Moose Jaw Multicultural Council

Annual Report 2006 – 2007

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President's Message

I would like to thank the Moose Jaw Multicultural Board of Directors and the Motif Multicultural Festival Board of Directors for their constant support throughout the past year. To the staff of the Multicultural Council I would like to express my appreciation for a successful year in achieving the goals and objectives of the Council. On behalf of the board, I want to say a special thank you and "Happy Retirement" to Linda Dirkson, our former Executive Director for her 18 years of dedicated service to the council and working diligently to provide direct settlement, adaptation and integration services to all refugees and immigrants in the Moose Jaw community and district. Linda has been the backbone from day one and without her caring and understanding of our cultural diversity, our agency could not have attained its role as one of Saskatchewan's settlement serving organizations.

We welcome as new Executive Director of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, Tara Blanchard who has stepped into the postion after being with us in the capacity of Settlement Worker. Her familiarity in all aspects of the councils programs enables her to continue the work to promote the positive aspects of cultural diversity.

The year has slipped by quickly with my participation in workshops with the Saskatchewan Cultural Exchange Society (SCES), the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCOS), the Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Languages (SOHL) and attendance at Citizenship Ceremonies along with community events.

Once again Motif has been made possible by the countless dedicated volunteers, the participation of cultural groups and individuals that take pride in providing three fun filled days of various heritage and cultures. You're sure to find your favorite dish of goodies, fantastic entertainers, and perhaps discover a new experience. Our appreciation also goes out to all those that have made Happy Valley Park the place it is today for all of us to enjoy the cultures of Motif.

My thanks to all members for their past contribution to enable the programs and activities to continue to grown within the Council.

Executive Director's Message

I would like to thank the Board of Director's for the opportunity to work as the Executive Director and to continue to provide the best possible services to newcomers to Canada as well as our community. I would also like to thank Linda Dirkson for all of her patience and assistance during this transition and the staff for their support during this transition as well.

I commenced my position as Executive Director on January 1, 2007. During my time our agency has already undergone some change as we renovated our childminding space, painted all rooms onsite and became a lisenced daycare on March 15, 2007. This in addition to negotiating new contracts and fiscal year end has kept me on my toes at all times. The opportunity to learn and accomplish new things has been energizing and rewarding.

I'm looking forward to the many learning opportunities and rewards of the organization that lie ahead. I hope that with a collaborative effort from staff, board and volunteers we will continue to grow, learn and diversify at the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council.

Tara Blanchard Executive Director

Past Executive Director's Message

On December 31st, 2007 I stepped down as the Executive Director of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council (MJMC). It was a difficult decision for me to make as I have poured both heart and soul into the organization for many years. Over the years the activities of the Council took up a good portion of my time both as a paid employee and as a volunteer, an experience that I enjoyed and truly believed in. I started with the Council as their first paid employee on October 20, 1989. We purchased a desk and chair and started in a nine by nine foot office space which the Council was able to rent from Moose Jaw's BID Association. Our focus was the welcoming and settling of new immigrants to our community in the hopes that they would more easily adapt and integrate into our city. I started with the immigration program called the HOST Program which matches volunteers in Moose Jaw with Canada's newest residents who arrive to make their Canadian home in Moose Jaw. This focus has remained strong to the benefit of our city. With huge community and Board of Directors' support we were able to apply for additional immigration programs and various multicultural projects over the years that support the welcoming of new immigrants in Moose Jaw.

The agency has grown over the years and now remains a very important human service provider in our city. We recognize and appreciate diversity like no other agency can. Motif, our three day multicultural family festival, is our celebration of Canada's diverse population in Moose Jaw.

I particularly want to recognize the three presidents, Vivian Meikle, Robert Fielding and Mary Tkach Vangsnes whom I worked under. Thank you for your great support and dedication to the organization. I counted on your advice and expertise many times. Thank you to all of the MJMC and Motif Board members who volunteered when I called, and attended meetings to make things happen! Thank you to all present and past staff members of the Council for as everyone knows it takes a great team to achieve what the Council has established. I would also like to thank the various funding institutions who supported the Council's initiatives, particularly Citizenship and Immigration Canada. One of my greatest rewards was welcoming and assisting people from around the world. Watching as they arrived and witnessing their spirit and determination to start a new life in Canada, I was so fortunate to be part of this process.

I'd like to welcome Tara Blanchard to the position of Executive Director of MJMC. Tara has been with the organization for six years and has an excellent understanding of the organization's goals and objectives. I wish her and the council continued success! I am pleased to be able to continue my connection with the Council by filling a part time position, working in the area of finance.

One of my favorite quotes is:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

Linda Dirkson

Moose Jaw Multicultural Council

Mission Statement

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council:

welcomes and integrates newcomers to Canada, and

develops harmonious relations among Canadians,

through programs and activities that recognize, respect and promote the positive aspects of cultural diversity, and that seek to discover, encourage and develop commonalties among peoples.

Background

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council is a non-profit organization and acts as an umbrella organization for other cultural groups in the city of Moose Jaw and surrounding areas. The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council was formed in May 1974 and is operated by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Objectives

- To provide direct settlement, adaptation and integration services to all refugees and immigrants in Moose Jaw and district.
- To discourage racial and cultural discrimination by encouraging an understanding of and an appreciation for our cultural diversity.
- To act as a forum from which immigrants and refugees issues and concerns can be collectively raised.
- To promote awareness and understanding between the newcomer to Canada and the community.
- To promote co-operation and mutual understanding amongst Canadians.
- To promote and to encourage the retention of language and cultural traditions as essential components of Multiculturalism.
- To act as a consultant for cultural and ethnic groups or any other groups with an interest in ethnic and cultural matters.
- To represent the interests of member groups in Provincial cultural, ethnic, and folk arts events and festivals.

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council is a non-profit organization serving Moose Jaw and the surrounding area. We are an umbrella organization for seventeen cultural groups and operate by a volunteer board of directors with elections held every year.

Our office is centrally located in Moose Jaw at 60 Athabasca Street East. We are open from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. from Monday to Friday.

Cultural Presentations & Cross-Cultural Education Host Program Annual Report

The Host Program had another successful year. The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council had some new ideas brought to the program by new staff even if they were with the organization for a short period of time. To date the Host program has recruited and matched -- volunteers to --newcomers to Canada. In this fiscal year, the Host program statistics are as follows:

Number of Newcomers matched through the Host Program: Groups -- 14 Individuals -- 49

Number of volunteers matched through the Host program: Groups -- 14 Individuals -- 78

Highlights from the year:

April 2006

Presentations

Marie Bourdeau – Host Coordinator did a presentation for the Rotary Club of Moose Jaw Wakamow on April 3rd, 2006 and formed a partnership with them in regards to helping with manpower for all Host functions in the upcoming year.

Host Events

On Thursday, April 13th, 2006 there was a Host event for newcomers to Canada and their Host Families. 25 participants attended the **Wildfire Dance** theatre who performed for an audience young and old alike, their message of greater understanding and ultimately positive change for our planet. The show was made up of skit and dances that spoke about a theme or idea and how it affected everyone and possible solutions.

Conversation Circles

On Monday May 29th, 2006 the Conversation Circles-Youth Group, held its' year end wind-up. Marie Bourdeau and 4 participants went for coffee and a doughnut at Tim Horton's.

June 2006

Host events

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council held its **Annual Host BBQ & Picnic** on June 3rd, 2006 from 1-3pm at Happy Valley Park. There were about 85 participants who attended the BBQ. We had hotdogs that were donated by South Hill Fine Foods, condiments and watermelon donated by Sobey's, and a 20 dollar gift card donated by Safeway. The BBQ was successful in making the newcomers feel welcomed in Canada. They enjoyed the food and drink and the children enjoyed all of the games (water balloons / tug of war/ kickball). The Rotary Club of Moose Jaw Wakamow helped serve the food and supervise the games and activities.

Presentations

On Thursday June 1st 2006, from 8:00am-10:00pm, the Host Coordinator had a presentation table set-up at the entrance to promote, the Host Program, volunteer opportunities at MJMC and the celebration for World Refugee Day/National Aboriginal Day.

On Monday June 26th, from 12:45-1:00pm, the Host Coordinator did a presentation to the Rotary Club of Moose Jaw at their luncheon meeting at the Heritage Inn, Moose Jaw. The presentation was short but well received and many questions were asked afterwards by individual members.

July 2006

Presentations

On Thursday, July 27, 2006 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm, Marie Bourdeau with guest speaker from Liberia, Fattah Bonah, spoke to a group of children attending the Moose Jaw Public Library's Summer School Aged Children's Program. Children learned about Liberia, played the "rock game" that refugee children play in the refugee camps in Guinea, where Fattah lived for almost 3 years and they watched a video depicting the stories of refugee children. There were 9 children in attendance ranging from 7 – 12 years old.



September 2006

Host Barbeque

The Host Fall Barbeque was held on Saturday September 16 at the Multicultural Council due to rainy weather.

October 2006

Host Fundraiser

On October 24th there was a "Chicken and Rib" night held at the Cornerstone Pub and Eatery. All proceeds went towards the Host Program.

Halloween Party

The Host Halloween Party was held on October 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. Forty five newcomers attended including 25 children.

December 2006

Host Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party was held on December 1st. Fourty-six people attended and sang Christmas songs. Played games, enjoyed some snacks and receiver a goody bag from Santa.

January 2007

Host Program Meet and Greet

Patricia Davies joined the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council as the new Host Program Coordinator. On Tuesday January 16th Patricia, ten members of the Host Program and Board of Directors met at the Moose Jaw Multicultural Centre. The goal of the evening was for members of the program to meet our new coordinator and discuss the host program. Refreshments were served and people shared some of their experiences. A nice time was had by all.

February 2007

LADIES NIGHT OUT

The first monthly ladies night was held Tuesday February 20, 2007 at the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council. The evening was attended by eight newcomer women. The project for the night was making a greeting card followed by some light refreshment. The evening was full of laughter and conversation. A good time was had by all. Special thanks to Carol Moran for helping out.

Settlement Programs

A) Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP)

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council provided immediate essential settlement and orientation services for government sponsored immigrants and refugees within their first 4 - 6 weeks of arrival in Canada. This year, 67 newcomers and 2 secondary migrants received RAP services through the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, of the 67, all were Government Assisted Refugees.

In the 2006-2007 fiscal year, MJMC received additional funding through the Resettlement Assistant Program (RAP). This funding was used to provide enhanced services to newly arrived clients such as:

- •A chartered bus to provide a thorough community orientation for clients
- •A tour of SIAST Palliser campus to provide clients with information on continuing education
- •Printing of resources that are given to clients upon arrival
- First aid training for clients

This year we were fortunate to receive additional funding to provide a life skills home visit pilot for new clients. MJMC contracted Roxanne Demeester to visit clients in their home. Each visit consisted of a comprehensive orientation on cleaning and maintenance of the home as well as orientation on hygiene, parenting and nutrition. Roxanne also accompanied each family for an orientation of Superstore to explain best prices, where to find items, and perishable vs. non-perishable groceries.

In additional to this pilot, MJMC developed a Life Skills for Women Manual. The Manual was launched at the national RAP conference in February 2007. The manual consists of information on topics pertaining to women such as:

- •Birth control
- Menstruation
- •Menopause
- •Mental health
- Pregnancy

The manual contained easy to read information as well as lots of visual aids. This manual is given to all new female clients upon arrival and hopefully will equip them with information they may need for their own health and well being.

Each child who arrives in Moose Jaw through the Resettlement Assistance Program is given a stuffed animal and a package that contains crayons, paper and a coloring book.

The Sasktel pioneers donated 200 binders to MJMC. We are now able to provide each new client with a few binders to assist them with their studies in the LINC program, elementary or high school.

Direct Immediate Settlement Services

- Reception for government sponsored immigrants and refugees at the Regina Airport and their transportation to Moose Jaw.
- Arrangements are made for an interpreter and community residents at reception, if required.

- Upon arrival in Moose Jaw, temporary accommodations and the immediate needs such as food or medical attention are attended to.
- A brief orientation regarding the city, their location, food store, and who to call if a problem arises is explained.

