

Project for the Advancement of Childhood Education (Canada)



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday May 17, 2016 6:00pm-8:00pm

Consulate General for Jamaica,

303 Eglinton Avenue East,

Toronto, M4P 1L3

Agenda

Moderator: Kamala-Jean Gopie

1. **Welcome**
2. **Greetings from Consul General of Jamaica** **Lloyd Wilks**
3. **Minutes of 2015 AGM (for Approval)**
4. **Annual Report 2015** **Sandra Whiting**
5. **Adopt-A-School** **Diana Burke**
6. **Auditor's Report** **Paula Fennell**
7. **Recognition of Retiring Officers** **Sandra Whiting**
8. **Election of Officers (for Approval)**
9. **Keynote** **Dr. Edith Lorimer &**
Dr. Yvonne Frater-Mac Donald
10. **Members' Forum**
11. **Adjournment**

REFRESHMENTS

P.A.C.E. (Canada)

Project for the Advancement of Childhood Education (Canada)

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

(year ending March 31st, 2016)

PACE'S FOUNDER



Since the organization was founded by Dr. Mavis Burke O.Ont O.D. in 1987, P.A.C.E. (Canada) has served as a connector of caring individuals to the extremely worthy cause of early childhood education, so that little girls and boys can have hope for brighter futures than their families and communities would be able to provide for them on their own.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



PACE CANADA will be 30 years old in 2017!!

WE ARE NOW ALL GROWN UP. No more short trousers!

We need to honour the work and contributions & caring of all those who made the organization strong and we must continue to look to **the future**. Where do we go from here? What new initiatives must we undertake? We need to increase the number of our adopted schools. We need some bold marketing plans to help us achieve that. Succession planning has to be a must.

We NEED YOU!!

We have already begun the process of meeting with stakeholders as we count down to a year of celebration in 2017. In 2016 we were busy getting our house in order and that work continues. Memberships and getting new schools adopted will continue to be a priority. We contributed to the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough and I look forward to seeing their playground built, with our PACE plaque in place by 2017.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve and I am pleased to again offer myself as your nominee for President for the next two years.

I look forward to exciting and interesting times!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Sandra White".

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Jacqueline Thomas was our office administrator. She has resigned as she now has a full time job. We are grateful to Jacqueline for all of the dedicated hours spent improving the admin function, and now she will continue to work with us as on the Board as Membership Chair.

We are pleased to welcome Valerie Herbert as the new administrator. Valerie hails from St. Kitts and she will be working on a part-time basis. Valerie's passion for learning started at a very young age.

Because of her eagerness to learn, she was enrolled in school at the tender age of three. She excelled throughout her schools years. On one occasion, having attained a perfect score of 100% on an exam, the principal insisted the teachers subtract 1%, as he felt no exam should be that easy. She cried! And to this day her siblings tease her about it.

Valerie graduated from York University in Toronto, with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. She is certified in Life Skills Coaching from George Brown College, and Life Coaching from Transformational Arts College, both in Toronto. As a previous employee of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and The Bay, Valerie has extensive experience in administrative and data management.

