



The Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton

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Sunday Service 11 a.m.

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Sunday Services

October 1 *The Feast of St. Francis* Patricia desChamps will lead a service centering on Blessing the Animals. Bring your pet in a crate or on a short leash.

October 8 *Bread and Rainbows* Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes: This is close to Coming Out Day, World Food Day and Thanksgiving.

October 15 *Written by Herself* Betty Ponder and Geneviève Laloux.

October 22 *UN Sunday* Sharon Flatt will lead a service on UN Sunday, the UU celebration of the birth of the United Nations on October 24, 1945.

October 29 *An intergenerational service with drumming* Carlos and Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes with special guest White Feather.



Children's Religious Education

This past month, the children's program started a new Welcoming congregation program for children and continued with the Children's Worship services like last church year. We have several new folks helping for which we are thankful and excited! There is still room for more helpers however so if you are interested in our wee band of sprites, please let us know and we will fit you into our schedule. In particular, piano players for the 4th Sunday and another childcare helper. A big WELCOME and thanks to allison, Molly, George, Allan and Elizabeth for joining the team! Please don't forget that we also have childcare every Sunday so newcomers or at least new parents should feel welcome and comfortable attending our services.

In the works for the near future, we hope to offer our junior youth a program to support them in their transition to youth(hood). Jo-Anne, Carlos, allison and George are heading to Ottawa for that training as the ink dries on this newsletter. We are looking forward to reaping the benefits of their knowledge! This program may also serve as a provincial outreach for junior youth in NB so stay tuned for an exciting year!

Finally, the OWL program for our junior youth will be starting soon. If you know any junior youth, please invite them to take part in this program. From the OWL site, a description of the program would be:

Our Whole Lives is a series of sexuality education curricula for five age groups: grades K-1, grades 4-6, grades 7-9, grades 10-12, and adults.

Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, *Our Whole Lives* provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality.

Here is a basic outline of our schedule-to -date for your

calendar:

- 1st Sunday-10:30-12:30 Childcare
11:10-noon Children's Worship Service
- 2nd Sunday-10:30-12:30 Childcare
11:10-noon Children's Worship Service
- 3rd Sunday-11:00-12:30 Childcare
10:00-11:00 Children's Welcoming Program
- 4th Sunday-10:30-12:30 Childcare
11:10-noon Children's Worship Service
- 5th Sunday-11:00-12:30 Childcare
10:00-11:00 Children's Welcoming Program

Thanks for supporting our program!
Sharon and Don Flatt



Women's Potluck

The next Women's Potluck will be held at the Fellowship on Friday Oct 27th at 6pm. Linda Sprague and Haifa Miller will be the hosts. There are two topics from which you may choose. The first is: what would you do if you know you would not fail. The second is: What would you do if you were not afraid. For more information contact Joan Brewer at jrjeb@nb.sympatico.ca



Joyful Noises

The "Joyful Noises" will hold their first practice of the season at 10 a.m. Sunday, October 8. We always welcome new people. We will try to meet and sing twice a month. We look forward to seeing you by the piano in the "choir loft".



Women in Black Peace Vigil

The newly formed local group of Women in Black will be holding a peace vigil every Friday from 12-1 pm in front of the CBC on the corner of Regent and Prospect streets.

According to the official website "Women in Black is a world-wide network of women committed to peace with justice and actively opposed to injustice, war, militarism and other forms of violence. As women experiencing these things in different ways in different regions of the world, we support each other's movements. An important focus is challenging the militarist policies of our own governments. We are not an organisation, but a means of communicating and a formula for action."

Women of all denominations, walks of life, age and race are welcome to attend. All we ask is you wear black and

be committed to ending the violence that surrounds us.

For more information email us at: womeninblackfredericton-subscribe@yahoogroups.ca



The Feast of St Francis of Assisi

Wednesday Oct 4th 'The Feast of St Francis of Assisi'



This is a photo of my older female Persian named Silken She is ready for her diamond collar!

When I am an old cat I shall wear
a diamond collar and leave my footprints
on white couches; I shall drink my cream with
a touch of brandy and spit out my vitamins;
I shall sit on the laps of dog people
just to irritate them; I shall nap on top of
birdbaths and grow charmingly chubby.

