



# **Right Here, Right Now**

## **Annual Report 2003-2004**

*This document was produced solely by the Youth Advisory Committee with support from the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment*

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Provincial Youth Advisory Committee  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, NL  
A1B 4J6  
phone: 709.729.6890  
email: [yac@gov.nl.ca](mailto:yac@gov.nl.ca)  
<http://www.gov.nl.ca/yac/>

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee identified three priority issues for 2003-2004:
  - ◆ Alternate Education
  - ◆ Supportive Services
  - ◆ Healthy Lifestyles
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee participated at the following events:
  - ◆ RuralEXPO 2003
  - ◆ Surviving Student Debt Conference
  - ◆ Shaping Sexual Health Policy Symposium
  - ◆ Alternate Education Partners Workshop
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee discussed youth issues, separately, with the following Senior Government Officials:
  - ◆ Anna Thistle, former Minister of Youth Services & Post Secondary Education
  - ◆ John Ottenheimer, Minister of Education
  - ◆ Tom Hedderson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education
  - ◆ David Denine, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment
  - ◆ Bruce Hollett, Deputy Minister of Education
  - ◆ Becky Roome, Deputy Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee submitted a written reaction to the Government's response to the recommendations presented in the Committee's 2002-2003 report.
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee met with an Irish Delegation concerning the establishment of a Youth Advisory Committee in Ireland
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee has held meetings in Eastern, Central, and Western Newfoundland
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee members have met with the following agencies and organizations:
  - ◆ Child and Youth Advocate Office
  - ◆ Planned Parenthood
  - ◆ Coalition of Alternate Learning Agencies
  - ◆ Coordination of Services to Children and Youth Committee
  - ◆ Canadian Federation of Students
  
- ◆ The Youth Advisory Committee continues to utilize a flat organizational structure

## INTRODUCTION

As members of the Youth Advisory Committee, we are pleased and proud to present our second Annual Report to the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

This has been another busy and exciting year for the Committee. We:

- ◆ welcomed new members to our consensus-based group of young persons;
- ◆ continued to work within our 'flat' organizational structure by which all members are equal participants and treat each other with respect;
- ◆ used a strategic approach to identify and tackle the issues facing the youth of our province;
- ◆ undertook research and consultations on a wide range of issues;
- ◆ held regional meetings in Gander, St. John's, and Gros Morne and visited with local groups to discuss topics of mutual interest; and
- ◆ maintained ongoing communications with the Minister, departmental officials and Government's liaison committee, before and after the change in government.



Did you know...

20.1% of the Provincial population are youth between the ages of 15 and 29 years

## ACHEIVING OUR MANDATE

The Provincial Government established the Youth Advisory Committee in June 2001 to provide a forum for the 'open discussion of key issues affecting the young people of Newfoundland and Labrador' and to advise the departments responsible for youth services and education on Government's youth-related programs and policies.

The names of members of the Youth Advisory Committee were announced on September 7th, 2001 and we held our first organizational meeting that day. In September of 2003, new members were added to the committee to replace those whose terms were completed (Appendix A).

A Terms of Reference was adopted in 2003 which outlines our structure, the appointment of members, our responsibilities as members of the Youth Advisory Committee, the role of our mentors, and the conduct of our meetings, among other initiatives (Appendix B).

Despite the election and change in Government this past year, we were successfully able to undertake our two (2) primary roles; (1) to discuss youth-related issues, and (2) to advise the Minister on possible changes in provincial programs and policies affecting our generation.

In order to logically address the many issues we felt were outstanding, we determined it would be best if we focused on three (3) main categories of issues per year. During our first year together, we focused on the three (3) strategic categories of Affordable Education, Youth Employment and Career Direction, and Empowerment and Equality. After our first Annual Report was released, Government responded to our recommendations. In this report, we have included further recommendations based on the response from Government to our initial recommendations.



Dan, Jacenta and Mike

This year, our three (3) strategic categories are:

## Alternate Education

Under this category, the Youth Advisory Committee is considering various options to improve alternate education programs and services in the province, to expand these programs and services within the school system, as well as other matters.

## Supportive Services

Under this category, the Youth Advisory Committee continues to explore means to improve and expand academic and social programs and services, to improve the Individual Support Service Planning Process (ISSP), and to decrease accessibility issues relating to these programs.

