

COMMUNITY SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF TORONTO
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Issue # 42, September 2006

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the forty-second edition of the electronic newsletter from the Community Social Planning Council of Toronto. At the beginning of each month, this e-bulletin provides news on the activities of the CSPC-T and our partners, as well as access to new research and policy products and networks, in print and web-based forms. We hope it is useful. We value and welcome your feedback at the email address below.

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<http://www.socialplanningtoronto.org/CSPC-T%20Newsletters/Newsletter%202006.htm>

Please note the deadline to submit information for the next e-Newsletter is September 25, 2006.

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1. NEWS FROM THE COUNCIL

CSPC-T welcomes new placement students

It's September and school is back in session! We are very pleased to welcome five new placement students to the Community Social Planning Council of Toronto. Manh Le, Navjeet Sidhu, Harriet Njiraini and Zachary Tucker-Abramson from Ryerson University and Shivana Ramsingh from York University will be working with program staff during the new academic year.

Manh and Shivana will be working with CSPC-T Planners on a variety of community development projects in the former cities of Etobicoke and North York, respectively. Navjeet, Harriet and Zachary will be working with CSPC-T Researchers on a range of research projects being conducted across the city. Welcome to all!

Many thanks to summer staff Julie Young and Peta-Anne Fenty for all their hard work. We wish them well in their academic programs.

2. UPCOMING EVENTS

The Toronto Appeal for Federal Funding A National Day of Action: Save Federal Homelessness Funding Now

Across Canada, homelessness is still a national crisis. Without a renewed federal commitment of National Homelessness Initiatives and SCPI (Supporting Community Partners Initiatives) funding, we risk losing valuable services. We need to act now! We urge agencies, staff, clients and concerned citizens to join us in our appeal to secure federal funds to address homelessness across Canada.

Join us at a Community Speak/Forum, Moderated by Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair of Toronto's Community Services Committee

Date and Time: Tuesday, September 12th, 12:00-3:30 pm
Location: Church of the Holy Trinity, Toronto, 10 Trinity Square (Queen/Bay)

For more information, please contact Julia Chao of Street Health at (416) 921-8668 ext. 228 or julia@streethealth.ca

The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and Ontario Parks & Rec 2nd Sport Initiative

Bring your family and come out to an afternoon of fun – Find Your Sport! Try Them All!

Date & Time: Sunday, September 17th, starting at 12:00 pm

Location: Christie Pitts, 740 Bloor St. (Soccer Field)

The event is free

For further information contact Heather Purdon at: 416-977-9881 or by email:
heatherp@metisnation.org

Melitaville Festival

Volunteers/Performers Invited

The 2nd Melitaville Festival is back by popular demand

Date and Time: September 16th, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Location: Marian Engel Park

If you or your band is interested in performing at the event, please call Mary Almeida at 416-534-3292.

This year's festival will include a flea market and craft sale. Tables are renting for \$20 each. If you are interested in booking a table, please call Mary Anne Jelonek at 416-912-5758.

Toronto District School Board (TDSB)

Budget Consultations

The TDSB faces an \$84 million budget shortfall this year. How should it address this challenge? Speak to trustees on:

Date & Time: Monday September 18, 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm.

Location: Bloor Collegiate Institute, 1141 Bloor Street West (at Dufferin St.)
Richview Collegiate Institute, 1738 Islington Avenue (at Eglinton Ave. West)

Date & Time: Tuesday September 19, 7:00 pm. to 9:30 pm.

Northview Heights SS, 550 Finch Avenue West (at Bathurst St.)

David and Mary Thomson CI, 2740 Lawrence Avenue E (at Brimley Rd.)

- **What are your concerns or suggestions about this budget situation?**
- **What's important for you in public education?**
- **What role should the school play in serving community needs?**

Your input will be recorded and presented to the TDSB in a report. Please bring us a copy of your remarks.

We recommend that you register in advance. To register, please telephone 416-397-2400, or email consultbudget@tdsb.on.ca with your name, the group you represent if applicable, and your telephone number. Tell us your preferred date and location.

Register Early as space is limited. Parents, students, school councils, community groups, agencies, TDSB employee groups and the general public are invited to participate.

You may also submit your comments by email to: consultbudget@tdsb.on.ca

The Maytree Foundation

Five Good Ideas Sessions

Five Good Ideas is a lunch and learn program where experts discuss powerful yet practical ideas on key management issues facing non-profit organizations. The sessions are most useful for management staff and board members at small and mid-sized non-profits.

