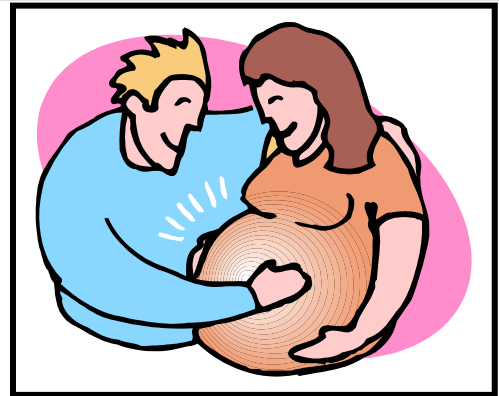


# Community Healing and Intervention Program Newsletter: Spring 2003

**Ki'su'k Kyukyit!** Welcome to the Spring 2003 Community Healing and Intervention Program (CHIP) Newsletter.

Spring is a time of new growth and renewed energy. In the spirit of Spring, there continues to be new and exciting research and initiatives regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). Throughout this newsletter you will find lots of the latest information regarding FASD.

Thank you for reading this newsletter. Thank you for the work that you do regarding FASD, and Happy Spring!



## Alcohol Warning Labels in Canada

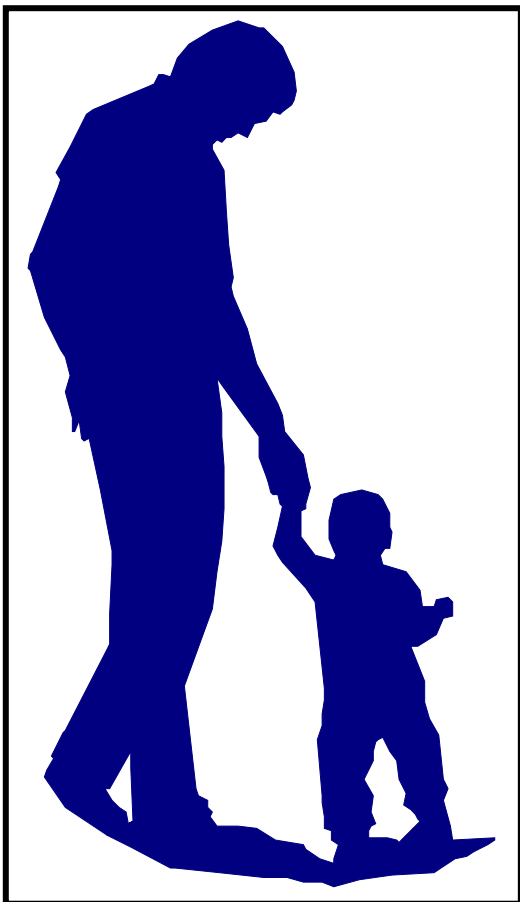
- Judy Wasylycia-Leis, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg North Centre, has been encouraging the federal government **to require labels on alcoholic beverages warning against drinking alcohol during pregnancy**
- On April 23, 2001, Parliament voted overwhelmingly (217 to 11) in favour of Wasylycia-Leis' Private Members Motion to require these warning labels
- Despite this vote, in the past two years, the federal government has still not committed to the use of warning labels
- Judy Wasylycia-Leis has responded to the government's inaction by launching a nationwide petition campaign calling

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for government action on labelling

- Contact Judy Wasylycia-Leis for copies of the "Petition to the House of Commons on Alcohol Warning Labels"
  - Email: [wasylj@parl.gc.ca](mailto:wasylj@parl.gc.ca)
  - Ph. 204-984-1767 or 613-996-6417
  - Fax: 613-996-9713
- The petition must be signed and then returned by mail (no postage needed)