## Healthy Lifestyles

Under this category, the Youth Advisory Committee is addressing such issues as the healthy living component in the school system curriculum, suicide prevention, sexual health, and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transsexual issues.

Over the course of this past year, we collected information and consulted widely on these themes. However, these are not the only topics we covered in our discussions. We expect to re-assess our priorities on an ongoing basis as other, more critical, issues are before us.

In the meantime, through our efforts, we were able to suggest realistic options to several key policy matters under active consideration by the Provincial Government over the past year. We will now turn to these and other matters in detail.



Susan and Carol

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Youth Advisory Committee has developed the following series of recommendations based on our deliberations and activities over the past year:

1. In the field of **Alternate Education**, the Youth Advisory Committee recommends:
  - A. The Department of Education establish a Working Committee to develop a policy definition of Alternate Education. This Committee should include province-wide representation from Government and non-government agencies as well as stakeholders geographically, socially, and ethnically.
  - B. The Department of Education improve the coordination of Alternate Education services keeping in mind the need to be inclusive of all communities in the province. A provincial model would be beneficial for all areas to use when developing and providing Alternate Education services. This would make it easier for rural communities with fewer resources to know what steps need to be taken.
  - C. Improved Alternate Education supports exist within the school system where possible (i.e., re-allocation of teaching units) to provide Alternate Education programs within the school system, a “one stop shop” available to meet different learning styles, etc.
  - D. The Department of Education investigate an improved coordination of existing services necessary to develop a mechanism to better identify and serve those in need of alternate education.
  - E. A reevaluation of the role of District Schools in relation to educational services provided in the province. The Committee is concerned that District Schools are not functioning as effectively as mandated.
  - F. A reevaluation of funds allotted to school boards versus the amount allotted to schools and programs at school levels. A reallocation of funds may be possible to better provide Alternate Education services within the school system.



Did you know...

The Provincial high school drop-out rate of youth between the ages of 15 and 19 years is 11.5%

2. Regarding the issue of **Supportive Services**, we recommend:
- A. The Individual Support Service Planning Process (ISSP) be more accessible to students, parents, teachers, etc. The methods to determine if a child requires an ISSP needs to be more clearly defined in order to provide enhanced services.
  - B. Government explore existing resources and design innovative ways, such as better use of technology, to serve individuals in rural areas in need of counselling services. ISSPs and assessments identify the need of an individual but often the resources are not there to provide the required services for those living in rural areas of the province.
  - C. An increase in storefront operations serving youth, 18 years and over, is needed especially within rural communities. These youth currently have limited access to storefront operations providing academic and life oriented programs.
  - D. A complete evaluation of grants awarded to youth programs across all Government departments. It is necessary for additional funding to be directed to youth programs in a more equitable fashion and all funding be reflective of the real needs of young people in all parts of the province.
  - E. A position be implemented to evaluate the allotment of money to youth programs, visit each site to ensure grants have been given to the appropriate organizations as well as provide assistance to these sites.
  - F. Government facilitate and support an integration of services from existing resources in order to better service youth in the areas of sexual, mental, and social health in a setting where they feel most comfortable.
  - G. Provisions for transportation supports for youth be organized to address the lack of transportation and distance from residences excluding youth from participating in after school activities (i.e., peer tutoring, etc.). In relation to rural schools and communities, transportation is an issue adversely affecting young people.
  - H. New Community Youth Network (CYN) sites receive more funding allocated to human resources and less funding on bricks and mortar. In this way, CYNs could coordinate and expand its services in rural communities in order to serve youth in the province in a more cost effective manner.



Did you know...

In our province, 36.4 of every 1000 youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years have a criminal record



