



2017 is our 30th ANNIVERSARY

WE WANT TO ADD 30 NEW SCHOOLS TO OUR ROSTER

WE WANT 300 NEW DONORS & SUPPORTERS

WE WANT TO OFFER 30 NEW TEACHERS SCHOLARSHIPS

WE PLAN TO LAUNCH A SPEAKER SERIES

WE PLAN TO HAVE A PARENT CONFERENCE

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT AS WE CONTINUE THE LEGACY OF SUPPORTING BASIC SCHOOLS IN JAMAICA AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES IN CANADA.

Hold the date!!!

**PACE's Annual Strawberry Social
Sunday June 4, 2017**

twitter.com/PACECanadaOrg
www.facebook.com/pacecanada.org

Our 30th anniversary in 2017 provides an opportunity to showcase our accomplishments and to promote our strategic plan.

Several potential action items are being discussed, and a formal Organizing Committee will be established by the Fall.

The Committee will be seeking volunteers and participation from P.A.C.E. members, so look for opportunities to be involved in this exciting and historic project.



* Strawberry Social

* AGM Update

* Meet the 2016/17 Board

* KatieBears Field Trip

* Strategic Planing Meeting

* Plus Much More

Contact Information



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Adopt-A-School Sponsorship Funds



Calendar for School Supplies Transmission and Delivery to Schools:

Transmission: Send to Jamaica March 2016 and September 2016

Delivery: Complete by end June 2016 and end December 2016

Board of Directors 2016-2017



President and
VP Fundraising:
Sandra Whiting



Secretary:
Mardi South



Executive VP and
Adopt-A-School Chair:
Diana Burke



Adopt-A-School Co-Chair:
Joan Smith



VP Children's Issues:
Candice Walker



VP Communications:
Mark Fullerton



VP Education (Shared):
**Patricia
Chorney Rubin**



VP Education (Shared):
Colette Kane



VP Membership:
Jackie Thomas



Treasurer:
**Sharon
Barnes-Simmonds**



Director At Large:
Lorna King



Director At Large:
Patricia Gloudon

Meet The 2016/17 Board



Here are the members of the Board who are serving a term for the first time.



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. Colette was part of the ECE team at George Brown since 1989 as a Toddler and Preschool teacher. Colette teaches in the Continuing Education Program and continues to be faculty coordinator for students completing placements. Currently she is involved in an International Project, which takes 2nd year ECE students to Jamaica for a month to work in a Basic or Infant School.

Patricia Chorney Rubin is the Director Community Services and Early Childhood at George Brown College, since 2002. Patricia started at the College in 1984 as an Early Childhood Educator. She has collaborated with others in the area of Lab School development and has been Manager of many of the college's Lab School teaching childcare centres. Patricia has taught and also coordinated in the Early Childhood Programs. In 2007 Patricia was appointed to the Ontario Government's Best Start Expert Panel on Human Resources in the Early Childhood Sector.



Candice Walker is a Registered Early Childhood Educator. She earned a Bachelor of Applied Arts Degree from Ryerson University and is a graduate from the ECE program at George Brown College. She is a member of the Ontario College of ECE, and has been working with children and families for over 9 years. Currently works in the Early Learning Kindergarten Program at the TDSB, and part-time as a Child and Youth Program Worker with YWCA. Candice also works part-time at Yorktown Child and Family Services with women and children, who are exposed to violence in their home.



Sharon Barnes-Simmonds migrated to Canada from Jamaica in 2003. She is a qualified Finance and Accounting Professional with over 10 years post qualification experience. She is a Certified Chartered Accountant with designations from the UK (ACCA) and Canada (CPA-CGA) and holder of an MBA. Her experiences span the areas of shipping, transportation, government, and entertainment. Sharon currently holds the position of Director, Accounting at The Toronto International Film Festival. An avid volunteer who strongly believes in giving back to her community.



Jacqueline Thomas moved to Canada from Jamaica in 2013. She holds a BA in Business from Nova University and certifications as; Paralegal, Addictions and Community Service, and Personal Support Worker. Jacqueline was Administrator for PACE and enjoys volunteering with the Sickle Cell Association of Ontario, JCA Walk Good, PACE Strawberry Social and Toy Drive. Jacqueline loves to cook, read, and travel. She is a single mother of a teenage daughter and presently works in the health care sector.