The following day, the Newcomer is assisted to cash their cheque at the bank and shop for any items they are in need of. The Newcomer is brought to our office and the steps that will be taken to settle them in our community are outlined. Any concerns are addressed and sorted out by our staff. Major issues are referred to the Citizenship & Immigration office in Regina. Interpreters/translators are used at this time if required.

Welcome Package Materials

- A yearly calendar
- Saskatchewan Health pamphlets
- A Newcomer's Introduction to Canada
- Moose Jaw Multicultural Council brochure
- Canada Food Guide
- Settlement Worker's Business Card
- City bus route map
- Moose Jaw city map
- Moose Jaw Tourist information
- Canadian Human Rights Commission (translated copies)
- SGI pamphlet (Keep Them Safe)
- Know Your Rights booklet
- Colour photocopy of Canadian currency
- Address book
- Local emergency phone numbers
- Information on Canada's income tax system
- How To Become a Canadian Citizen pamphlet
- Canada Flag lapel pin for each member of the family
- International Women's Day bookmark
- Canadian National Anthem bookmark
- Nutritional labeling information
- Directory of Places of Worship
- Energy Efficiency in the Home booklet
- Hepatitis C booklet (translated copies)
- Host Program Brochure
- Summer Safety brochure
- Home Fire Extinguishers pamphlet
- "Knowing is the best medicine" pamphlet
- Canada's physical activity guide for children booklet
- Canada's Physical Activity Guide
- Names and address of pharmacies that honour IFH claims
- Gathering Information pamphlet (translated copies)
- Parenting in Canada (translated copies)
- Living in Canada pamphlet

- Taking Good Care of Yourself in Canada
- Cashing Your Government Cheque for Free
- Choosing the Right Banking Service Package
- Life Skills Manual
- Settling in Saskatchewan
- Life Skills for Women Manual

We provided space and an interpreter/translator for the Citizenship and Immigration Canada Counselor to do documentation with government-sponsored newcomers.

There is on going support and solution focused counseling for refugees and interpreters/translators are called when there is a communication barrier.

For all government sponsored refugees, assistance was provided in locating an apartment or house suitable to their family size and within the Federal Government rental rate guidelines.

Arrangements were made for the purchase and delivery of furniture and household articles.

Assistance was provided with the utility hook-ups: this includes gas, electricity, water, and telephone.

Assistance was provided to move to permanent accommodation and introductions were made to the landlord and tenant rules and regulations were outlined, (if required, translation was provided).

We were available for dealing with their physical and mental health needs. Counseling, referrals, arranging for doctor and dental appointments, and medical lab work is coordinated through our office. Arrangements were made to accommodate medical appointments in Regina through the Moose Jaw Volunteers Drivers' Association.

Arrangements were made to enroll the children in school and assist the family in finding childcare if required.

Newcomers were escorted to a local bank to set up an account and apply for a banking card.

Through referrals, the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council develops linkages between the newcomer and available resources in the community. Referrals include the economic, social, cultural, and health areas, which are crucial to initial, long term settlement success.

Workshops were held to inform newcomers about Canadian society, they include financial budgeting, immunization, and other health issues, block parents, etc.

We assisted newcomers to fill out an application to attend English language training. We notified Canada Immigration and arranged a space and time for newcomers to be tested for their eligibility to enroll in LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada).

Students were assisted in arranging for transportation to English classes such as where and how to take a bus.

We encouraged all classes of immigrants to share their cultural traditions with our community and ensure that they are informed about Canada's laws and traditions.

Longer Term Settlement Services

Our Council members invite newcomers to take part in the Council's activities and to contribute to the Community's Canadian life style and customs.

Our office has a resource library that Newcomers can access. We have books, videos and computer software on Canada, looking for a job in Canada, English as a Second Language, the health care system, etc. Many of our resources are available in different languages.

The first Tuesday of every month Public Health sets up at the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council to immunize and educate the clients on communicable diseases. The third Thursday of each month Public Health comes to the centre to do a presentation for our students, topics include such things as: nutrition, discipline, car seats, parental skills, to name a few.

Our staff assists newcomers (within their first year in Canada) in completing their first income tax return at no cost to the client.

Community volunteers and staff support new Canadian families emotionally and encourage them with friendship, counseling, and patience as they adjust to Canadian society.

We integrate newcomers into Moose Jaw's Community life. Our volunteer participation sets a good example for Newcomers as they attempt to settle in Canada.

We are also responsible for communication between Citizenship & Immigration Canada.

Newcomers access our office for assistance in filling out applications for Canadian Citizenship, passports, travel documents, and the Permanent Residence Card.

Our clients received many generous donations over the year from Moose Jaw and the surrounding community. During the year, we received many donations of clothing and household items.

Job search tips are provided relevant to our community, preparation of a resume, and information as to a Canadian employers' expectation of an employee are outlined. We stress not only how to find a job, but what to do to keep it.

Our office has ten computers available for Newcomers to access a variety of English As A Second Language software, which is available to LINC students.

Newcomers are welcome to work on the computers to improve their English skills, prepare for the Canadian job market or prepare to return to school.

B) Immigrant Settlement & Adaptation Program (ISAP)

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council delivers the Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation Program to government-sponsored refugees and any eligible immigrants who arrive in Moose Jaw.

This year the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council received a total of 94 new immigrants and refugees.

81 government assisted refugees (this does not always coincide with destination number because of fiscal year start and end dates), 2 were family class, and 11 independent.

There was a total of 2265 ISAP services.

We assisted all classes of immigrants with filling out applications such as Saskatchewan Health Cards, Social Insurance Numbers, Child Tax Benefit and GST.

Bridging the Cultural Divide in Health Care Settings

On Friday April 28, 2006 at Saskatoon City Hospital from 9:00 - 4:30 pm, there was a workshop that focused on the health issues that are of concern to newcomers to Canada. There is a growing need to identify and promote awareness to these specific needs that newcomers have when they arrive. The goal of this workshop was to promote partnerships with health care providers so that they can provide culturally sensitive and timely health services to newcomers.

There were 4 guest speakers. From Vienna, Austria, Dr. Brian Gushulak spoke about the migration patterns of newcomers to Canada have dramatically changed and the pre-medical screening that is performed does not adequately serve its purpose anymore. The system needs to adapt for the new millennium.

There was a joint presentation from Dr. Salim Samanani and Dr. Carol Pim spoke about how they have set-up an on-site first health assessment facility at Calgary Catholic Immigrants Society. They spoke of the challenges to doing this and how they are trying to make the health system accountable for offering these services to newcomers.

Chris Friesen is the Director of Settlement Services Society of British Columbia and was instrumental in establishing Bridges Community Health Care which is a primary health care facility designed to meet the needs of newcomers to Canada.

Getachew Woldeyesus from Regina Open Door Society spoke about the new partnership they have formed with Regina Community Clinic to do the primary health assessment for the newcomers they receive every year. This partnership has worked well and is still growing to include other services for newcomers.

Linda Dirkson – Exectutive Director and Marie Bourdeau – Host Program Coordinator attended the workshop. Submitted by: Marie Bourdeau

Canadian Council for Refugees Conference Taking the lead-refugee and immigrant youth Montreal, November 23-25, 2006

I attended the Canadian Council for Refugees Conference (CCR) on behalf of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council. The CCR conferences provide an opportunity to learn about issues surrounding refugees and the individuals who work to provide services for refugees. The CCR is a national organization and their conferences are attended by; newcomers to Canada, government officials, front-line workers and volunteers. It is always and excellent opportunity to network and learn from other's experiences.

Some of the workshops I attended were:

- •Working conditions in the sector
- •Refugee and immigrant youth and sexual health
- •Overcoming social barriers faced by immigrant and refugee youth
- •Humanitarianism in the immigration programs
- •Singh to Suresh: Introduction of Tom Clark's book

The information I gained was excellent and can be directly applied to settlement services that MJMC provides for newcomers. The city of Montreal was a wonderful location for the conference and at the end of each day it was a treat to go out, explore and sample the unique French culture. Submitted by Tara Blanchard

Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) Conference Vancouver, February 19-23, 2007

Tara Blanchard, Linda Dirkson and Laurie Hunt attended the RAP conference in Vancouver in February 2007. The goal of the conference was to bring together RAP service providers to address common issues, barriers and to learn from each other through networking and presentations. Some of the presentations included housing issues, health care, funding, income support for clients dealing with family dynamics and life skills.

Tara Blanchard presented on the Life Skills Manual and Life Skills for Women Manual that were developed through the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council with funding from Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Tara presented along with Fiona Corbin (CIC Headquarters ,Ottawa), Morteza Jafarpour (Settlement Integration Services Organization, Hamilton) and Fariborz Birjandian (Catholic Immigrant Society, Calgary). The presentation was to explain the role of life skills training for clients and to share best practices and policies.

The highlight of the conference was a banquet and presentation of certificates to each agency for outstanding service and dedication to helping refugees start their new lives in Canada.

In Class Driver Training for Newcomers to Canada

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council is constantly creating new programming and trying to be creative when meeting the needs of newcomers to Canada. The most recent example is that of the graduated driver's license program through SGI. New drivers in Saskatchewan have to pass the class 7 test at SGI, then go on to complete 6 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of in-car instruction while practicing for a nine-month period before trying the road examination for a class 5 license. In November 2006

MJMC identified 15 individuals that were ready to start classroom instruction. With funding from SGI through a grant for driver training, MJMC was able to offer the training at no cost to the clients. Instructor Corinne Neff of ABC Driver training came onsite to deliver the classes over a three-week period. Special thanks to Marie Braithwaite of SGI and Corinne Neff of ABC Driver Training for their help in making this project possible. Next steps for these drivers to be? Taking on the streets of Moose Jaw for the six hour in-car instruction.

School Aged Refugee Children's Summer Program

The 2006 Moose Jaw Multicultural Council School-Aged Refugee Children's Summer Program was very exciting. A total of thirty-one children between the ages of five and fifteen, many of whom were new to Canada, took part in the program. Over the summer the new students worked hard to improve upon their English skills with help from the instructors and the students who have already grasped the language. All of the children were successful in improving upon their communication skills. The program involved lessons, games, and crafts at the center and several field trips around town. We were also able to make two special out of town field trips.

The program began on July 17th and ended on August 25th. The children came Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The program included three temporary full time employees who worked from 8:30am to 4:00pm. This years employees were Codie Endicott, Heather Gower, and Kelley Hunter. The three workers were essential to having the program run smoothly as various challenges arose throughout the program.

The widespread ages presented a challenge. There was a ten year separation between our youngest child, age 5, and our oldest, age 15. Though this age spread seems somewhat staggering, because there was three of us we were able to split the children into more age specific groupings when necessary. The original intention of the program was to have the ages range from six to thirteen. Two exceptions were made. The first was for five year old Ali Mehrabani as he was a mature boy who was very unhappy in the daycare. The other exception was for fifteen year old Vahedah Mehrabani. Vahedah, who was brand new to Canada when the program started, had not attended any kind of school in the five years preceding her arrival. In September she will begin high school at Central Collegiate Institute in Moose Jaw and by coming to the summer program she was able to make friends and greatly strengthen her English and communication skills. We felt that if she was denied access to the program, where she improved her English skills, she would find high school incredibly difficult.

The main reason that three employees were necessary for this year's program was eleven year old Chuboy Dopoh. This was Chuboy's second year in the program and he posed a challenge as he is blind. Chuboy required one-on-one attention from one of us at nearly all times. This, more often than not, left two workers in charge of the rest of the students. The two workers were able to maintain control of the group while the third worked with Chuboy to ensure that he found the program enjoyable as well. Despite these challenges we were able to work through them and ran a very successful program.

