



# Trustee Times



Support & Trustee Advisory Services gratefully and proudly acknowledges the generous grant received from the Wordham Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Mississauga



Well, the weather outside was truly frightful for the March 5<sup>th</sup> Professional Working Lunch held at the Mississauga Convention Centre. Despite the snow, many financial planners and lawyers joined Support & Trustee Advisory Services to hear presentations about the new R.D.S.P., retention strategies for key employees and how social service agencies must work together with professionals such as lawyers and financial planners to help families ensure they have provided a good quality life for their child who has a disability. Part of that presentation is paraphrased here for your perusal.



# **Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now."**

*~Alan Lakein (an expert on personal time management and a Harvard MBA)*

Thoughts on Future Planning:

Excerpt of a speech presented by Nancy Stafford, Community Living Mississauga, at the March 5 Professional Seminar:

"...Lawyers need to know what other connections families have in the community and ensure that with their expertise they create a will that will protect the individual who has a disability. We trust they must ensure the family plans protect the individual who has a disability while also acknowledging and helping their other family members. We trust Financial Planners and Accountants to assist the family in planning for the tremendous costs that may be borne ensuring that the individual who has a disability is safe and secure and has a good quality of life.

Many families simply expect that the Government will provide housing and support for their child who has a disability when the parents are gone. They see no need to plan or look at any alternatives. Many feel that the disabled child's siblings will look after them on a full time basis. We need to realize that these may not be the most realistic alternatives.

The social service agencies... must help families connect with each other, must assist them with exploring residential and day options for the family member we support. We must disseminate information regarding funding, programs and other services available to families. And we must advocate on behalf of families to the Ministry of Community and Social Services. As the years to come pass, it is hoped that there will be a change in thinking by the Ministry of Community and Social Services as to how this residential support will be provided. At present, families can not count on receiving residential support from the Ministry.

In the past the will has been in isolation of other things. Now the will can be seen as a document to complement an individual's life - a cornerstone along with a plan which ensures a certain quality of life for the individual. That is the essence of what we must tell families - they must plan, and they must communicate that plan to as many of the stakeholders in the community that are relevant..."

## *Upcoming seminars:*

Location	Presentation	Date	Contact
Bolton 33 King Street West	Planning for your Child's Future	April 21, 2008 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	905-453-8841
	Financial Planning	May 13, 2008 7:00-9:00 p.m.	905-453-8841
	Wills & Estate Planning, STAS	TBA 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	905-453-8841
Mississauga 6695 Millcreek Drive, Unit 1	Planning for your Child's Future	March 5, 2008	905-542-2694 ext. 2223 Shanta Maharajh

*Have you moved? Do you need to update your contact information with us? If so, please call Sue at 905-542-2694 ext. 2312 to update your information!*

### I want to learn more about STAS!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ home

\_\_\_\_\_ work

- I want to be a member! My registration form and \$10.00 membership fee are included!
- I want to purchase a print - please contact me!
- I want to meet with the coordinator regarding future planning!
- I want to know when there will be a wills and estates seminar