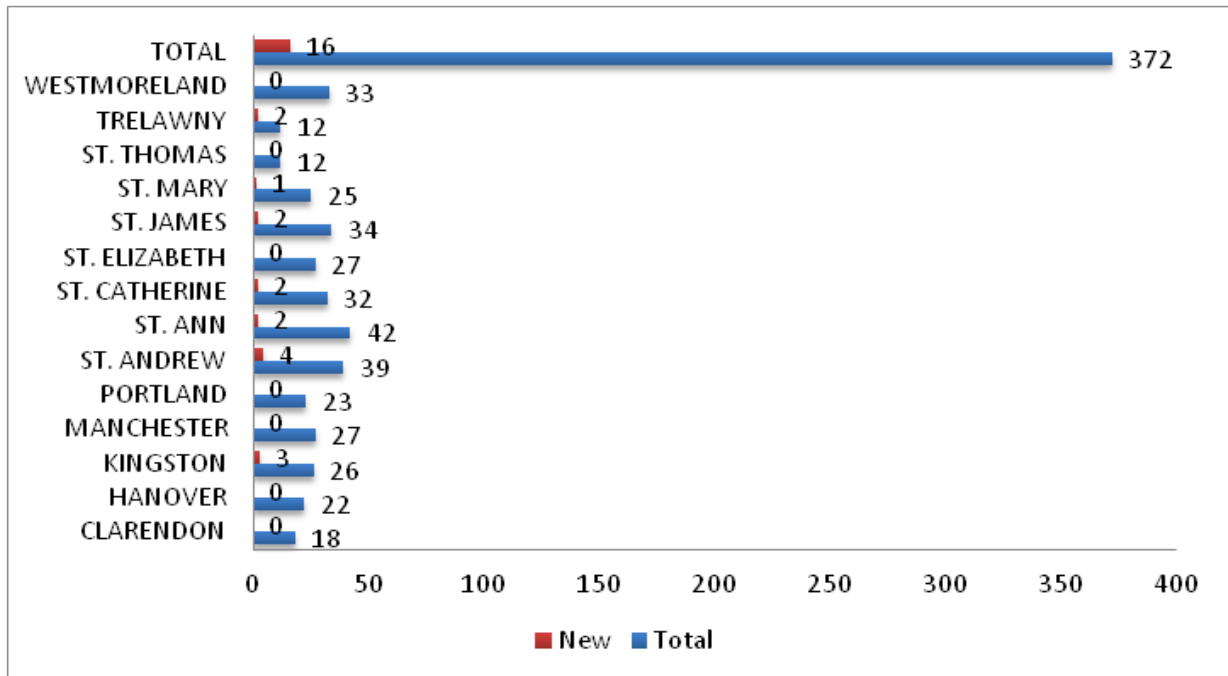
The office is in the process of updating our Donor Perfect system with the current contact address for our members.

So if you have recently moved or changed your email address, please contact Valerie at 647-352-7223 or email: admin@pacecanada.org and provide us with your current address.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM

CHAIR: Diana Burke **Vice-Chair:** Joan Smith

In Fiscal 2015 the Adopt-A-School Program welcomed 16 newly sponsored schools. There are now 372 schools sponsored through P.A.C.E. on our database which are distributed by Parishes as follows:



Diana Burke in Ja. Receiving PACE School update packages.

Adopt –A-School Sponsorships remitted remained flat at CAD\$100,168 and Gift Boxes of educational supplies sent to 105 schools totaled \$10,700. School sponsorships included 14 P.A.C.E. Sponsored schools, 12 schools sponsored through our partnership with the Helping Hands Foundation and the continued generous support of members and associates.

P.A.C.E. continues to have a strong partnership with the Jamaica Ministry of Education – Early Childhood Commission primarily through Ms. Michelle Campbell, Director, and Sector Support Services. This ensured that cheques to schools are delivered in a timely manner and forms and thank you notes to sponsors are obtained. Issues last year with school accounts at non-commercial financial institutions have now been mostly resolved thanks to follow p by our Vice-Chair and ECC support.

The ECC has rationalized a few PACE schools and sponsors have been advised accordingly with options to select the reassigned or another school.

The ECC also supported the six PACE Board members who participated in a Jamaica Field trip to visit over 70 Schools in April 2015.

CHILDREN ISSUES

CHAIR: Mardi South

In 2015 discussions were held with PACE President Sandra Whiting and Executive Director Ron Rock of The Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough to clarify the direction of our Sponsorship with them. We now give two yearly scholarships of \$1,000.00 to their Roads Scholarship programme.

A written proposal to PACE was received from Mr. Rock regarding funding for the building of a Day Care Centre Playground. After much discussion and planning the proposal was accepted with the approval of the Board. PACE has donated \$7,000.00 towards the building of the Playground and construction will be the responsibility of the Boys and Girls Club. A plaque will be located in the centre displaying PACE's donation. We are delighted to contribute to this project and look forward to the future completion of the playground. A presentation of the cheque was held on May 12th at the Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough.

