:** Colonial Inn, 42 Highfield St Moncton, NB

KIDS ARE WORTH IT - TEACHING WITH WIT & WISDOM - Workshop with Barbara Coloroso

Solid practical advice for educators on how to create a school climate in which students can become self-disciplined, compassionate, responsible, resourceful, resilient human beings who can act in their own best interest, stand up for themselves, and exercise their own rights while respecting the rights and legitimate needs of others.

Barbara will discuss the keys to good teaching; treating kids with respect; giving them a sense of positive power in their own lives; giving them opportunities to make decisions, take responsibility for their own actions, and learn from their successes and mistakes.

Barbara Coloroso is an international bestselling author and for the past 38 years an internationally recognized speaker and consultant on parenting, teaching, school discipline, positive school climate, bullying, grieving, nonviolent conflict resolution and restorative justice.

Date: October 9th, 2013 **Time:** 9 am—4 pm **Registration Deadline:** October 1, 2013 **Cost:** \$175 Workshop includes lunch, nutrition breaks and refreshments **Location:** Irving Theatre, Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre Fredericton, NB

KIDS ARE WORTH IT - PARENTING WITH WIT & WISDOM - A Special Evening Session for Parents and Families

Barbara Coloroso will be also be presenting a 2 hour evening session packed with solid practical advice for parents of children from toddlers to teenagers. Barbara will discuss the keys to good parenting: treating kids with respect; giving them a sense of positive power in their own lives; giving them opportunities to make decisions, take responsibility for their actions and learn from their successes and mistakes.

Date: October 9th, 2013 **Time:** 7pm - 9 pm **Registration Deadline:** October 1, 2013
Cost: \$10 per person **Location:** Venue TBA - Fredericton, NB

TO REGISTER FOR EITHER WORKSHOP PLEASE CONTACT: Rebecca Pilson, Planning and IT Coordinator

(506) 453-8635 or (866) 622-2548 (toll free), option #2 or by emailing rpilson@nbacl.nb.ca

Space is limited so register today!

No cancellations or refunds after registration closes; substitutions will be allowed. Workshops will be provided in English only. PLEASE NOTE : A limited number of grants are available to support individuals to attend the Barbara Coloroso Full Day workshop. To apply for a grant application, please contact: Rebecca Pilson : rpilson@nbacl.nb.ca

Staff Matters

With over 50 staff working around the province doing “whatever it takes for as long as it takes”, NBACL is an ever-growing and ever-changing organization! We’d like to introduce you to some new friendly faces on the NBACL team.



Kristen Anderson joined the NBACL team in October 2012 as part of a new team of Early Learning Inclusion Facilitators through the Focus on Inclusion initiative. Kristen currently works out of the Saint John office.

Aleisha Bosch joined the team in February 2013 and works out of the Fredericton office as NBACL’s new digital communications intern. Her position was made possible through a youth employment initiative offered through the YMCA—Greater Toronto.



Amie Burke joined the NBACL team in October 2012 as a part-time Family Support Facilitator in Saint John, a position made possible due to a continued partnership with the Saint John Association for Community Living.

Sania Griffins-Dookie is the Independent Facilitator for the Disability Support Program based out of NBACL’s Saint John office. Joining the NBACL team in February 2013, Sania covers Region 2 in her work, from Eastern Charlotte to Sussex.



Jeannette Guerrette covers the Moncton and Grand Falls regions as part of the new team of Early Learning Inclusion Facilitators. Re-joining the NBACL team in October 2012, Jeannette has worked previously with NBACL on several Early Learning and Child Care initiatives.

Genevieve Guignard joined the NBACL team in October 2008. After many successful years in a variety of positions with NBACL, Genevieve recently accepted a new position as the Early Learning Inclusion Facilitator in Bathurst.



Martine Haché joined the Bathurst office in February 2013 as an Independent Facilitator for the Disability Support Program. Martine’s daily work has her travelling across Regions 6, 7 and 8, from Miramichi to the Acadian Peninsula.



Jason LeBlanc works out of the Moncton office as the Transition Facilitator for students in the region. Jason joined the NBACL team in October 2012.



Kristi Peterson joined the NBACL team in January 2013 as the part-time Early Learning Inclusion Facilitator for the Fredericton region. Kristi holds a B.Ed with a specialty in elementary education and looks forward to collaborating with colleagues, families, educators, and children.



Brendan Storey works out of NBACL’s Moncton office as the Social Inclusion Facilitator for that area. Brendan joined NBACL in October 2012 after many years working at Able Sail, an inclusive sailing non-profit organization.





Tell Us What You Think!

The *Newsbreak* newsletter is *your* newsletter and we want to know what you think! We are always looking for ways to improve, so tell us what stories or information you would like to see or ways we can enhance your reading experience. Of course, we are always looking for great stories and photos; feel free to send us your own news!

Contact:
 Tara Brinston, Director of Programs
 Email: tbrinston@nbacl.nb.ca
 Tel: 1-506-453-4400

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter as well:



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We invite you to hear how we change lives and change communities:

NBACL regularly hosts one hour tours to increase awareness of our work. Through the use of story-telling and myth-busting, we love to share our passion with any interested community member. Upcoming tours will be held this

Winter & Spring at our Fredericton location on the following dates:

April 10, 12– 1:00pm April 25, 8-9:00am May 1, 12-1:00pm May 16, 8-9:00am

Please contact Sheri Shannon to register: sshannon@nbacl.nb.ca or 1-506-453-4400

Help us save our resources, and the environment!

If you would like to receive *Newsbreak* electronically please email us at nbacl@nbnet.nb.ca.



**New Brunswick
 Association for
 Community Living**

**Association du
 Nouveau-Brunswick pour
 l'intégration communautaire**

NBACL/ANBIC is a provincial non-profit organization that has been supporting people with intellectual disabilities and their families since 1957. NBACL works to ensure that people with intellectual disabilities have the supports they need to live meaningful lives and participate in their communities as valued and contributing members.

