



# PART



Using Evidence to Promote Excellence in Child Welfare

# PART

## Annual General Report

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2017

## »» Our Vision

"To promote the understanding and use of evidence-informed practice at all levels of the child welfare system to ensure the best possible services and outcomes for vulnerable children and families."

## »» Our Mission

PART's mission is to increase the capacity of child welfare organizations and practitioners to utilize research to improve outcomes for children and families by:

- Identifying and packaging evidence in user-friendly formats to disseminate to child welfare practitioners and agencies;
- Promoting the use of evidence-informed practice by using a range of program elements such as PARTicles, webinars, learning events and electronic journal access;
- Creating organizational and systemic learning environments in child welfare organizations to promote critical thinking and ongoing use of evidence in practice.



## »» Our Team

### STAFF:

**Kristen Lwin, Ph.D. (c), M.S.W., Executive Director**

**Auriole Fernandes, Program Coordinator & Events Planner**

**Julia Wedeles, M.S.W., B.S.W., Implementation Specialist**

**Sarah Head, Ph.D. Student, M.Sc., Implementation Specialist**

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

**Gisèle Hébert** Chair

**Arijana Haramincic** Vice-Chair, Eastern Zone

**Stephen Doig** Treasurer, Grand River Zone

**Janice Robinson** Secretary

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

**Gisèle Hébert** Chair

**Arijana Haramincic** Vice-Chair Eastern Zone

**Stephen Doig** Treasurer, Grand-River Zone

**Janice Robinson** Secretary, Central Zone

**Elaina Groves** Northern Zone

**Mark Kartusch** Member at Large

**Anne-Marie Simpson** Grand River Zone

**Rocco Gizzarelli** Southwest Zone

**(Vacant)** Northeast Zone



## » MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

To our PART members – thank you for your support over the past 10 years. The field has come a long way since PART was first established – it is great to know that the awareness and use of research has grown with the organization.

These are exciting times – PART is on the edge of significant changes that will help you increase your evidence-informed decision-making and use of research in practice.

Over the past year, PART Board of Directors have been committed to supporting the organization to be the best possible service for our members. To the Board of Directors - thank you for your dedication and focus on making PART a great organization.

Finally, thank you to PART staff – your determination to be innovative and provide valuable research evidence helps us to effectively support the children and families in our communities.

Gisèle Hébert  
PART Chair



## »» MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As members of PART, you can be confident that we are dedicated to bringing you up to date research and helping you develop as an evidence-informed organization. Our primary goal is to promote research through positive organizational change – and we have been focused on just that. We thank you for supporting research evidence use and know that you simply want to offer the most effective services possible for your children and families. We will continue to bring you innovative resources and information and do our very best to support your needs.

A huge thank you to Gisèle Hébert, our Chair. Gisèle is an inspirational leader and deeply cares about serving PART members, and ultimately the children and families involved with your agencies. Thank you to the PART Board of Directors – we could not be so successful throughout Canada without your experience and support.

Lastly, with endearment, thank you to the PART team. Auriole, Julia, and Sarah who take so much pride in their work and are an absolute joy to be around every day. Thank you all.

Kristen Lwin  
Executive Director



# » FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## PRACTICE AND RESEARCH TOGETHER ASSOCIATION

### Statements of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Revenue:		
Membership	\$ 472,500	\$ 505,000
Sales of resource materials	4,514	1,640
Other	-	721
	\$ 477,014	\$ 507,361
Expenditures:		
Salaries & benefits	308,784	311,247
Office Administration	34,972	38,549
Purchased Service	34,770	36,664
Training & development	21,997	33,298
Membership & subscription	15,228	12,346
Guidebook	11,432	9,803
Special projects	6,637	-
Travel & Meetings	5,922	3,571
	439,742	445,478
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 37,272	\$ 61,883
Net assets, beginning of year	512,446	450,563
Net assets, end of year	\$ 549,718	\$ 512,446

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

A complete set of the audited financial statements, prepared by MacGillivray Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors, is available on request.



# EVIDENCE-INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

## Looking back...

Over the past year we have been focused on evidence-informed decision-making. This theme arose as a result of feedback from our members - we heard that PART resources are informative, but that workers would benefit from support in bringing the research to practice. So, to meet your needs we have focused on the following key areas:



### Senior Leader Event

This event focused on senior leaders' role in promoting and sustaining evidence-informed practice. Our esteemed presenters – Dr. Nico Trocmé, Dr. Fred Wulczyn, Dr. Bowen McBeath, and Chris Steven offered needed information and experience to support senior leaders understanding of their role in helping their organization become evidence-informed.

### On the use of research evidence...

“Get behind it, it’s not that hard. We make it feel very hard, because there’s a thousand things we’d like to know. For the thousand things we’d like to know, we fail to collect the 10 things we need to know.”

