



Chairperson Report

2009-2010

Organization's Performance

As another year ends and a new one begins, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the successes and challenges of the organization.

The year's greatest success was the Experience Labrador project which was generously funded by the Youth Retention and Attraction Strategy of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment. FINALY! sent 22 youth and 3 staff members to the "Big Land" to experience the culture and heritage of a unique part of our province and country. This project was renewed for the upcoming year and we have a commitment from the

We have also partnered with the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNET) to organize and facilitate a series of workshops throughout the province focusing on our activities and behaviours that create positive environmental impacts in our communities.

FINALY! has also recently applied for funding under the Youth Take Charge Program from the Department of Canadian Heritage to organize a "Youth Revolution" program to encourage young Newfoundlanders and Labradoreans to vote and become involved in the upcoming provincial general election in October 2011. The organization is still awaiting word on the final status of this application.

Our biggest challenge throughout the year was related to our finances and on several occasions we had to postpone our annual leadership summit and annual general meeting (AGM). But the resiliency of the organization and the vibrancy of youth have helped us create a unique AGM for our organization for this year and an online election and AGM is being organized and will take place on February 24, 2011.

FINALY! is currently in the process of submitting a new proposal to Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) which will focus on the Environmental and Youth Engagement initiative that is currently being developed by our Youth Engagement and Environmental Coordinator. FINALY! hopes that in early Spring of 2011 regional events will take place allowing young people to voice their concerns about environmental issues as well as teaching them about the economic benefits of being an environmentally friendly town and talking about how young people can help to implement these changes. Once again, we look forward to further developing FINALY!'s relationship with ACOA.

The annual leadership summit will once again be held later this year once financial resources become available. In the meantime, FINALY! will continue its work to listen to the needs of the youth of the province and have started the process of strategic planning with the goal to have a plan in place by late March 2011.

Future Expectations

FINALY! started the process of Strategic Planning in January 2011. It will be seeking input from all members, PYC, staff, related organizations, government bodies, funding sources, alumni and others to provide insight for the future. These consultation sessions will be continued over the next several months to help the organization reorganize itself to better represent the needs and goals of its members and remain true to its mission.

Over the next year FINALY! will seek to expand its network which has been recognized by non-profit groups, private enterprise and government departments both provincially and nationally as being unique to our country. No other organization has the reach into all areas of the province it operates in, as does FINALY! in Newfoundland and Labrador.

FINALY! will work to create a formal network of former PYC members and employees to create an alumni network of success throughout the province. It will also seek to further grow its membership to build on its uniqueness and create the largest network of success in the province. This will be accomplished through a large membership drive and public consultation sessions with like-minded organizations, potential funders, and the general membership in each region.

Chairperson History

I have been a member of FINALY! since 2007 and was elected to the PYC in October 2009 and was internally elected to the position of Chairperson shortly thereafter. I will not be seeking re-election at the upcoming AGM and will be stepping back from my role as Chairperson. While I have greatly enjoyed my time as a member of the PYC, I have taken on other personal and professional commitments. I will continue to support FINALY! in the role of Past-Chairperson.

Thank You

I would like to thank all of our volunteers over the last year and all of the members of the PYC which I have served with; Brittany Tibbo, Brian Hudson, Tiffany Ford, Jeremy Hodder, Katie Flynn, Scott Linstead, Kyle Janes, Kyle Pearce, Christopher Mitchelmore, Brady Huxter, Mary Alliston Butt, Kayla Carroll, and Chris Gaulton.

I would also like to give a special thanks to all of our employees this year who have shown a tremendous amount of passion and dedication to the organization during the smooth times and the not so smooth times. So thank you very much to John Mercer, former Executive Director, Jan Reid-Eveleigh, Interim Executive Director, Brian Ash, Experience Labrador Coordinator, Melissa Keough, Youth Engagement and Environment Coordinator, Sandi Babcock, former Youth Engagement and Environmental Coordinator, Shaun Rideout, former Events Coordinator and Kelly Pike, Event and Marketing Coordinator.

FINALY! would also like to thank its partners within the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment, the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat, the Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development, and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

FINALLY! would like to also thank any fellow non-profit organizations it has worked with over the past year such as the Canadian Community Economic Development Network, Taking It Global, The Students Commission, and the Global Citizenship Initiative.

We would also like to thank the supporters and sponsors of the 2009 youth leadership summit and annual general meeting.

Mission and Purpose

A dynamic youth driven organization, FINALLY! empowers youth to be active participants in decision making and implementation. Our involvement in social and economic issues provides an opportunity for youth to build a viable future in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Thank you,

***Greg Knott,
Eastern Representative
Provincial Youth Council Chairperson
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