Leadership

Rocco Rossi, CEO, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario

Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Challenging Racism in Organizations

Tina Lopes, Consultant and Author of Dancing on Live Embers

Thursday, October 19, 2006 – 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Managing Risk

Derek Ballantyne, CEO, Toronto Community Housing Corporation

Wednesday, November 8, 2006 – 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Go to: www.maytree.com/fgi/sessions.asp#register to register for one or more of the workshops.

Location: St. Michael's College - Elmsley Hall, Charbonnel Lounge

81 St. Mary Street (St. Mary Street/Bay Street - 2 blocks south of Bloor Street)

JVS Toronto

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

JVS Toronto cordially invites you to their JVS 59th AGM and 60th Anniversary kick-off!

Date: Wednesday, September 20

Location: Sala Caboto, 40 Playfair Avenue, Toronto

For further details visit: <http://www.jvstoronto.org/index.php?page=148>

Campaign For Public Education (CPE)

CPE Summit

The 3rd Annual CPE (Pre-election) summit – Advancing Quality Public Education will feature:

- Q & A with Mayor David Miller
- Featured guest speaker
- CPE's election campaign platform launch
- Meet CPE-endorsed school trustees candidates

Date & Time: Sunday, September 24, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street

For further information visit the CPE's website at:

<http://www.campaignforpubliceducation.ca/>

Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations

World Housing Day

With rising rents and decreasing numbers of rental units we are seeing more and more people living hand to mouth, or on the streets. The housing crisis is fuelled by a lack of planning for social housing on the municipal level, the erosion of tenant protection on the Provincial level, to the Federal government's broken promises regarding a National Housing Strategy. More and more people around the world are being displaced from their homes in the name of urban renewal, beautification and mega development. Organizers around the world are getting ready to speak up about these issues and more in October, and we want add our voices. Organizers and advocates from the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations, the Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario, The Wellesley Institute and the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now are working on some suggestions for a campaign around Global Tenants Day on October 2, 2006.

Join us in bringing tenant and housing issues to the forefront on that day.

For more information, contact Emmy Pantin at: 416-646-1772 or

emmy@torontotenants.org or visit www.torontotenants.org

Women's Intercultural Network (WIN)

Traditions in Transition Video

WIN, an umbrella organization whose members are women from diverse racial, cultural, and ethnic communities has embarked on a video project to record the experiences of senior immigrant women in Canada. We are therefore asking community organization to select elderly immigrant women to participate in this important documentary project.

For further information or an application form, kindly contact Olga Gil at: 416-766-6858 or via email: olga.gil@sympatico.ca

**The Ontario Health Coalition
Health Action Assembly**

The Assembly will include:
Local Coalitions Report
Ontario Health Coalition Report
State of Affairs in the Health System
Questions and Answers with Provincial Politicians
2007 Action Plan

An Awards reception will follow

Date and Time: Saturday, October 14, registration begins at 9:00 am
Location: 519 Community Centre, 519 Church Street

For further information contact the Ontario Health Coalition at: 416-441-2502 or email:
ohc@sympatico.ca

The Ontario Health Coalition
Lecture Series Rise Up: Reports on Social Movements and Defending Medicare
Join us for an evening with Maude Barlow and Naomi Klein, joined by Natalie Mehra,
and moderated by Dora Jeffries, the coalition co-chair.

Date & Time: Friday, December 1 at 7:00 pm
Location: St. Andrew’s Church, King and Simcoe Streets

For further information contact the Ontario Health Coalition at: 416-441-2502 or email:
ohc@sympatico.ca

PEACE, RIGHTS, AND FREEDOMS

A Live History of Canadian Democracy

Using stand up comedy, theatre games, historical re-enactment, kazoo, clown and drum,
PEACE, RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS is a tour de force, audience participation,
flashpoint chronology of one the most enduring democracies in the world.

Participants will receive a copy of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms at the
end of the workshop.

For more information, please visit the Sharon Temple of Peace National Historic Site
website at www.sharontemple.ca or call Cara Reeves at: 905- 478-2389 or 905- 967-
2920 (cell)

3. NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

UNITED WAY 2006 NEWCOMER GRANTS FUNDING

As part of its commitment to helping newcomers settle and integrate, UWGT has been offering a Newcomer Grants program since 1999 to provide funding supports to agencies serving newcomers and refugees.

Information packages are available online at: www.unitedwaytoronto.com (Grants & Funding). To download the Application Package you will need a Password (NC2006)

Request for Information (RFIs) due date: **Thursday September 14, 2006 at 12 noon**
RFIs will not be accepted by fax or e-mail

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Leigh Robinson at 416-777-1444 ext. 597.