Annual General Meeting



Our Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday May 17, 2016 at the Consulate General for Jamaica on Eglinton Avenue East.



The Moderator for the evening was Kamala-Jean Gopie.

The Consul General of Jamaica, Mr. Lloyd Wilks addressed the gathering and gave an update on activities within his office.



Diana Burke presented an update on the Adopt-A-School program.

Paula Fennell presented the Auditor's Report. This was Paula's last term as Treasurer.



Sandra Whiting recognized and thanked the members who were retiring from the Board. Ken Bowen and Carolyn Goulbourne-Warren were presented with a plaque to recognize their work as long time members of the organization.



Following the election of Officers, we were fortunate to have two guest speakers; Dr. Edith Lorimer & Dr. Yvonne Frater-Mac Donald, both of whom provided inspirational keynote speeches.



President's Message



Summer is finally here and it is already looking glorious. Real tropical weather in true TO style.

I want to take this opportunity to thank **all** of the volunteers and board members who assisted in making our June Strawberry Social very special indeed.



A very big **thank you** to a new Pace member, **Nadine Spencer**, who stepped up to the plate and organized a boonoononos fashion show. And to two our new board members Mark Fullerton & Jackie Thomas who strutted in style on the catwalk.

Also new member Marsha Brown who not only modeled but made sure she sold tables and ads and to Raf Walker who even though she should have been taking full care of herself she was selling tickets from her bed. I could go on and on. See yah we have some Tallawah PACE people on board.

We are taking a short break for the summer as we begin planning for the rest of 2016 and begin finalizing our plans and budgets to celebrate 2017-**OUR 30th YEAR!!**

Plan to up your donations (if you can). Encourage friends and family to get involved and most importantly please do share your ideas with us.

Welcome to the new and returning board members. I am honoured to serve.

Walk Good.

