

# Annual Report



**2018**

National Council of the  
Parent-Child Mother Goose  
Program

# Message from the Chair

**This has been a busy year for the National Parent-Child Mother Goose program, with its share of opportunities, challenges, and successes. We have seen significant increases in our donation income, have welcomed new board members and bid a fond farewell to others, and have requested, received and considered a report that will help to us to begin charting the course for the future of Parent-Child Mother Goose in the years ahead.**

**In short, it's been a challenging, invigorating and gratifying year for all of us.**

And it's been a personal pleasure for me to have been part of a board that has played a vital role in all these activities. I would like to extend my deepest thanks to my fellow National Council board members for their hard work this year, particularly Ann Stafford, who took on the role of Acting Chair for most of the year, during a period when I was unable to fulfill all the responsibilities of that role, and Beth Hutchinson for her unwavering support and dedication. Their energy and enthusiasm, along with that of all the National Council board members, have meant that we were able to take a significant step this year: convening a group of long-time Mother Goose leaders to help us map out strategies that will ensure a continued strong future for the program in Canada.

This group, affectionately (and very appropriately) known as the Wise Women, met by conference call throughout the spring to develop a series of recommendations for proposed changes to our governance and program administration, with the goal of promoting increased program growth across the country. The National Council board members have

considered the Wise Women's recommendations (see this annual report for a summary of the recommendations) and will be meeting with representatives from the regional offices in late 2018 to begin discussions that we are hopeful will lead to a strong and healthy future for the program and - most importantly - for the many children and families who benefit from Mother Goose. We will keep you informed throughout the coming year about the progress of implementation.

This year was not without its losses. In July we received the tragic news that Frances Schaink, a PCMG teacher in the Calgary area for many years, had died unexpectedly. In her memory, Frances' family requested that donations be made to the National Parent-Child Mother Goose program, and we were honoured to receive more than \$1000 over the summer. We have committed to using those funds for projects in Frances' memory to increase connections between program teachers.

To all our donors this year: your support is truly appreciated, and your contributions make a tremendous difference.

We are extremely grateful for the hard work by many volunteers over the past year:

- the members of the Program and Training Committee, Lynda Howes, Lori Fritz, and Ruth Danziger, who do an incredible job of reviewing evaluation reports and certifying new teachers;
- the Fundraising and Membership Committee members, Ann Stafford and Beth Hutchinson, who have been planning donation campaigns to help the National Council achieve the financial stability to continue our focus in coming years on building a strong foundation for future growth;

- the Communications Committee (aka Ivanka Gotcheva), who has single-handedly produced the PCMG newsletter this year;
- the Wise Women advisory group: Dana Brynelsen, Celia Lottridge, Glenna Jansen, Dianne Blewett, and Joan Turner, for your thoughtful, forward-looking guidance; and
- the newest members of the National Council, Kristen LeNoble and Maureen Doll, who have already made a significant contribution to our collective efforts.

Finally, I want to pay tribute to our tireless staff member, Catherine Taylor, who accomplishes so much and so efficiently. In addition, I want to acknowledge our partners in the regional offices led by Susan Ryan and Joseph Dunn, including BC's provincial coordinator April Martin-Ko, along with the trainers, teachers, and program managers who make Parent-Child Mother Goose a reality in the lives of families across Canada.

We can be truly proud of what has been accomplished, and by what continues each day, in every program around the country.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of Parent-Child Mother Goose!

Sincerely,

**Marilee Peters,**  
**Chair, National Council of Parent-Child Mother Goose Program**

# Program and Training Committee Report

**The Program and Training Committee is a committee of National Council. We meet once a month and our focus is to deal with anything to do with program and training content and guidelines, e.g., teacher and TTW facilitator certification, workshop materials, workshop updates or questions, anything else relating to these areas.**

Our Third Annual TTW Facilitators teleconference took place in January 2018. These teleconferences provide valuable connection and inspiration amongst national workshop facilitators. All TTW facilitators across Canada were invited to share their experiences about how they run their workshops. Observations and suggestions regarding updates to the workshop forms were made.

In consultation with TTW Facilitators, we continue to work on updating our forms and resources. Edited Participant Response forms will be included in the package to be used in our TTW. At our suggestion, Susan Ryan has made edits to the Program Report form so that it fits on one page instead of two; the edited Program Report form is now on the website.