For questions about the Newcomer Grants, please contact Fawzia Ratanshi or Radha Nayar at 416 -777-2001.

Toronto Community Foundation 2006 Vital People Grants

The Toronto Community Foundation's *Vital People* grant awards program is now accepting applications. The *Vital People* program supports and recognizes individuals who are making an outstanding contribution through non-profit organizations and helping to keep Toronto's Vital Signs healthy.

Vital People recognizes valued leaders whether they're focusing their energies in one neighbourhood, community, issue or field of pursuit such as the arts, social services, health, education, environment or recreation. The program provides grants of up to \$5,000 that can be used towards formal training or other informal development opportunities that best enable these individuals to build their skills or knowledge or apply their experience in different ways to enhance their leadership contributions. Grants are available to those just taking on new leadership challenges, as well as those with many years of experience.

We encourage you to nominate a staff member or volunteer at your organization who would benefit from the recognition and support this program offers.

The application deadline is 5 PM, Friday October 6, 2006.

Profiles of previous grant winners and descriptions their grants are available on the TCF website at: <http://www.tcf.ca/>

For grant applications and other information about the grants please contact Sara Lyons at: 416-921-2035 x 204 or by email at slyons@tcf.ca

The Maytree Foundation

abcGTA

This is an initiative of [The Maytree Foundation](#). The project addresses the current imbalance between the proportion of immigrants and visible minorities in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and their relative lack of representation on the boards of public agencies, boards and commissions (abc). A web-based directory of diverse candidates allows organizations to search for potential board members from various communities.

Are you from a diverse community? Are you interested in becoming a member of a public or nonprofit board of directors? Current candidates come from all walks of life. What they have in common is their commitment to serving the public good. Volunteering on boards contributes to healthy public debate and engagement. As a board member, you can help develop solutions, policies and services so that organizations reflect the interest of all communities in the GTA.

To become an abcGTA candidate or additional information kindly contact Katarina Vukobratovic at: 416 944 2627 ext. 229 or email kvukobratovic@maytree.com

The Maytree Foundation

Maytree Public Policy Training Institute

The Maytree Public Policy Training Institute is an innovative learning program designed for individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest and engagement in public policy. The objective of the program is to provide participants with the knowledge and skills required to develop, influence and monitor public policy on issues relevant to their communities of interest.

The Institute begins in October 2006 and will offer a comprehensive five module training series of one and two day sessions over a six-month period.

For program guidelines and application forms go to:
www.maytree.com/MaytreeInitiatives/ppti.htm

For more information contact Anita K. Srinivasan at: anita.srinivasan@maytree.com or by telephone: 416- 944-2627 ext. 245

McMaster University, Women's Studies

Disabled Women's Experiences of Employment and Employment Assistance Survey

You are invited to participate in a survey on disabled women's experiences of employment and government employment assistance in Canada.

This research is keenly interested in advancing our understanding of the challenges disabled women face in finding and keeping paid work, the kinds of assistance with finding and keeping a job that they have received from government, and the ways in which such assistance can be improved

The survey can be accessed by following this link:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=355352400999>

For further information, kindly contact: Dr. Vera Chouinard, Director, Women's Studies & Professor of Geography, McMaster University, Email: chouinar@mcmaster.ca

Urban Studies Program at Innis College, the Canadian Urban Institute and the Centre for Urban and Community Studies

Election 06: What Future For Toronto?

This is a crucial election for the people of Toronto. The politicians we elect on November 13 will hold office for four years, longer than any previous city council has ever served. Decisions taken over the last three years will give these new city councilors more power...and more federal and provincial money...than any city council has ever had before. What will they do **for** Toronto? What will they do **to** Toronto?

A series of **11 Tuesday night forums** at Innis will explore the issues facing Toronto in this election.

Date & Time: September 18 – November 20; 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Location: The Innis Café, 2 Sussex Avenue (at St. George Street)
Speakers include: David Crombie, Marvyn Novick, Joe Berridge, Paul Bedford, Mayor David Miller

The first of a series of 11 forums opens on September 18, 2006 with Mayor David Miller facing challengers in an open debate from **7:30 - 9:30 pm.at Innis Town Hall**. This will be one of the first mayoral debates of the season.

For more details visit: www.canurb.com

Help Us Let People Know How to Confirm Their Eligibility to Vote

The City of Toronto needs to verify the eligibility of some voters before the election on November 13, 2006. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in letting people know why we need to confirm their eligibility to vote and how they can confirm their qualifications with the City.

