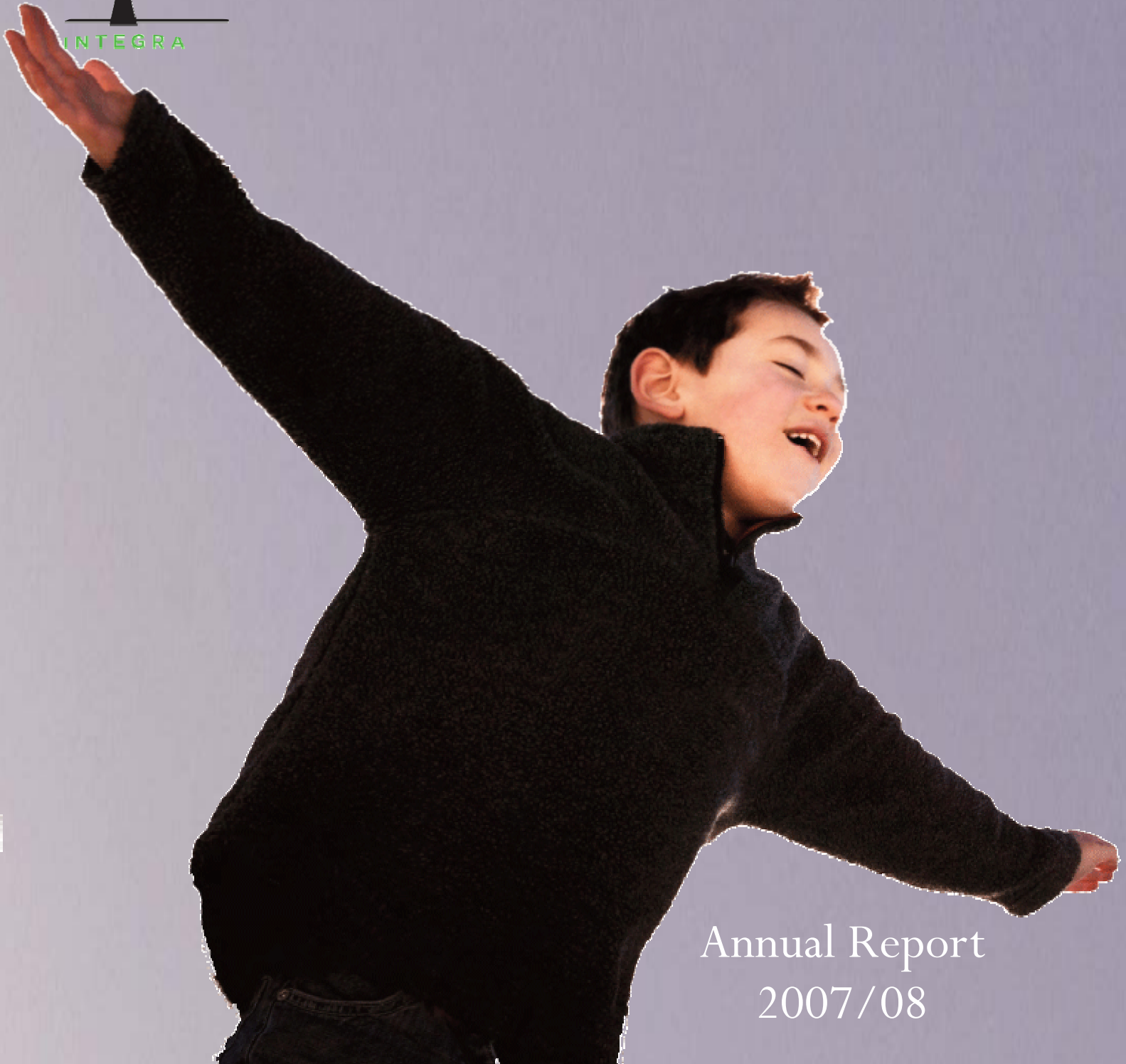


Integra Helps Kids Fly

Improving the lives of Children and Youth with Learning Disabilities



INTEGRA



Annual Report
2007/08

Message from the President

Robert Frost wrote in a poem titled *A Servant to Servants*, “The best way out is always through”. The work that is done at Integra underlines that insight. All the programs at Integra -- the groups, counselling, Camp Towhee -- demonstrate that it is possible to significantly improve the lives of children with learning disabilities and of their families by supporting them through a process of recognition, self-awareness, acceptance, and mindfulness. In short, by going through.