The summer program entailed much more than just working on the children's English skills. The program taught the kids life skills and exposed them to Canadian Culture. We talked to the kids about the four food groups, bicycle safety, fire safety, respect, and courtesy, among other things. We were also fortunate enough to have a budget that allowed us to make several local trips and two trips to Regina. These trips are important to the program as it exposes the children to new things and shows them

What Moose Jaw has to offer for them. We were also able to allow two of our children, Ojullu Omot and Didumo Omot, join a week long program at the Moose Jaw Art Museum. The Art Museum's program investigated other cultures and the children really enjoyed it. Two other children, Sher Ahmad Shahidzadeh and Valmire Berisha, were able to partake in a morning writing session at the Moose Jaw Public Library as part of the Festival of Words. The program was entitled Kids Ink and was ran by author Dave Glaze. Sher Ahmad and Valmire were able to do this thanks to Laura Butt, a MJMC Language

Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) teacher, who sponsored them. The children were grateful for the opportunity to take part in the Festival of Words and had a great time.

Locally we took the children to the Fire Hall, the Moose Jaw Public Library, the Western Development Museum, the Sukanen Ship Museum, and the Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Center. We even took the kids to McDonalds as they had all received free ice-cream coupons as a result of a reading program we signed them up for. Our two trips to Regina were to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum on August 10th and to the Saskatchewan Science Center on August 23rd. Though we spent many days on field trips we also took the kids to Crescent Park quite often.

We spent quite a bit of time at the center itself making crafts, playing games, teaching the children different things, and having several guests come in. Our guests included the Moose Jaw Humane Society who brought a dog to the center and talked to the children about caring for pets, and Constable Kevin Pillsworth who discussed bicycle safety. Josh Carley, a local school teacher, taught them a song and dance, and Tracey Deobald taught the children traditional circle dances from around the world. Bringing in the guests was a great way to teach the children about certain things that we didn't know much about ourselves and was always a great time.

All and all the program was a success. All of the children enjoyed themselves and learned a lot. The children who had recently arrived in Canada made great strives in furthering their English skills and preparing for school in the fall. The children who have bee in Canada long enough to have a good understanding of English continued to work on their skills while making friends and having fun. It is important to note that this program does not only benefit the children but it benefits their parents as well. As a result of this program, the adult students of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council could continue to come and improve their own English during the summer. Without the program at least one parent would have had to stay home with their children. For these reasons as well as the success of this year's program it is strongly recommended, by all three of the summer employees, that this program be continued into the future. Codie Endicott, Heather Gower, Kelley Hunter



Employment & Career Preparation Program

This project is gratefully funded by the Department of Advanced Education and Employment to assist newcomers to Canada and Canadian/Permanent residents with cultural and literacy barriers to become self-sufficient in successfully moving to employment or becoming enrolled in an educational or training program leading to employment.

As of April 2006, Wendy Goodnough, the Employment Coordinator, is employed to offer this program full time, classes are held in the morning, with the afternoon set aside to provide career counseling, job search assistance and one on one assistance with work related activities.

Preparation to enter into the workforce is a process which begins with getting to know yourself, understanding who you are, what skills you have and what information and additional skills you may need to plan your personal path toward your career choices. This is accomplished by working through components focusing on:

- Workplace values, interests and skills
- Personal Management (Lifeskills)
- Decision Making/Goal Setting
- Stress Management
- Assertiveness Training
- Communication Skills

Transitions to the Workplace:

A successful job search in Canada is a step-by-step process that has many components that should not be ignored. Each step in the job search process works with the next step to provide the job seeker with the best opportunity for employment. The goal of the Employment and Career Preparation program is to equip newcomers to Canada with the tools needed to perform a successful job search.

These steps are:

- Develop an effective Resume
- Create a professional Cover Letter
- Correct use of application forms
- Obtain an overview of the Saskatchewan and Moose Jaw area job market
- Access a full explanation of the educational and licensing requirements for their occupation
- Review Job Interview questions and answers that will impress the employer.

Again this year the Employment and Career Preparation program offered training in computers, Occupational Health and Safety First Aid, and the Food Handling Safety course. The paid work assessment component to our program was available again to assist persons that we have assessed as having high employment barriers to obtain employment. Our appreciation goes out to our community businesses and their staff who partnered with the Multicultural Council to provide training and work experience to our students who attend the Employment and Career Preparation Program.

The last fiscal year has proven to be a very successful year for the Employment and Career Preparation Program. From April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007, 35 people accessed services in the Employment and Career Preparation Program. 23 are now employed in our community, 3 are continuing their education, 7 have left our province and 2 are continuing in LINC classes. I want to congratulate all the participants for their success in finding employment and continuing with further education. Special thanks goes to our local employers for their support in integrating immigrants and refugees into their workplaces. Submitted by Wendy Goodnough.

Workplace Language (English) Training

Again this year we held three open-house events to encourage student attendance and to plan study topics the students felt would be helpful. We held classes on some of the following topics.

Payroll	Driver safety
Workplace safety	Fire safety
Harassment prevention	Canadian citizenship
Health insurance	Workplace problems and solutions
Holidays and related pay	Request, complaint, and follow-up letters
Work and rest balance	Vocabulary and grammar

We had guest speakers on employment, media, and citizenship testing. We visited the CHAB-Country 100 radio station, viewed a student's hobby pigeons, went to a restaurant and had a picnic in the park. The students organized all of our special events. They wrote the invitations, greeted and thanked the guest, and wrote the thank-you letters. Preparation and de-briefing sessions were held for each event

In consultation with the director and the students, the Workplace Language (English) Training Program was reduced to two nights a week from three. There was poor attendance on Wednesday nights. We had three students discontinue because of the cancellation. These students had had very poor attendance right from their initial registration.

Our successes have seen five of the night class students and their families recently become Canadian Citizens. One student successfully completed correspondence courses from SIAST and Athabasca University in office management and medical terminology. One student obtained full time employment in the customer service and administration office at Sears Canada. One student obtained full time employment in the carpet sales industry and all others maintained or improved their employment status.

A special thanks goes to Rob Carnie from CHAB and Nicole Young a U of R Student. Rob and Nicole took the time to volunteer in our class and the students enjoyed their input and benefited from them immensely.

It is with great sadness that we report the end of the Workplace Language (English) Training Program. After many funding extensions, the funding has been withdrawn. Our picnic in the park will be our last event. As the program's facilitator, I would like to thank the volunteers who gave their energy and dedication with great effect. I would like to thank the students for their interest and enthusiasm; I am glad you picked Canada! Also thank-you to the director and staff at the MJMC for their help and support for the three years I have worked with this program.

Submitted by Carol Moran

Language Instruction for Newcomers To Canada (LINC)

Our office provides English Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada and includes:

Assistance in filling out applications for English as a Second Language training. We provide space and arrange for LINC level testing of newcomers. LINC is offered in our centre from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M..Monday to Friday. Classes run from 9:00am to 3:00pm with one hour for lunch. From 3:00pm to 3:30pm teachers are available for one on one assistance. There were many volunteers who tutor students on a one to one basis. This year 27 volunteers gave us approximately 290 hours of their time to assist the students. All levels of LINC: I, II, III, IV, & V are incorporated. There is continuous intake and a great deal of flexibility to accommodate the newcomers' role as a student. This year, 37 students attended. There are extensive ESL resources, orientation to Canada materials, ten computers with ESL software, educational field trips, and invited resource people to complement the learning process. We do have the capacity to break the class up to accommodate a more suitable learning environment.

Childminding Centre

Over the course of the past year, there have been lots of memorable moments, great learning opportunities and tons of fun and laughter. The children are always eager to learn, do creative projects and play with their friends. The children are always practicing their English by reciting the alphabet, days of the week, counting to ten and singing songs. They are always eager to practice writing their names; listen to stories and to do any activity that involves gross motor. Our days are comprised of some free play (they can choose to play with the centers we have set up; housekeeping, dress up clothes, art, nature/science, writing table and the cozy book area), fine motor activities (puzzles, lego, blocks) gross motor activities (playing games, riding bikes, playing with balls), some cognitive/creative art and group time.

The Moose Jaw Public Library had invited us to attend their Parent and Child Activities once a month. This was a great opportunity for the parents to read books to their children, sing, do art and play with the materials available. There was a great response from all parents and children. We also had the opportunity to be involved with a Turning Pages program. A facilitator would come on site and invite the children to attend a story reading and an art project with their parents. The children always appeared to have a great time doing these types of activities with their moms and dads. One of the highlights for the children this year was around the Christmas holiday. The whole school went to a tree farm, picked the tree they liked, cut it down, and brought back to the agency to decorate. While visiting the tree farm, the children got to see the reindeer. The children talked about the reindeer for a long time afterwards.

This fiscal year, we received thirteen new children to add to our enrollment, benefiting 24 total children. As of March 1, 2007, our child care facility became a licensed daycare. We had to do some renovations to accommodate fifteen child spaces. We added a door for a new entrance into the daycare. This area is wonderful to have for the children to keep their belongings in their newly built lockers. The old infant sleep room was transformed into an office for the daycare supervisor, and the bathroom sink and counter had to be changed to provide more room for a standard size change table. The biggest change was the new space we received. Some new walls were put up in the old student lounge to provide the daycare with a "messy room." This room is designated for art, messy activities, snacks and lunch. One of the most valued changes with becoming a licensed daycare is now we are able to take the children off site for educational field trips or neighborhood outings without the parents having to miss class time. Our licensed hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, for toddlers, preschoolers, and kindergarten children. Two snacks and lunch is provided during this time. The children love their new space, along with new materials that help them grow and learn.

LINC Activities & Student Educational Sessions

Briercrest Bible College Practicum Students

Over the course of the past year we have had about 10 Briercrest students involved in our LINC classes. The students begin with observation in our classrooms and progress to wher they are teaching lessons to our students. It is usually an enriching experience for both the practicum students and our LINC students. The BBC students are fulfilling the requirement of their TESOL program at Briercrest Bible College. As part of their program they are required to complete 8 hours of classroom participation in four levels of practicum teaching. We are happy to let the students participate in our classrooms as there is a mutual benefit for all involved.

Turning Pages Program

After missing out last year, were excited to see the return of the Turning Pages program this summer. This is a program run by Glenda James for the purpose of family literacy. This program fits in so well with what we want to see accomplished for our students and their children.

Glenda James came to our school every Tuesday morning for six weeks. During that time she explained the importance of literacy, stories and reading for children. She brought along many children's books for our students to read and sign out for the week. During the hour she was with our students and their children she would read different types of children's books. Along with reading the stories, there would also be a related craft for the students and children to work on together. Everyone who participated enjoyed the program very much. They were sorry to see it end.

April 2006

Books Donated

In April of 2006 the Moose Jaw North NDP offered to donate textbooks that would educate students about Canadian politics. A request for ten copies and a teacher's manual of <u>My Country, Our History</u> by Allan D. Hux, J.A. Brandao and Moira Wong was made and granted. The cost was \$249.50 for student books and \$49.95 for the teacher's manual. Moose Jaw North NDP has put a sticker inside each book to indicate that they made that donation and Bruce Weighill, the President of Moose Jaw North NDP stopped by on Tuesday May 23, 2006 to present the new books and have his picture taken with our class, LINC 2-5. The books are extremely usefUl as they give an overview of Canada as well as the historical events and issues that underly our present political landscape. We use them every week, often more than once in a week.

May 2006

Citizenship Preparation Class

Applicants preparing to challenge this year's Canadian Citizenship Examination were invited to attend a Citizenship Exam Preparation Class on May 10, 2006 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thirteen guests attended this special evening sponsored by the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council.

The gymnasium was set up to resemble a testing room, and after introductions and explanations, the applicants each wrote one of three sample tests. The tests were graded by the facilitator and returned to the participant. General discussion about the examination procedures and the citizenship ceremonies helped to answer questions and reassure the applicants that the process is not a "life threatening event" and that the

officials sincerely want everyone to become Canadian citizens. The remainder of the evening was spent posing questions about Canada and clarifying answers.

The applicants recommended that sessions such as this one could be repeated and they suggested that the formation of a study group to meet monthly for review and assistance for people preparing for their citizenship examinations would be beneficial.

Western Development Museum Field Trip

On Wednesday, May 17th we took all of our students and their children for an excursion to the Western Development Museum. It was a beautiful day for an outing and we enjoyed to trip very much.