3. With respect to **Healthy Lifestyles**, we recommend:
  - A. The delivery of the Physical Education/Active Living Component be modified to ensure all students are exposed to the basic knowledge of the concepts of physical fitness and active living. The Youth Advisory Committee supports the Physical Education/Active Living Component of the new graduation requirements and feels it is necessary for this to be mandatory. The Youth Advisory Committee feels Physical Education/Active Living is an important part of learning and should be introduced at an early age.
  - B. All teachers as well as other individuals who work with youth on a regular basis receive mandatory training in suicide intervention as well as non-violent crisis intervention. Social issues associated with healthy lifestyles, specifically those relating to suicide intervention, are becoming more prevalent within the secondary school system.
  - C. A comprehensive review and evaluation of sexual health programming in the school system be completed. The Youth Advisory Committee recommends Sexual Education be mandatory in the curriculum for all ages where the material is relevant and continue throughout the curriculum until the completion of senior high. This programming must be taught by qualified personnel who have experience and are trained in the field of sexual health.
  - D. A policy be developed to address Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transsexual issues. The Youth Advisory Committee believes increased awareness will lead to increased tolerance and increased services.
  - E. Sexual health services be coordinated through the development of a sexual health framework or strategy for the province.
  - F. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador closely examine the recommendations coming from the Oxycontin Task Force Report, with the will to seriously address this issue by immediately focussing on the implementation of the report's recommendations.
  - G. The Department of Health and Community Services establish and lead a provincial committee comprised of health professionals, Government officials, and front line delivery agencies to examine the growing trends related to youth drug additions (i.e., type of drug additions, treatment programs, and other related issues).
  
4. The Youth Advisory Committee also offers some additional recommendations:
  - A. The committee have input into the development of the new graduation requirements. The Youth Advisory Committee applauds Government's initiatives to restructure existing graduation requirements.



Did you know...

31 of every 1000 youth between the ages of 15 and 19 years have attempted suicide

The Youth Advisory Committee has developed the following series of recommendations based on the responses of Government to the 2002 Annual Report:

5. In the field of **Youth Employment and Career Direction**, we recommend:
  - A. The Department establish a position for the coordination of youth employment services across all Government levels and community agencies. The position would also be responsible for the encouragement of youth program development by providing assistance to access funding, etc.
  - B. Government address the gaps remaining in the delivery of career development across the province, despite Government's initiatives to increase opportunities for more career development within the new graduation requirements.
  - C. A complete reevaluation of the duties of Guidance Counsellors (i.e., career development program delivery, access to information, participatory activities, social guidance, etc.). Currently, Guidance Counsellor's ability to provide guidance is impacted by extra duties they are required to preform as well as multiple schools they are required to serve.
  - D. Innovative means be explored to provide meaningful work related experience to all youth, especially those in rural areas. Funding provided to school boards, university, and colleges ensuring on-the-job training (apprenticeship training), co-op work arrangements, and work experience programs for all high school and post-secondary students must be revisited.



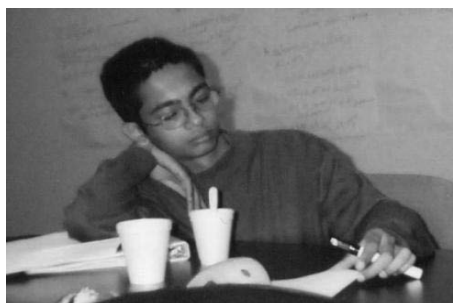
Lori and Robyn

6. With respect to ensuring **Affordable Post-Secondary Education**, we recommend:
- A. Improved and more financial management information be distributed to Guidance Counsellors and parents. In this way, both students and their parents would be more informed about the costs of post-secondary education and the regulations of repayment before the students embark on their course of studies.
  - B. Government monitor and evaluate the Newfoundland and Labrador Student Loan Program in order to more effectively serve the post-secondary students of the province to ensure it is being delivered appropriately and equally. The Youth Advisory Committee is interested in becoming informed as to the successes and/or problems associated with consolidation of the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Student Loan Program.
  - C. The Student Aid Division provide clarification regarding the cost-of-living index and how it is applied based on both the residence of the student while attending post-secondary education and their permanent residence as well as other factors (i.e., number of dependent children in the household).
  - D. An improved distribution of information regarding the current formula used to determine how parental income affects the eligibility and/or the amount of student loans. The Youth Advisory Committee would be interested in learning more about the rationale limiting youth from attending post-secondary schooling due to the income level of parents.
7. With respect to the activities of the **Math Group** established by the Council on Higher Education and improving student *mathematics performance* generally, we recommend:
- A. The Math Group continue its proactive coordination of the strategy necessary in addressing the issue related to math performance in this province.

The Youth Advisory Committee welcomes the opportunity to work with the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment on common issues relating to youth.



