

REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Canterbury Hills Conference Centre and Camp enjoyed another very successful year of providing a Ministry of Hospitality to guests at the Conference Centre and children in the summer camping program. Canterbury Hills is a jewel of creation right on our doorstep. It is a gift that provides joy, recreation, education, and memories to thousands of people every year.

Use of the facilities has shown steady growth through the past year. 2007 was one of the busiest in history for bookings of the Conference Centre. New client bookings have increased with an increase in multiple bookings as well. The summer camping program continues to run at near maximum capacity. Day camp registrations were at 100% of capacity and the residential camping program ran at 98% capacity.

The ongoing success of Canterbury Hills is directly linked to the skill, dedication, and commitment of the staff. Customer service and client satisfaction is important to maintaining a strong client base. We are very fortunate that everyone at Canterbury Hills: kitchen staff, maintenance staff, administration, and volunteers provide the warmth, friendliness and caring of this ministry of hospitality. We welcome Lisa Tuck as our new office manager. Lisa is cheerful, helpful and often the first person clients encounter when contacting Canterbury.

We are very thankful for the two years of strong leadership that Courtney Evers provided as Camping Coordinator in 2006 and 2007. New to this leadership role in 2008 was Jason Blackwood. Jason has a close family connection to Canterbury. He is the grandson of Canon David Blackwood, camping director in the 60's and 70's. Enthusiastic camp Resource Team members, Unit Leaders and LITs have continued to provide almost 600 campers with a happy, safe, faith-based memorable camping experience each summer.

Leadership development continues to be one of the important by-products of our camping program. The Leader in Training program is an excellent source for recruiting new camp staff. Many of these young people are also active leaders within their parishes.

The Canterbury Hills Board of Directors has benefitted from the leadership of many volunteers. A special note of thanks is due to departing members Kirk Boyd and Marion Vincett who have been long serving members of the Board. As they depart we welcome Michael Patterson as our newest member.

A facility such as Canterbury Hills requires constant maintenance. Six rooms in Artaban Lodge have been updated thanks to the generous support of several parishes. In many ways Canterbury Hills is like any living organism. It needs to be nourished, protected, encouraged and empowered to evolve. We are fortunate that our Executive Director, David Linn, has been able to do this so capably. David continues to increase his education and training and recertified in 2007 as a Conference Centre Professional with the International Association of Conference Centre Administrators.

After a very successful 2007 the Board of Directors and staff of Canterbury Hills look forward to continuing to exercise our Ministry of Hospitality in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Greg Murray, Chair