Mike Faye, Integra’s Executive Director, has guided the agency through a year when several of the agency’s senior people have left to pursue career goals elsewhere. The reputation of the agency, its unique blend of treatment and research and its positive atmosphere, has enabled Integra to attract a new generation of exceptional and dedicated psychologists and social workers. We welcome them, and wish them well. Our staff remains a gold standard of dedication, professionalism and simple caring.

We would like to thank Integra’s principal funding agency – the Ministry of Children and Youth Services – for its continued generous support, and for its great interest in the work that Integra does. Our sponsors and benefactors -- including financial institutions, companies and individuals – altogether provide more than 25% of Integra’s budget. Those resources, in combination with Ontario government funding, have enabled Integra to continue to grow.

Finally I’d like to thank the Board, which takes its responsibility of governance very seriously. Every board meeting is charged with the same positive energy and commitment that runs through the agency as a whole. Integra’s board and staff are now finalizing a new Strategic Plan that will guide the agency over the next five years, and bring it new recognition, new resources, and – most importantly – will preserve the same old commitment to help our clients through.

Michael Harris

President

Michael Harris

Past President

Barbara Peltz

Vice President

Cindi Brand

Secretary

Nicholas Offord

Treasurer

Tom Healy

Message from the Executive Director

This year has been one of change and renewal. As some stellar staff moved on to other interests and challenges, new people have joined our talented team and brought an infusion of energy and knowledge.

Our individual and group interventions remain the backbone of the agency with family support and therapy being integral to the progress of over 300 kids each year. Camp Towhee, our amazing residential summer camp, celebrates 40 years of literally changing the lives of thousands of kids.

This year, we engaged our youth to make a difference in how we operate. In the Mindfulness Martial Arts (MMA) program more experienced youth have become peer mentors and provide leadership that truly enhances the phenomenal success of this unique model.

Central to success of Integra is the research and education carried out by the Community Consultation and Research staff. We teach others about Learning Disabilities (LD) and offer practical solutions to parents, teachers, students and other professionals. This year our joint initiative with the Iranian Canadian Social Service Providers Network developed a culturally competent model of training and service delivery. We also worked with Turning Point Youth Services to educate Youth Justice staff about LD

As the President of the Board stated, Integra will soon finalize its next strategic plan. We were fortunate to have the guidance of several community professionals, our staff, and five Integra youth to help us plan the next five years. Thank you everyone and especially to Harry, Marcus, Spencer and both Andrews.

In spite of the many challenges of change and ensuring funding, Integra has enjoyed a great year. Thank you to those who made it possible – MCYS, parents, children and youth, a dedicated staff, our committed Board of Directors, and our amazing circle of friends and donors.

Mike Faye

Board of Directors



Colleen Coman

Gina Gentili

Anne Marie Gutierrez

Adam Kronick

John Madden

Faye Mishna

Neil Petroff

Paul Potvin

Sherley Valo

Judy Wiener

Who We Are

Our Mission

To improve social, emotional and behavioural outcomes through a range of specialized therapeutic programs, family-centered services, community education and research.



Our Programs and Services

Find a Friend - group treatment is a cornerstone of our service. It helps children and youth improve their ability to interact socially and make friends, abilities that they often seriously lack. Groups taught participants about their learning disabilities, their strengths and how to advocate for the help they need. These are skills that have been shown to increase individual resilience and success in life. Workshops are also available for parents about how they can support their children's progress in group treatment.



We thank CIBC World Markets Children's Foundation for their sponsorship of this important program.

“You people are all amazing! Truly you work magic. You gave us all the hope and faith that we needed. Now we can see that she can reach her potential.”

Mindfulness Martial Arts - is a ground-breaking treatment that has been developed at Integra in the past five years. An inspired combination of martial arts, mindfulness meditation and cognitive behavioural therapy, it teaches youth behavioural therapy, self-control, self-awareness, adaptability and problem-solving skills.



We thank Ronald McDonald House Charities for underwriting the costs of equipping our 'dojo'.

“My son has a much better sense of self-awareness, also it has given his dad and me much better insight into how to be an effective parent.”

Finding Yourself - provides individual counselling for children and youth. This is an excellent opportunity to receive support and instruction in dealing with such issues as self-esteem, depression, anxiety, anger or problem-solving.



“Our daughter is more willing to accept her LD and give advice to her younger brother who has ADHD.”

Our Programs and Services

Camp Towhee - is Integra's magical three week residential camp near Haliburton. Dedicated and experienced camp staff understand the complex challenges of learning disabilities and design camp programs that maximize social success, self-esteem and independence.