Sarah



Niraj

## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2004-2005

The Youth Advisory Committee has become a key entity to the development and assessment of youth issues in Newfoundland and Labrador. Exemplified by the support displayed by Government departments and agencies, the committee is recognized as an important partner in addressing problems affecting youth.

The Youth Advisory Committee recognizes the importance of planning for the longer term. Through an informal strategic planning session, the Committee identified objectives to follow in 2004 - 2005. They are as follows:

1. Invite the Math Group to attend a Youth Advisory Committee meeting in order to discuss the Math Group continuing to be proactive in coordinating the strategies necessary to address the issues related to math performance in the province.
2. Explore the issues surrounding Mental Health in the province as well as the policies by which they are governed.
3. Review the National Mental Health Strategy developed by the Canadian Mental Health Association.
4. Investigate issues and statistics relating to youth who are receiving Social Assistance in an effort to provide successful programming aimed at finding meaningful employment and accessing education.
5. Discuss lesbian/gay/bisexual/transsexual unions in order to ensure equitable policies and procedures are existing and functioning.
6. Advocate for increased funding to sexual health organizations in order to provide comprehensive programming comparable to provinces throughout Canada.
7. Explore opportunities to increase funding for Summer Career Placements as part of a larger initiative to provide meaningful employment to youth in all areas of the province.



8. Review the 2003 Budget and formulate appropriate recommendations to present to Government in an effort related to youth.
9. Discuss the future of youth in the province as well as the policy arrangements and programming needed in order to secure successful employment and meaningful education for youth.
10. Explore the possibility of the Youth Advisory Committee receiving Suicide Intervention Training due to social issues, specifically those relating to suicide intervention becoming more prevalent within the secondary school system.
11. Consider the impact of technology in rural areas, especially in terms of equal access to education programs for youth in all regions of the province.
12. Review the Youth Criminal Justice Act within the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and formulate recommendations, if needed.
13. Investigate opportunities to research and assess the responsibilities of Teachers and Guidance Counselors.
14. Research drug rehabilitation programs and services, specifically Oxycontin and related legal issues.

The Youth Advisory Committee will strive to address the objectives as outlined above, and additional issues as they are identified throughout 2004 - 2005, in an effort to ensure we maintain the success of being a valued advisory entity to the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.



Did you know...

In our province, 20% of youth between the ages of 12 and 24 years are dealing with a mental health issue

## CONCLUSION

The Youth Advisory Committee has gained notoriety as a key organizational structure by offering meaningful advice to the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment as well as other government agencies on youth programs and policies. The solid recommendations outlined in this report are the result of tireless efforts given by the Youth Advisory Committee members. Their dedicated commitment as volunteers has exemplified our obligation to the province's youth and the policies and programs by which they are governed.

We are very appreciative of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment as well as Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for valuing our input, seeking further discussions, and most importantly, providing much needed support. We have been very successful in the past in identifying as well as discussing issues related to youth. Given the opportunity and resources, we very much anticipate another productive year in assisting the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in designing and modifying policies and programs.

We thank the Minister and Provincial Government for providing us with an avenue to discuss issues affecting the lives and well being of our peers.



Joe



Jamie and Dave

## Appendix A: TERMS OF REFERENCE

### NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### SPONSORING DEPARTMENT:

Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment

#### STRUCTURE:

- fifteen (15) youth members and four (4) adult mentors;
- youth members are between the ages of 15 - 29 years;
- adult mentors are 29 years and above;
- no less than two third (2/3) youth members and at least one (1) adult mentor will constitute a quorum for a committee meeting.

#### DURATION OF APPOINTMENT:

The Youth Members term will consist of two (2) or three (3) year terms, ten (10) members of the committee serving for three (3) years, and five (5) members serving for two (2) years.

The Adult Mentors term will consist of two (2) mentors serving for three (3) years and two (2) mentors serving for two (2) years.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS:

All youth members and adult mentors are appointed by the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment in consultation with staff responsible for the operations of the committee.

The selection of replacement members will be cognizant of many issues including: gender, regional location, ethnic representation, and other.

#### REQUIREMENT OF MEMBERS:

All youth members and adult mentors must make an effort to attend all Youth Advisory Committee Board Meetings and do the necessary preparation for each meeting.

#### REMOVAL OF MEMBERS:

If a member misses three (3) consecutive meetings without notifying the Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff representative regarding their inability to attend, the member may be replaced.

#### RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUTH MEMBERS:

1. attendance at all meetings (where possible);
2. preparation of issues to be discussed;
3. serve as a member of a sub-committee;
4. participate as an equal member;
5. a member leaving the province for more than six (6) months per year must resign their position;
6. a one time leave of absence may be granted for up to six (6) months by the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

## RESPONSIBILITY OF MENTORS:

1. attendance at all meetings (where possible);
2. preparation of issues to be discussed;
3. serve as a member of a sub-committee;
4. serve to advise and direct the discussions and recommendations of the committee as a member.

## MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Youth Advisory Committee's philosophy is their participation should be a learning experience whereby every member is given an equal opportunity in:

**Chairing of all meetings** will be the responsibility of the members, both youth and adults, in the host region for the meeting. The chair structure should be decided during the completion of the previous meeting.

**Recording of discussions** is the responsibility of the Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff representative at the meeting.

**Preparation of the agenda** is the responsibility of a member(s) from the next host region with support from the Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff representative.

**Summary of each meeting** will be compiled and distributed by the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment no longer than one (1) month after a meeting.

Information pertaining to the next meeting will be distributed through the Human Resources, Labour and Employment branch two (2) weeks prior to the next meeting date.

Travel arrangements and accommodations will be coordinated through Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

## YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT:

- the annual report will follow the standard structure of an annual report;
- the completion of the report will be a reflection of the minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee, along with direct recommendations and general discussions;
- The format for the presentation of the annual report and the exact content of the report will be designed by a sub-committee of the committee in conjunction with the Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff.



## Appendix B: MEMBER & MENTOR BIOGRAPHIES

### Members

#### **Sarah Arnott, St. John's**

Sarah graduated from Memorial University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. A former player with the Memorial University of Newfoundland women's soccer team, she is currently a member of the coaching staff. Previous volunteer activities include serving as a Girl Guides of Canada Sparks Leader and student council member.

#### **Jamie Clements, Grand Bank**

Jamie is originally from Grand Bank on the Burin Peninsula of the province and now makes his home in St. John's. Jamie graduated from Memorial University with a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Geography. Jamie was a member of Memorial University's Students Union for several years, and held the position of Vice President Academic.

#### **Robyn Frampton, Carbonear**

Robyn graduated from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Arts, Communications (Honours) in April 2002 and has since been employed with the Regional Economic Development Board (REDB), Mariner Resource Opportunities Network Inc. (M-RON). Through M-RON, she works as a Youth Career Coach assisting in the personal and professional development of youth clients. Robyn is an active volunteer with such organizations as Big Brothers Big Sisters and The Splash Centre (Community Youth Network, Harbour Grace Hub).

#### **Chris Hatcher, Grand Bank**

Chris has a wide background in Community Development, completing a Diploma in this field in 2002. He is currently a second year Programmer Analysts student at the College of the North Atlantic. Previous volunteer activities include Burin Peninsula Youth Council, Futures in Newfoundland and Labrador's Youth! (FINALY!), Grand Bank Community Economic Development Corporation, and various other youth related organizations.

#### **Dan Hill, Sheshatshiu**

Dan currently works as the Co-Director for Education to the newly renamed Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation in Sheshatshiu, Labrador. "My new job gives me more ways to help my own people to better their lives, by helping them further education after high school," he explains. The 28-year-old has a diploma in Microcomputer Service and Network Support from Academy Canada and he has also studied at Memorial University from 1994-1996.

#### **Ted Laurentius, St. John's**

Ted is a graduate of Memorial University of Newfoundland with Bachelor Degrees of Arts (Honours) and of Science. While most of Ted's time has been consumed with the demands of studying physics and philosophy, he has also found opportunities to pursue his passion for sailing and travelling across Canada and most of Western Europe. Ted has been so encouraged by his experience on the Youth Advisory Committee that he has decided to pursue a career in the public service by enrolling in a Masters of Public Administration program.

### **Tara McLean, Happy Valley-Goose Bay**

21-year-old Tara McLean is currently attending the University of King's College to pursue a career in journalism. Tara's volunteer work includes working with the Labrador Innuit Association and as Labrador Representative for the Native Women's Association of Canada, among other groups. In her spare time, Tara enjoys playing sports, snowmobiling, horseback riding, camping, drawing, and writing.

