

FROM THE DESK OF: JOAN VANSTONE

1408 WEST 45TH AVENUE VANCOUVER B.C.

SEASONS GREETINGS!

First off Parent Finder group changes: The new address for Parent Finders Incorporated is - 3355 Yonge Street, TORONTO, Ontario M4N 2M6.

Parent Finders - Windsor: The new President is Judy Bogaert, Box 16, RUTHVEN, Ont. NOP 2G0

Parent Finders - St. Catharines: is headed by Jill Forrester, P. O. Box 86, ST. CATHARINES, Ontario L2R 6R4: Tel: (416) 774-7763

Gail Lush of Parent Finders - Newfoundland has now married and is Mrs. Gail Del Cueto, 7 Welland Street South, THOROLD, Ont. L2V 2B3. Even though Gail is now in Ontario she has offered to continue to try to help people who were born and adopted in Newfoundland. Also, Mrs. June Young, long time PF Vancouver member has now moved to St. John's, Newfoundland and once she gets settled, she will try to assist searchers in a limited manner.

SASKATCHEWAN'S REUNION POLICY was announced on May 13, 1982 by Minister of Social Services, Patricia Smith, and has gone into effect as of October 1, 1982. Several adoptees have been contacted and are waiting for their reunions. One adoptee was informed, in reply to her request for a reunion, that her birth mother had contacted the Saskatchewan Social Services, seven years ago seeking information on her daughter. Unfortunately, the current reunion search revealed the birth mother has died recently. As a result, the reunion request has been considered finalized and the adoptee will not be allowed contact with any other relatives. The Saskatchewan Government are reviewing implementation of the intermediary reunion policy with respect to private adoptions. It would appear that the Government has reservations about assisting adult adoptee searches and reunions where the original adoption was privately arranged.

Eleanor Bott of PF MONTREAL reports "the law in Quebec, as of October 1982, is that if there is a letter in the file from the adoptee and from the birth mother, the Social or adoption agencies in Quebec will get in touch with each one and meet with them to see if both parties want a reunion. If the reasons for reunion are legitimate, the reunion will take place. Note: there must be a letter from BOTH parties stating they wish their identity to be released." Eleanor is urging that both parties send in a current letter, clearly "waiving their confidentiality" and giving permission to release their identity to the party with whom a reunion is sought.

Audrey Scammell of PF HAMILTON is a JOINER!!!! First, as an adopting parent she joined Parent Finders and took over as group leader when Wendi Redmond retired. Then she joined the Children's Aid Society of Hamilton to keep in touch with their policy and now she has joined the Ladies Auxillary of the Grace Haven Home for Unwed Mothers. How's that for total involvement!!!!!!

In May, 1982, I wrote to CPFA of B. C. requesting Reunion Register co-operation between the National Reunion Register and the B. C. Register. I requested my letter be read to the membership at the June meeting, discussion to be held, and a free choice given to members re this important privilege. The letter was not read to the membership and the Board declined participation in the National Reunion Register. It is very unfortunate that to date this matter has not been resolved.

Warm Christmas wishes to you all and special greetings to all those members who completed their searches over the past year and will know their first Christmas with their birth relatives. All the best for 1983,

Joan Vanstone
Joan
Joan