In July, the City received the preliminary list of electors for the 2006 municipal election from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). Provincial legislation

requires the City of Toronto to use the preliminary list of electors provided by MPAC as the basis of its voters' list.

In an attempt to increase the accuracy of municipal voters' lists, MPAC underwent a data matching process with the National Register of Electors maintained by Elections Canada to verify the eligibility qualifications of individuals in its database. This data matching process resulted in the identification of 277,000 individuals in Toronto whose elector qualifications could not be confirmed.

The City is conducting an extensive communications campaign and mailing a letter to every affected individual. The letter (which includes information in the 17 languages approved by Council for election purposes) explains that the individual's eligibility to vote is unconfirmed and requests that if they are an eligible elector, they complete the declaration on the back of the letter and return the document to the City by September 8th.

Individuals who confirm their eligibility to vote with the City will remain on the voters' list; individuals who do not will either have to complete an application to add their name during the revision period (September 5 to November 13) or when they go to vote.

No eligible elector will be disenfranchised from their right to vote. Everyone who is entitled to vote in the City of Toronto's municipal election will have the opportunity to do so, regardless of whether or not they are on the voters' list.

You can help us get the message out to individuals who may be affected by posting the attached flyer in a prominent location or sending it to your organization's members.

We appreciate your assistance with this matter. If you require additional information or have any questions, please call 416-338-1111

4. CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

RUCKUS! Youth Activism and Anti-Racism Conference and Events

Call for Workshop Proposals and Involvement - Youth Action Network (YAN)

Ruckus! Anti-racism conference is an annual conference and series of events held in the Greater Toronto Area for high-school aged youth to address the lack of inclusion into current social justice, community and environmental advocacy movements.

The project aims to critically examine multiculturalism, race and social justice and introduce participants into existing community work, and to provide spaces to find creative ways of bringing anti-racism principles into community-based social justice and environmental advocacy. Practically, we want to address "what specifically can youth do" to become active in their communities. Ruckus! also brings together community organizations and initiatives by youth under one-roof to show-case the amazing work that is already being done with the hopes of attracting more youth to "Do Something".

We are seeking both organizations and youth who are interested in conducting a workshop at the conference. Proposals should be no longer than 1-2 pages.

Launch Party and Events: September 17th – 20th, 2006
Conference: September 22nd and 23rd, 2006

For more information Contact Erica Stillo at: 416-316-1327 or stillo.eric@gmail.com or visit: <http://www.youthactionnetwork.org/ruckus>

Ontario Education for Sustainable Development Working Group and Toronto Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Education for Sustainable Development Forum

The United Nations **Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005 –2014)** is a complex and far-reaching undertaking with enormous environmental, social, and economic implications. Its goal is to integrate the principles, values, and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning. This will, in turn, encourage changes in behaviour leading to a more sustainable future in terms of environmental integrity, economic viability, and a just society for present and future generations.

There are many groups and networks working towards all of these ends and several new initiatives are underway to focus on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), including an Ontario ESD Working Group and the U.N.-designated Regional Centre of Expertise in Toronto. This Forum is an opportunity to learn more about the challenges we face and to network with those already involved in creating positive change. We hope that it is also the first step in creating a network that will act as a catalyst for change, where we will work together and support each other's efforts.

Pre-register no later than September 12, 2006

Date and Time: Thursday, September 21, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Location: Downsview Park, Toronto

For a copy of the invitation and registration form, go to the Ontario Working Group section of the LSF (Learning for a Sustainable Future) website at <http://www.lsf-ist.ca/en/pwg/ontario.php> or email esd_ontario@lsf-ist.ca or Kim Peters at 416- 392-1848 or kpeters@toronto.ca

**The FCJ Refugee Centre
Conference on Gender and Migration**

This conference will be unique in style and purpose, setting up an environment where participants will be challenged by theory, methodology, and a concrete invitation to action and practice.

Date: Thursday September 28th
Location: The Brigantine Room, Harbourfront Centre

For more details or to register visit www.fcjsisters.ca/refugeecentre or contact Heather Lash at: 416.469.9754 or by email: lash@silentspiral.com

The Centre for the Study of Education and Work, OISE/UT and The Toronto Training Board (TTB)
Conference: Skills, Jobs and Immigrants: What's Working, Who's Working?