### **Joe McGrath, Bishop's Falls**

Joe attended Acadia University studying Physical Education and majoring in Sport Management. He currently works for the Town of Bishop's Falls as the Recreation/Youth Coordinator.

### **Lori Oram, Gander**

Lori is a 25-year-old Glovertown native currently living in Gander. Since graduating from Memorial University of Newfoundland with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Lori has worked as a Youth Service Canada Coordinator, Student Placement Officer, and in Tourism Marketing. Lori currently serves as a Youth Representative on the Board of Directors of the Kittiwake Economic Development Corporation, Chairperson of the Kittiwake Youth Council, and works as a Voluntary Sector Field Worker with the Community Services Council.

### **Bronwyn Rideout, Kippens**

Bronwyn is a third year student at Memorial University of Newfoundland and has just returned from working at a private summer camp in New Hampshire where she learned the delicate arts of cooking pasta and slicing meat for almost 400 people. When she's not in St. John's, she lives on the West Coast with her parents, a dog, and a cat.

### **Niraj Shukla, St. John's**

Niraj is currently attending Memorial University of Newfoundland. He currently heads the Safe Homes Program as well as Students for Other Students tutoring. Currently he is involved in numerous activities at his university and community concerning tutoring, mentoring and health education.

### **Jacenta Smith, Raleigh**

Jacenta is a second year nursing student at the Centre for Nursing Studies. Leading an active volunteer life in a rural community, she has been involved in many organizations including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Youth Advisory Committee and the 774 St. Anthony Air Cadet Squadron. Once finished her degree, Jacenta hopes to continue her volunteering and spend time in similar worthwhile organizations.

### **Susan Taylor, St. John's**

Susan is a recent graduate of the Labour College of Canada making her the first woman from the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Union in Newfoundland and Labrador to graduate. She is presently employed at the Delta Hotel and Conference Centre and holds a Unit Chair position in her Local with the UFCW. An active member with her union, she is also a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour's Youth Committee. She has worked extensively with the Workers Compensation Board and has been involved in advising on the recent legislation for return to work programs.

## **Michael White, Lourdes**

Michael is in his first year of the General Studies program of Memorial University of Newfoundland at the Sir Wilfred Grenfell campus in Corner Brook. Michael has had an extensive volunteer background particularly with the provincial and national Francophone associations. He has held many leadership positions with agencies addressing the issues facing youth of this province.

## **Mentors**

### **Beverley Kirby**

Beverley is the Director of the Community Education Network, a community-based partnership of agencies which provides an umbrella framework for learning projects and programs in Southwestern Newfoundland. Youth initiatives have been a primary focus for the Network. Beverley has a background in education and community development and holds Masters Degrees in Linguistics and Adult Education.

### **Rob Shea**

Rob is director of the Department of Career Development and Experiential Learning at Memorial University of Newfoundland. He is the Founding Editor of the Canadian Journal of Career Development and has been involved in youth leadership and youth organizations for over 24 years. Rob is married to Rhonda Joy and they have three (3) children, Kathleen, Ryan, and John.

### **Gordon Stone**

Gordon Stone is a businessman living in Harbour Grace. He is a retired educator and active volunteer who has been involved with youth through sports, community and organization for more than 35 years. Gordon graduated from Memorial University of Newfoundland and has a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, and Masters in Education. He is married to Lona (Peddle) Stone and has two (2) daughters, Heather and Susan. Gord is currently spending time working at the Qatar Campus of the College of the North Atlantic.

### **Reg Wright**

Reg spent five years as a reporter and associate editor with *The Beacon* and *The Southern Gazette*, worked with CBC Radio and authored reports for the University of Alberta's Population Research Laboratory. He served as a Central Director for FINALLY!, as a staff liaison for the Kittiwake Youth Council, and on *The Evening Telegram's* community editorial board.

## Appendix C: NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR YOUTH FACT SHEET

The outlined statistics have been compiled from Federal and Provincial Government agencies.