Funds for both these initiatives were from an un-named donor for projects in Canada. More information about the Playground project is included further in this report.

The Committee hosted the Annual Toy and Book Drive, on Friday Dec 4th, 2015. The 'Jamaican Market Stall' theme was once again successful. Toys and school supplies were bundled into baskets for purchase. Toys and supplies purchased at the event were donated to The Catholic Children's Aid Society. Representative Howard Moriah was there to collect the toys on their behalf. The event raised \$1,187 in gift baskets and Sangster's boxes.

The winner of the 2015 Helen Sissons Award was Nikki Coco for her story entitled Island ***Girl, Colour Your World***. She received her \$1,000 award at the Strawberry Social held in June. Once again, we thank our dedicated selection committee members, Dr. Rita Cox, Mary Lou Soutar-Hynes and Ken Settrington for their ongoing support over the years.

COMMUNICATIONS

CHAIR: Mark Fullerton

Mark joined the Board in November 2015 as a mid-term replacement for Carolyn Goulbourne-Warren, and would like to thank her for the work that was started to increase the organization's footprint on social media. We now have our website and accounts on **Facebook** and **Twitter**, and have recently opened a **LinkedIn** account. These social media accounts enable us to keep in touch with our supporters, members, partners, and well-wishers and to keep them updated on our activities on an immediate basis. We encourage everyone to Like and Follow us on these social media accounts, as this will increase our reach within the community.

Our communications efforts continue to support and promote the work of PACE including:

- Improved integration of our website with the Canada Helps online donation page
- Updating the list of partners on the website
- Adding a page on the website for the Keith McLeod / Ralph Masi Sponsorship Fund
- Promotion of the Strawberry Social on June 5th;
- Promoting the Giving Tuesday on December 1st;
- Using Constant Contacts to build and distribute our newsletters
- Our events are now published on Charity Village
- Sending press releases to the media

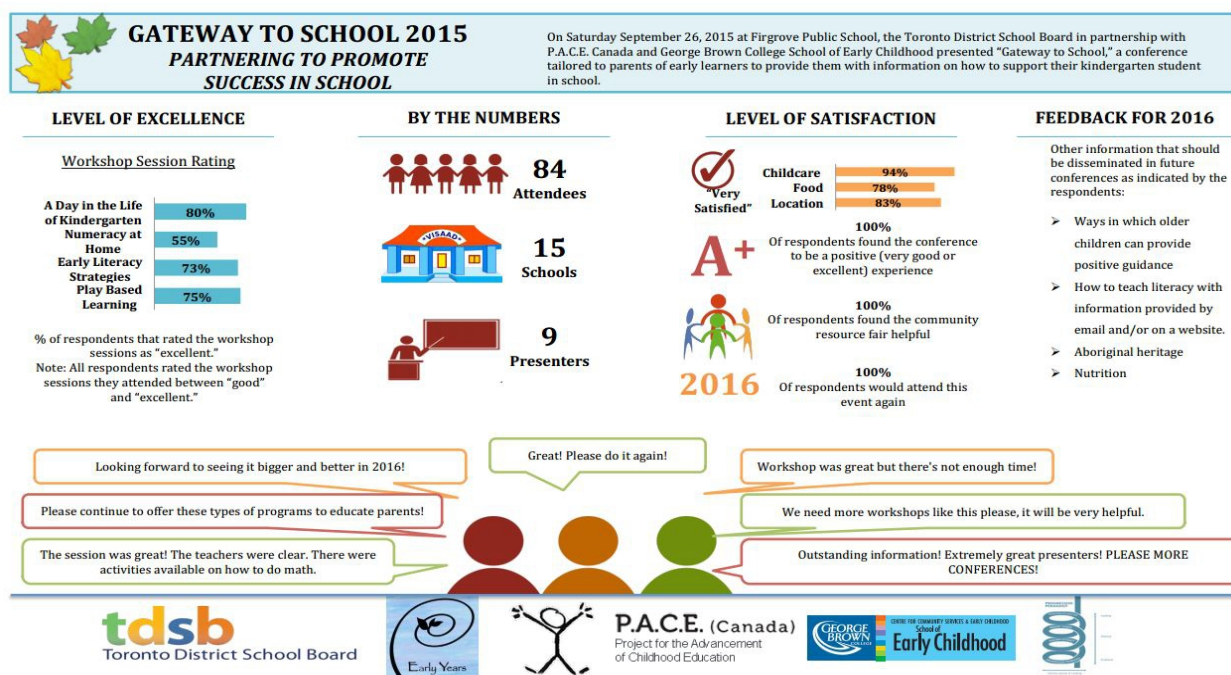
Sending out communications by Canada Post consumes a significant amount of the communications budget. We would prefer to use these funds to support our various projects, so we encourage everyone to select email as their preferred means of communication. Please contact the office at 647-352-7223 and provide us with your current email address.