The theme of the museum is "History of Transportation". This was particularly appropriate for my class as we are studying the theme of transportation at this time. The museum showed the progression of transportation in Saskatchewan throughout the 20^{th} century. It began with the days of canoes on the waterways and horse drawn buggies on the roads. It progressed to paddle wheelers, steam engines, snowmobiles and airplanes.

The Snowbird exhibit was particularly interesting to the children as they got to climb into a cockpit and pretend they were flying a plane. We had an excellent afternoon.

Canadian Citizenship Ceremony

On May 30th, we were able to take our students to the citizenship ceremony held at Cornerstone Christian School. It was a beautiful spring day, so some of us took the opportunity to walk to the school. Student who were unalble to walk went by taxi.

Citizenship judge Authur Miki presided over the ceremony. He spoke of his ansectors immigration to Canada over 100 years ago, and the adversity and hardships they overcame. Judge Miki described Canada as a country that embraces diversity. He welcomed all of the new citizens as full and complete members of our country.

There were also many important platform guests who were given an opportunity to speak. We heard from various politicians and group representatives.

The choir from Cornerstone School sang a lovely song and everyone participated in the singing of O Canada.

There were 63 individuals from a variety of different countries who received their Canadian citizenship. This was a very valuable experience for our students to have. Each one of our students plans to get their Canadian citizenship in the near future, and this experience help to prepare them for it.

Public Health Presentation: May 18,2006

At 9:00 AM the men went to Doug's classroom for a presentation on Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's) and the women all met in Cheryl's classroom to learn about STI's and pap smears and breast examinations. Nursing students did most of the women's presentation, with power point and a video. Students were receptive and some requested information be translated into their languages.

After a break, all students met in the gym for a discussion of sun safety and West Nile Disease prevention. There was a skit by nursing students and there were several handouts on the topics. Students leaned about deet and what levels are safe for children and how long it protects you for. The presentation was interesting and thorough.

June 2006

SCENES CONFERENCE AND AGM

On June 15, 2006 two MJMC LINC teachers, Laura Butt and Carol Moran, attended the annual SCENES conference in Saskatoon. Friday's registration and dinner were followed by a selection of Oriental music played by JaiNing Jin on an authentic gu zheng. Also, at a very interactivt presentation by the conference chairperson, Donald B. Campbell, teachers could be seen walking on pretend Jello and learning how to better use improvisational acting and comedy in the classroom.

There were several presentations on Saturday and we were able to participate in the following:

- <u>Helping Your Students Prepare for the New TOEFL</u>- presented by Craig Campbell, U of S Language Centre. This workshop provided an overview of the new Internet-based TOFEL(iBT).
- <u>A Canadian Language Portfolio</u> presented by Joan Boyer, Saskatchewan Learning. This presentation demonstrated the use of the European Language Portfolio (ELP).
- <u>ESL Teacher Certification and Accreditation</u>: What does it mean in Saskatchewan, Canada and elsewhere? presented by Shannon Storey, U of S Language Centre. This presentation provided an over-view of the more commonly known standards and programs for ESL teachers.
- <u>Teaching ESL Literacy: Activities for CLB Foundation and Phase</u> I presented by Jean Campbell, Saskatoon Open Door Society. This workshop provided information on several activities which are helpful when teaching ESL Literacy.
- <u>Learning Together: An ESL Family Literacy Program</u> presented by Alice Samkoe, Regina Public Library. This presentation outlined the successful literacy for mothers program at the Regina Library.
- <u>Canadian Cuisine for Literacy Chefs</u> presented by Rita Mae Braun and Carolyn Armstrong of the Regina Open Door Society. This session presented goals, procedures, written tasks, recipes, and ideas for follow up in the classroom.

We attended the SCENES AGM over lunch. The conference wrapped up with prize draws, awards, and a show of appreciation to the organizers of a very worth while conference.

September 2006

Sasktel Pioneers – Internet Workshops

In September, two members of the Sasktel Pioneers came to our school to work with our students. Greg Bergen and Rob Hugg, employees of Sasktel, led two workshops on concurrent Fridays for our students. The workshops dealt with the uses and workings of the Internet. The topics covered included how to find information and web sites on the internet, how to send and receive emails, and how to communicate with friends and family through chat programs.

Our students showed a great deal of interest in the subject. Any computer skills that our students can acquire will benefit them greatly in their future. Thank you to the Sasktel Pioneers for the excellent presentations. Submitted by Doug Cassidy.



Police Station Tour

On September 14th we were able to take our students for a tour of the Moose Jaw Police Station. We were met by officer Blair Bucsis of the Community Services Division. He did a great job of showing us around the police station.

The students were able to see the dispatch area, where 911 calls come in. We saw the briefing room, interview rooms, holding cell area, firing range and the underground garage. In the garage we saw all the stolen bikes that had been recovered.

One of the primary objectives of the tour was to present a positive image of policing in Canada. Many of our students come from areas of the world where the police are not to be trusted. This tour helped to dispell the mistrust and give our students a positive experience with the police.

OAS and CPP Presentation

On September 11, 2006, students in LINC 1-2, and LINC 2-5 heard a presentation on Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security. Carrie spoke and explained who is eligible and how a person gets OAS and CPP. She asked students some questions about their understanding and experience with working in Canada and paying into CPP. Students asked a few questions also. She explained that there will certainly be enough money in the plans for when we retire and far beyond because of good money management over the past decade. There was a large packet of information and Carrie emphasized that people could call the number on the bookmark if they had any other questions. It was a valuable use of our time. Submitted by Laura Butt

A Multilevel Project

As part of our unit on "Your child's Education", two classes in the Moose Jaw Multicultural LINC program cooperated to make a bulletin board display. The LINC 2-5 class members each made a list of advice for parents to help their children succeed in school. Then they had to collaborate and make one list and decide the order of the final list. One student with good handwriting wrote out the combined list on poster board. The beginner class found pictures of students, teachers, classrooms and Ross School where their children attend. Several students typed out "SCHOOL DAYS" in large font on the computer. They arranged the pictures and poster board list on the bulletin board. Students from both levels were proud to have contributed.

October 2006

Our Visit to the Grade Eight Class at Prince Arthur School

On October 4, 2006 and October 11, 2006, LINC 2-5 students went to meet Lucy Del Garno and her grade eight students. They were glad to see us and very welcoming. Mrs. Delgarno said the students were studying other countries and the patterns of economics, religion, family relationships, politics, recreation and culture. She said that last year they had used the internet and research to learn about the different patterns in other countries but did not gain as much as they would have liked. Having real people come and talk about their home countries is more engaging and memorable. It has been memorable for the students to share from their experience. They are experts with valuable knowledge to share and it is rewarding for them to be seen in this role. There was no trouble communicating and the grade eight students were polite and willing to rephrase if a LINC student missed the meaning of a question. LINC students had to listen and speak in a somewhat demanding context with strangers who were not accustomed to their accents and sometimes the subject would change without any context clues. A teen would ask something completely unrelated and the LINC student was put to the test to follow and identify the new subject. Some of the grade eight students were shy and hesitant and the LINC students were a little nervous at first but it went very well. This experience was also good for the LINC students' orientation to Canadian schools and teenagers. One comment from our students was about the high number of students in one class with one teacher. This kind of activity is very valuable for LINC students. Submitted by Laura Butt

Fire Station Tour

On Tuesday morning, October 17th, all the students and their children headed up to the Fire station. We were met by two fire fighters for our informational tour. First, we were shown the control room where 911 emergency calls are received. We were told when to call 911 and the personal information that we needed to give over the phone. This is also something we practice in class to make sure the students are able to effectively convey their address and other personal information. The fire department responds to many kinds of calls including fire, car accidents, boating accidents, and even pets getting stuck in trees.

We were shown the fire trucks, including a new ladder truck, and all the equipment the fire fighters have at their disposal to respond to emergencies. Some of the students tried on the fire fighters jackets, oxygen tanks and helmets. They were surprised at how heavy all the equipment is! The firefighters also showed us a new piece of equipment they have that helps them see through smoke and locate people and objects.

It was a very interesting and important tour for all the students. Hopefully, our students will never need to call for the fire departments assistance, but if they do, I think they will be able to respond appropriately.





TESL Canada Conference

October 19,20, and 21, 2006

One of the best professional events we have attended recently was the TESL Canada Conference, Landmarks and Landscapes, in Winnipeg. Laura and Carol would like to thank the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council for allowing us to have the time and the finances to attend this conference.

We attended a total of 26 information packed classes, listened to two keynote speakers, and attended a themed breakfast and a lunch with colleagues from across Canada. We built some good working foundations with teachers from Regina, Saskatoon and Caronport. In our spare time we visited the publishers' displays and networked some more.

We attended classes with such varied and interesting topics as How Pronunciation Research Can Inform Teaching Practices, Precision Reading, Immigrant Adult ESL Learner's Emotional States, Reading Between the Lines, and Journal Writing in a Multilevel Setting.

Laura attended two symposia. The first was "Is priviledge unquestioned in Teacher Education?" They made seminar participants duly aware of discriminatory behaviors that have occurred in our own cities.

The second was on Precision Reading. It was amazing and revolutionary. Dr. Rick Freeze has used this method and helped children improve their reading by two grade levels in three months. He helps students catch up with their class by having the student read for one minute and practice problematic words from the reading. The teacher does this with the student using the same reading every day. The reading material is taken from the grade level of the student's peers in age. If the student is reading with no mistakes after seven days they start a new piece of reading. Otherwise, they switch to a new reading after ten days. A woman among the participants testified that her son is ADD and was reading at grade two level by the end of grade six. By grade eight, he had caught up to his class because of Precision Reading. Dr. Freeze is available to lead two-day seminars for teachers to fully train them in this highly effective technique for teaching reading.

Carol had the opportunity to visit the Sir William Olsen ESL school, observe classes and visit with the teachers and staff for a question and answer period. There was also a visit to Workplace Preparation Unit in downtown Winnipeg. We came home with many new ideas, some of which are already in practice in our classrooms. Report submitted by Laura Butt and Carol Moran

November 2006

Remembrance Day Service

All LINC students, teachers, and volunteers gathered together to honour soldiers and peacekeepers, living and dead, around the world. Mary Evans, a LINC volunteer, accompanied the students on her violin in the singing of O Canada. The students then recited a poem about Remembrance Day, Poppies and Peace. Each student placed a poppy on a cross. Doug Cassidy introduced our guest speaker, Denis Biden. Mr. Biden gave a short presentation outlining Canada's war history and our country's current peacekeeping involvements. Mr. Biden also paid tribute to our soldiers and indicated his understanding of civilian suffering during war. He underlined his appreciation of and pride in Canada and its new Canadians. Ali, a

senior student, expressed his heartfelt thanks on behalf of the students and staff. Following the presentation, everyone enjoyed muffins and coffee prepared by the LINC 1 class. The students and staff greatly appreciated Mr. Biden's presentation. He came to class very well prepared. He talked to the assembly with compassion and empathy. He made the information he presented interesting and easily understood.

Submitted by Carol Moran

Gentle Teaching Workshop

On November 15, 16, and 17, 2006, Carol Moran and Laura Butt attended a workshop on Gentle Teaching held at Valleyview. It was presented by Tim Jones and based on the work and teaching on John McGee. The main theme was to use your touch, eyes, voice and presence to communicate to a person that they are safe and loved and to have the person respond by loving and engaging in his environment in positive ways. By affirming a person until they genuinely feel safe and loved, we help them to be comfortable and so antisocial behaviors stop without a caregiver or teacher specifically addressing the inappropriate behavior. There were many examples and video clips to show how gentleness and empowering a person causes them to respond in positive ways.

It applies to teaching in LINC programs in that our students are not ready to learn until they feel secure. English is vital for their success in Canada but they cannot concentrate if they are preoccupied with concerns about safety or are not sure they are welcome. Even if they are not exhibiting obvious antisocial behaviors we need to use gentle teaching techniques to be sure our students know they are safe and that their teacher values them. Then they will be ready to begin construction on their thures in diverse and creative ways.

The Safe Use of Medicines

On Thursday, November 16th, our students received a presentation from the Public Health department on the safe use of medicine within their homes.