But for now I must tolerate the dog
and use my litter box and not sharpen
my claws on the sofa, so no one can doubt
the truth that cats are superior to dogs.

But every once in a while I wonder
if I should be naughty now and then
and nip a few toes, so my humans
won't be too shocked when suddenly
I become an old cat and
start to wear a diamond collar.

Patricia desChamps



Baha'i' Social and Donation

On Wednesday September 27th, the Baha'is treated mem-

bers and friends of our Fellowship to a social evening after their service. It was a wonderful way to get to know the people who share our space! They were gracious hosts and the food treats were delicious. There were special honey drizzled confections with crushed pistachios, pita bread stuffed with walnuts, feta cheese and fresh herbs, sliced meats and wonderful fresh fruit trays. Margaret Fitzgerald especially liked the pomegranate juice!

There was lots of laughter and lots of sharing! I met a lovely man I took into my home seven years ago - it was his first night in Fredericton as a refugee. He stayed with me for six months. Now he is married and settled here permanently. I had the pleasure of seeing him again and meeting his two year old son. What a rush!



Mehrdad Bastan presenting cheque to Margaret and Linda

The Baha'i Assemblies of Douglas and Fredericton donated \$1000.00 to refurbish our cherished Steinway grand piano. Margaret Fitzgerald and Linda Sprague are shown receiving the cheque from Mehrdad Bastan. Klaus Hielscher whose business is 'Keys to Harmony' is the licensed Steinway repairer in our province. Klaus and his family are members of the Baha'i group and he is delighted to do the work for us under the direction of Margaret Fitzgerald.

When the work is finished, Margaret Fitzgerald has offered a concert (well, she will play and perhaps the Joyful Noises might sing) to celebrate! We must plan a potluck for our Fellowship members and friends and the members of the Baha'i in our area to go along with the music.

The Fredericton Music Festival is holding their Woodwinds venue April 23rd to April 27th 2007 at the Fellowship under Jane Bowden, member of the Fredericton Music Festival Committee. They will certainly appreciate the refurbishing of our piano.

bishing of our piano.

*Yours in fellowship and music,
Patricia desChamps*



Visit by Mary Bennett

Mary Bennett is travelling through the Maritimes in October, and Fredericton folks will have the great pleasure of spending some time with her on Sunday, October 15. We're planning a pot-luck and a chat, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Fellowship. The event will be family-friendly and casual, and a true UFF-style pot-luck, i.e. bring whatever you are willing and able, with special emphasis on bringing an open mind, a warm heart and an empty stomach. More information will be forthcoming; please feel free to contact me with suggestions or questions. Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes, 455-0413.

*In fellowship
Jo-Anne Elder-Gomes*



Baha'i Assemblies of Douglas and Fredericton



Social Responsibility

The Social Responsibility committee needs members! Would you like to help in this capacity? We could use folks who are interested in serving our church community by providing socially responsible educational opportunities, action ideas and helping with events. There are

two members of the committee at the moment which isn't enough....it'll do but only until you join us! We haven't met yet but will hopefully get together after church some day soon.(as soon as we have a few more members). I have received 2 responses to the social responsibility survey. As I wrote in last month's newsletter, I won't choose a particular focus(es) until I hear from 2/3 of our members. Please find your September newsletter and fill in the survey! Many folks consider social responsibility a very important aspect of being a U*U. The Rev. Fred Cappuccino is quoted on the CUC website as saying "...our religious principles call us out of ourselves, out of our insularity. By implication we are urged to become true citizens of the world, involved at many levels in making the world a better place." I invite you to visit the social responsibility section of CUC.ca for more reasons to join the social responsibility committee!

In the meantime, I have taken the liberty of organizing a visit/art show/workshop for the delight and education of us all! the Beehive Collective will be "swarming" the Fellowship for the evening of Oct.21st. The event will start at 7pm. Feel free to bring drinks and snacks to share. The Beehive Collective defies any attempt of an accurate description but for the info. of those who are unsure whether this event might be for them, I have lifted a description off their website-beehivecollective.org.

