

Cooperatively Speaking

Spring 2013

Vol. 43 No. 2

ISSN 0048-2978



PCPI Annual Meetings Report

Portland, Oregon April 25-27, 2013



The children come to me as 2-year-olds in diapers and leave as "sophisticated" 5-year-olds ready for kindergarten. The cooperative preschool model allows me to work very closely with families in a true community setting.

Tom Hobson, Woodland Park Cooperative Preschool

These are the words from Teacher Tom which reminds us of what it means to be part of a Cooperative community. As well as spending time with Teacher Tom, we were very fortunate to visit 5 preschools while we were in Portland as well as some social time with other like-minded Teachers, parents and cooperative members. From our preschool visits we were able to capture lots of great ideas to bring home. It was intriguing how all these schools have similarities. Learning through play was the guiding force but each school had a special focus and usually several. It was motivated from the interests of the preschool community, strengths of their teacher, and supported by the parent members.

For example, one school had a cooking and baking focus which was incorporated into their weekly snack routine. The children helped to plan and

prepare their snacks each day to facilitate and role model healthy eating habits. This school had a very supportive relationship with a progressive and inspiring Elementary community through their community garden, library and playground area.

Another had an emphasis on playing and connecting with nature. They devote most of their program to the outdoors. They currently have fundraised for a huge outdoor natural play area fully equipped with a nature slide incorporated into the slope, a creek bed, outdoor stage, water features and a beautiful garden.

A special thanks to our wonderful hosts at Parent Child Preschools Organization (PCPO) Kathy Ems, Linda Henegar, and Jaime Maier for helping to make this year's Annual PCPI meetings such a great success.

PCPI's annual meetings are such a valuable place to network, meet, teach, learn and grow the cooperative spirit within all of us to build strong communities and happiness all around!

Mariah Battiston

Council of Parent Participation Preschools in BC



Parent Cooperative
Preschools
International



www.preschools.coop

**KATHARINE WHITESIDE TAYLOR
BURSARY
CHANGES TO FORMAT SUPPORTS
CANADIAN
COOPERATIVES
Application Deadline:
March 15, 2014**

The Katharine Whiteside Taylor Bursary is a scholarship named in honor of a founding member of Parent Cooperative Preschools International (PCPI). For over fifteen years the bursary has provided financial support for the continuing education of parents and teachers participating in a Canadian cooperative or parent participation preschool.

At this year's annual meeting of PCPI the KWT Committee made several recommendations to the bursary's structure and functioning. "By refining the bursary format, we have made the application process more timely and more effective. With the new format, the selection committee will have more information about the candidates and their reasons for applying," says Catherine Shaver, chair of the KWT Bursary Committee. "In addition, the amount of the award has been increased which means more support for our PCPI parents and teachers. We are very pleased with these enhancements and encourage eligible parents and teachers to take the opportunity to apply for the bursary."

Eligibility

Teaching staff currently employed in a Canadian cooperative or parent participation preschool. Participating **Parents** who are pursuing professional development in the field of early childhood education or related training that supports the operation of their schools

Time Line

Application forms will be available in January 2014

Applications and supporting documentation must be submitted to the KWT Committee no later than midnight, March 15, 2014.

Winners will be announced in the first week of April, 2014

Award

Successful candidates may be eligible for a bursary award of up to \$500.

Applications

For further information, check your local or regional parent cooperative council or the PCPI website at www.preschools.coop

If you wish to be on an email list to receive an application form in January, 2014 or for further information please contact Catherine Shaver by phone 519-621-1719

or email: shaver1337@gmail.com.



**PCPI Supports & Encourages
PARENT Involvement
PARENT Participation and
PARENT Education in
Early Childhood Education
Programs**

CONTACT US AT:

**Parent Cooperative Preschools
International**

United States Office

National Cooperative Business
Center

1401 New York Ave. NW,
Suite 1100

Washington, D.C. 20005

enquiries@preschools.coop

Canadian Office

8725 Westport Dr.

Niagara Falls, Ontario L2H 0A2

mcampbell16@cogeco.ca

(905) 374-6605

Visit our website
www.preschools.coop
and facebook



Cooperatively Speaking is the official
bulletin of Parent Cooperative
Preschools International. Opinions
expressed in this publication do not
necessarily reflect those of PCPI as an
organization.

Submissions are welcome

Please send to:

Jean Beale, Editor

jeanbeale@gmail.com

© 2013 by Parent Cooperative
Preschools International. All rights
reserved. Material in this publication
may be reprinted for non-commercial
use only.



Join PCPI to Learn Together

Membership Year: January to December

Dues for 2013 are

Individual \$40

Council \$200

School/Group \$50

Library \$ 40

Mail Membership to US or Canadian Office

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

A LINK TO YOUR WEBSITE, NETWORK WITH OTHER CO-OP

TEACHERS AND PARENTS ON OUR YAHOO CHAT GROUP,

RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTERS AND DIRECTORY, APPLY FOR

OUR ANNUAL GRANTS, NOMINATE YOUR MEMBERS FOR

AWARDS, JOIN OUR ANNUAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES.

"Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn."

-- Benjamin Franklin



It's that time of year – when the leadership
in your co-op preschool may change. As you turn
over your office to the new leaders of your school,
please be sure to tell them about PCPI's website
and the login information and password for the
member's only section. The login is your e-mail
address when the site was launched. If you need to
confirm or change the login, please send a message
to enquiries@preschools.coop.

**Congratulations to PCPI's
2013 Award Recipients**

District Awards

Lora Dierker Cedar Hills Kindergarten and Pre-
school, Portland, OR, **Merry Enriquez**, Brooklyn
Cooperative Preschool, Portland, OR ,
Jamie Maier, Parent Child Preschool Organization
(PCPO), Portland, OR, **Linda Romanowski**, Ce-
dar Hills Kindergarten and Preschool, Portland, OR

Honorary Life Member Award

Meg Kennedy-Shaw, Ann Arbor, Michigan