

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE CAVEWAS BOARD:

September 2005

The Professional Development Committee is in the process of coordinating a Vocational Evaluation course in Toronto for October. This will be offered under the auspices of the joint CAVEWAS/University of Calgary partnership. Discussions have been started regarding planning for the CAVEWAS 2006 CARP National Pre-conference day-long seminar (June 2006)

CAVEWAS financial data for 2005 will soon be inputted onto Simply Accounting software. The Accountant has set-up the parameters for using this software.

The Public Relations Committee continues to focus on the CAVEWAS Website development. Call for documents and input from the Board was made. The webmaster expects to have a test-site ready for preliminary viewing shortly. Discussions centered as to whether we should list members names for possible business referrals, etc. This will be discussed with the web-master and brought back to the Board.

The RVP Committee now has 4 members. We've had a slower number of applications than we might have thought. To date 10 RVP applications reviewed, 7 approved, 1 denied and 2 deferred.

Michele Meier is soon expecting and she may be taking a LOA from the Board for the next little while. Congratulations Michelle from the CAVEWAS Executive!!

November 2005

The Professional Development Committee reports that the October 2005 Vocational Evaluation course taught in Toronto was very successful. Some 20 students were enrolled. Feedback overall was positive, with people indicating they'd like more courses offered. The Committee has met to discuss plans for 2006, and in particular for the CARP National-CAVEWAS Pre-conference seminar. Liaison has been established with CARP Ontario and National offices.

An update was provided on the CARP National re-branding initiative. This process continues to move along, with a target of the June 2006 CARP National AGM to present the re-branding recommendations to the membership.

Data input is being undertaken for fiscal year 2005 using Simply Accounting software. Year-end statements should be ready by the next meeting.

From the Public Relations Committee, the test web-site was launched and reviewed by Board members. Feedback has been received. Assignments were agreed upon to get the web-site to the next level of preparedness. These are to be completed by early January 2006. All agreed the site is looking very professional as well as informative. Target launch sometime in early 2006.

The RVP Committee continues to review a slower than expected stream of applications. We do expect some last-minute rush as the January 31, 2006 grandfathering period expires.

Discussion was held as to how CAVEWAS could make better use of available space in the CARP Rehab Review magazine. This is published 4 times a year. The opportunity is there for us to promote and educate concerning Vocational Evaluation/Work Adjustment and related disciplines.

CARP National Conference is set for June 7-9, 2006 in Montreal, Qu. Our pre-conference will be on June 6, 2006. Planning is underway for this.

January 2006

Welcome back Michele Meir, who joined the tele-conference with new baby cooing along.

CAVEWAS financial year-end has been completed and books are now on Simply Accounting software. This will make the Accountant happier in regards to performing the year-end accounting review. Once the financial statements are completed these will be presented at the annual CAVEWAS-AGM for presentation and a vote by the membership. Bank balance is healthy at the year-end. All outstanding bills have been paid. After review the CAVEWAS 2005 financial year-end statement was unanimously approved by the Board.

The CAVEWAS-AGM will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2006 at noon-time. A light lunch will be served, with the AGM scheduled to commence at 12:30 pm.

Michele Hamilton, Associate Professor-Vocational Evaluation, University of Wisconsin-Stout, USA, joined us in the teleconference. A lively discussion ensued regarding development of the CAVEWAS Pre-Conference seminar topic to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2006 in Montreal, Qu. Michele has graciously agreed to join us again to lead the Pre-Conference session. She and the Professional Development Committee will be working together on finalizing these details.

From the Public Relations Committee, the web-site has been thoroughly reviewed and changes sent through to the web-master. Upon second-sight some major revisions were discussed and agreed upon. Discussion centered on the option to include a members sign-on site where our members can advertise their services. It was agreed we would go ahead with this venture, with the webmaster assuming the first year responsibility for setting up this feature, but overseen by the PR Committee. The Board agreed that we would develop a section called "News and Views from the Board", this to keep the membership informed regarding the activities of CAVEWAS. There are thus some final changes to be made. We expect the web-site should be completed February 2006, with a final test version to be reviewed by the Board, before launch. Liaison with CARP National will also be undertaken to devise a launch strategy.

From the RVP Committee, a somewhat more robust stream of RVP applications have been coming in prior to the January 31, 2006 grandfathering expiration. Currently 4 files are being reviewed, with a reported 8 more on the way.

Discussion was held on the upcoming Episodic Disabilities Conference to be held in Ottawa, Mar 2 and 3, 2006. This is an interesting topic and the conference is to review and discuss the finding from a long-term study which the Federal government has funded. CAVEWAS was requested to send a representative to this conference. Helga Guthrie, our Secretary, has agreed to attend.