This conference will:

- Provide a rare opportunity for participants from different sectors to meet and discuss common concerns;
- Facilitate the development of more coordinated approaches between employers, labour unions, academics and community workers;
- Offer participants a chance to learn about innovative projects that are working to move foreign trained professionals into the trades, professions and occupations; create connections between unions, immigrants/newcomers, youth, and community organizations; effectively integrate people into the labour force; and influence policy and programme development;
- Promote the adoption and/or adaptation of successful and innovative approaches to the integration of newcomers into the Canadian labour force, focusing on how learning can facilitate more equitable access to jobs.

Date: October 12-13, 2006
Location: Hart House, University of Toronto

For further information contact Rhonda Sussman at: 416-923-6641 x. 2392

A Centre for Research on Work and Society (CRWS)
Conference: Serving the New Economy: Critical Perspectives on Hospitality and Tourism Work

Growth sectors such as hospitality employ large numbers of women, migrants, and people of colour, who are often in precarious situations. These workplaces are as much a part of the 'new' economy as high-technology industries, but they do not promise the same benefits for marginalized workers.

This workshop brings together an international group of researchers from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds to share progressive research on tourism and hospitality work. The workshop will feature presentations on hospitality work from a critical perspective in four panels

Date: October 13-14, 2006
Location: Ramada Hotel and Suites Downtown, 300 Jarvis St., Toronto

For more information, please contact Daphne Paszterko at: 416-736-5612 or email paszter@yorku.ca or visit www.yorku.ca/crws

University of Peace (UPEACE)

Connect! - Exploring the Complexity of Diaspora

The UN mandated **University for Peace (UPEACE)** is calling for submissions from emerging artists (less than 6 years of professional experience) for a group show from **October 18th to 23rd**. The exhibition will explore the complex notion of diaspora, its multifaceted characteristics whether it is observed from the country of origin or the host country. As a catalyser for cultural, political, social and economical dynamics, diasporas have the capacity to be both tools for peace and tools for conflict. This dichotomy will be examined by emerging artists using different media to provoke and stimulate the public dialogue on diaspora.

Connect! is conceived as an inspiring and provocative companion to the High Level Expert Forum, *Capacity Building for Peace and Development: Roles of Diaspora*, being organized by the International Centre of UPEACE in Toronto on October 19 and 20th 2006.

For additional information please contact Pierre Terver at: pterver@upeace.org or Pauline Ling at: 416-321-3372. You may also visit the website at: www.upeace.org

OCASI Professional Development Conference – Call for Session Proposals

Over the years, trainers and consultants from the community, private and government sector as well as staff from member agencies of the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI) and from other community organizations have presented many of the training sessions and other activities at the OCASI Annual Professional Development Conference.

OCASI invites you to submit a session proposal for this year's Professional Development Conference

Date: October 18, 19 and 20, 2006

Location: Geneva Park Conference Centre, Orillia, Ontario

The full text of the Call For Proposals is on the OCASI website at:

<http://www.ocasi.org/index.php?qid=895&catid=166>

en français: <http://www.ocasi.org/index.php?qid=896>

For further information please contact Afua Marcus, Tel 416-322-4950, ext 250, Fax 416-322-8084, or e-mail conference@ocasi.org.

**Art for Real Change Festival (ARCFest) 2006
5 Day Festival**

ARCFest is a Social Justice Arts Festival that will be held from October 23rd-29th in multiple venues in the Queen West Art and Design District and Parkdale neighbourhoods in Toronto. As a multi-disciplinary festival, ARCFest features art events, panel discussions, speakers, and workshops addressing local social justice issues.

We are looking for provocative, radical, inspiring, empowering, innovative and/or enlightening works from across the artistic media (i.e., film, poetry, performing arts, music, visual arts and anything else you consider art). Proposals must address local social justice/ activist/human rights issues.

We encourage projects that are co-created or co-produced by an artist together with an organization involved in social justice pursuits (though this is not a requirement)

ARCFest is committed to supporting equity and embraces submissions from diverse communities.

For more information: email info@arcfest.org or visit our website www.arcfest.org

**University of Windsor
Building Bridges - A Labour Studies Conference,**

This conference seeks to bring together academics, movement leaders and activists and artists to analyse the sources of division within and between labour and social movements, and to foster strategies for building more effective forms of solidarity. This conference will also be taking place at the same time at the 9th Annual Windsor Labour Arts Festival.

Date: February 2-3, 2007

Location: University of Windsor

Call for Participants

If you are interested in being a participant either as a Panellist or Discussant or for additional information about the conference, kindly contact Dr. Alan Hall at: hall4@uwindsor.ca, or Dr. Stephanie Ross at: stephr@uwindsor.ca, by August 15, 2006.

