



Update

This and that.....

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Thanksgiving weekend has come and gone! Hard to believe that the hot summer days we all endured have given way to falling leaves and dare I say it—just around the corner—winter.

At CAIC, the board has already had two meetings after the summer break. Beth is busy preparing for CAIC's year end (September 30th), and I am hard at work making plans for this year's AGM.

(Please note that this year's AGM is taking place on November 29th, at St. John the Compassionate Mission!)

Last year we celebrated the first twenty years of CAIC's existence. We have not sat on our laurels, but instead have been hard at work getting our member's funds out working in communities across Canada. CAIC was able to place close to \$1 million in new loans this year to social agencies working with the intellectually disabled and those in need of a supportive living environment. *(More in Loan Updates on page 3.)*

Board Update ~ This year CAIC Chair, Sr. Pat Halpin fcJ will finish her term with CAIC. This means we are seeking nominations for one board position.

Board terms are staggered (1 –3 years) with the expectation that new board members make a three year commitment. Board members can expect to attend 9 board meetings (held the second or third Tuesday each month) per year, and of course the Annual General Meeting. Meetings are not held in July or August. An informative Board Member's kit is available! And of course we would be more than happy to speak with you about board expectations & responsibilities.

We ask that you consider whether your community has a member or anyone that you as a member would like to nominate who would be willing to serve on your behalf. *(Our by-laws were changed to allow delegates to be appointed by members to serve on CAIC's board.)*

We are looking for someone who is interested or has some experience in social housing &

community economic development initiatives. It is not necessary that they have a financial background as we are adequately supported by Beth and our Advisory Committee.

Put your thinking caps on! We look forward to hearing from you!

AGM Highlights ~ This year we are breaking new ground for our Annual General Meeting. We are very excited to announce that we will be hosted by one of CAIC's borrowers—**St. John the Compassionate Mission** located here in Toronto. We can all look forward to delicious baked goods provided by St. John's Bakery and a tour of the mission and hopefully their brand new bakery facility located next door to the mission on Broadview Avenue. Hmmm! I can just taste that fresh-baked bread already! See you there.

You can check out St. John's Bakery and the mission at:
www.stjohnsbakery.com



CAIC Goes to ATRI & Beyond

By Valerie Lemieux, Outreach Coordinator



Beth Coates, Sr. Jeanine Scarfone E.D. of ATRI and CAIC member & Valerie Lemieux at the ATRI Conference



Beth Coates, Financial Manager, CAIC outlines CAIC's social & financial criteria for lending to forum participants at McKay Avenue School, Edmonton, AB.



Forum participants enjoy lunch & an informative session on the benefits of borrowing from CAIC—An Alternative Source of Financing.

"When the community takes ownership of a building the community becomes empowered."

Kate Quinn
Executive Director
PAAFE

Earlier this month, Beth and I were given a wonderful opportunity to share our enthusiasm for the Canadian Alternative Investment Cooperative (CAIC). That's right—CAIC went on a "Road Trip" to Edmonton, Alberta.

First stop on the tour was the **18th Annual ATRI Conference—Earth Harmony: The Way Forward**. Beth and I presented a workshop entitled "CAIC: An Alternative Investing Opportunity" on Sunday morning (Oct. 3). The workshop was well attended by an enthusiastic group. After providing an explanation of CAIC's mandate, our fund structure, lending criteria (illustrated by a CAIC project located in Edmonton) we gave participants the opportunity to put themselves in our board's shoes. We provided an application, albeit abbreviated, and a framework for considering the loan request. The workshop participants seemed to immediately grasp the proposal's pros & cons. I am happy to report that just as the CAIC board originally decided, so too did our "informal board" agree to advance funds! All in all a very positive experience.

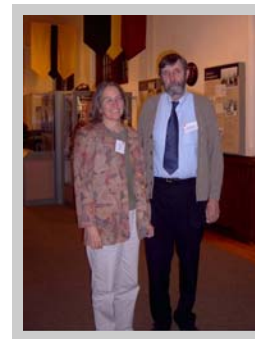
I would also like to commend the ATRI planning committee (the Cowboy Hat Brigade) on arranging for a tour of the Muttart Conservatory (with reception) and the fabulous Ukrainian dinner at St. Josephat's Hall (dancers

included.) A perfect end to the day.