The Beehive Design Collective is a non-profit, volunteer driven, political arts organization based in eastern Maine. The group's mission is to "cross pollinate the grassroots" through the creation of images as an effective medium for deconstructing and educating the public about complex geopolitical issues. The bees create collaborative, hand-illustrated posters of dizzying intricacy which are patchwork "quilts" of personal stories related to them in their travels. Before setting pen to paper, the hive does extensive touring and field research. Interviewing community members about the effects of globalization on their situation is a crucial component of the collective's investigative process. "We feel it's extremely important to gather our information from as close to the source as possible," an anonymous worker bee says. The imagery comprising the visual metaphors of the posters, featuring characters exclusively from the animal and plant world, are requests or edits from collaborators in Latin America.

This is an appropriate event for all ages though the sensitive nature of reality may be frightening for younger western children. I will be using this event as a social responsibility outreach for the Fellowship. Feel free to download and print out their brochures and posters from their website and post them on a bulletin board near you! Please add the fellowship address and event date to the literature.

Looking forward to a sustainable and just future together!

Sharon Flatt
Social Responsibility



Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice

The NB chapter of the Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice is ready to begin another church year, and we would welcome any new members who feel that the issues that we tackle resonate with them. This group is as participatory as you wish. Some members are support only while others assist with letter writing, media conferences, conference attendance, workshop participation, action planning and so on.

The issues that I would hope to see us tackle this year include the NB abortion access problem, the NB Power's coal from Colombia shame, the ongoing troubles of war, coalition building, NBEN membership (NBEN.ca), article writing and CUSJ website maintenance. There are often other issues that come up suddenly that we might need to respond to such as the Nuclear Power plant, but for now, that is all!

Please send me a simple email if you are interested in joining our group. Non-U*U's are always welcome in the CUSJ as long as there is agreement in our purposes.

Check out CUSJ.org for those!

In Peace
Sharon Flatt



Unitarian Scarf Project

Below is the letter of thank you to all of you who have helped knit scarves for the TUFF Scarf Project . At this time we have six scarves, but we will need about thirty for the International students who will arrive at STU in January 2007. Please help yourself to yarn - there is lots of yarn in the library.

If you have knit a scarf or participated in the TUFF Scarf Project please sign the knitting banner in the library. Geneviève Laloux has offered to give knitting lessons!

Yours in fellowship,
Patricia desChamps

Dear Knitters & Unitarian Fellowship Members,

Over 35 new International Students have arrived at STU to begin studies coming from at least 15 different countries as varied as USA, France, United Arab Emirates, Romania, Kazakhstan, Ecuador ... What a wonderful group of young people ! They are courageous, adventuresome,

desirous of a global education , opportunity to improve their English and a cross cultural experience. Our STU and Fredericton Community are enriched by their pres-

ence.

For many, one of the harsh realities will be adapting to our climate! The scarves knit with care and love by UFF members are an appropriate and wonderful gift. STU volunteers gave the student a welcome bag with a scarf when they were met at the airport. I have even seen some scarves being worn already around campus !

On behalf of St. Thomas University and Student Affairs, thank you for taking on this project and donating the scarves to our International Students. As the International Student Advisor, I value and look forward to

a continuing relationship with UFF. Keep on knitting !

Sincerely,
Judy Coates



The Long History of “Universal Suffrage”

It wasn't until 1830 that Catholics could not vote in N.B., and then only after “swearing allegiance to the King and his Protestant heirs”. The Elections Act was amended in 1849 to specifically forbid voting by women. Women eventually won the right to vote provincially in 1919. Until 1967, only landowners could vote provincially. In 1963, on-reserve Native Indians were given the right to vote.

Municipal elections: An 1886 law allowed only single women who were property owners to vote in N.B. municipal elections. In 1921, the right to vote during municipal elections was extended to all property owners - people who did not own land could pay a poll tax and vote. It wasn't until 1966 that homemakers were given the vote in municipal elections - they could not vote up to this point since they were not taxpayers.