We agreed to change the wording on the website that requests handing in Attendance Forms. Keeping in mind the necessity for privacy, the teachers will keep their attendance forms until they are no longer needed, and then will shred them. To draw attention to the document, At the Heart, henceforth it will be printed on coloured paper.

In the fall of 2017, three P-CMG teachers completed their training as TTW facilitators:

- **Marie-Line Therriault**, Montreal QC;
- **Carol Dwyer**, NL and
- **Chantal Rogers**, NL.

Catherine Taylor, National office, continues to receive all self-evaluations and to send out certificates in a timely manner. Until we have the resources to respond to each applicant in a more personal and in-depth manner, we find this to be the most satisfactory way of dealing with self-evaluations and certificates.

Lori Fritz met with representatives of the Early Literacy Division of the Department of Education in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Early Literacy Division of the Department of Education is committed to offer training to prospective teachers by providing the funding for two-day training workshops.

They have offered two province-wide training sessions in St. John's in the past 18 months. It is understood the newly-trained teachers will then conduct a 30 week P-CMGP, submitting self-evaluations to the National

Council (Catherine Taylor) at which time they will be considered fully trained P-CMG teachers. The geographic nature of Newfoundland and Labrador (and understandably other areas of Canada) can pose challenges when training is needed in outlying areas. In instances where apprenticeship training is required in NL, TTW facilitators, Carol Rogers and/or Chantal Dwyer, will mentor the teachers-in-training.

The teachers-in-training will then be required to follow up their apprenticeship training by taking the first available Teacher Training Workshop.

We welcome ideas, concerns and feedback from our membership, and respond to any communication addressed to us. The members of the Program and Training Committee and the Chair of National Council

have agreed to make a concerted effort to keep open and clear communication between us. We continue to appreciate hearing of positive changes that the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program is making in the lives of families!

Plans are underway for our Fourth Annual TTW Facilitators teleconference Tuesday January 15 and Wednesday 16 2019.

Prepared by Lynda for the Program and Training Committee:

#### **Program and Training Committee Members:**

Ruth Danziger	Ontario
Lori Fritz	Newfoundland
Lynda Howes	Ontario

## Communications Committee Report

**Through the work of the Communications Committee, the National Council keeps in touch with our Parent-Child Mother Goose friends across Canada and around the world.**

Two e-newsletters were produced this year with submissions from various programs and were put together by Ivanka Gotcheva, committee animator.

If you would like to contribute to a newsletter, or volunteer on the communications committee, please get in touch!

#### **Communications Committee**

Ivanka Gotcheva	Ontario
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# Fundraising Committee Report

**The Fundraising Committee works to ensure the financial stability of the National Council, through planning and implementing fundraising activities, and by soliciting donations and funding.**

The National Council exists on a very small budget however we are delighted to have increased financial security as a result of donations and fundraising efforts over the past several years. Financial stability enables the National Council to plan for the future, and to focus our efforts on raising awareness of Parent-Child Mother Goose programs, building connections between members, and strengthening the organization to meet the challenges of the future!

As with all of our committees, we are open to individuals who are not on the National Council joining us. If you would like to be a part of our fundraising committee, please contact Beth Hutchinson at [bethhut@telus.net](mailto:bethhut@telus.net)

We will be delighted to provide more details and to learn about you.

## Fundraising Committee Members

Ann Stafford	Quebec
Marilee Peters	British Columbia
Beth Hutchinson	British Columbia

# About us

**The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® is managed by a volunteer board of members from across the country, known as the National Council. Council members meet monthly to share information about the program from around the country, receive committee reports, and to plan for the future of the program. In addition to the monthly conference call meetings, many members of the National Council participate on working committees along with “animators”, and member participants from across the country.**

Maintaining an organization and meeting across such a vast distance is always a challenge. However, we are ably assisted by our office manager **Catherine Taylor**, who handles administration for the national organization. Our thanks go out to Catherine for her assistance this year.

Again this year, **Ann Stafford** has provided able support as a volunteer accountant. Many thanks to Ann for doing this important work.

**April Jennings** has kept minutes for the monthly meetings throughout the year. Our thanks to April for her skill and diligence at this very important task.

**Kristen LeNoble** of Vancouver, BC has joined the National Council this year. A lawyer with the Vancouver firm Nathanson Schachter & Thompson LLP, Kristen brings knowledge and advice on many areas, including governance, and we look forward to her continuing contributions.

**Maureen Doll** of Kamloops, BC joined the National Council in November 2017. Maureen has been a teacher, coordinator and strong supporter of PCMG in the Kamloops area for many years. We are delighted to have the benefit of her expertise on the National Council.