5. INFORMATION RESOURCES

5.1 New Reports and Publications

National Council of Welfare (NCW)

Welfare Incomes 2005

The National Council of Welfare's report, *Welfare Incomes 2005*, paints a dismal picture, and one that is getting worse. When adjusted for inflation, many 2005 welfare incomes were lower than they were in 1986. Most welfare incomes peaked in 1994 or earlier. Some of the losses between the peak year and 2005 are staggering, with one-third of households losing \$3,000 or more. Five provinces—Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia—recorded the lowest levels of welfare incomes between 2000 and 2005.

In 2005, the income of a single employable person on welfare in New Brunswick amounted to \$3,427—just 19 percent of the poverty line. Lone parent families in Alberta, Canada's richest province, received just \$12,326—only 48 percent of the poverty line. All welfare incomes continued to remain far below the poverty line in 2005. With few exceptions, the day to-day lives of over 1.7 million Canadians receiving welfare —5 percent of the population—only became more difficult. Half a million of those on social assistance are children.

In July 2006, the National Council of Welfare recommended that the federal government work to develop a national, comprehensive anti-poverty strategy. The findings in *Welfare Incomes 2005* argue compellingly that we need to embark on this process immediately.

The complete report is available at:

<http://www.newcnbes.net/htmdocument/reportWelfareIncomes2005/WI2005ENG.pdf>
(PDF file -116 pages)

The Daily, Statistics Canada

August 1

[Study: Fleeing the Parental Nest to Independence, 2001](#)

Young adults are taking longer to leave the parental nest than their parents did, according to a new study examining transitions out of the home across five generations.

The study focuses on early baby boomers born between 1947 and 1956, and Generation X born between 1967 and 1976.

These people were interviewed as part of the General Social Survey in 2001 when the early (Wave 1) baby boomers were aged 45 to 54, and the Gen Xers were aged 25 to 34.

The study found that a male Wave 1 boomer had a 49% to 59% probability of leaving home for the first time before his 22nd birthday. However, the likelihood dropped to between 46% and 53% for Generation X males.

One factor was the economy. Economic conditions changed considerably between these two time periods. Well-paying unionized jobs were not nearly as plentiful, and real wages for young workers had declined, reducing the incentive for independence from the family home.

The study identified key socio-demographic factors associated with the likelihood of leaving home for the first time, regardless of the generation. Many factors associated with adult children leaving home sooner rather than later were beyond a parent's control.

This study, When is junior moving out? Transitions from the parental home to independence, is available in the August 2006 issue of Canadian Social Trends at:

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/11-008-XIE/2006002/pdf/11-008-XIE20060029274.pdf>

(PDF file -13 pages)

August 2

[General Social Survey: The Internet and the way we spend our time, 2005](#)

Heavy Internet users lead a considerably different lifestyle than individuals who do not surf the Web, according to a new study examining its impact on Canadians.

Heavy users (those who spent more than an hour on the Internet during the day) devoted less time to socializing with their spouse or partner, as well as their children and friends. And they tended to stay at home, showing less interest in outdoor activities than non-

For more details read the report on **General Social Survey on Time Use Cycle 19: The Internet: Is It Changing the Way Canadians Spend Their Time?** at:

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/56F0004MIE/56F0004MIE2006013.pdf>

(PDF file - 270K, 27 pages)

August 3

[Study: Public school indicators, 1997/1998 to 2003/2004](#)

This report examines trends in enrolment and the number of educators for public elementary and secondary schools, as well as basic financial statistics, such as total spending on education, spending per student and spending as a percentage of the gross domestic product.

Between 1997/1998 and 2003/2004, enrolment in public elementary and secondary schools edged down 1.2% to just under 5.3 million children. All provinces reported lower enrolment in 2002/2003 and 2003/2004.

During the six-year period, enrolment in public elementary and secondary schools based on full-time equivalents increased in only Ontario and Alberta.

In Ontario, enrolment reached 2.1 million, up 1.6% from six years earlier. In Alberta, enrolment hit 549,500, a 3.2% gain. Ontario's increase was essentially due to high levels of immigration, and in the case of Alberta, the reason was migration from other provinces.

The report, **Summary Public School Indicators for the Provinces and Territories** is available at: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/81-595-MIE/81-595-MIE2006044.pdf> (PDF file - 532K, 60 pages)

August 4

[Study: Labour Force Survey, July 2006](#)

Employment was unchanged for the second consecutive month in July, as gains in full time were offset by similar declines in part time. This leaves overall growth so far this year at 1.3% (+210,000), up from the 0.9% gain observed over the first seven months of last year.