### International FAS Awareness Day

- ❖ 9:09 a.m., Tuesday September 9, 2003
- ❖ On the 9<sup>th</sup> minute of the 9<sup>th</sup> hour of the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the 9<sup>th</sup> month:
  - ❖ Let's remind the world that during the nine months of pregnancy NO alcohol is the best choice
  - ❖ Let's remind the world of the struggles faced by all of the people with FAS as well as their families and communities
- ❖ If you are interested in participating in International FASD Awareness Day, contact the CHIP staff person in your area (see last page of this newsletter for contact information)
- ❖ You can also visit the International FAS Awareness Day website for more information: [www.fasworld.com](http://www.fasworld.com)

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### **Cranbrook FASD Warning Signs have been distributed!**

- In October, 2002 the members of Cranbrook City Council passed **Bylaw No. 3446, "Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Warning Sign Bylaw"**
- Each warning sign reads: "Pregnancy and alcohol do not mix. Protect your baby. Do not drink wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages during pregnancy."
- CHIP staff and youth volunteers have distributed the signs to the approximately 71 licensed establishments within the City of Cranbrook
- **If you see a business that has posted its FAS Warning Signs, please thank them for helping to prevent prenatal exposure to alcohol**
- Invermere is currently considering the implementation of a similar bylaw. A group of Kimberley citizens are also considering a bylaw campaign. Fernie has had an FAS warning sign bylaw (No. 1588) since 1992.

### **Prairie Northern Pacific Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Conference**

**November 19-21, 2003  
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

- ❖ The next Prairie Northern Pacific FAS Conference will take place on November 19-21, 2003 in Winnipeg, Manitoba
- ❖ The 2003 conference will provide a forum for community partners to hear from experts in the field of FAS and community development
- ❖ Submission guidelines for presenters and information on conference registration are available at [www.fasconference.ca](http://www.fasconference.ca)
- ❖ **The deadline for presentation proposals is May 23, 2003**
- ❖ The Prairie Northern Pacific Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Partnership includes the governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Saskatchewan, and Yukon

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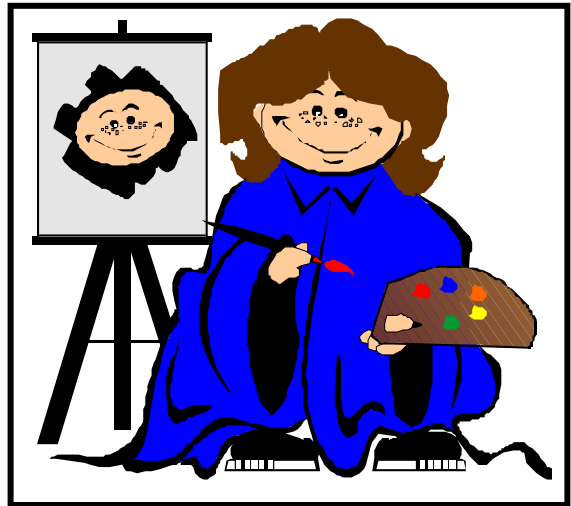
## "Working Together"

### 2003 FASD Medical Education Symposium

September 27-29, 2003

Burns Lake, B.C.

- ❖ The "Working Together" 2003 FASD Medical Education Symposium will take place on Sept. 27-29/03 in Burns Lake, B.C.
- ❖ This event is sponsored by the Prairie Northern Pacific FAS Partnership, the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development, and the College of New Caledonia—Lakes District Campus
- ❖ This symposium will include training for individuals from health, social service and educational streams
- ❖ There are 3 objectives for this event:
  - ❖ Early identification and intervention for women at risk of substance use during pregnancy
  - ❖ Early identification of children and youth potentially affected by prenatal alcohol exposure
  - ❖ Develop awareness of community-based resources, programs and service providers that can work together and build partnerships to support families living with FASD
- ❖ For more info. contact: College of New Caledonia, Burns Lake, B.C., Ph. 250-692-1700 or Fax 250-692-1750



## Whitecrow Village FAS Camps

- Whitecrow Village camps provide the opportunity for a positive experience for families and individuals with FAS.
- **FAS Camp Schedule:**
  - Camp One: July 6-11/03, Cowichan Valley
  - Camp Two: August 10-16/03, Francoise Lake
  - Camp Three: October 12-18/03, Quadra Island
- \$1000.00 for a family of four for one camp
- To book or for more info., contact Kee Warner (Ph/fax 250-695-6635, email: [whitecrow@ngis.ca](mailto:whitecrow@ngis.ca)) or Marilyn Dalton (Ph/fax 250-830-0762, email: [daltonm@telus.net](mailto:daltonm@telus.net))
- The Whitecrow programs are designed around the characteristics associated with prenatal exposure to alcohol. They do not require a diagnosis.

