



Annual Report
2006

Mission Statement

To assist in the location of missing children – whether stranger abduction, parental abduction, or runaway – and to reunite these children with their lawful parent or guardian.

To increase the awareness of the problem of missing children in Canada.

To educate children, parents and our community about ways to prevent missing, abducted and exploited children.

To provide assistance and emotional support to parents undergoing the trauma of a missing child.

To refer parents to the appropriate professional resources as required.

Child Find Alberta Board of Directors

President	Murray Brown
Vice President	Priscilla Popilchak
Treasurer	James Layfield
Members	Amit Udeshi Lana Banderk Shirin Bhimani Zoe Fleming Christine Gardner Gordon Hoffman QC Terri Sperle

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Our History:

In the fall of 1983, five Calgary volunteers incorporated Canada's first missing children organization *Alberta Friends of Child Find Society* based on the model of the first American organization *Child Find America* begun in 1980. In 1984, the Alberta organization changed its name to Child Find Alberta Society and added education and prevention programming as an equal mandate to the location of missing children.

The Alberta organization contributed to the genesis of the Child Find organizations in the other provinces of Canada Delivering services in 60+ centers.

Programs to educate and prevent cases of missing children have been created and improved consistently since 1984. Expertise and experience in locating missing children, networking with a variety of peace officers, businesses, and other resources, as well as the use of modern technology as it becomes available have all professionalized and streamlined our locate and recovery program significantly.



Executive Directors Report

Challenges and Opportunities

2006 was a year of great change in staffing, leadership, and offices. Staffing changes have been occurring and in spite of this Child Find Alberta has matured and grown. Our staff and volunteers have risen to each challenge and have met and overcome each one allowing Child Find Alberta to grow and improve.

Organizational Changes

Through 2006 Child Find Alberta was on the move. Our provincial Head Office in Calgary was relocated due to the building being sold and is now located at 3751 21 St. NE. Our Lethbridge office was moved from the Sandman Inn Mall to the Gilbert Pattison Middle School and our Edmonton office was moved to the Highland Junior High. Although both the Edmonton and Lethbridge offices have been dormant for the past several months, the Lethbridge office has now been reactivated and we are working to get the Edmonton office online as soon as possible.

Staffing

I joined Child Find Alberta in July 2006 as Executive Director after serving on the Board of Directors for two years. At this time the Executive Director and the Case Management Officers positions were amalgamated into one position. Our long time bookkeeper retired in November 2006 and was replaced by Ms. Renee Gillespie. In 2007 we welcomed Ms Karen Hannah employed on a six month term to assist the Volunteer Manager and Office Administration.

The Future

The future of Child Find Alberta is looking bright. Several streams of long term sustainable financing have been developed, and with our current fund raising, and support from our corporate partners our financial future is looking brighter. The direction and assistance given but the Board of Directors have expanded Child Find Alberta's ability to expand our services and assisted in better communications between Child Find Alberta, the other Canadian Child Find Organizations and Child Find Canada. With this in mind Child Find Alberta is about to embark on a new chapter in its history.

Cameron "Cam" Campbell
Executive Director

Child Find Alberta Staff

Cameron "Cam" Campbell, Executive Director – Started July 2006

Renee Gillespie, Business Manager – Started November 2006

Vicky Cairney, Volunteer Manager – 7 years service

Kim Simpson, Revenue Developer – 2 years service

Karen Hannah, Office Administrator





Case Management

The year 2006 has been a very interesting time. Mr. Dave Credland, the previous Case Manager has left Child Find Alberta and the position was amalgamated with that of the Executive Director which has been very successful in both savings of salaries and in efficiency of operation.

The Child Find Canada Case management committee is continuing to meet via telephone conferencing and is slowly pulling together new terms of reference and a Case Management Manual which should prove to be more user friendly than all previous manuals. It is expected that this manual will be ready for distribution within the next year.

Child Find Canada sponsored a two day Case Managers Conference in Winnipeg Manitoba in conjunction to the Child Find Manitoba Missing Children's Conference. It was decided that the current Case Manager for Child Find Alberta should not attend due to his impending resignation. But by all reports the conference was very successful.

A Child Find Volunteer, Mr. Richard Abbenbroek, Volunteered several days of his time in order to review all the Child Find Alberta Case Files dating back from 1983. This allowed us to close several files as well as update our data bases and focus on current files.

A recent case involving an 18 month old child being recovered in Hamilton Ontario was successful due to the cooperation between WestJet and two other not for profits, Neighbour Link and Community Kitchens, both of which are housed with Child Find Alberta in the Storehouse 39 Complex. The synergy of these participants had a very positive effect on all those involved.