Sandra Whiting

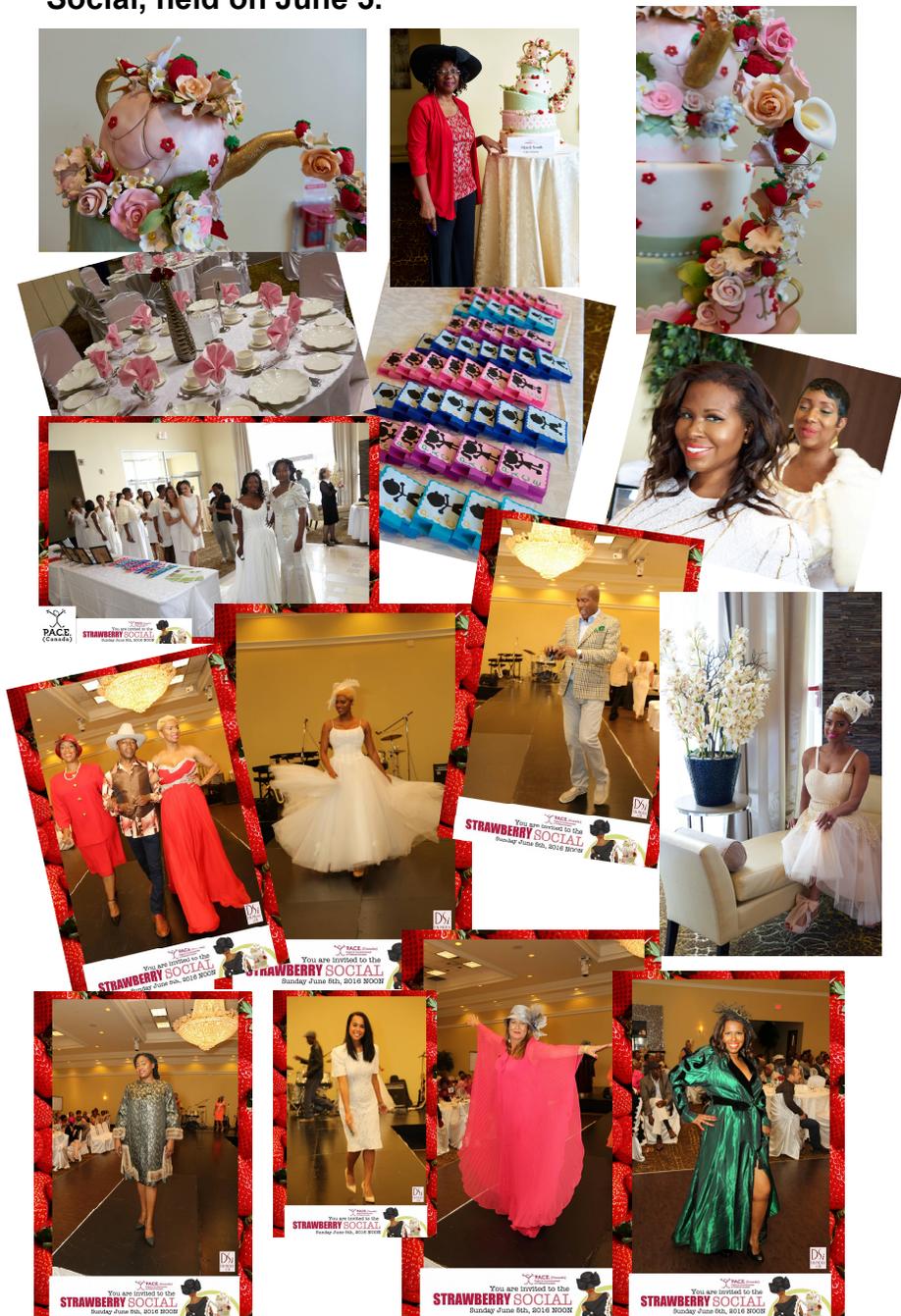
President, P.A.C.E. Canada



Strawberry Social



Here are some photos from the fabulous Strawberry Social, held on June 5.



Katie Bears Trip To Jamaica



Since September of 2012, KatieBears has sponsored the **Dalmally Basic School in Dias, Westmorland**. KatieBears has contributed a minimum of \$500 CDN per year to Dalmally as well as helped to provide toilets for the boys/girls as well as teachers. Access to power, a new propane stove (6 burner and oven), 650 gallon water tank, teddy bears every 3 years minimum, first aid kits (replenished yearly), supplies (books, puzzles, stickers and sweets) yearly. We have also provided sports equipment, food kits to feed each child's family, and clothing from infant to adult sizes.

In 2016 we plan to level the school yard, build a fence and plant trees to provide shade for the children. Attendance in Dalmally has improved dramatically from 60 pupils in 2012 to 81 currently. We carry a continued relationship with the school each year throughout the year to best suit their current needs.



We have sponsored the **UpperTop Lincoln ECI in Grange Hill** since Sept of 2013. KatieBears has contributed a minimum of \$500 CDN per year to UpperTop Lincoln as well as helped to provide a new propane stove, 650 gallon water tank, teddy bears every 3 years minimum, first aid kits (replenished yearly), supplies (books, puzzles, stickers and sweets) yearly. We have also provided sports equipment, food kits to feed each child's family, and clothing from infant to adult sizes. We carry a continued relationship with UpperTop Lincoln throughout the year to best suit their current needs, too.



In 2015 and 2016 some volunteers for KatieBears were able to accompany Lynda and Ian Fraser to the schools. Below are a few testimonials from some of our volunteers:

Laura 2015 "Going to Jamaica with KatieBears was one of the most enriching experiences of my life! Seeing the difference that has been made in the schools we sponsor has made me see how blessed we really are in Canada."

Janet & Paul 2016 "In February 2016 we had the distinct pleasure to spend time at two of the basic schools that is generously supported by KatieBears. On arrival we were welcomed by the most enthusiastic group of children we have had the pleasure to meet. Their classrooms, although very modest, were displayed with pictures, vocabulary and alphabet letters. The teachers and volunteers show their total devotion to all of the children in their care. We both commented on the fact that this was indeed the most rewarding part of our vacation. Keep up the good work, these little minds are absorbing the knowledge like a sponge."



Our volunteers who have been able to see these schools first hand have commented on wanting to help even more after seeing the difference that KatieBears has been able to make these past years.

Adopt-A-School Update



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 up by our Vice-Chair and ECC support.

December Gift Box donations received now totals \$1,200.