Employment among women aged 25 and over increased 16,000 in July. The labour force participation rate of adult women continued to reach record highs, up 0.3 percentage points in July to 61.6%. Overall employment among adult men remained stable. There were fewer youths employed in July (-22,000) with all of the loss in part-time.

A detailed summary **Labour Force Information** is available at:

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/71-001-XIE/71-001-XIE2006007.pdf>
(PDF file - 375K, 58 pages)

August 15

[Canadian Internet Use Survey, 2005](#)

Two-thirds of adult Canadians surfed the Internet in 2005, and those living in larger cities were much more likely to have done so than those in rural areas and small towns, according to the new Canadian Internet Use Survey.

An estimated 16.8 million adult Canadians, or 68%, used the Internet for personal non-business reasons during the 12 months prior to the survey.

Only 58% of residents living in small towns or rural areas accessed the World Wide Web, well below the national average. In contrast, rates in Canada's largest census metropolitan areas ranged from 68% in Montréal to 77% in both Ottawa–Gatineau and Calgary.

The survey also showed that the Internet has changed the way many Canadians do banking and access news. Roughly 6 of every 10 Internet users used it to read news or sports, or to conduct their banking online. Even so, three-quarters of Canadians expressed strong concerns about privacy and security.

The new survey, which replaces the Household Internet Use Survey, was redesigned to focus on individual Internet use. The CIUS did show that in 2005, an estimated 7.9 million Canadian households (61%) were connected to the Internet, up slightly from the nearly 60% reported in 2004 by the Survey on Household Spending

August 22

[Study: Health Reports: Regional differences in obesity, 2004](#)

Adults who lived in large Canadian cities in 2004 were far less likely to be obese than were their counterparts who lived outside such metropolitan areas, a new report indicates.

The report "Regional differences in obesity" is based on actual measurements of height and weight from the 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey. The study examines obesity and overweight individuals inside and outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs).

Overall, 20% of CMA residents aged 18 or older were obese in 2004, compared with 29% of those who lived outside a CMA. The national average for obesity was 23%.

Furthermore, as the size of the city increased, the likelihood of being obese fell. In CMAs with a population of at least 2 million (Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver) only 17% of adults were obese. The comparable figure for CMAs with a population of 100,000 to 2 million was 24%. In urban centres with populations of 10,000 to 100,000, 30% of adults were obese.

The report examined whether low obesity rates in the largest cities could be explained by the tendency of immigrants to settle in these areas, given that immigrants are less likely than people born in Canada to be obese. However, the relatively low prevalence of obesity in large cities persisted, even when immigrant status and the number of years since immigrating were both taken into account.

For the full report of this research and other related health research visit the latest issue of **Health Reports, Vol. 17, No. 3** at:

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/82-003-XIE/82-003-XIE2005003.pdf>

(PDF file - 956K, 78 pages)

Perspectives on Labour and Income, Statistics Canada

August 23, 2006

[Study: Time lost due to work stoppages, 2005](#)

Canadian businesses and governments in 2005 lost the highest number of workdays to strikes and lockouts in 15 years, according to a new study of trends in work stoppages.

In 2005, an estimated 4.1 million workdays were lost to industrial disputes, nearly 2.5 times the level in 2003 and the highest since 1990 when almost 5.1 million workdays were lost.

An estimated 429,000 workers were involved in 261 work stoppages that began last year, a five-fold jump from only 81,000 in 2003, and the highest level since 1989.

Some of the increase in workdays lost in the past two years can be attributed to a rise in the number of workers involved (that is, relatively large unions were involved in the recent disputes), and also partly to the long duration of some stoppages. One example would be last year's prolonged work stoppages involving a few large unions.

Between 2003 and 2005, unions initiated about 84% of the 743 work stoppages, and 87% of the 9.1 million resulting lost workdays; the rest were initiated by employers.

Quebec, the province with the highest union density, posted the largest share of strikes and lockouts (336 or 45%), followed by Ontario (230 or 31%).

Nearly 3 in 10 (29%) of the strikes and lockouts occurred in manufacturing, followed by education, health and social services (21%).

Also registering relatively large shares of workdays lost were manufacturing (17%); education, health and social services (16%); and public administration (17%).

The full report, **Increased Work Stoppages** is available at:

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75-001-XIE/75-001-XIE2006107.pdf> (PDF file - 723K)

Perspectives on Labour and Income, Statistics Canada

August 23, 2006

[Study: Wives as primary breadwinners, 2003](#)

The dramatic increase in dual-earner couples during the last four decades has been accompanied by a gain just as dramatic in the number of wives who are the primary breadwinners, according to a new study.