The presentation was given by Wanda, our regular nurse, so most of the students were familiar and comfortable with her. She talked about four areas of safety:

- Knowing the active ingredient in each medicine. This is particularly important when you are taking two medicines. If both have the same active ingredient you could be getting too much of one ingredient.
- Reading the correct dosage for each medicine. This is important to ensure that the correct amount will be measured out, taken at the right intervals through the day, and taken for the correct length of time.
- ▶ Finding the expiry date. If the medicine is past date it needs to be replaced.
- Storing the medicine safely and carefully. We should store medicine in a cool dry location, not in our bathrooms. Also, we must ensure that children cannot get access to medicine. The presentation was very practical and valuable for our students.

"From Many Peoples Strength" Community Consultation

As the SCENES representative for Moose Jaw Multicultural Council Inc., I attended 'From Many Peoples Strength Community Consultation' presented by the SaskCulture Multicultural Community of Interest Committee on Saturday, November 18, 2006. The master of ceremonies, Dr Jay Kalra, President of the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan, introduced Barbara MacLean, Deputy Minister, Saskatchewan Culture Youth and Recreation and then the keynote speaker, Leonzo Barreno, Coordinator of the Intercultural Leadership Program, Indigenous Peoples Program for the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Barreno's address was titled, "Moving Beyond Multiculturalism to Interculturalism in Saskatchewan." He explained the program he represents at the university then using it and his personal story, he related the importance of accepting all people from all countries as different, unique but most importantly equal.

The keynote address was followed by a panel of speakers from four focus areas.

- Mainstreaming multiculturalism and responding to the aging population and its effect on multiculturalism
- The growth and development of First Nations and Metis population in relationship to multiculturalism
- Increased immigration to Saskatchewan and the effects on multiculturalism
- Youth vision versus traditional approaches to multiculturalism and new approach to ethno cultural arts

After lunch, all attendees participated in focus group discussions to develop three points of concern and three points of action for their chosen focus group. There was lively discussion and some unique suggestions put forward. The groups then reported back to the general assembly. Plans were made for follow-up and future sessions.

Submitted by Carol Moran

Agribition 2006

On Tuesday November 21st and Wednesday November 22nd we took our students to Agribiton. We took different students over the two days, so that parents with children would both be able to attend on different days. We saw a wide variety of animals and the students enjoyed looking and touching them. We saw expensive bulls valued at over \$50,000.00. We saw horses, bison, sheep, goats, dairy cows, and llamas just to name a few. One of the interesting experiences was watching the Bison auction. I didn't even understand what the auctioneer was saying, let alone the students. In the main show ring in the Agridome we saw a number of shows and judging competitions for carriage horses. Overall, everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly and had an interesting experience. Agribition was a great experience for the students.

Professional Development Day

On November 27, 2006, all three teachers of the LINC classes of MJMC attended professional development in Regina at the SIAST campus. There was a presentation by Penthes Rubrecht, one of the people involved in developing the material of a new teaching tool based on the story, "The Hockey Sweater". It included video, text with audio done by Roch Carrier himself and by a native speaker of English and many activities for use on computer. The whole product will be available on CD by Christmas for \$34.95.

After a break, Ron gave a presentation on teaching relaxed speech. His goal in teaching students relaxed speech is for increased listening comprehension. Students need to be able to understand utterances like, "Gotcha" or "I'm gunna go." He explained and demonstrated activities and games he uses and had participants play the games. There was also good conversation time to network and share between agencies and encourage one another.

Submitted by Laura Butt

December 2006

Canadian Citizenship Ceremony

On December 12th, we took part in the citizenship ceremony held in St. Andrew's social hall. Our students were able to help out with setting up chairs, ushering at the entrances and putting up posters and decorations. Citizenship judge Authur Miki presided over the ceremony. He spoke of his ansectors immigration to Canada over 100 years ago, and the adversity and hardships they overcame. Judge Miki described Canada as a country that embraces diversity. He welcomed all of the new citizens as full and complete members of our country. There were several invited platform guest including our newly elected mayor Dale McBain. Mayor McBain spoke of the benefits and blessings we enjoy in Moose Jaw. In total there were 26 individuals from 9 different countries who received their Canadian citizenship. A number of these new citizens were former clients and student of MJMC. This was a very valuable experience for our students to have. Each one of our students plans to get their Canadian citizenship in the near future, and this experience help to prepare them for it.

Tree Farm Tour

In an effort to prove that winter can be fun, the LINC students, teachers, children and Linda went to the Come See – Come Saw tree farm to select our tree. We went about ten kilometers east of Moose Jaw by bus to visit Henri and Aline O'Rielly's tree farm. Everyone enjoyed walking through the plantation and selecting the tree. Students then cut the tree down and dragged it on the sled back to the gathering area. We had hot chocolate and cookies, fed popcorn to the reindeer, and came back to school. Monday morning we decorated the tree and all students talked about a tradition that they thought was one they could adopt as part of being Canadian.

January 2007

Driving and the Law

For the last hour on Tuesday, January 30, we had a guest from the Moose Jaw Police Department. Constable Rice came to speak to our students about driving and the law. He covered some very important points for students who are driving now, or who hope to drive in the future.

Police officers have the right to stop any vehicle to make sure the driver is in compliance with the law and to make sure the vehicle meet the required safety standards. Drivers need to make sure they have a proper driver's licence and car registration. Drivers need to be particularly mindful of the laws regarding sobriety. Novice drivers are not allowed to have any alcohol in their system at all. The laws in Canada are very strict about drinking and driving.

Important laws that the police watch for in to watch for in Moose Jaw are:

- School Zones and Playgrounds. The speed limits are 40 km/h and the police are very strict to enforce it.
- Seatbelts. Seatbelts have been proven to save lives, and everyone in the car must wear one. Infants and young children must be in a proper car seat or booster seat at all times.
- Traffic lights. Most accidents happen in intersections where someone ignores or doesn't see the traffic light. Be particlarly careful about traffic lights and stop signs.

• Speed. The police in Moose Jaw are very diligent about keeping people from exceeding the speed limit and jepardizing the safety of others.

Our students were able to ask questions throughout the presentation. There was good interaction and everyone learned something new.

Public Health Presentation

On Thursday, January 18, 2007, a team of health nurses came and presented information on healthy eating. They talked about fat and sugar and things that clog your arteries. They had three displays and spoke to the students in three groups after the large group presentation. One was examples of a healthy school lunch and how much fat, sugar and salt are in a good lunch, a fast food meal and in a school lunch made of prepackaged convenience foods.

Another station was showing how fat feels and how it would feel to be ten pounds heavier. The health nurse invited students to wear an apron with big pockets and then she filled the pockets with bean bags equaling ten pounds.

In the third station, the nurse talked about the sugar content in different drinks and how some families need to drink less pop. If pop replaces milk in a person's diet, it lowers a person's calcium. The presentation was very informative and compelling and inspiring.

March 2007

International Women's Day Luncheon

Twenty students and staff from the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council attended the International Women's Day Luncheon on March 8, 2007. The sold-out event was held in the Zion Church Hall and featured guest speaker, Monica Coneys of Shosholoza Productions. Ms Coneys, herself an immigrant to Canada, shared with compassion her story of understanding and encouragement. The luncheon guests laughed, sang, danced, and listened to a most energetic and heartfelt presentation about women's health, self-esteem, and support.

Returning from the luncheon and back in the classroom, the LINC students were able to recall many of the points made by Ms. Coneys and then relate stories of their own. Most importantly, the students reflected on Ms. Coneys success, the camaraderie of the women at the luncheon, and their own ability to participate (in English) at a public event of such importance.

Report Submitted by Carol Moran

Professional Development Day for Linc Teachers

March 13, 2007 the LINC teaching staff from Moose Jaw Multicultural Council Inc. traveled to Regina to the Regina Open Door Society to attend a full day seminar presented by Linda Johansson, Department Head for Adult EAL for the Winnipeg School Division. This was a very worth while presentation full of many useable bits of information that we can apply to our classroom situations.

One most interesting part of the presentation outlined the Adult EAL attendance requirements. They allow only five days absent in a month for any reason. If the learner misses more time, they are withdrawn and must re-apply. This has brought their attendance rate from 60% to consistently above 90%. In addition to this information, we reviewed reporting practices and their pre-employment training strategies.

We attended with teachers from Regina, Gravelbourg, Assiniboia, Swift Current, Yorkton and SIAST Regina Campus. Ideas were shared, new networks formed and old ones renewed. A good day for all, thank-you to our hosts, the Regina Open Door LINC teachers. Submitted by Carol Moran

Career Fair

On March 22, 2007, students from Linc Classes 2 and 3 attended a trade fair at the Heritage Inn. Several companies and colleges were represented. We met a male nurse, got information from different booths, and one student won a doorprize. We left in taxis after coffee and returned by 3pm. Students were glad to go and see these displays and asked good questions.

Multicultural Communication Services

Newsletter

• A four to six page quarterly newsletter was produced informing our members and the community about multicultural issues, cultural information, member group activities, immigration updates, and community events. Over two hundred and fifty copies were distributed at each publication.

Displays

 Set up throughout the year to profile some of the many services and activities the council provides in the community. Public Events such as; Moose Jaw Multicultural Council Open House, Sidewalk Days, Moose Jaw Exhibition etc.

Translators/Interpreters

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council has a list of volunteer translators/interpreters that speak 34 different languages. They are available to assist when the need arises. Various human service organizations have requested the resource list. This list was updated and added to throughout the year.

Media Coverage

- The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council took advantage of many free public service announcements throughout the year. Press releases were sent out for all events. Due to budget constraints paid newspaper advertising was at a minimum. Every effort was made throughout the year to inform the public of our goals and activities.
- Moose Jaw Multicultural Council brochures and posters were distributed throughout the year.
- The Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan publications were distributed throughout the year.
- The Council participated in the Moose Jaw Exhibition Parade with a float and members walking along in ethnic clothing.
- Times Herald coverage was excellent throughout the year of special events and occasions.
- The community event calendar on Shaw Cable.

Special Meetings Events & Functions

Over the year, members of the executive and staff have met with different people/groups including political representatives to discuss multiculturalism and our activities; as well as taken part in many conferences and other various activities.

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council now displays the collection of over 110 dolls in our office display. They are displayed year round in display cases, along with many different items from different areas of the world. The cabinet is proudly displayed just outside of our main office.

Мау 2006

SINP – Family Members Category Presentation May 18, 2006 1:00 pm

The Saskatchewan Immigration Branch came and did a power point presentation and Question & Answer period for all participants who are interested in nominating their family members to come to Saskatchewan and work. Barb Bond and Rupel Pandya from Saskatchewan Immigration Branch presented information about the many The presentation was well attended. There were 20 participants and they had many questions for the representatives. The presentation was well received by all participants. Programs available through the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program.(SINP) Saskatchewan is expecting to have between 800-1000 nominees for 2006 and including their dependant family members this number is estimated at 3000 new Saskatchewan residents. There were information packages available for each participant that included all the necessary forms and information to start the nomination process.

Submitted by: Marie Bourdeau

Canadian Citizenship Ceremony

On May 30th, 2006 the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council and Cornerstone Christian School in cooperation with Citizenship & Immigration held citizenship testing and a ceremony swearing in 62 newcomers to Canada from 15 different countries.

Special Guests attending the ceremony were as follows: Judge Arthur Miki Ms. Annie Flamand – Citizenship and Immigration Canada clerk Mr. Al Schwinghamer - Mayor Ms. Brenda Edwards – Director of the Prairie South School Division Mrs. Mary Tkach Vangsnes – Moose Jaw Multicultural Council President Mr. Bob McKenty – Moose Jaw Lion's Club Corporal Clay Parenteau – R.C.M.P.

Ms. Annie Flammand from Citizenship & Immigration was the clerk of the ceremonies which was graciously hosted by the Cornerstone Christian School. The ceremony was called to order by Corporal Clay Parenteau who was dressed in the traditional RCMP red serge uniform. Judge Miki shared his experiences as a citizenship judge and his pride in being a Canadian Citizen. Brenda Edwards, Al Schwinghamer, Mary Tkach Vangsnes and Bob McKenty all gave special greetings to our newest

Canadian Citizens after they were sworn in under the "Oath of Citizenship". 62 proud Canadians received their certificates, a Canadian flag and pin. Evan's florist donated red and white carnations to be presented to each participant.