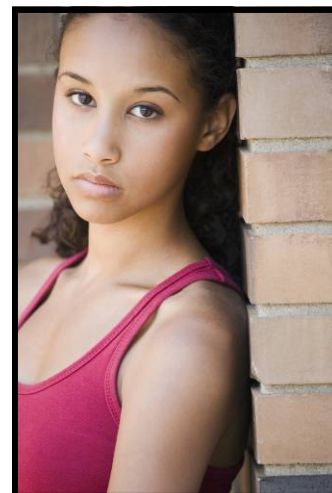
Thank you Toronto Fresh Air Fund for supporting this program.

“Camp Towhee is a magical place full of good times, acceptance and accomplishment and it helps kids become more independent, confident people.”



Research - Integra is the only Children's Mental Health Centre in Ontario dedicated to addressing the mental health needs of children and youth with learning disabilities. Integra takes seriously its responsibility to provide visionary, cutting-edge thinking in the field and has an active program of research and program evaluation. In partnership with the University of Toronto, Integra is conducting comprehensive research regarding the outcomes of the Mindfulness Martial Arts program and Camp Towhee. Additional projects include exploring optimal methods of providing community outreach to groups such as Youth Justice and diverse cultural communities.

“It is really good to know that programs like these are available. It would be great to see Integra's methods taught to teachers and staff in our educational system.”



Community Consultation Program - offers a variety of workshops, presentations and community collaboration to facilitate and enhance community awareness about the psychosocial needs of children and youth with learning disabilities. These programs are designed to assist community partners to adapt their practice to meet the mental health needs of this population.



We thank RBC Foundation for their on going support of our Walk-a-Mile workshops.

Helping Parents to Help Kids

Learning disabilities pose a special challenge to all families. They often feel very stressed, alone and that no one understands. Coming to Integra can feel like coming home. Parent and family work and workshops help with the social, emotional and behavioural complications of learning disabilities as well as with problems like family conflict and other issues...strengthening parents to help their children.

“Thank you - I feel as if you've given me back my son.”



Success

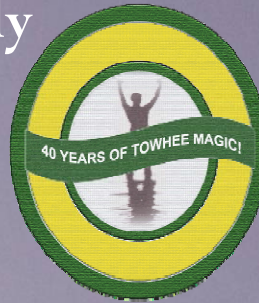


Integra Helps Tony Fly

I have been a camper at Camp Towhee for the past four years. Towhee has turned me into a more confident and less shy person. Before I went to Camp Towhee I thought I would hate it because I had never been away from home for so long. I turned out to be wrong and it has been something I have looked forward to and waited for all year for the last three years. The people, energy, location, food and the entire camp environment make Towhee the amazing life changing place it is.

Camp Towhee has taught me to take initiative and to take challenges head on. I get along much better with my cabin mates and with the people in my normal everyday life. I would not want to go to any other camp than Towhee. It is a place where I can do great things and it was the place that helped me become who I am today.

Every child and teenager has the potential of achieving greatness, confidence, leadership and above all reaching the goals they set for themselves. It takes a place like Towhee to teach a child how and to bring them out of their shell.....Camp Towhee is a magical place full of good times, acceptance and accomplishment and it helps kids become more independent, confident people.



Key Accomplishments for 2007/08:

- Over 2,200 workshop participants
- 347 families served
- 86 workshops offered
- 100 kids attended Camp Towhee

A Cross Cultural Dialogue

This year, Integra embarked on a collaborative project with the Iranian Canadian Social Service Providers Network (ICSSPN), to expand Integra's Community Consultation workshop training program to a culturally diverse population. The intent of the project was to deliver culturally competent training on Learning Disabilities and children's mental health issues by means of a series of four workshops for social service providers within the Iranian Canadian Community in Toronto.

The project created an openness to explore the mosaic of understanding around terms such as disability, which have a unique meaning and stigma within diverse cultures.

Through the process, a new and more complex model for training and social service delivery was developed. It is hoped that this new model will promote discussion and change in the nature of delivery of social services to cultural communities as well as informing clinical practice at Integra with clients from diverse communities



ICSSPN participants

“Integra is saying, ‘Let us help you’. The vision is there ... actions are on the right path to helping the community to develop cultural competence” – “It is like an investment of knowledge.”

Thanks to our Supporters

Integra wishes to thank our generous principle supporters during our fiscal year 2007/08 for making a lasting difference for children and youth.