Provincial Youth Population (15- 29 years)	104,662
% of Total Population	20.1%
Out Migration:	
15 - 19 years	-532
20 - 24 years	-895
Paid Workforce (15 years and above)	241,500
Youth Workforce (15-24 years)	35,595 (14.7%)
Provincial Employment %	45.1%
Youth Employment %	32.6%
Provincial Unemployment %	21.8%
Youth Unemployment %	33.1%
% of Provincial Income Support Clients (15-29 years)	27.5%
% of Youth in School (15-19 years)	62.3%
High School Drop-Out Rate (15-19 years)	11.5%
Average Tuition (per year)	\$2,606.00
Average Student Debt	\$20,400.00
Post Secondary Completion:	
Memorial University of Newfoundland	80%
College of the North Atlantic	1-2 Year Programs 65%
3 Year Programs	50%
Youth Without a High School Diploma Not Currently Enrolled in an Educational Program	12,497
% of Total Youth Population	12.4%
Youth Crime per 1000 youth (15-24 years)	36.4
Teen Pregnancy per 1000 women (15-19 years)	32.7
Induced Abortions per 1000 women (15-19 years):	
Total	7.5
Hospital	2.9
Clinic	4.6
Attempted Youth Suicides per 1000 youth (15-19 years)	31
% of Youth Dealing with a Mental Health issue (12-24 years)	20%

## Appendix D: List of Persons/Agencies Consulted

Person/Agency Consulted	Topic(s) Covered
Minister John Ottenheimer (Department of Education)	Mandate and role of Youth Advisory Committee as well as past and present initiatives; Alternate Learning Programs
Mr. Tom Hedderson (Parliamentary Secretary, Department of Education)	Mandate and role of Youth Advisory Committee as well as past and present initiatives; Alternate Learning Programs
Ms. Becky Roome (Deputy Minister, Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment)	Overview of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment; issues relating to youth who are considered to be “at risk”
Mr. Dave Denine (Parliamentary Secretary, Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment)	Mandate and role of Youth Advisory Committee as well as past and present initiatives; decision to continue follow-up communications
Ms. Christine Snow (Capital Coast Development Alliance), Ms. Angela Crockwell (CYN St. John’s), Mr. Kevin Hehir (CEO Researcher) - Coalition for Educational Opportunities (CEO) on Alternate Learning	Alternate Education programming and policies in Newfoundland and Labrador
Ms. Michelle Ryan (Model for the Coordination of Services to Children and Youth)	Individual Support Services Planning (ISSP) Process
Ms. Annette Johns (Planned Parenthood)	Sexual health services, programming, and policies in Newfoundland and Labrador; recommendations relating to the improvement of sexual health programming
Ms. Angela Crockwell (CYN St. John’s), Tim Turner (Brother T.I. Murphy Centre) – Coalition of Alternate Education Developers	Existing Alternate Education policies and programs; modifications needed to existing arrangements
Mr. Brian Carty (Manager, Planet Irish Partnerships and Irish Delegate)	Potential partnerships and future discussions
Ms. Feona Cuthbart (Bonne Bay Marine Station)	Tour of the Bonne Bay Marine Station
Gerry Dooling (Mental Health and Addictions Services, Waterford Hospital)	Suicide Prevention
Constable Brad Butler (Royal Newfoundland Constabulary)	Decriminalization of marijuana
Francophone Association	Francophone programs and services available for youth in Newfoundland and Labrador

(cont’d)

## Person/Agency Consulted

Roxanne Pottle (Office of the Child and Youth Advocate)

Mr. David Brazil (Community Youth Network)

Ms. Anna Thistle (Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education)

Ms. Carol Ruby (Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education), Bill Wilson (Director of Youth Services, Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education)

Mr. Vic Young (Chair, Royal Commission on Renewing and Strengthening Our Place in Canada)

RuralEXPO 2003

FINALY! (Futures in Newfoundland and Labrador Youth)

Ms. Shirley Mallard (Choices for Youth)

## Topic(s) Covered

Role of Child and Youth Advocate's Office; how the Youth Advisory Committee could assist in identifying issues in relation to the Office's mandate

Community Youth Network presentation

Response of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to the Youth Advisory Committee's Annual Report 2002

Discussion involving general youth issues and concerns in Newfoundland and Labrador

Discussion surrounding the Final Report entitled "Our Place in Canada" of the Royal Commission on Renewing and Strengthening Our Place in Canada; role of the Youth Advisory Committee in relation to the content of the report

Participated in youth and adult sessions discussing social and economic development

Participated in the FINALY! Annual General Meeting (AGM) to discuss 2002 Annual Report with FINALY! delegates

Addictions