The Cornerstone Christian School High School Choir sang a beautiful song called "Peace" for Canada's newest citizens, their guests and the students. The school also provided a reception following the ceremony.

Submitted By Carol Percy

National Aboriginal Day and World Refugee Day.

On Friday, June 16, 2006 the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council hosted a joint celebration marking the 10th anniversary of National Aboriginal Day and World Refugee Day. The event had 143 participants that included newcomers to Canada, volunteers, the general public, local elementary school students and community leaders. The event was well received and there was extensive media coverage. The program included greetings from dignitaries, catered lunch by Dickie Yuzicapi, aboriginal dancing and presentations, multi-media presentation featuring local resident-Jay Dzeko and canoe rides sponsored by the Moose Jaw Canoe & Kayak Club. The goal of the celebration was to bring awareness to the community about the challenges refugees face and to learn about the culture and heritage of the Aboriginal people.





July 2006 Motif – July 7, 8 & 9





Once again Motif was a great success! This year there were a few less groups at 13 participating this year but no less excitement. The groups are as follows:

- Caribbean Association
- Chinese Benevolent Association
- East India Association of Moose jaw
- Moose Jaw Hellenic Group
- International Women's Society of Moose Jaw
- Irish Club of Moose Jaw
- Moose Jaw Jamaican Association
- Latin American Community of Moose Jaw
- Moose Jaw Romanian Canadian Society (entertainment only)
- Moose Jaw Scottish Society
- Philippine Community of Moose Jaw
- Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society
- Southern Plains Metis Local 160

Motif 2006 went very well, as always, the weather co-operated with us very well, it wasn't too hot or too cold. There were many different cultures participating this year and it was an adventure to see all the different foods, music, dances and art of each. I heard nothing but compliments in regards to the wonderful food. There were 12 booths in total, no guest booths were invited this year, and as well we welcomed back the Hellenic group, who had taken a break from 2005.

We once again invited three guest performers to come in from out of town and perform. Friday was Le Campagole Italian Dance Group from Regina. This group was very energetic and creative, there dancing got everyone watching excited. Saturday we welcomed our main headliner Chile Lucha y Canata from Winnipeg, even though we struggled a bit to accommodate all their instruments it was well worth it. Their live traditional Chilean Folk band was a real treat for the patrons of Motif to hear since not many people from Saskatchewan have heard it before. To accompany the live band Chile Lucha Y Canata danced dances from the different regions of Chile. These dances were reminiscent of Polynesian or Hawaiian dancing at times and made everyone feel like they were on vacation. The entire show was enjoyed very much. Sunday the Balaton Hungarian Dancers from Regina performed. They were truly a

good group of people who along with dancing great were very professional and a joy to have around. The Balaton dancers were a great way to end the weekend.

Motif couldn't exist without the many sponsors it takes to ensure the festival runs smoothly. Benefactor sponsors of Motif were:

- City of Moose Jaw
- Conexus
- CTV
- RBS
- Castle Building Centers
- Harvard Broadcasting
- Country 100
- 800 CHAB
- Saskatchewan Lotteries
- Co-op
- Casino Moose Jaw
- S.C.E.S
- Hopkins Dining Parlor

Motif Board of Directors were as follows:

- Chair person: Leo Shull
- Co-Chairperson: Deign Salido
- Secretary: Carolyn Dormer
- Treasurer: Shirley Giofu
- Directors: Russ McKnight, Mohammad Kamel Rafif, Yvonne Bernard, George Whyte, Gladys Pasquet

The Motif Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with setting up Motif, taking it down and doing whatever else was necessary in making Motif run smoothly. It's your continued support and contributions that make Motif the incredible success it is every year. With continued support Motif will only continue to grow.

The Motif Festival Assistant position allowed me to gain some incredible work experience that I would not have been able to obtain in any other position. I really appreciated the opportunity and greatly respect the festival. I learned a lot more in this position than just how to event plan, I took away some valuable life lessons and gain a lifetime of knowledge about other cultures and how important it is to promote and accept each other differences. I wish all the members and the festival itself the bets of luck! Hope to be back next year, and I am looking forward to another great Motif. Submitted by: CJ Dushinski 2006 Motif Festival Assistant



Children's Cultural Program

The Motif Children's Cultural Program began in 1999 and has been a successful additional to the festival. The program educates children about multiculturalism and allows them to have fun and experience it themselves. At Motif 2006 the program ran from 3:30pm till 9:00pm on July 7th and 8th, while ending at 7:00pm on the 9th. Crafts and games from all different cultures filled the weekend with excitement for kids ages 5-12 who wished to participate. Some of the main highlights of the weekend were the World Drumming, Piñata, Caribbean Limbo competition, making Chinese Dragon Hats and Mexican Bird Rattles. The volunteers included Melinda Grass who taught the children to play African drums, Peggy McKenna and Leann Gervais who each did a traditional Metis craft, Mary Tkach Vangnes who made Viking hats and swords, Laura Catling who did Romanian egg painting, and Gladys Pasquet who shared her story of Ireland while the kids ate Irish Cream Cakes. Throughout the weekend there were around 150 different children. Some stayed for the whole weekend while others just stopped by for just one session but all of them had a great time. With twenty five unique activities from all over the world, there was something for everyone.

Submitted by Tabitha Grass and Tamara Hicke



Spanish Classes

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council offered Spanish Language Classes with support from the Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Languages (SOHL) with Karina Zelaya instructing. A Beginner's Level class was offered in September 2006 on Thursday evenings, 15 students were enrolled. There was an Advanced class offered on Tuesday evenings, with 9 students registered. Another class started in February 2007 with 12 students.

October 2006

École Ducharme Open House

On October 11, 2006, Tara Blanchard attended the official opening of the centre scholaire et communautaire de Moose Jaw and École Ducharme on behalf of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council. École Ducharme is the only school in Moose Jaw to offer instruction for kindergarten to grade 12 in French. Guests were assembled in the gym and listened to speeches from dignitaries, special guests and a piano performance from students. Later an unveiling of the plaque and ribbon cutting ceremony took place while guests were treated to a light lunch and beverages. MJMC donated a gift basket with a cookbook and coffee mugs as a door prize.

Moose Jaw's 1st Premier's Luncheon

On Thursday October 19, 2006 the Moose Jaw and District Chamber of Commerce hosted the 1st Annual Premier's Luncheon. 12 ministers were in attendance and it was a great networking opportunity. Premier Lorne Calvert spoke during the luncheon at the Heritage Inn. Mary Tkach Vangsnes and Carol Percy represented the council.

November 2006

Canada World Youth (CWY)

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council participated as a work placement during the CWY exchange. The exchange program took the group of 9 Canadians to the Ukraine for three months and then three months in Moose Jaw. The CWY participants (one Canadian and one Ukrainian) were paired. They lived together with Host Families and worked together during the 6 month exchange. Michael Mulligan and Ira Herasimiuk were here with us from December 2006 to February 2007 and volunteered approximately 274 hours at our centre. Carol Moran was the Supervisor for the CWY project at MJMC We would like to thank CWY for allowing us to take part in the program and we wish all of the participants a safe trip home.

December 2006

Minister of Immigration & Citizenship Visits Council

On December 1st, 2006 the board and staff of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council had the privilege of meeting the Honorable Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Mr. Monte Solberg. Mr. Solberg toured our facility with the company of Director of Parliamentary Affairs Jason Kuzminski, Acting Citizenship & Immigration Manager Gwen Harper, Director of Communications Anne Lawler, Mp's office representative Jo Oberby, Member of Parliament Mr. Dave Batter, MJMC Directors Christina Hasapis and Gladys Pasquet.

A Certificate of appreciation was presented to Linda Dirkson for her many years of dedicated service to the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council.





Citizenship Ceremony

On December 12, 2006 the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council along with St. Andrew's Church and Citizenship and Immigration presented a Citizenship Ceremony which was held in the St. Andrew's Church Social Hall. Citizenship certificates were presented to 26 new Canadians who took the oath in a ceremony presided over by Judge Arthur Miki.

Canada's newest citizens originate from nine different countries: Afghanistan, Egypt, U.K., India, Iran, China, South Africa, Sudan and the United States.

Community Race Relations

Linda Dirkson represented the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council on the Race Relations Committee. The committee participated in several events over the past year.

The Committee chose to contribute to the Children's Cultural Program at Motif 2006. This area was established to provide children with cross-cultural education through arts and crafts, music, and story telling. All activities are free to the children and facilitated by members of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council. The Committee helped provide necessary materials. This was a great experience for all and the Committee looks forward to further involvement in the future

Linda Dirkson attended the annual Moose Jaw Race Relations Committee's invitational breakfast held on September 23rd 2006. Reginald Newkirk, an education and equity advisor to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission spoke on "Learning History without Prejudice".

Prize Donations

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Council donated gift baskets to the following:

- École Ducharme Open House
- Professional Administrator's Luncheon
- Sports Celebrity Dinner

Happy Valley Park

Happy Valley Park is the site of Motif, held every July. The Board of Directors, Member Groups, and staff of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council give many thanks to Mr. Keith McCaig for the maintenance of the park. The time and care he gave to Happy Valley Park if very much appreciated.

Thank you to our members of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council who have volunteered their time for the spring clean up, flower planting, and general work throughout the summer of 2006. Happy Valley is made available to local groups for family get-togethers, birthday parties and weddings.

Cookbook

Still on sale is "Our Community Cookbook". The cookbook has over 240 recipes from board members, volunteers, staff, newcomers and many other residents of Moose Jaw. Cookbooks are \$9.00 each. The cookbooks can be purchased at the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council office.

Promotional Travel Coffee Cups

MJMC had travel coffee mugs made up with our logo and website to add to gift baskets for promotional purposes.

Moose Jaw Multicultural Council Board of Directors

April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007

	April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007
<i>Executives</i> Mary Tkach Vangsnes Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club	President
Cristina Hasapis Hellenic Association of Moose Jaw	Vice President
Debbie Kreklewich Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society	Treasurer
Gladys Pasquet Irish Club of Moose Jaw	Secretary
<i>Directors</i> Vanessa Schnell Irish Club of Moose Jaw	
George Whyte Moose Jaw Jamaican Association	
Yvonne Bernard Caribbean Association of Moose Jaw	
Russ McKnight Moose Jaw Scottish Society	
Leo Shull Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society	
Vivian Meikle Moose Jaw Scottish Society	
<i>Past President</i> Robert Fielding Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society	
<i>Address</i> 60 Athabasca Street East Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan S6H 0L2	

Phone: (306) 693-4677 E-Mail: mjmc@sasktel.net Fax: (306) 694-0477 Website: <u>www.mjmulticultural.com</u>

Office Staff

Linda Dirkson	Executive Director – until December 1 st 2006 Executive Assistant - January 1 st 2007 to present
Tara Blanchard	Settlement Services Coordinator Executive Director – January 1 st 2007 to present
Laurie Hunt	Settlement Services Coordinator December 1 st , 2006 to present
Carol Percy	Administrative Assistant
Kelsey McIntryre	Host Program Coordinator September 1, 2006 to November 21, 2006
Marie Bourdeau	Host Program Coordinator Resigned August 2, 2006
Patricia Davies	Host Program Coordinator January 2 nd , 2006 to present
Cheryl Reynolds	English as a Second Language Teacher Resigned May 31, 2006
Doug Cassidy	English as a Second Language Teacher
Carol Moran	Workplace Language Training Teacher Program ended June 30, 2006
	English as a Second Language Teacher June 30, 2006 to present
Wendy Goodnough	Employment and Career Preparation Counselor
Darcy Pryor	Child Minding Supervisor
Gladys Noble	Child Minding Assistant Retired June 30, 2006
Dave Fox	Accountant
Hamida Ahadi	Cleaning Resigned June 4, 2006
Nafissa Delawar	Cleaning June 4, 2006 to December 2, 2006
Ghawhartage Shahidzadeh	Cleaning April 7, 2007 to presen

Member Groups

- African Group of Moose Jaw
- Association communautaire fransaskoise de Moose Jaw
- Caribbean Association of Moose Jaw
- Chinese Benevolent Association
- East India Association
- International Women Society of Moose Jaw
- Irish Club of Moose Jaw
- Latin American Community of Moose Jaw
- Moose Jaw Hellenic Group
- Moose Jaw Jamaican Association Inc.
- Moose Jaw Romanian Canadian Society
- Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club
- Moose Jaw Scottish Society Inc.
- Philippines Community of Moose Jaw
- Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society
- Moose Jaw Afghanian Community
- Southern Plains Metis Local 160

The Council meets monthly (the third Wednesday of every month, except July, August, and December) and holds executive meetings as necessary.