Letter to Editor from the Rev. Eldon Hay

For Touchstone: with reprint permission from the Rev. Eldon Hay. Eldon Hay will be addressing our Fellowship on Sunday, November 5th. This Letter to the Editor appeared in the Telegraph Journal Sept 29th.

As published in the NB Telegraph-Journal, September 29, 2006, A4, under the title, “Love, trust matter more than sex”

Letter writer J. Esmonde Barry asks, “If Eldon Hay is really sincere about the cause for gays let him establish his credibility by telling the public when, under what circum-

stances and why he had an epiphany to embark upon a mission advocating [his cause]” (Sept. 28). It's an honest request - and a privilege to respond.

I've been gifted with a straight son, Keith, and a gay son, Ron. I love both sons, and their partners.

It's inappropriate to say that either is sinful due to orientation. Each will be wrong if his orientation is utilized in a selfish, self-serving manner. In both, sexuality can be an expression of love and mutual trust,

It's unbecoming to expect that either will change his sexual orientation. Both were born the way they are: neither of them “chose their lifestyle.” Rather their orientation was given to them with the colour of their eyes.

Actually, I'm doubly, doubly blessed. I have a gay son and straight son; I'm also the father of a lesbian daughter, Nancy, and a straight daughter, Heather.

Straight sons, gay sons, lesbian daughters, straight daughters - these are manifestations of God's creation. Gratefully, in Canada, their essential equality is also guaranteed by law.

Thanks to Mr. Barry for his fruitful letter and cordial challenge.

(Rev.) Eldon Hay



Choice in Dying Monitoring Group

Here (pasted below and attached) is a report from the CUC's Choice in Dying Monitoring Group:

REPORT FROM THE CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL CHOICE IN DYING MONITORING GROUP
13/09/06

Report on Challenge in Choice: The World Federation of Right to Die Societies 17th Biennial Conference.

The Challenge in Choice, World Federation of Right to Die Societies Conference was held in Canada on September 7-9th 2006, for the first time, and I, along with Mary Bennett, CUC Executive Director, and Doug Campbell, former Chair of the Monitoring Group attended at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto as the CUC delegates.

The conference included over 300 delegates from 23 countries and featured world-class speakers and panel members, including Derek Humphry, from the U.S. and author of “Final Exit”, Dr Philip Nitschke, from Australia, and author of “The Peaceful Pill Handbook” and Dr Robert Buckman, a favorite local speaker and author of “Not Dead Yet”.

Lesley Martin, of Australia, who received a prison sentence for compassionately assisting here deathly ill mother, spoke passionately about her experience which inspired her

book “To Die Like a Dog”.

Evelyn Martens, who endured a harrowing under cover police sting on an alleged assisted suicide, and had to go through an agonizing trial in Vancouver, where a jury found her not guilty. Her personal account of the events drew tears from the delegates.

The conference was hosted by Dying With Dignity of Canada and provided a forum for all societies to exchange information and learn about the successes and failures in the movement worldwide.

Martin Frith, Co-ordinator, Client Support Program at DWD and his team of Volunteer Client Support Workers gave an enlightening workshop called, Double-Trouble: Navigating the Waters of Anticipatory and Disenfranchised Grief. It showed that the “Secrecy”, necessary in the process, adds an additional element by delaying closure.

Currently Right to Die legislation only exists in the U.S. (Oregon), Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium and Japan, and although suicide is not a crime in Canada, assisted suicide is.

Compassion and Choices is the new name for the amalgamated U.S. groups End of Life Choices (formerly the Hemlock Society) and Compassion and Dying.

The Canadian Unitarian Council has adopted three resolutions on the right to die. In 1973 the focus was on withdrawal of treatment in terminal illness.

In 1976, the resolution “urges the Law Reform Commission of Canada to propose a modification to the criminal code, subject to proper safeguards and sanctions, expedient to the situation when the withdrawal of life support treatment would be considered an act of compassion” Examples of acts of compassion included assisting a patient to commit suicide with compassion rather than malice and motive.

In 1993, it was further resolved that the CUC adopt a policy that advocates the legalization of the rights of mentally competent, terminally or irreversibly ill persons to determine the manner of their dying, and that the CUC support efforts to increase the availability of palliative care so that terminally ill patients will be better supported as they make their individual choices about dying.

