

STEP CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Party On! Excellent! In August, the patients and staff of the Skills training, Treatment and Education Place (STEP) celebrated 20 years of service. On August 18th, a puppet workshop was conducted by Gayle Grass author of *Catch a Falling Star*, the first book in the **Iris the Dragon** series of children's books. This book was written to help children understand mental illness (see Impressions in this issue of Centre Pulse).

The full day of festivities on August 19th started with a BBQ lunch followed by an afternoon of treasure hunting, orienteering and a baseball game. Family members joined the celebration in the evening at the Dance Party with music by DJ Dave Cameron. After announcing the winner of the 50/50 draw, Ruth Adamcewicz, STEP Clinical Services Co-ordinator, cut and served the anniversary cake.

STEP patients are using the proceeds from the 50/50 draw for summer activities such as horseback riding and Wonderland. Thank you all for helping with this celebration. We look forward to continuing the party at the WMHC 85th celebration in October when many former patients and their families will return for a visit.

Angela Marley, Social Worker,

First Ministers' Meeting on Future of Health Care

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of non-patented rugs; and
enhance analysis of cost drivers and cost-effectiveness, including best practices in drug plan policies.

Prevention, Promotion and Public Health:

- all governments commit to further collaboration and cooperation in developing coordinated responses to infectious disease outbreaks and to other public health emergencies through the new Public Health Network;
- the federal government commits to building on recent investments in immunization through the Nation Immunization Strategy; and
- accelerate work on a pan-Canadian Public Health Strategy.

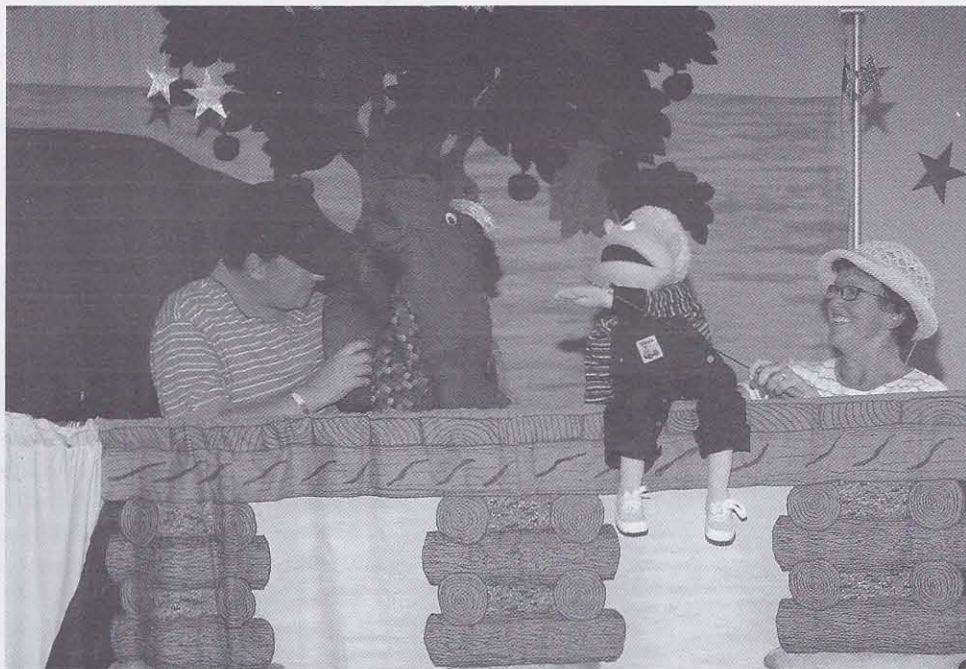
Health Innovation:

- the federal government commits to continued investments to sustain activities in support of health innovation.

Accountability and Reporting to Citizens:

- all governments agree to report to their residents on health system performance;
- governments agree to seek advice from experts and health providers on the most appropriate indicators to measure health

STEP Workshop Is a Hit: Gayle Grass and her son perform a lively puppet workshop during STEP's 20th anniversary celebrations. The show is based on "Catch a Falling Star".



- system performance; and
- first Ministers of jurisdictions participating in the Health Council agree that the Council prepare an annual report to all Canadians on the health status of Canadians and health outcomes.

In arriving at the above commitments the First Ministers also agreed that a separate communiqué be released to reflect the arrangements between the Government of

Canada and the Government of Quebec. In addition, all governments agreed to work together on the important matter of Aboriginal health, as set out in a separate agreement.

Source: News Release, Prime Minister of Canada, September 16, 2004.