Affiliations with other organizations

- Canadian Council for Refugees
- Moose Jaw Arts In Motion
- Moose Jaw Chamber of Commerce
- Moose Jaw Canada Day Committee
- Moose Jaw Race Relations Committee
- Moose Jaw Settlement and Integration Coordinating Committee
- Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan
- Saskatchewan Association of Immigrant Settlement and Integration Agencies
- Saskatchewan Council for Educators of Non-English Speakers
- Saskatchewan Cultural Exchange Society
- Saskatchewan Literacy Network
- Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Languages
- Saskatchewan Settlement and Integration Planning Council

We would like to acknowledge the following major funders for the 2006-2007 year.

- Citizenship & Immigration Canada
- Advanced Education and Employment
- Service Canada
- Canada Saskatchewan Career & Employment Services
- Moose Jaw Multicultural Council
- SK Learning

For Happy Valley Park

- City of Moose Jaw
- Moose Jaw Multicultural Council

For Motif Moose Jaw Multicultural Festival 2006

- Saskatchewan Cultural Exchange Society
- Sask Lotteries
- City of Moose Jaw
- SaskTel
- Amil's/Diamond Taxi Service
- Castle Building Centre
- Culligan Water
- Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society
- Moose Jaw Romanian Canadian Society
- Caribbean Association of Moose Jaw
- Hi-Tech Cartridge Recyclers
- Folgizan Agencies
- Conexus Credit Union
- Charter Hotels Limited –Prairie Oasis
- Hopkins Dining Parlor
- CHAB/ Country 100.7 FM
- Wayne and Linda Dirkson
- Vivian Meikle
- Dave and Loni Fox
- Co-op
- Global T.V.
- Saskatchewan Centennial 2005
- Aspen Dental
- Moose Jaw Travelodge
- McKarr's Furniture

Moose Jaw Multicultural Council Member Groups

African Group Of Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007 No report submitted

Assemblee Communautaire Foundation de Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007 No Report Submitted

> Caribbean Association Of Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007

The Caribbean Association made its annual donation to Kinsmen Telemiracle in March of 2006.

The Annual General Meeting was held on April 30, 2006. This meeting marked the 15th Anniversary of the founding of our group in 1991. Preliminary plans were made for Motif 2006.

It was also decided to sponsor one of our members in Relay for Life.

Additional meetings were held in May and June to finalize preparations for Motif. in June, it was agreed that, together with the Moose Jaw Jamaican Association, we would co-sponsor the Caribe Folk Arts Dance Troupe from Regina to perform at Motif.

Motif 2006 was held on July 7, 8 and 9. Food served at the Caribbean Association included jerk chicken, curried chicken, rice and peas, shishkebabs, beef patties and vegetable patties. A variety of refreshing West Indian drinks as well as domestic drinks was also served.

A Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue was held for members and their families on July 23rd. The final meeting of the year was held on October 1. At this meeting, the group decided to make a donation to the family of a member of the Saskatchewan Caribbean Canadian Association in Regina, who lost their business in a fire. This donation was made at a fundraising banquet for the family held in Regina on October 21st. It was also decided that we would continue our support for Telemiracle in 2007.

The annual Family Christmas Party was held on December 3rd. The Club provided a meal of pizza and KFC for members and their families, and gifts were distributed to members' children.

The Executive Committee of the Caribbean Association would like to express its appreciation to all its members for their hard work over the past year. We would also like to thank the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council and its member groups for their cooperation over the past year. From the Executive:

Dr. Ramdath Changar, President Yvonne Bernard, Vice-President Ken Pilsworth, Treasurer Alan Dill, Secretary

Chinese Benevolent Association Annual Report 2006-2007 No Report Submitted

> East India Association Annual Report 2006-2007

The annual meeting of East Indian Association was held in August 2006 at Bonanza Steakhouse in Moose Jaw. As per reuest of the members Mr. Surjit Chhokar agreed to continue serving as the president and Mr. Satindar Nijhawan agreed to serve as the secretary/treasurer for the year 2006/2007. The participants of various events of the association were recognized and thanked by executives after the lovely dinner.

We took an active part in Motif 2006 which was held in Happy Valley Moose Jaw in July 2006.

We celebrated Dewali (festival of lights) iin December 2006. It was a joyful eveing. We had good descussions and nice food ans sweets.

Most members of the association will be busy in the summer of 2007. Mr. Basi (our senior advisor) has a wedding to organize for his daughter in early August. Mr Chhokar is venturing into a new business inRegina. Mr Jijhawan has a few travel plans. Therefore, we will keep a low profile for Motif 2007. However, we do plan to take an active roll in Motif 2008. We have a meeting in July/July 2007. We will decide together a limited package for our participation in Motif, Canada Day and children festival. Surjit Chhokar – President

Satindar Nijhawan - Secretary/Treasurer

International Women Society Of Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007

January 26/07 Meeting held at Nazmia's Discussed International Women's Day (IWD) plans, guest speakers and upcoming elections February 20/07 Meeting at MJMC Hall booked for IWD at I.S.Z.U., guest speakers lined up February 21/07 Nazmia attended MJMC meeting and Motif meeting February 22/07 Meeting at MJMC Elections held, coffee and dessert served Changes: Colleen – Vice President Gerry – Treasurer Discussed \$5:00 charge for IWD supper and if you become a member for \$5.00 your supper is included <u>March 8/07</u> Held at I.S.Z.U. IWD, we had two speakers Different beverages and desserts were served <u>April 19/07</u> Cancer Month – guest speaker Anne Chase spoke about ovarian cancer Pot luck supper

The Irish Club Of Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007

The Irish Club has a great year filled with activities. We participated in Motif 2006. Our monthly meetings are held at members homes and we vary dinner and desert meetings. We donate Christmas and Easter hampers to a single mother and her children which is very rewarding to all who give. We spent an enjoyable evening at the Spa for our Christmas Dinner, we then saw "Father Flannigan's Christmas" show at the Cultural Centre. St. Patrick's was celebrated at Bobby's Place where the "Irish Decedents" performed. Some members enjoyed the "Irish Tenors" at St. Andrew's Church. The flower bed at Happy Valley Park was redone. Carol Percy is our newest member of our group and we always looking for more new members. We look forward to participating in Motif 2007.

President: Carolyn Dormer Vice President: Vanessa Ziaden Schnell Secretary: Dawn Aiken Hicks Treasurer: Gladys Pasquet

Latin American Community Of Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007

Our Community continued to participate with different activities within the community with the children's program and teaching Spanish to the Canadian and French Community. We still consist of families from El Salvador, Guatemala, Peru, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Argentina.

We would like to welcome our new families in our community. From El Salvador: Dennis Escobar, Claudia, his wife, their daughter Daniela, and two boys, Dennis Andres and Cesar Armando, also Elias Zabala. From Chile: Eric and Marie. From Peru: Ana Luz (Ruth Golding's sister)

We said goodbye and good luck to Eber and Mercy Pdaitez, who moved to Medicine Hat, Alberta. As well as to Enriquie, Irene, Natalia and Emieleo Filomeno, who moved to Regina. Good luck and God bless.

May 13, 2006, we celebrated Family Day with a potluck supper and dance. It was a big success, with the

support from our friends from the Jamaican, Philippine, Caribbean, and African communities. Big thanks to St. Joseph Church for letting us use their basement, and special thanks to Fathers Alex, Antony, and Michel.

In July 2006, we participated in Motif 2006, thank you to everyone who helped us have a wonderful and successful event. Ma Elena Picard, dancing, singing, piñata. Carlos and Karla Rauda for their cuisine. Ruth Golding for selling souvenirs. Potosmes family: Virginia, Gabriela, Miguel, Felipe, and Miguel. And our friend Caraediai, who also participated in Motif. Thanks to the board members for their support: Pablo Marcony, Veronica Escobar and Mercedes Marcony.

Thank you to the board members for their support. Pablo Marcony, Veronica Escobar and Mercedes Marcony.

We would like to congratulate the new grandparents, Felipe and Karina Somarriba for their granddaughter Maya Emilia on June 16, 2006. Also to Marcony's family, Pablo, Yauni, Vanessa and Carlos for their new baby Cristina Marcony on Sept. 22, 2006.

And sadly we lost our special and close friend, Chantel Almaida, Josenaldo Almaida's wife, who passed away on October 12, 2006. She has been missed very much and always will be by all our Spanish Community.

Congratulations to Carmen Artiga for her diploma in teaching from the University of Regina. This fall she will be starting her new job at St. Ines School as a Kindergarten teacher.

Also we express our thanks to the Church of God, Pastor Hasmetaly for letting us hold our Christmas party lunch there.

President – Mercedes Marcony. Secretary – Pablo Marcony Treasurer – Josenaldo Almaida Events Coordinator – Ruth Golding Vocal – Veronica Escobar

Moose Jaw Afghanian Community Annual Report 2006-2007 No Report Submitted

Moose Jaw Hellenic Group Annual Report 2006-2007

This past year was a very busy one for Ardadia, the group which also represents the Greek Community at MOTIF. They released their 3rd CD entitled "Beyond Forever" and showcased it in a series of concerts that included Regina, Moose Jaw and Toronto. George, Nick and Stephan enjoyed an evening at Nick's

Place with fun, food and entertainment prior to their show at Moose Jaw's Mae Wilson Theatre. Their most memorable show was playing at the Mae Wilson Theatre in Moose Jaw in December 2006. Stephan says "Truly a night to remember!" They are once again looking forward to bringing some of the Hellenic spirit to MOTIF, with souvlaki and baklava. See you at MOTIF 2007!

Reported given by: Christina Nikolaos Hasapis - President Moose Jaw Hellenic Group.

Moose Jaw Jamaican Association Annual Report 2006-2007

The Moose Jaw Jamaican Association group had yet another progressive year. In February we celebrated the birthday of Lilian Beach the oldest member of the club who turned 87 years of age. We had visitors from out of town, three from Calgary and close family friends and relatives. We also had our annual Easter Hop and once again our members prepared some delicious dishes straight from the island. This took place at the Elks Hall and we had visitors from out of town, two were from North Dakota.

Ms. Savanah McBean went to New York to attend a birthday party for her aunt that she met for the first time.

Motif was once again very rewarding; our pavilion was a success. Our entertainers were from Regina and our very own Savanah McBean had visitors from out of town, one from Toronto. We had a picnic after Motif for all the pavilions at Happy Valley Park.

In August we attended our indepence program in Regina. We attended a charity function in Regina in aid of supporting Joshwa, one of the members of the Caribbean group who lost his business to a fire, in which we donated money to. As well, we donated money to Relay for Life.

We closed our year by having our Christmas supper at the Nights of Columbus; we had visitors from out of town. In January we had a Jamaican Night at Bobby's Place. There was a live band and two of our members, Lucille and Jean, prepared dishes from the island.

Submitted by Lucille Beach, Charrise Beech, and Jean Whyte

Moose Jaw Romanian Canadian Society Annual Report 2006-2007

The Moose Jaw Romanian Canadian Society participated in Motif 2006 by having performances on Saturday and Sunday of the festival. We supported Motif with a donation. The President, Anne Chambers and Secretary Marie Heinricks, helped set up for Motif and planted flowers.

The Moose Jaw Romanian Canadian Society also held a Christmas party for its members which was held at Merv and Alice Rayner's home.

The Moose Jaw Multicultural Association had a bake sale and the Romanian Canadian Society gave a donation.