In 1993 it was resolved that the CUC will create an ongoing national committee mandated to act upon the CUC policy recommendations in this area.

Current members are Douglas Campbell, Toronto, Rev. Brian Kiely Edmonton and Bob Hotrum, Chair, Kingston.

Because the principles of the Unitarian Universalism affirm the worth and dignity of every person, the right of conscience, and the use of justice, equity and compassion in human relations, it behoves us to support and promote this movement.

See The Social Responsibility-Choice in Dying link on the CUC website for more information www.social_responsibility

CUC has a long-standing relationship with Dying with Dignity, including sharing office space for many years. We were pleased to have an exhibit table at the conference. Thank you to Don Babey, Executive Director of DWD, for collaborating with us to allow mutual visibility and connections.

Yours in Faith

Bob Hotrum, Chair, CUC Choice in Dying Monitoring Group



Message from Mary Bennett

September 17, 2006

Who are we now?

An exciting, but sometimes unsettling, fact about inclusive community is that “we” change over time. In our congregations, the “we” that is there for the fall ingathering, is not the same “we” that ended the church year together in June.

In CUC, as in our congregations, it’s a time when new leaders meet probably with some new members; undoubtedly with some new roles and perhaps renegotiating the way “we” do things, whether that is time and days for meetings or revisiting vision and mission statements.

I have just come back from five days of meeting with the CUC board and staff at Unicamp, north of Toronto. The three new board members, the Rev. Katie Stein Sather and Jan Greenwood of BC and John (“Mich”) Michell of the Western Region, came early for a day of orientation with President, Vyda Ng, Linda Thomson (Director of Regional Services) and myself. Joining us for the first time was our new Youth Observer to the Board, Hazel Gabe, of Ottawa First. Hazel had been to Terre Commune-Winds of Change conference with 31 youth and supporters on the Labour Day weekend and came ready and able to work the board to see how we might begin to respond to and act on the 19 proposals discussed at the youth conference.

Sylvia Bass West reported to the board on lifespan learning and religious education programs and we assessed ourselves-the CUC-on the 12 keys to a Lifespan Learning Community. Philip Strapp ably had worked with our staff and treasurer to present a preliminary budget for 2007. (Phil summarizes his role as Money, Membership, Merchandise and Machines-so anytime you want assistance with any of those, phil@cuc.ca is the place to go). Rev. Brian Kiely was very consciously taking on the role of non-voting past-president, sharing history, offering perspective and ready to “pass the flame” when votes were taken.

Over 200 are on "Team CUC"

The 16 people made up of six staff, nine board members and one youth observer, however, represent only a small percentage of the folks who make up "Team CUC".

Regional Network Groups who provide consultations, workshops, communications and networking in the four regions comprise about 24 key team members. Lay Chaplaincy committees and trainers, another 20 or more. Ten Social Responsibility Monitoring Groups add an average of 5 members each for 50 The national Youth Advisory Group and regional Youth Adult Committees include about 30 people. CUC Board Task Forces include the Statement of Principles Task Force, Technology Advisory Committee, Lay Chaplaincy Recommendations Review Task Force and the Theological Education Funds Committee –another 20 people. The planning groups for Regional Fall Gatherings and the Annual Conference and Meeting involve about 30 people-and many more on the ground as the events draw nearer.

The Nominating Committee elected at the Annual Meeting add another six and office volunteers an additional four. If you go to the Who's Who page on the CUC website at www.cuc.ca, you'll find biographical information and photos for many of these people who contribute to the work of CUC. That's 200 people without even adding all those who contribute through various ways including but not at all limited to: providing hospitality, support and travel to staff when we visit congregations and events; sending us the information about your congregation and distributing CUC information to others; sharing policies, practices, recommendations and experience through various ways including our increasingly active email groups; hosting an event open to Unitarians and Universalists from beyond your own congregation and ...

It's always a challenge to make a list like this. So, if I've unintentionally not mentioned your contribution, I invite you to add it to this message before forwarding to others, and accept my apologies in advance.