EDUCATION

CHAIR: Evra Trought –Pitters

P.A.C.E. is in its third year of a 5-year agreement with George Brown College in Toronto, to fund two Bursaries in the amount of \$500.00. These bursaries are for students in the College's Early Childhood Education program. The recipients of this year's awards were Tehenia Archer and Julian South. Sandra Whiting, Pace President presented the awards at a ceremony hosted by the College in April.

On Saturday September 26, 2015 at Firgrove Public School, the Toronto District School Board in partnership with P.A.C.E. Canada and George Brown College School of Early Childhood presented "Gateway to School," a conference tailored to parents of early learners to provide them with information on how to support their kindergarten student in school. Special guest speaker was **Cecele Minott** from The Caribbean Child Development Centre, UWI.



FUNDRAISING

CHAIR: Nicola Harris

The Board approved an ambitious Fundraising plan, with a goal a goal to raise \$50,000 each fiscal year. We were a tad short of our goal in 2015. Several grant proposals were submitted to the Trillium Foundation and an international foundation but we did not get approval. Funds that were raised from various projects are as follows:

Jamaican Canadian Association's Walk Good Walkathon in May	\$2,231.00
Strawberry Social in June	\$3,697.00
Adopt-A-School Brunch in November	\$7,327.00
Keith McLeod / Ralph Masi Sponsorship Fund	\$16,060.00
Annual donations from friends & supporters	\$10,806.00
Total	\$40,121.00

Our special thanks to Dr. Masi for his caring and work in raising funds each year. We also wish to acknowledge the generous support of JN Building Society as we have received FREE rental of our office premises as part of their ongoing support of PACE Canada.

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR: Jodianne Sinanan

The number of contacts in our PACE Database is now 1085 which is an increase of 15% over the last fiscal year. These contacts include 474 members and the others are community partners, friends and individuals who have signed up online to receive our Newsletters. This year PACE focused on obtaining email addresses for our contacts to help reduce mailing costs and now have email addresses for 62% of the contacts on our database. We will continue this focus in the coming year. We welcomed 19 new members to the organization including two Honorary Members:

- Her Excellency Janice Miller, High Commissioner for Jamaica to Canada and
- Lloyd Wilks, Consul General of Jamaica at Toronto.

Mr. Ron King is now a PACE Life Member and Dr. Rita Cox and Mrs. Kamala-Jean Gopie, O.Ont were appointed Patrons. We thank Dr. Avis Glaze for her previous role as a Patron of the organization.

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETINGS

Strategic Planning Meetings were held on January 12th and January 30th, 2016. The items reviewed by the participants were: PACE Mission, PACE History, 2015 Accomplishments, PACE Objectives, PACE 30th Anniversary Celebration in 2017. Five key objectives were supported by the group, along with action plans to implement each of the objectives:

- Enable young children to have positive early learning experience, focusing on ages 3 to 5
- Encourage students to enter pre-school teacher training
- Encourage parents of pre-school children to improve the learning experiences available to children in the home
- Encourage community participation and partnership
- Leverage technology to promote and stay connected with members, schools, partners, and the community

Our 30th anniversary in 2017 provides an opportunity to showcase our accomplishments and to promote our strategic plan. Several potential action items were discussed, and it was agreed that a formal Organizing Committee would be established once the 2016-2017 Board has been established. The Committee will be seeking volunteers and participation from the PACE members, so look for opportunities to be involved in this exciting and historic project.