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- Their immediate goal is for kids and families to have fun and to participate in ordinary and traditional camp activities, hiking, boating, nature lore, and crafts.
- The camps incorporate the development of social and self-care skills.
- Family camps also provide training, speakers, consultation, and support for parents, family members and caregivers.
- The Whitecrow Village staff have experience with and understanding of the disabilities, behaviours and strengths that often accompany FAS.
- The staff practice and teach positive communication skills to ensure each camper has daily success.
- Family camp includes all meals, use of camp facilities, a full day program for children, morning training, and afternoon practice/fun sessions for adults. All training sessions are open to professionals and community members.



### Vancouver School Board Looking for FASD Ideas

- ✓ The Vancouver School Board invites you to **submit any of your FASD ideas, activities or resources** to them for three FASD projects that are being funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre's Community Mobilization Fund
- ✓ **The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2003**
- ✓ Send all contributions to **Peggy Lasser**, 1463 Columbia Ave., Port Coquitlam, B.C., V3C 1C5, Ph. 604-942-8877, Fax 604-942-2041, email: [plasser@telus.net](mailto:plasser@telus.net)
- ✓ **The three projects are:**
- ✓ 1. "Building a Future: A Guide for Understanding and Supporting Adolescents with FASD": a handbook intended to support adolescents with FASD, their parents, families and communities
- ✓ 2. "Together We Can Make A Difference: A Compendium of Ready-To-Use Strategies and Lesson Plans to Teach Students and Adults about FASD": contributions from individuals and organizations of tried and true strategies, lessons, presentations, and ideas that will make it easier to inform elementary and secondary students and adults of the risks of prenatal exposure to alcohol; will include lessons plans and reproducible information and worksheets

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- ✓ 3. "We Can Make a Difference: An Annotated Bibliography of FASD Awareness and Prevention Resources for Elementary and Secondary Students and Adults": We need your help in identifying and suggesting good FASD awareness and prevention resources (e.g. books, videos, presentation kits, posters, pamphlets, CD-ROMs, clip art, magnets, websites etc.) for any/all cultural groups

## Federal Tax Credit for Parents of Disabled Children

- In a February 19, 2003 article in the National Post, Tom Blackwell reported that the recent federal budget promised to provide a tax benefit of up to \$1,600.00 to families raising a severely disabled child at home
- The full \$1,600.00 per child benefit will be paid to families with incomes of less than \$33,487.00 for 2003
- For families who make more money, the benefit will be reduced according to the same formula used for the national child benefit
- The government will pay the first benefits starting in March, 2004, but payments will be retroactive to July, 2003
- The total program is expected to cost \$50-million per year

## Fast Facts About CHIP

**Mandate:** To prevent prenatal exposure to alcohol and to provide holistic, culturally sensitive support services to Aboriginal children and Aboriginal youth who are affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol and who live in the East Kootenay region

### The CHIP Team:

John Barnes:

❖ Ph. 250-489-3373

Jason Louie:

❖ Ph. 250-428-9816

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❖ Ph. 250-489-3373

Mary McKenna:

❖ Ph. 250-342-2645

Sue Bannatyne:

❖ Ph. 250-423-5041

Eleine Gordon:

❖ Ph. 250-489-3373

CHIP would like to thank the following organizations for their on-going support:

- ❖ The Interior Health Authority of British Columbia for funding CHIP
- ❖ The College of the Rockies for housing and maintaining CHIP's collection of FASD resources

**THANK YOU!**