



News & Information from Multiple Births Canada



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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URGENT ALERT: Aviva Community Fund Competition

MBC submitted an idea to the Aviva Community Fund Competition with the goal of being awarded funds to improve our website. Voting continues until November 30th at [this link](#). We hope you will vote for the project every day.

A new promotional video has been produced and is posted on [youtube](#). We encourage you to view it and share it with your family and friends.

Fall Issue of *Multiple Moments* Magazine is Now Available Online

How can multiple-birth families prepare themselves for financial success? Find out by reading the Fall 2011 edition of *Multiple Moments*. Members can download the latest issue by visiting the [MBC website](#) and logging in with your password. Non-members can purchase a subscription from [this page](#).

The theme to this issue is Family Finances with a wide range of topics including: What you always wanted to know about RESPs but were too busy to ask, The benefits of menu planning, Couponing for busy families, and Fighting for fair parental leave benefits.

Please note: The Winter issue of *Multiple Moments* will be published in January.

New Fact Sheets Available Online

Earlier this year MBC was commissioned by Assisted Human Reproduction Canada (AHRC) to update and make available seven of our Fact Sheets. After months of hard work by project leader Donna Launslager and her review team the sheets are now complete. They can now be accessed from the [MBC website](#) and are free for public download. These Fact Sheets will soon to be translated into French and will also be available to the public.

The seven AHRC sponsored titles include:

- *Biology of Multiples*
- *Challenges of Parenting Multiples: Part 1: Couple Relationships, Part 2: Twins & Higher Order Multiples*
- *Monochorionic Multiple Pregnancy and Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome*
- *Possible Risks of Multiple Births: Part 1: Risks for the Mother, Part 2: Risks to the Children, Part 3: Reducing the Risks*

Other recent updates to Fact Sheets include:

- *Memorial Ideas*
- *Multiple Birth Facts & Figures*

2011 National Conference in Windsor, Ontario

Thank you to all the members of the 2011 Conference Committee from Windsor/Essex POMBA for hosting a wonderful event from October 14th - 16th, 2011.

From Thursday's Pizza Party to Sunday's Chapter Exchange and speaker, the delegates had a great experience meeting one another, learning from the experts, swapping ideas for local Chapters, and sharing stories, laughs and tips for supporting families. Popular sessions included a talk from father of triplets Matt Bubala on staying sane while living an insane life, the hilarious murder mystery dinner, trying out fun new ideas for Chapter meetings, and keynote speaker Alyson Schafer on sibling relationships and Adlerian parenting strategies.

Speaker and workshop notes will be posted in the Members section of the website.

At the October 15th **Annual General Meeting** the following Directors were elected by acclamation and at their first meeting following the AGM the officer positions were appointed:

- **Sheila Catto** - Director of Support Services / Chair
- **Shirley Comben** - Director of Finance / Treasurer
- **Lynn Stadler** – Director / Secretary
- **Sean Wilde** – Director
- **Lori Oldfield** – Director
- **Gail Moore** – Director / Past Chair

After the meeting, **Erin Little** volunteered to join the Board as Director of Communications. Erin will assist the Board in writing and editing communication documents, and will respond to media requests and advise the Board on other public relations activities.

Board Members can be reached at emails with this format: firstname.lastname@multiplebirthscanada.org

The 2011 Annual Report distributed to all delegates attending the National Conference is available [online](#).

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting will be posted in the MBC website in the Members' section.

Making A Difference Award Winners

The MBC Board of Directors would like to congratulate the following winners of this year's awards:

- **Local MADA** was awarded to Heather McAuley from Windsor-Essex POMBA. **Heather McAuley** has been a leading example of someone who takes charge and gets things done. Honourable mentions went to Christina Chase-Nugent from Simcoe County Parents of Multiples, and Jenn Goddard and Hollie McNair members from Temiskaming Multiple Births.
- **National MADA** went to multiple birth parents **Christian Martin and Paula Critchley**, for taking the need for fairness in EI benefits for multiple-birth families to its highest level of visibility in our national media and in our courts.
- **International MADA** was given to **Gail Moore**, Past Chair of MBC, for her work with ICOMBO and establishing the first International Multiple Births Awareness Week.
- The 2011 **Media Award** was presented to **Jill Mahoney** of the **Globe and Mail**.
- The **Dionne Adult Award** was presented to an adult twin who truly does make a difference in her community, **Barb Cunnington**, a retired dizygotic twin who has been volunteering with the Temiskaming Chapter for the last 5 years.
- The first recipient of the **Corporate MADA Award** is **Kevin Fritz** and **Nicholas Gray** of the law firm **Wildeboer Dellelce**, of Toronto; this is the law firm donating legal services to assist MBC in preparing our application to become a registered charity.

For details see the [online acknowledgements](#) in the MBC Volunteer Recognition section.

Welcome to New Volunteers

MBC welcomes these new volunteers for stepping into the following positions at the national level:

- **Jenna Kelland** (member of Edmonton Twin and Triplet Club) a current member of the Health and Education Committee has agreed to step up and take on the lead role of the committee as Chair.
- **Rose Czarnuch** (member of Durham Parents of Multiples) is joining the Health and Education Committee.
- **Theresa Sanders** (Direct Member) has volunteered to take on the MADA Chair position along with her roles as the Special Needs Chair and Membership Coordinator.
- **Debbie Zen** (member of Multiple Births Guelph-Wellington) will become the Chair of the Lone Parent Support Network.
- **Heather McAuley** (member of Windsor/Essex POMBA) will take on a leadership role as the new Chapter Support Network Chair.
- **Gerlinde Rup** (member of Windsor/Essex POMBA) will become the Volunteer Coordinator.
- **Christine McBride** and **Maya Russell** will help with the Breastfeeding Support Network.

2012 Volunteer Development Retreat & Annual General Meeting September 28th - 30th, 2012 in Mattawa, Ontario

It is with great pleasure that the MBC Board of Directors announces the 2012 Volunteer Development Retreat & Annual General Meeting will be held September 28th - 30th at The Canadian Ecology Centre, in Mattawa Ontario. The Centre is located approximately 30 minutes east of North Bay or 15 minutes west of Mattawa on Highway 17 in the Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park.

The announcement and a promotional video are [posted online](#) to provide MBC members with the information they need to start planning for this exciting educational event.

Supporting Canada's Multiple-Birth Community for over 30 Years!

www.multiplebirthscanada.org