UPDATE: SAM SHARPE TEACHERS' COLLEGE INFANT SCHOOL AND SPECIAL NEEDS DIAGNOSTIC CENTRE

This project, which was conceived more than 5 years ago with a gift from the Carpenters District Council of Ontario, to help fund the construction of an early childhood institution in Jamaica. The Ministry of Education's Chief Architect has approved plans for the Sam Sharpe Teachers' College Infant School and Special Needs Diagnostic Centre on the College's property in Granville, St. James. The Ministry has committed funds for the construction of the buildings. P.A.C.E. (Canada) has raised C\$**108,557.92** towards this project. The funds were delivered to the government **in 2014** to purchase equipment and furniture.

We have made several attempts to get a confirmed date for the construction, from the Ministry in Jamaica. **However, so far we have not been successful.** We are continuing our dialogue with the ministry to get this resolved.

Meet One of Our Partners – Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough



For close to sixty years the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough has been providing quality programs for children and youth in East Scarborough. Being able to support families by providing a safe space and quality programs is fundamental role for the Club in our community.

The Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough has been a strong supporter of the importance of early childhood education and the impact that it has in the development of a well-rounded child. As an organization we have developed 4 licensed childcare programs in neighbourhoods throughout East Scarborough that supports the development of early learning. The ongoing support of our Licensed Childcare Programs by PACE has gone a long way in enhancing the experiences of many children who participate in the program.



The Eastside Childcare Centre located at 20 Wadlock Street in Scarborough offers, toddler, preschool, and Kindergarten Licensed Childcare Programs. This centre is located in Eastview Public School, a Toronto District School Board facility.

The outdoor space that the childcare currently has is a concrete space with minimal shade and play equipment.



We would like to retro fit this space with some natural play structures to bring more nature into the space. We would also include areas of manufactured green space to insure the equipment will work for the children in the space.

The Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough is located in one of Toronto's 13 priority neighbourhoods, Kingston Road /Galloway and Orton Park. This has been identified and designated as critically underserved and "high risk" area by The Strong Neighbourhoods Task Force.



Deeply imbedded within this neighbourhood are societal problems such as poverty, substance abuse, and gang-related violence. Efforts to reduce these problems and to increase opportunities for children and youth are greatly needed. This is the work that we do at the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough.

East Scarborough including the Kingston/Galloway – Orton Park area is populated predominantly with new immigrants, refugees, Aborigines and other racialized ethnic groups.

In this particular area 29% of families are living below the low income cut-off. 22% of children in Kingston/Galloway are under the age of 14 years old. 13.6% of the population are youth 14-24 years old, in comparison to 12% in the rest of the city. The 2006 census report indicates that 32% of families are lone parents in comparison to the city average of 19.7%.



Ron Rock
Executive Director
Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough
100 Galloway Road, Scarborough, ON M1E 1W7

On behalf of the children and the members of P.A.C.E. (Canada)'s Board of Directors and Executive Committee, thank you for your continued support.

Sandra Whiting, President, P.A.C.E. (Canada)

President: Sandra Whiting

Adopt-A-School: Diana Burke & Vice Chair Joan Smith;

Treasurer: Paula Fennell

Secretary: Vacant

Immediate Past President: Dr. Mary Anne Chambers

Directors: Diana Burke, Ken Bowen, Evra Trought-Pitters, Dorothy Cooke, Ken Bowen and Lorna King.

Children's Issues: Mardi South

Communications: Mark Fullerton

Education: Evra Trought-Pitters

Fundraising: Nicola Harris

Membership: Jodianne Scott Sinanan

Audit Firm: Rebecca Lyn Chartered Accountant Professional Corporation

Founder: Dr. Mavis E. Burke O.Ont. O.D.