In 1967, an estimated 11% of wives earned more than their husbands did. By 2003, this proportion had nearly tripled to 29%.

The study showed that the wife was the primary breadwinner in nearly 1.4 million of the 4.7 million dual-earner couples in 2003.

However, while most of these primary-earner wives had twice the earnings of their husbands in 2003, they did not match the earning power of husbands who were the primary breadwinner.

On average, wives who were primary breadwinners earned \$41,200 in 2003, well below the level of \$57,800 among their male counterparts. Husbands who were secondary earners had average earnings of \$21,300.

In general, primary-earner wives earned less than primary-earner husbands in each of the occupational groups the study examined. For example, primary-earner wives in managerial and professional occupations earned on average \$68,000 a year, while their male counterparts earned \$83,000.

Their average family income also lagged behind that of families in which the husband was the primary breadwinner. Family incomes in which the wife was the primary breadwinner averaged \$74,000 in 2003, compared with \$86,000 for families in which the husband was the primary earner.

The full report, **Wives as Primary Breadwinners** is available at:
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75-001-XIE/75-001-XIE2006107.pdf> (PDF file - 723K)

C.D. Howe Institute

Let's Walk Before We Run: Cautionary Advice On Childcare

According to this report, Ottawa both the federal and provincial governments should use their spending powers on early-childhood education programs for at-risk preschoolers instead of being fixated on launching universal child care. It purports that programs targeted to disadvantaged families can almost certainly generate significant benefits.

Drawing on the Quebec experience, the report suggests that a universal program will likely fail to target adequately “at risk” children.

The report makes three recommendations:

The provinces should provide access to quality child-care programs for children from low-income families to prepare them for schooling.

Childcare centres should be located in neighbourhoods with high ratios of “at risk” families, whose children are most likely to benefit. As opposed to a universal fixed fee per child, fees should be geared to income.

Families eligible for childcare subsidy should be able to choose among: state sponsored centres; licensed centres operated by charitable, religious, or non-profit societies; or approved for-profit firms.

The full report is available at http://www.cdhowe.org/pdf/commentary_237_english.pdf (PDF file, 21 pages)

5.2 WEBSITES OF INTEREST

John Howard Society of Toronto

The John Howard Society of Toronto provides support services to people in conflict with the law and adults at imminent risk of coming into conflict with the law, in order to facilitate positive change and achieve community reintegration.

For more information, visit: www.johnhowardtor.on.ca

Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (CERA)

CERA is a non-profit human rights organization that promotes human rights in housing. The Centre works to remove barriers that keep disadvantaged individuals and families from accessing and retaining the housing they need.

For more information, visit: <http://www.equalityrights.org/cera/>

Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO)

The Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO) works to better the housing situation of Ontario residents who have low incomes including tenants, co-op members and people who are homeless. ACTO works with legal clinics, tenant associations and other groups and individuals concerned about housing issues.

For more information, visit: <http://www.acto.ca/english/home.php>

Labour Education Centre (LEC)

The mission of LEC is to build the capacity of unions to plan, develop and deliver training, adjustment, and labour education programs that transform the lives of individual members and build the strength, solidarity and equity of their unions.

For more information visit their website at: www.laboureducation.org

The Canadian Research Institute on the Advancement of women (CRIAW)

CRIAW is a research institute which provides tools to facilitate organizations taking action to advance social justice and equality for all women. CRIAW recognizes women's diverse experiences and perspectives; creates spaces for developing women's knowledge; bridges regional isolation; and provides communication links between/among researchers and organizations actively working to promote social justice and equality for all women.

For more information visit their website at: <http://www.criaw-icref.ca>

Hotel Workers Rising

The UNITE HERE Hotel Workers Rising campaign represents an effort to empower thousands of hotel workers in hundreds of properties in cities across North America as they work to improve their jobs and secure better lives for themselves and their families.

For more information, visit: <http://www.hotelworkersrising.org/aboutcampaign.asp>

Canadian Museum of Civilizations

Virtual Exhibit: Canadian Women of African Descent

You are invited to visit the recent virtual exhibit Citizens Portrait of Canadian Women of African Descent available on the Canadian Museum of Civilizations Web site at: <http://www.civilization.ca/cultur/citoyennes/citoyennese.html>.

6. CONTACT US

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Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, and we are wheelchair accessible. Our resource library is open by appointment. Please call the main line for further information.

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