- *Dr. Fred Wulczyn – PART Senior Leader Event, November 18, 2016*

“It’s not enough to have leaders who are facilitators. It’s important to have leaders with us not just supporting evidence-informed practice; but co-leading, co-directing, and doing the work around evidence-informed practice, and this is the importance of modeling the behaviour we wish to see in others.”



- *Dr. Bowen McBeath – PART Senior Leader Event, November 18, 2016*

“We need to remember the spirit of service, what is service supposed to be about, who are we protecting, who are we helping and why are we doing it...not just the needs of the organization but the client experience, are we being helpful? The change equation – we are in the business of improving the quality of life for people...Positive change requires critical thinking, evidence-informed practice, and relationships of respect.”

- *Chris Steven – PART Senior Leader Event, November 18, 2016*



## **Evidence-informed Decision-making Event**

This event brought child welfare practitioners and supervisors information on the importance of using critical thinking and research in decision-making through the experiences of Ashley Jack – a young person who has experienced out-of-home care. We also had some excellent presentations from Dr. Eileen Gambrill, University of Berkeley California, and Dr. John Lavis, McMaster University, WHO, and Harvard University.

## **Evidence-informed Decision-making Guidebook**

This guidebook is an easy to read, step-by-step guide for child welfare workers and supervisors aiming to increase their evidence-informed decision-making skills, including the use of research in practice.



## Looking ahead...

We remain focused on supporting members' use of research in practice and critical thinking skills throughout the decision-making process. We continue to bring you webinars, PARTicle literature reviews, peer reviewed studies, guidebooks, learning events, and much more.



To increase your use of PART resources we are currently working on a module teaching series that can be watched during team meetings. Each module will include short videos, team exercises, and information to increase understanding and use of research in practice.



Finally, we are currently developing an online decision-making aid. This aid will support critical thinking and the application of research to practice in the key decisions that child welfare workers engage in on a daily basis. We are very excited about these new resources, as we are the only child welfare knowledge translation organizations offering these resources. Stay tuned....

## MEMBER AGENCIES & LINK PARTNERS

### ONTARIO:

1. Children's Aid Society of Algoma – Krista Budau
2. Brant Family and Children's Services – Gissele Taraba
3. Chatham-Kent Children's Services – Lori Weber & Ashley Parker
4. Dufferin Child and Family Services – Marianne Breadner, Nadia Watt, & Kim Evans
5. Durham Children's Aid Society – Carrie Shannon & Sharon Dorcas
6. Family and Children's Services of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington – Linda Braithwaite
7. Bruce Grey Child & Family Services – Marjorie Sn
8. Family and Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County – Laurie Thyssen
9. Children's Aid Society of Haldimand and Norfolk – Kim Burns & Anne-Marie Watson
10. Halton Children's Aid Society – Donna Miles
11. Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton – Alexandra Mlekuz & Sabrina Palumbo
12. Children's Aid Society of Hamilton – Kristin Roe
13. Highland Shores Children's Aid – Angus Francis
14. Huron-Perth Children's Aid Society – Maxine McCaulay
15. Valoris for Children & Adults of Prescott-Russell – Madeleine Lalonde, Myriam Legault & Sylvie Duchesne
16. Family & Children's Services Niagara – Sarah Milmine & Dee Neuman
17. Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Nipissing and Parry – Erin Truswell
18. Children's Aid Society of Ottawa – André Fontaine & Carmela Savoia
19. Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies – Helen Halbert
20. Children's Aid Society of Oxford County – Tina Diamond
21. Peel Children's Aid Society – Helen Doulos, Danielle Ungara & Prasad Nair
22. Family and Children's Services County of Renfrew, City of Pembroke – Suzanne Elliott & Beckie Kenrick
23. Family & Children's Services of St. Thomas and Elgin County – Adri Hewitt
24. Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin – Ginette Demers & Julie Moore
25. North Eastern Ontario Family & Children's Services – Tina Kerr-Hardy
26. Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto – Kate Schumaker & Tanya Morton
27. Children's Aid Society of Toronto – Chena Barakat
28. Family and Children's Services of the Waterloo Region – Jill Stoddart & Angela Perkins

### MANITOBA:

29. Winnipeg Child and Family Services – Debbie Besant
30. General Authority of Manitoba – Patricia Cox, Del Bruneau & Daphne Penrose
31. Office of the Children's Advocate – Ainsley Krone

### NUNAVUT:

32. Government of Nunavut – Mark Arnold & Syd Parlour

### BRITISH COLUMBIA:

33. Government of British Columbia – Rhonda Shears & Michele Melville-Gaumont





LINK PARTNERS



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WEBINARS



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INTERACTIVE  
CASE STUDIES



ASK-A-  
RESEARCHER

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