\$25,000 - \$49, 999

CIBC World Markets Children's Foundation
Scotia Capital

\$10,000 - \$24,000

Carlson Capital, L.P.
Jose Danobeitia and Karen Wynnchuk
Donald F. Hunter Charitable Foundation
Warren and Barbara Goldring
GMP Securities Ltd.
Tom Healy and Joan Flood
Lehman Brothers
John and Janet Madden
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Florence Minz and Gordon Kirke
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Virginia Froman-Wenban

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Joseph Schoroth
Gary Singh and Ajit Grewal
Gregory Smith
Hershel and Lois Sorokin
Daniel Tecimer
Mithilan Thavarasalingam
Tim Thomson
Yorktown Child and Family
Centre

Events to Remember...

A Morning to Remember - The One Mark McEwan

Last November's fundraising breakfast Invest Now. Save a Future was gratifying. The lovely Arcadian Court set the stage for our keynote speaker, Mark MacEwan, Chef extraordinaire and Restaurateur - North 44, Bymark and ONE, who regaled us with tales of events and influences that led him on the path toward gastronomic stardom.

Leading up to Mark's keynote address a Camp Towhee counsellor spoke movingly about what Integra has meant to her life.

"....Towhee was the spark that ignited this immense development in my life. The Integra Foundation and Camp Towhee are places to find likeminded individuals like ourselves, who want to make a difference for today's children and youth... While the concepts of self-belief, acceptance, and personal challenge are explored, the independence and strength that results can have a lifelong impact on both camper and staff."

Integra thanks Michael Harris, Integra's Board President and our emcee for the morning and John Madden who spoke on behalf of Scotia Capital, our lead sponsor. He and Colleen Coman of CIBC Mellon were the co-chairs of the event. Integra is truly grateful to all three of them for making it such a success.



Left to right: Colleen Coman, Mark McEwan, John Madden



Elisabeth Pilon, Camp Towhee counsellor

The Phantom Returns to Support Kids with Learning Disabilities

Though Integra's annual dinner on Sunday, April 13, was called *Portage to the Future*, there was an element of looking back to it.

In celebration of Integra and Camp Towhee's forty years of helping children and youth, Robert Pilon, Toronto's own *Phantom*, sang an original tribute written by him, his daughter Elisabeth (a Camp Towhee counsellor), his wife Patti and Claudio Vena.

Leanne Petroff joined Elisabeth as co-chair while Paula Todd of CTV was emcee. They welcomed 220 guests which included many of Integra's long-time supporters, newcomers to the organization, nineteen staff members, ten Integra Board members, four young people who will be going to Camp Towhee this summer and one Towhee alumnus who attended camp back in its earliest days.

EDO's Chef Ryo Ozawa fed everyone a delectable and beautifully presented feast that ranged from Amuse Bouche right through to Panacotta Yuzu and Belgian dark chocolate cake. All courses were complemented by wines, courtesy of Wolf Blass.

But Mr. Pilon, the Young Singers Choir of the Durham region, violist Claudio Vena and pianist, Marty Anderson, were the stars of the night as they held guests in thrall through a musical banquet of ballads and songs from various hit shows.



Robert Pilon and Friends

Integra thanks the following sponsors for their generosity:

Warren and Barbara Goldring
Donald F. Hunter Charitable Foundation
James B. Archer-Shee and Mary Matthews
Florence Minz and Gordon Kirke
Patrick Lumbers and Christine Gutierrez
Thomas Higgins and Deborah Robinson



Securities



BARCLAYS
CAPITAL

Deloitte.



Vector Financial Services Limited



Finance/Senior Staff

Summary of Operations YEAR ENDED March 31, 2008

Revenue

Ministry of Children and Youth Services Grant	\$1,528,056
Other Revenue (Grant, Fees, Donations, etc.)	663,619

Total Revenue	\$2,191,675
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Expenditures

Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$968,041
Rent, Utilities & Taxes	230,185
Camp Towhee Program	706,706
Other Expenses	191,849

Total Expenditures	\$2,096,781
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Fund Balances

General Fund	\$503,616
Board Designated Funds	72,773
Alex Drdul Special Projects Fund	70,299
Susan Sorokin Memorial Fund	19,302

Total Fund Balances	\$665,990
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Senior Staff

Executive Director

Mike Faye, M.Sc.

Clinical Director

Margaret Amerongen, M.S.W., R.S.W.

Director of Camp Towhee

Karen Gordon, B.A.

Director of Psychology and Community Consultation

Marjory Phillips, Ph.D., C.Psych.

Director of Development

Ellen Nichols, B.Sc., D.C.S.



Integra is funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services



Integra is an accredited member of Children's Mental Health Ontario



Improving the lives of Children and Youth with Learning Disabilities

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