## National Council Members 2018

Ann Stafford	Quebec
Ivanka Gotcheva	Ontario
April Jennings	Alberta
Maureen Doll	British Columbia
Kristen LeNoble	British Columbia
Beth Hutchinson	British Columbia
Marilee Peters	British Columbia

# Wise Women Advisory Group Report

**At the request of the National Council to advise on issues relating to the administration of P-CMGP, we, the undersigned, conducted a series of conference calls from late April through May. As a result of these discussions we have made a number of recommendations for consideration by the Council. These recommendations came after a review of materials forwarded to us by the Council. They were also informed by our past experiences with P-CMGP, other related programs, and by our strong belief in the value of P-CMGP and our hope for a successful future for this wonderful program.**

We recognize that the National Council does not have administrative staff, and that work under the direction of the National Council must be contracted out if and when funds or staff are available. Some recommendations might be more easily implemented than others. Some may be immediately implemented to address current issues. Overall these recommendations could form a long-range plan for the National Council.

## Recommendations

1. Simplify the contract between the National Council and the regional offices
2. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of the National Council
3. Support regional development and region-to-region connections and good will
4. Support regions with whom the National Council has a contract to run teacher-training workshops within their geographically defined areas
5. Seek federal dollars for the production of a P-CMGP Manual and the development of a data collection system

## Recommended Roles and Responsibilities for National Council

The Parent--Child Mother Goose Program® is an established program in Canada and elsewhere with a lengthy and well--documented history of using oral rhymes, songs and stories to encourage bonding, language development, and shared enjoyment between parents/caregivers and their very young children. There are many materials and training protocols in use.

1. Set standards for P-CMGP to include program delivery and teacher training
2. Establish Teacher-Training Workshop delivery and local, regional, national roles in organizing such workshops
3. Establish authorized program materials and recommended distribution methods
4. Establish content of P-CMGP Teacher-Training workshops building on the current teaching methods and materials
5. Establish qualifications and certification for P-CMGP teachers
6. Continue established process to certify P-CMGP Teacher-Training workshop facilitators
7. Promote the development of appropriate monitoring tools for use by teachers, Teacher--Training workshop facilitators, parents and agency staff



8. Promote communication between P-CMGP Teacher--Training workshop facilitators
9. Promote communication between programs, agencies, parents and others connected to P--CMGP
10. Ensure a list of Teacher--Training workshop facilitators is maintained and available nationally
11. Support the development of local, regional and national databases to capture the growth and development of P-CMGP
12. Support the growth of regional offices for P-CMGP
13. Promote and disseminate evaluation and research on P-CMGP
14. Formalize a P--CMGP Manual which includes the primary documents in use in P-CMGP, and the policies and protocols above.

### **Wise Women Advisory Group members**

Dianne Blewett	Manitoba
Glenna Janzen	Ontario
Joan Turner	Yukon
Celia Lottridge	Ontario
Dana Brynelsen	British Columbia

# Regional Offices

The Vermont Square Program Board and staff have continued to assist the national profile of the P-CMGP® by managing the booking of workshops across Canada and selling resources. Thank you to all the staff and board. Particular thanks to Executive Director Susan Ryan for her stewardship of the program in the greater Toronto area.

The BC Council for Families supports the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program through the many activities and oversight provided by the BC Provincial Office. Our thanks go out to former Executive Director Joel Kaplan and to newly appointed Executive Director Joseph Dunn for their leadership, and to April Martin-Ko, Provincial Coordinator, for her commitment to strengthening the program in BC.

# Financial Statements (Unaudited)

## The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program Balance Sheet at June 30, 2018

<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Cash	4,014	Accounts Payable	98
		<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	3,916
		<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	4,014	<b>BALANCE</b>	4,014

## Income and Expense Statement for the Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2018

	Actual 30-Jun-18	Actual 30-Jun-17
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations	325	1,253
Memberships	3,798	4,175
Other	100	893
Tax Refund	68	14
Total Revenue	4,291	6,335
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salary	3,200	3,100
Benefits	287	260
Bank Charges	36	23
Office & Supplies	20	165
Phone	863	468
Bags		593
Total Expenses	4,406	4,609
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>- 116</b>	<b>1,726</b>
Fund balance beginning of year	4,032	2,306
<b>Fund balance end of year</b>	<b>3,916</b>	<b>4,032</b>