Honorary Patron: Her Excellency Janice Miller, Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada

Honorary Member: Mr. Lloyd Wilks, Jamaica's Consul General to Toronto

Patrons: Dr. Pamela Appelt O.D., Dr. Inez Elliston O.Ont.; Dr. Rita Cox, Ms. Kamala-Jean Gopie; Mr. B. Denham Jolly, Dr. Ralph Masi.

Life Members:

Dr. Bromley Armstrong C.M., O.Ont., Ms. Enid Akhtar, Ms. Dorothy Cooke, Mrs. Norma Fernandez, Ms. Marblet James, Ms. Lillie Johnson O.Ont., Mr. Ron King, Mrs. Loretta Spencer, Ms. Thelma Carey-Thompson, Mr. Gifford Walker & Mrs. Raphaelita Walker

Partners:

- Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough
- Carpenters' District Council of Ontario
- Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto
- Consulate General of Jamaica (Toronto)
- Early Childhood Commission in Jamaica
- George Brown College,
- H.E.A.R.T Trust, National Training Agency
- Jamaican Canadian Association
- Jamaica National Building Society
- Keith McLeod / Ralph Masi Sponsorship Fund
- Sam Sharpe Teachers' College
- Ministry of Education, Youth, and Information (Jamaica)

PACE'S Address:

1390 Eglinton Ave. W

Toronto, Ontario

M6C 2E4

PH (647) 352-7223

<http://www.pacecanada.org>

P.A.C.E. (Canada) - Annual General Meeting - May 17, 2016
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS – NOMINATIONS 2016-2017

Position	Incumbent 2015-2016	Status at Year End	Outlook	Nominations
President	Sandra Whiting	Completed second year of first two year term	Available to complete second term	Incumbent: Sandra Whiting
*Secretary	VACANT		Vacancy	Nominee: Mardi South Nominated by: Sandra Whiting Seconded By: Lorna King
Treasurer	Paula Fennel	Completed second year of first two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete a second term	Nominee: Sharon Barnes-Simmonds Nominated by: Sandra Whiting Seconded by Diana Burke
E.V.P. Adopt A School	Diana Burke	Completed second year of first two year term.	Available to complete second term	Incumbent: Diana Burke
VP Education	Evra Trought-Pitters	Completed first year of first two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete second term	Nominee: Colette Kane/Patricia Chorney Rubin Nominated by: Sandra Whiting Seconded by : Diana Burke
VP Communications	Mark Fullerton	Completed first year of first two year term	Available to complete second year of first term	Incumbent: Mark Fullerton
*VP Fund Raising	Nicola Harris	Completed second year of first two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete second term	Nominee: Sandra Whiting Nominated by: Diana Burke Seconded By: Lorna King
*VP Children's Issues	Marguerite South	Completed second year of two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete second term	Nominee: Candice Walker Nominated by: Diana Burke Seconded By: Sandra Whiting
*VP Membership	Jodianne Tariq Scott	Completed first year of first two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete first term	Nominee: Jacqueline Thomas Nominated by: Diana Burke Seconded By: Kamala-Jean Gopie
Immediate Past-President (voting)	Dr Mary Anne Chambers	Ex-Officio		Incumbent: Dr Mary Anne Chambers

P.A.C.E. (Canada) - Annual General Meeting - May 17, 2016
Board of Directors

Position	Incumbent	Status at Year End	Outlook	Nominations
President & Chair	Sandra Whiting	Completed second year of first two year term	Available to complete second term	Incumbent: Sandra Whiting
*Secretary (non-voting)	VACANT		Vacancy	Nominee: Mardi South Nominated by: Sandra Whiting Seconded by: Lorna King
Treasurer	Paula Fennel	Completed second year of first two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete a second term	Nominee: Sharon Barnes-Simmonds Nominated by: S.Whiting Seconded by: Diana Burke
EVP Adopt-A-School	Diana Burke	Completed second year of first two year term.	Available to complete second term	Incumbent: Diana Burke
Director (Member at Large)	Lorna King	Completed second year of first two year term	Available to complete second term	Incumbent: Lorna King
Director (Member at Large)	Dorothy Cooke	Completed second year of first two year term	Vacancy - unavailable to complete second term	Nominee: Vacancy Nominated by: Seconded by:
Director – to represent ECE	VACANT	Completed first year of first two year term	Vacancy	Nominee: Vacancy Nominated by: Seconded by:
Director (Member at Large)	Ken Bowen	Completed second year of first two year term	Unavailable to complete second termterm	Vacancy
Immediate Past-President (voting)	Dr Mary Anne Chambers	Ex-Officio		Incumbent: Dr Mary Anne Chambers