For Remembrance Day, Laura Catling laid a wreath.

Each year we plant flowers in our flower bed, located in Happy Valley Park for visitors to enjoy. We also attended Moose Jaw Multicultural meetings.

President:Anne ChambersVice President:Merv RaynerTreasurer:Alice RaynerSecretary:Katherine Stratulat

Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club Annual Report 2006-2007

The Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club was formed in 1974. The Bowling League began in 1975 — 2005. **EXECUTIVE 2007** PRESIDENT Sylvia STEPHANSON **Dorothy OLYNEK** VICE PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURERLoretta WRIGHT **DIRECTORS (2007) Gustie HAYSTEAD** Lynn ORTEN Nora PERRINS **Evelee WENAAS** DIRECTORS (2007-2008) Dorothy OLYNEK Reinhold TRESS Paul WENAAS Loretta WRIGHT **COMMITTEES** (2007) Chairpersons Social — Dagny Marshall Public Relations — Sylvia Stephanson Membership — Loretta Wright Multicultural/Motif - Mary Vangsnes Telephoning — Custie Haystead

2006

The MOOSE JAW SCANDINAVIAN CLUB met on the last Monday of every month at the Central Lutheran Church at 7:30 pm (with the exception of July, August, December).

ENTERTAINMENT AFTER THE MEETINGS

Reviewed Scandinavian Books (photos and general information) Singing/Dancing — Dusty Old Farmers Videos — Canadian Parks (Vern Lindquist) DVD — Coastline of Norway (Sigrid Thompson) — China (Cheryl & Willis Wingert) Slides— "The Best of Spring" (Sheina Wait)

— Electric Railways of Moose Jaw Early Years (Bill & Anne Heleston)

DONATIONS

Kinsmen Telemiracle

Festival of Trees — Union Hospital Central Lutheran Church Motif 2006 Salvation Army Royal Canadian Legion (Cross & Poppies) Operation Christmas Child Times Herald/Salvation Army Christmas Fund

EVENTS/SOCIALS

February 24 — Lutefisk & Swedish Meatballs Supper — 94 people attended — Door Prize won by Paul Pearson (Travel Diary and Passport Wallet).

March 10 — International Women's Society supper and entertainment — Sylvia Stephanson represented the Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club.

June 10 — Seventh Annual Scandinavian Day Party celebrating Independence Day of Denmark (June 5); Sweden (June 6); Iceland (June 17). Flags of above countries placed on City Hall on their "Special" Days. Ethnic items — flags, dolls, books, table cloths, trolls, silver vases, etc were displayed. Ethnic dainties were donated. Members wore their ethnic costumes. Door Prize — Bouquet of Spring Flowers won by Marj Jukes — 71 people attended.

June 16 — World Refugee/National Aboriginal Day — lunch and entertainment — attended by Edna Burns; Mary Vangsnes; Loretta Wright; Sylvia Stephanson.

June 22 — Home Town Parade — "Its A Hoot". The 'Viking' boat was decorated with

Owls, flags of the five countries plus the Saskatchewan flag, sail and banner. Members

and family dressed in ethnic costumes from age 29 months to ?? (total 15) sat and stood in the boat and on the float. Thanks to everyone who participated!

June 27 — Cleaned up the Scandinavian garden and planted flowers — thanks to Dagny Marshall, Emmet Nelson, Dorothy Olynek, Mary Vangsnes, Paul Wenaas, Sylvia Stephanson.

July 7, 8, 9 — Motif 2006 — Although the Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club did not participate in selling dainties and the entertainment, we did sell passbooks and enjoyed the food and entertainment put on by the other Groups.

July 25 — Annual Picnic held at Happy Valley — celebrated the wedding of Gil and Isabel Peterson with a delicious cake, chicken, fries, salads, watermelon; 40 people enjoyed visiting and playing Bingo.

October 1 — World Wide Communion held at Minto United Church — Dorothy Olynek in Norwegian costume assisted in the Service.

November 11 — Remembrance Day — Dorothy Olynek dressed in Norwegian costume and Dan Listoe placed the Cross of Poppies on the Cenotaph.

November 25/26 — Festival of Trees — donated a burgandy cheesetray with stand and runner to be auctioned at the Festival of Trees — the Hospital Foundation received \$250.00 to \$300.00 for this donation.

December 2 — Annual Christmas Party — invited members (present and past) and family. 100 people attended (included 10 "wee" ones anxiously waiting for Santa). Grace was said by Lew Booth. The M.C. was Sylvia Stephanson. Everyone enjoyed the great meal of turkey and trimmings. Entertained by the Dusty Old Farmers — Christmas Carols and dancing enjoyed. Santa (Emmet Nelson) gave out gifts to the "wee" ones. Everyone received oranges and chocolates. A "GOOD TIME:"

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

<u>ANNIVERSARIES</u> 40th Rayma and Bud CRAIG 55th Marj and Haarl JUKES 65th Bernetta and Cliff FYSH & Eileen and Arnold TORGERSON

BIRTHDAYS

80th Lil F'IRTH 85th Myrtle BATEMAN 90th Lyla LINDELL & Percy MURRAY 95th Maud GRAND 101st Inez SANDERSON

ROSE BOWLS, LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES, LIFE MEMBERSHIP CARDS given to 90 plus Members —— Inez SANTJERSON(101 years young) Maud CRAND (95 years young) Elsie BENSON(90 years young) Lyla LINDELL (90 years young) Percy MURRAY(90 years young)

<u>NEW MEMBERS</u> Lillian BROWN Lois & Glen McMILLIN Sigrid THOMPSON Mildred WATKINSON

The Moose Jaw Scandinavian Club lost the following members: Anne BUCSIS Sybil CHRISTENSEN Pearl COCHRAN Bernetta FYSH John KLEPACK Anne LINDQUIST

Respectfully Submitted Sylvia Stephanson, President MOOSE JAW SCANDINAVIAN CLUB March 21, 2007

Moose Jaw Scottish Society Inc. Annual Report 2006-2007

The Scottish Society had nine meetings with an average attendance of eight members. The first Monday of the month was meeting day.

The Society was a member of Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, a supporter of Motif, a supporter of McFergus Scottish Country Dancers and White Hackle pipe band.

In January, members celebrated Burns Night with the White Hackle Pipe Band, dancers, and Scottish faire at the Heritage Inn.

February's meeting was at the home of Brenda Brodie. The other meetings were luncheon meetings at Smitty's in the mall. Marion Tolley was President. February was renewal of memberships – eleven members renewed. The White Hackle Pipe Band celebrated its 60^{th} anniversary on February 22^{nd} .

In March some members attended MJMC Pasta Night, International Women's Day, and Open House for Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The Highland Gathering was in Crescent Park on May 20. The White Hackle Band won the Grade IV Saskatchewan Championships.

Plans were made in June for Motif in Happy Valley June 7, 8, 9.

A history of the Scottish Society was compiled by Marion Tolley and Brenda Brodie and taken to the MJMC office.

The White Hackle Pipe Band was in competition at Canmore and Calgary. The Band placed second at Canmore, and fourth at Calgary. The competition was the September Labour Day weekend.

In September, Marion Tolley resigned as Secretary of the MJMC, and Vivian Meikle resigned as Treasurer.

In November, Marion Tolley and her son laid a Legion wreath at Armistice Services.

For December, Christmas Social members had a pizza party at Rodo's. The Society would welcome new members.

Report submitted by Gladys Mckenzie, Secretary.

Philippines Community Of Moose Jaw Annual Report 2006-2007

The Philippine Community of Moose Jaw (PCMJ) has changed over a new leaf with new leadership. Through the many years of guidance from previous years ago, a new generation has taken over the responsibility of keeping the torch alive for the PCMJ. The previous board of directors composed of Drs Arturo and Joyce Magnaye, Dr. Alex and Caroline Cunanan, and Dr. Domingo and Mercedes Salido have graciously stepped down to let the second generation succeed in the future of the PCMJ. As a testament of the impeccable leadership of the previous board of directors they have left a legacy and donated three chairs for the birthing room at Women's Health at the Moose Jaw Union Hospital.



The previous board of directors will be sadly missed but will be forever remembered for their efforts in the establishment of the PCMJ.

The new board of directors is as follows: Myla Morales (Chair), Deign Salido (Co-Chair), Ceddie Bode (secretary) and Lisa Busta (treasurer). We have been very active in maintaining events for the PCMJ. With the advent of improved immigration regulations to the province of Saskatchewan and the fact that most of the previous member's children are now having children themselves (and living in Moose Jaw) there has been an increase in the membership of the PCMJ. Therefore the PCMJ has become injected with more vibrancy and youthful energy. There has been a need to not only integrate new Filipino immigrants to a new community, but to establish Filipino customs and traditions to the new 2nd and 3rd generation Filipino-Canadians.



Our biggest fundraising event was the Moose Jaw Multicultural's Motif event. Motif 2006 was our inaugural event which was organized by the present board of directors. It was a huge success and everyone in the PCMJ rallied together to make it fun for everyone. The adults made many assortments of Filipino food such as meat sticks and egg rolls, and the children and youths impressed us by

choreographing there own traditional and modern Filipino dancing. All and all a fun time had by all.





The monies from Motif 2006 help fund for several events through the year such as a field trip to the Saskatchewan Science Center in Regina for the kids, a Christmas Party and a Valentines Party.

Respectfully Submitted, Deign Salido PCMJ Co-chair

Prosvita Ukrainian Culture Society Annual Report 2006-2007

January – We once again started the year 2006 with our "Malanka" Ukrainian New Year's Celebration. This was our 14th year of putting on this very successful, always sold out celebration.

- Our annual meeting was held January 25th with the election of officers, etc.
- The following are the executive for 2006:
 - Ron Stusek President for the past 15 years
 - Leon Shull Vice- President for the past 4 years
 - Anita Stusek Secretary for 10 years
 - Napoleon Dymtrowich new treasurer
- A grateful thank you was given to Donna Dessert for her hard work as our Treasurer for 10 years.
 - Two new members were accepted to our group: Roy and Shannon LaBuick.

February, March & April – We hold our monthly meetings and are kept busy planning and arranging entertainment, getting supplies, obtaining 600 dozen peroghys for sale at Motif.

- In April we purchased and donated an Automated External Defibrillator to the Moose Jaw Fire Department
- May Our group helped in the annual clean-up of Happy Valley.
 - -We planted our own flower bed in the Valley, with members taking tow week turns in caring for the bed.

June – Final arrangements and plans were done for Canada Day Breakfast, where we serve over 400 people.

- Food and entertainment plans are finalized for Motif.

July & August

- We are very busy till mid-July with Canada Day and Motif
- No meetings are held in July or August.

September – We had a very enjoyable wind-up with a catered supper held at the old Ukrainian hall now located S.W. of Moose Jaw on the Luciak farm site.

October – Plans and arrangements are made for our 2007 Ukrainian New Years. Hiring of entertainers, orchestra, hall printing of tickets, poster, etc.

November – Two members are assigned to lay a Remembrance Day wreath.

-We became involved with the Canada World Youth which consists of 20 youth, 10 from Ukraine and 10 from across Canada. They are in Moose Jaw for 3 months.

-We were able to meet this group at a Pot Luck Supper held at the Elk's Hall on November 25, 2006.

-We presented all members of this group with complimentary tickets to our "Malanka" 2007 held on January 13th.

December – We held our Christmas supper for our members at Hopkins Dining Parlour.

In Memoriam:

It's with our deepest regrets and sympathy to the families of the passing of two of our members; Bill Rogowski and Mary Hrechka. We will miss their hard work, expertise, pleasant memories and loyalty they both gave to our organization over the years.

We presently have 35 members in our organization.

Donations made in 2006

- Telemiracle
- Canada Day Committee
- Motif
- Moose Jaw Fire Department
- Ukrainian Canadian Congress
- Cosmos
- Moose Jaw Health Foundation
- Royal Canadian Legion
- Friends of the Library
- Zapovit Ukrainian Dancers
- Canada World Youth

Prepared by Anita Stusek - Secretary

Southern Plains Metis Local #160 Inc. Annual Report 2006-2007

No Report Submitted