Want to join CUC team?

We always have room for new members of the team. It's not the same 200 people as last June. For instance, right now, the Nominating committee is in search for board nominees from the Central and Eastern regions. Contact them through nominating@cuc.ca All other offers and questions about how to contribute are welcome. Contact any staff or board member. Check out the "Volunteer Opportunities" section of the website under "About Us" if you're curious about some of the volunteer roles that we are currently recruiting for.

Take care of yourselves and each other,
Mary Bennett
Executive Director
CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL
mary@cuc.ca

Over 800 people receive this message every month through a "read-only" email message. Anyone can join, by sending a blank email to cuc-mary-subscribe@yahoo.com

HOW CUUL IS THAT? The Canadian Unitarian*Universalist Leadership Program is now accepting applicants to work towards this designation. It requires attending CU*UL School (a three and a half-day residential program) and workshops in all six areas of CUC service delivery (worship; financial stewardship; congregational wellness; planning; transitions and lifespan learning. Contact the Director of Regional Services for your region or the CUC office info@cuc.ca; toll-free 1-888-568-5723. More information at www.cuc.ca/leadership

DIVERSITY IN COMMUNITY The theme for the Annual Conference & Meeting in Vancouver, BC, May 18-20, 2007 will be "Diversity in Community". More information on the conference can be found at www.cuc.ca/conference

HOW MANY CONGREGATIONS ARE THERE? This and many other questions can be answered by Philip Strapp, CUC Information Coordinator. Phil can provide information such as: Directory of congregations' contact information and leaders; numbers of congregational and regional members, financial, budgetary and investment information on CUC's finances. Just send a note to phil@cuc.ca and he'll do his best to provide quick and accurate information.



Message from Linda Thomson

Editor's Note: this note came with several attachments that have been omitted from the newsletter. Anyone interested, send me a note and I will forward the original message electronically

Are you interested in learning about what is involved in becoming a CUC volunteer?

I am currently recruiting for both Central & Eastern Regions for two positions.

- Service Consultant: Congregational Life and Wellness (position description attached and below) - These volunteers are part of the Regional Networking Group (RNG) that works to ensure programs are in place to support our congregations. They provide services, in the form of e-mail and phone consultation and during in-person visits where they lead workshops and facilitate meetings. Training and support for these volunteers is provided by the Director of Regional Services - East and by the members of the RNG team
- Regional Librarian (position description attached

and below) - The person who takes on this new role will help develop a regional lending library of books of use to our member congregations. They will manage the library and will work to make materials available at Regional Gatherings.

Interested? Please respond with a letter of interest, stating why you are interested and how you will manage the position requirements. Please be prepared to provide at least two (2) references.

In faith and with affection;

Linda Thomson
Director of Regional Services - East
linda@cuc.ca
905-332-3851



Call for CUC ACM Session Leaders

Editor's Note: a number of attachments have been omitted from this article, full message available electronically for anyone interested

Theme: Diversity in Community

Would you like to lead a workshop, networking session, presentation or worship service? This is a call for proposals for the CUC Annual Conference and Meeting, May 18-21, 2007. It is being held on the beautiful UBC campus in Vancouver, BC and is expected to draw the largest gathering of Canadian Unitarians and Universalists ever. We hope you are planning to join UUs from across Canada to discuss and deliberate, to share and to learn, to worship, to celebrate and to make new friends.

Plenary sessions on business and social responsibility of the CUC, worship services, gatherings and meetings of related groups such as Lay Chaplains and Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice are offered as well as a full program of concurrent workshops and sessions. This is an invitation for you to send us your suggestions.

The Conference Program Planning Committee is looking for a diversity of themes, including sessions related to:

- a. Congregational Leadership (e.g. financial, growth, organizational).
- b. Social Responsibility (e.g. environment, peace, globalization)
- c. Personal Practices (music, movement, meditation)
- d. Our Unitarian and Universalist faith
- e. Lifespan Learning
- f. Youth and Young Adult Ministry

g. International and Interfaith relations

Sessions are 1 1/2 hours long. The session themes should meet the following criteria: -

- the session would appeal to a minimum of 25-30 registrants
- it would be of interest to a broad range of participants including youth and young adults
- the session would fit into the 1.5 hour format
- the leader has expertise and relevant experience in the session topic

We are also seeking proposals with a multigenerational appeal - something that a family with children would enjoy attending together.