Nominations Committee Members: Mrs. Kamala-Jean Gopie, Patron; Dr. Mavis Burke, Founder; Pamela Appelt, Patron

NOMINEE FOR TREASURER

Sharon Barnes-Simmonds (CPA-CGA, MBA) migrated to Canada from Jamaica in 2003 and is a qualified Finance and Accounting Professional with over 10 years post qualification experience in both the not for profit and for profit sectors. She is a Certified Chartered Accountant with designations from the UK (ACCA) and Canada (CPA-CGA) and holder of an MBA. She works well in any fast-paced dynamic environment, as well as any medium-paced organization. Her experiences span the shipping and transportation industry, government and entertainment sectors.

Sharon currently holds the position of Director, Accounting at The Toronto International Film Festival. TIFF delivers programming 365 days a year, in addition to the well-known 10-day film festival that takes place every September. She also held previous positions as Senior Accountant of Maersk Canada Inc and Senior Financial Analyst at The Regional Municipality of Peel.

An avid volunteer who strongly believes in giving back to her community, Sharon has held volunteer roles with Circle K International (College) and Kiwanis International and more recently with the United Achievers Community Services Inc as well as CPA Ontario where she sometimes deliver speeches on the University Circuit on their behalf.

NOMINEE FOR VP Children's Issues

Candice Walker is a Registered Early Childhood Educator. She earned a Bachelor of Applied Arts Degree from Ryerson University in 2011. She also is a graduate from the Early Childhood Education program at George Brown College, is a member of the Ontario College of Early Childhood Educators, and has been working with children and families for over nine years.

She currently works in the Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program at the Toronto District School Board. This is Candice's second year working full-time with the TDSB. Candice also works part-time at Yorktown Child and Family Services with women and children, who have been exposed to violence in their home. In addition, she works part-time as a Child and Youth Program Worker with YWCA Toronto. When Candice is not working she can be found volunteering, reading, travelling, and spending time with her family and friends.

NOMINEES FOR VP Education (Co-Chairs)

Colette Kane is the Manager of two of George Brown College's School of Education lab schools. The Queen Street Child Care Centre is located in the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and Parkdale Child Care Centre is housed inside Parkdale Junior and Senior Public School. Prior to becoming a Manager at the college, Colette was part of the Early Childhood Education team at George Brown since 1989 as a Toddler and Preschool teacher.

For a number of years, Colette has taught in the Continuing Education Program at the College and continues to be faculty coordinator for students completing placements. Currently she is involved in an International Project, which takes 2nd year E.C.E. students to Jamaica for a month to work in a Basic or Infant School and completes their fourth placement. Colette obtained her diploma in Early Childhood Education from George Brown College and is currently completing her 4th year in the Early Childhood Leadership Degree program at George Brown College in partnership with Ryerson University.

Patricia Chorney Rubin is the Director Community Services and Early Childhood at George Brown College, a position she has held since 2002. Patricia came to the College in 1984 when she joined the team as an Early Childhood Educator. She has collaborated with others in the department in the area of Lab School development and has been the Manager of many of the Lab School teaching childcare centres operated by the college. Patricia has taught and coordinated in both the full and part-time Early Childhood Programs. Patricia was appointed to the Ontario Government's Best Start Expert Panel on Human Resources in the Early Childhood Sector (2007). In 2009 Patricia led the launch of the Bachelor of Applied Arts in Early Childhood Leadership at George Brown College. Patricia obtained a diploma from Sir George Williams University, and a B.A. in Early Childhood Education from Concordia University.