

SPRING/SUMMER 2016

Greetings!

As the slower pace of summer sets in, it is an opportunity to reflect on the year so far. The stories of children, youth and families that came to Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre (Boost CYAC) are both heartbreaking and inspiring. These are the most courageous children and youth I can ever imagine meeting. They have survived unspeakable acts, often at the hands of those they trusted. On their path to healing, I am humbled by the dedication and compassion provided by the staff at Boost CYAC who provide unending guidance and support for these families.



Karyn Kennedy
President & CEO

I encourage you to read our [2015 Annual Report](#) to see examples of how we support children and youth who have experienced abuse and their families.

2016 has been a busy year so far. Program development, Federal and Provincial partnerships, fundraising initiatives and awareness campaigns are just a few of the projects we've been working on.

At our recent Annual General Meeting, Boost CYAC said goodbye to some Directors and welcomed others. I am extremely grateful to our outgoing board members Joanna Beaven-Desjardins (Toronto Police Service); Jonathan Hamilton-Diabo (University of Toronto); Bryn MacPherson (University of Toronto); and Thomas Rowe (Blake, Cassels & Graydon) for the many years they have dedicated in service to Boost CYAC. Their experience and passion have made our organization stronger. They have helped us move forward in meaningful ways to help create the best CYAC possible. I would also like to welcome former Federal Cabinet Minister, Peter MacKay (Baker & McKenzie); Sybil E. Veenman (Iamgold Corporation); Mel D'Souza (Manulife); and Inspector Pauline Gray (Toronto Police Service) as our new Directors. I look forward to working with you in our shared commitment to children and youth.

I wish you and your family a safe, happy and healthy summer. Please have a look at some highlights from from 2016 so far.

THIS IS MADDY

When she's not helping kids in the community, Maddy is the lovable pet of Boost CYAC staff, Jenny. A trained therapy dog, Maddy's sweet and friendly demeanour is evident as soon as she walks off the elevator.

Maddy comes to Boost CYAC and spends time with children and youth who are being

prepared for court. Recently, Maddy spent time with a teenage boy who was anxious about attending court but was having trouble talking about it. It turns out Maddy is a great listener!

[LEARN MORE ABOUT MADDY](#)



INTERNET CHILD EXPLOITATION TAKE DOWN

On April 28th, the Ontario Provincial Police hosted a media event to announce a province-wide sweep of suspected Internet child exploitation (ICE). 174 warrants were executed, resulting in 80 arrests, 20 child victims being identified and 5 girls being rescued from human trafficking.

This announcement provided a great opportunity to showcase our [ICE Program](#) and the work we do to support children and youth who are victimized in this way. Through a number of media interviews, Karyn Kennedy had an excellent opportunity to share our primary prevention messages with a captive audience - everyone wants to know what we can do to better protect our children.



[click image to watch video](#)

[THE MORNING SHOW \(GLOBAL\)](#)

I LOVE MY SELFIE

Funded by Dare to Dream, Boost CYAC youth participated in the youth-led expressive arts project. Using expressive art therapy, youth illustrated the pressures and powerful impact of cyber-bullying on self esteem, and the negative experiences they face on social media.

The work was showcased at the Harbourfront Centre.



[SNAPD GALLERY](#) | [CBC NEWS](#) | [CBC RADIO](#) | [TORONTO STAR](#)

SUPPORT FROM MPP SYLVIA JONES

On April 13th, MPP Sylvia Jones stood before her colleagues at Queen's Park and made a member's statement in support of Boost CYAC.

MPP Jones recognized the CYAC model and the benefits it provides children and youth and encouraged the Government to support other communities across Ontario in creating

similar centres.

[READ HER FULL STATEMENT](#)



OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL GALA

This year, event Chair, Daniela DeGasperis and her fabulous committee put on an event to remember! Our most successful event yet, the 2016 Butterfly Ball raised over \$460,000 to support our critical services.



[PHOTO GALLERY](#) | [MEDIA RELEASE](#)

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

When a child experiences abuse, they often feel alone and afraid. At Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre, we make it our mission to ensure that every child feels supported and believed.

Please consider a donation so that no child feels alone.

[DONATE NOW](#)



Not Alone

SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS

By simply sharing this newsletter with 3 friends you are helping us raise awareness for our work. By liking us on [Facebook](#) and following us on [Twitter](#), your network will learn more about us. Thank you for your continued support.

Looking forward to the year ahead,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Karyn'.

Karyn Kennedy
President & CEO

We give kids a lift when they need it the most®

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT BOOST CYAC

[DONATE NOW](#)



Boost CYAC is now an EchoAge charity. Plan your child's party today!



Mark your calendar for October 23, 2016



Donate the proceeds from your old car to us through Donate A Car Canada



[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)