THE DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS IS NOVEMBER 1, 2006

Please send your proposal to the "ACM Program Planning Committee" You can use the electronic proposal form found at www.cuc.ca/conference/proposal.htm

If you prefer a form sent via email or mail/fax, just ask info@cuc.ca or call 1-888-568-5723/416-489-4121 and we will send it to you.

Email proposals to sessions@cuc.ca; mail it to CUC, 018 - 1179A King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6K 3C5 or fax it to the ACM Planning Committee at 416-489-9010.

ACM Sessions Working Group: Joan Elgar, Chair; Sheila Laursen and Margot Lods.

Take care,
Mary Bennett, Executive Director
CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL
www.cuc.ca 1-888-568-5723

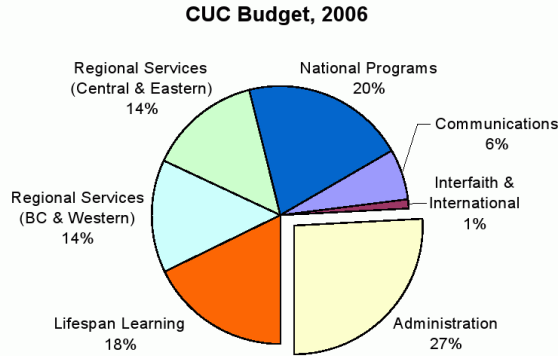
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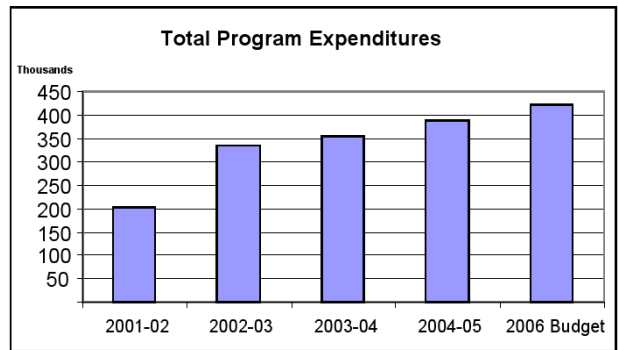
CUC Budget

Editor's note: the following was pulled out of a PDF document and may contain formatting peculiarities.

To prepare for the recent CUC board meeting, our staff team developed a preliminary budget for 2007, blending what we need to do as a bare minimum with what we'd like to provide in the way of services and programs. Of course, our duty to financial stewardship means that we can't always do what we'd like to. Such was the case for 2006, and a year ago we managed to balance the needs for services to congregations with the need to minimize expenses. With the good fortune of a higher-than-expected return on our investments in 2005, there was a small surplus in the 2006 budget that was passed in at the ACM in Saint John. Here's an overview of the 2006 expense budget:



My, how we've grown! The total amount of CUC expenditures which has gone toward programs and services has been steadily increasing, at an average of more than 20% per year over the past five years, and approximately 10% per year over the past three years.



Here's where your money has been allocated over the past five years:

Expenditure	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2006 Budget
Administration	33%	27%	25%	25%	27%
Interfaith & International	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Communications	10%	8%	7%	7%	6%
All Programs & Services	56%	64%	67%	67%	66%
Total Expenditures	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

And here's how the mix of programs and services expenditures has changed over the past five years:

Program/Service Area	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2006 Budget
National Programs	55%	32%	22%	21%	20%
Lifespan Learning	1%	11%	16%	18%	17%
Regional Services	-	20%	30%	28%	28%
All Programs & Services	56%	64%	67%	67%	66%

In Other News

- At the meeting of the CUC Board on September 14-17, it was decided that the previous policy of publishing the status of Annual Program Contributions (APCs) would be reinstated. Beginning this month, a report will be included with the congregational mailing on a quarterly basis.