

~ President's Report ~

We are now into October and hopefully the rush and craziness of September is behind us. I know for myself it is great to get back into the regular routine but getting there is an interesting journey, to say the least.

October is a month of reflection for me. Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to think back on the past year and all that we have experienced, both the good and the not so good; what we have learned and accomplished, laughed about and cried about but mostly lived and are thankful for.

I have learned a lot this past year. I have learned that the Foster Parents of our Province have taken on more with less supports than in previous years and, regardless, we are succeeding. I have also learned that being President is more involved than I first thought!

This brings me to the other important reflection. Happy Foster Parent Appreciation Month! I want to thank you all for your dedication and perseverance for the young in our Province. Your continued support and the work you do makes all the difference in the lives of these young people that, through no fault of their own, come to live with us. I hope all of you have a chance to join in the appreciation events in your community and bask in the outward show of appreciation.

I see the joy and sadness we all experience when ever two or more Foster Parents get together. The few minutes of connectedness give us the energy to go on. To that end I would like to encourage you to attend your local meeting. If there are no meetings available, please contact our office and they will help you set up your Local. This is a place to talk freely about fostering and work together to solve issues and share workable solutions. Remember one voice is quiet, many are loud.

I would like to say welcome back to Jayne Wilson, who has returned to the Provincial office. I'd also like to welcome Russell Pohl to the Board of Directors. Russell is our new Fraser Region delegate. Russell has been a foster parent for many years and I look forward to working with him.

Sincerely

Heather Bayes
President, BCFPPA Board of Directors

October 2010