Next stop on the tour, **"Creating Opportunities—Optimizing Possibilities: Immigrant & Refugee Co-operatives in Canada" forum** held at the historic McKay Avenue School (Edmonton Public Schools Archives & Museum). Truly a beautiful building located in downtown Edmonton. Fortuitous timing and the hard work of Jenny Kain, City of Edmonton Innovative Services provided an opportunity for Beth & I to share CAIC's story with those interested in cooperative & community-based initiatives in the Edmonton area. Hearing firsthand from Bob McKeon (Inn Roads Housing co-op member) and Kate Quinn (Executive Director, Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton) the impact that CAIC's loans had on their organizations truly illustrated how beneficial our services can be. Bob stressed that if CAIC had not provided a loan over 20 years ago their co-op would not have happened. Kate suggested that CAIC's willingness to provide a mortgage to PAAFE even after conventional lenders turned them down, has empowered their organization.

Property ownership builds equity and frees up operating dollars. Something both Kate & Bob can look forward to.

In fact one of the mortgages that CAIC holds for Inn Roads wraps up next month. Did I hear someone mention a "mortgage burning"?!



Kate Quinn, Executive Director, PAAFE & Bob McKeon, co-op member of Inn Roads Housing Co-operative, Edmonton, AB.



Jenny Kain, Innovative Services/Community Services, City of Edmonton & Valerie Lemieux, Outreach Coordinator for CAIC finally meet!

For more information on PAAFE & InnRoads Housing Co-op you can check out CAIC's website at www.caic.ca or InnRoads website at www.innroads.ca

Our Projects ~ Western, Central, Eastern Regions

New Loans

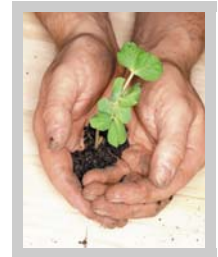
Mater Dei ~ Toronto, ON I am happy to report that funds (\$330,000) have been advanced to this organization that provides shelter to women recovering from “any form of addiction and other mental health and emotional problems”.

The Ark (L’Arche Hamilton) ~ Hamilton, ON Many of you are no doubt familiar with the work of L’Arche—the organization founded by Jean Vanier as “an international network of faith-based communities creating homes and day programs with people who have developmental disabilities. around the world.” According to their brochure,

“L’Arche Hamilton is an international Christian community that supports adults who have an intellectual disability. Known as Core Members, these men and women make up the core of a community that responds to the most fundamental needs of the human heart—home, work, a chance to learn and have fun and people to share life with.”

The L’Arche community in Hamilton has a sister organization called The Ark. The Ark was established in 1987 to provide assistance for people who are developmentally handicapped. This assistance took the form of purchasing and maintaining a residence on Holton Avenue

and a property used by L’Arche Hamilton for Day Programming and other organizational needs. By purchasing these properties without government assistance, the ARK has been able to build up equity that can be used for future projects. The ARK requested that CAIC assume a mortgage from the Bank of Montreal and accept the Holton Avenue property as security. The board was enthusiastically encouraged to provide financing by Avis Long of L’Arche Hamilton. Avis sees this first loan as just the beginning! *Funds advanced (\$150,000) September 1, 2005.*



DO YOU KNOW OF A PROJECT THAT NEEDS CAIC'S HELP?

Finding a mortgage for a new shelter shouldn't be difficult. Arranging bridge financing for a community centre shouldn't be out of reach. Money should be available to finance a viable worker co-operative.

But sadly, many community-based organizations are unable to grow—or meet the needs of their community—because they can't get conventional financing. Banks won't consider them because of their non-profit or charitable status or the precariousness of their revenue streams.

CAIC IS HERE TO HELP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS.

As an investor we know you want to put your money to work for positive social change. That's why CAIC's \$7 million fund was created—to lend to community-based projects in the form of loans, mortgages and equity investments.

The people who CAIC lends money to run day care centres, women's shelters, worker co-ops or homeless missions. The same people your communities, congregations and organizations come into contact with everyday!

Help them get their financial questions answered by someone who cares about their work.

Tell them to contact: Valerie Lemieux, Outreach Coordinator and/or Beth Coates, Financial Manager.



AGM 2005

CAIC ~ More Than A Return

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH
9:00 AM. TILL 1 P.M.
(LUNCH WILL BE SERVED)**

**155 BROADVIEW AVENUE,
TORONTO, ONTARIO
(ST. JOHN THE COMPASSIONATE MISSION)**

N.B. The AGM Package with the Delegate Registration form will be sent out late October/early November. Please look for it!

**We're on
the Web!
www.caic.ca**

CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-866-241-CAIC (2242)