AAS funds for your sponsored school are due April 1st each year. If you have not donated yet this year your sponsorship is now due. Please visit our website to donate online or to download and mail in the AAS form: pacecanada.org/DonateMembership

New Schools Adopted:

- Franklyn Town Church of God, Kingston by Joseph Halstead
- Spicy Hill Basic, Trelawny by Dahlia Rose
- Spicy Hill Basic, Trelawny by Elaine Lawrence
- Gospel Refuge Basic School, St. Andrew by Issley Josepheson Medicine PC
- Masie Green ECDC by Janet Collins Group

Early Childhood Development Project



The Government of Jamaica has allocated just over \$88 million for the continuation of the Early Childhood Development Project, which is geared at making timely educational interventions for children.

This is contained in the 2016/2017 Estimates of Expenditure, currently before the House of Representatives.

Implemented in June 2008, the project aims to promote the development of children, through screening of households to detect risks affecting the progress of children, and where necessary, make early interventions.

Other objectives are to enhance the quality early childhood development, schools and care facilities, and strengthen early childhood organisations and institutions.

Work to be carried out this fiscal year includes: parenting education, support for early childhood development, preventive health care for 0-6 year-olds, a diagnosis and early intervention for at-risk children and households.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Information announced that two state-of-the art early-childhood institutions are to be constructed during the new school year at Sam Sharpe Teachers' College in St. James, through Project for the Advancement of Childhood Education (PACE Canada); and at the Sir Clifford Campbell Primary School in Westmoreland, by the Rockhouse Foundation at a cost of \$50 million.

Strawberry Social



Accomplished Black Canadian Women



Congrats to the following P.A.C.E. members, patrons, and adopters of P.A.C.E. schools who were among the many women who were honoured as 100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women:

- Margaret Best
- Marsha Brown
- Grace Lyons
- Rita Cox
- Kamala Jean Gopie
- Mitzie Hunter
- Dr Anna Jarvis
- Nadine Spencer
- Sandra Whiting

Boys and Girls Playground



For close to 60 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 the community.



The Club 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 they have developed 4 licensed childcare programs in neighbourhoods throughout East Scarborough that support the development of early learning. The ongoing

support of the Licensed Childcare Programs by PACE has gone a long way in enhancing the experiences of many children who participate in the program.

The outdoor space that the childcare currently has is a concrete space with minimal shade and play equipment. They would like to retro fit this space with some natural play structures to bring more nature into the space. They would also include areas of manufactured green space to insure the equipment will work for the children in the space.



In support of this playground initiative, Sandra Whiting attended their recent Annual General Meeting and presented a cheque on behalf of P.A.C.E. Canada. The funds will be used to build the playground and a dedication plaque will be installed.

Strategic Planning Meeting



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.

PACE keeps aware of the Jamaica Government's focus on their Early Childhood Education Strategies and impact it may have on our programs. The main areas of impact currently includes:

* **School Rationalizations** - This involves building model infant schools attached to Primary Schools with incentives of free tuition to move children from the older and less efficient Basic Schools. The Early Childhood Commission has been asked to keep PACE informed if our schools are to be rationalized.

* **Teacher Training** - The government has targeted having University trained or Level 3 certified Early Childhood teachers in all Basic Schools. PACE has been a partner in this area through our support for HEART trained teachers for 4 years now.

* **The Early Childhood Education Act** outlines 12 areas for each school to meet Early Childhood Education standards and all 2500+ schools have been evaluated to these standards. PACE has modified our Feedback Form on donations to align with these standards.



Five key objectives (and potential action plans) were supported by the group, along with action plans to implement each of the objectives:

1. Enable young children to have positive early learning experience, focusing on ages 3 to 6
 - * Focus support for the needy schools
 - * Establish and annual increase in the number of schools supported
2. Encourage students to enter pre-school teacher training
 - * Continue with bursaries and scholarships for ECE student teachers
 - * Develop a Research Award grant for students to do community based research in ECE
3. Encourage parents of pre-school children to improve the learning experiences available to children in the home
 - * Develop a Speaker Series by ECE professionals
 - * Develop Research Grants for organizations to address this area
4. Encourage community participation and partnership
 - * Target new community partnerships
 - * Expand membership to include men and youth
5. Leverage technology to promote and stay connected with members, schools, partners, and the community
 - * Keep up to date on technology especially in social media
 - * Leverage Constant Contact for email communications