Summary of Cases

Number of Cases as of 16 April 2007	104
Number of Cases Opened	3
Number of cases Closed	6
Number of Cases as of 15 June 2007	101

Types of Cases

Parental abductions	35
Stranger Abductions	23
Voluntary Runaway	11
Unknown	17
Special Requests (Police)	15

Cameron "Cam" Campbell
Executive Director



The Presidents Annual Report

We are proud and pleased to mark the completion of another in a long history of successful years of operation for Child Find Alberta in 2006. None of our successes would have been possible without the unwavering loyalty, hard work and dedication of our team of operating and board volunteers as well as our office team who together working tirelessly on behalf of the children and families we serve and represent the Child Find brand so professionally and well. That has never been truer than in the past year and we extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to each and every one of the team.

It was another year of changes for Child find in many aspects. Perhaps the most visible of those was represented in relocating all three of our offices to new space. The crowning achievement of those moves is in Calgary where we are now part of the new Storehouse 39 complex and beginning to enjoy the synergies of working in close proximity to several other non-profit agencies serving the province and the community. The new locations are not only better working environments than we have been accustomed to but going forward, position us well to continue delivery of our high quality education programming. Clinics and special events within the communities we serve. While less visible than our physical relocations, we have been successful in attracting a very enthusiastic, creative and high energy team to our volunteer board of directors over the past several months. The new team is a wide representation of industry, background and experience and has already begun to provide solid leadership, support and direction as we move forward into what will be an exciting time for our Agency. Perhaps the least visible change of note was our reunion with Child Find Canada and subsequent participation with the national entity in programs and initiatives that cross provincial borders. We are excited about this affiliation and look forward to benefiting from not only national programs but in sharing experiences and learning developing synergies and growing with the other provincial entities across Canada.



We are very proud of our Agency and of the contributions we continue to make within our communities in providing educational program, events, locate services and support of children and families. As we look ahead to 2007 and beyond, we are very optimistic with respect to our future, the continued evolution of our programs and delivery and the strategy and direction for Child Find Alberta and hope you will all continue to share the success of these efforts with us.

Murray Brown
President

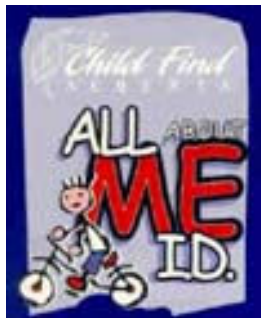


Education Committee Report

A missing child is a universal fear. One mandate of Child Find Alberta is to educate children, parents and our community about ways to prevent missing, abducted and exploited children. We need to remember that our teenagers are still children and to protect them too.

Our “street-proofing” programs are presented in an age appropriate manner to all age groups and parents. Trained volunteers use videos, puppets, posters and information developed by the Education Committee to present material in an informative and fun manner. Parents are reminded to practice information in a fun way, such as games while travelling in the car, to keep the information at the fore of the minds of children. In the past year we delivered over 60 presentations to Alberta children and parents.

A program to educate Junior and Senior High Students on the dangers of the internet and the possibility of being lured into the Sex Trade is available. Young people don’t seem to realize how easy it is to be lured so information and discussion is used to educate students. This program is available in both urban and rural areas. Volunteers are trained to present this information. In 2006, 42 Presentations were delivered to approximately 940 students.



Our “All About Me ID” program continues to be in great demand. This fingerprinting program for children was started to impress upon parents the need to keep an up-to-date record of their children. The booklet has space for identifying information, medical data, fingerprints, and a recent photograph. In 2006 we fingerprinted 2,839 children at 304 events and provided materials to provincial partners, such as the RCMP and other police services, for additional events.

It is a pleasure to work with our dedicated Volunteers in presenting our programs. Programs couldn’t be done without them!

Priscilla Popilchak
Education Committee Chair



Volunteer Management

Child Find Alberta has been relying on the volunteer sector since 1983. Without volunteers, we would not be able to provide the services we do with out their assistance. Some of the areas that are covered off by our volunteers are:

- Case Management – front line 24 hour phone service
- Case Management administration – paperwork
- Awareness for adults – keeping children safe
- Educational Presentations to schools, service clubs, etc. – say no to strangers
- Sex Trade Presentations to young teenagers – the pitfalls & consequences
- Special Events Committee members – commemorate International Missing Children's Day
- Fingerprint Events – provide parents with a booklet with the child's fingerprints
- Office assistance

Our Edmonton and Lethbridge offices are now operating out of schools in their respective cities. Child Find Alberta will be looking to employ a part-time coordinator for each of these two offices in the near future.

Our volunteer base has grown slightly over the past year to a base of 204; we have 14 volunteers that have a minimum of 10 years experience with CFA. Our volunteer base fluctuates with attrition; we have many inquiries with an approximate 20% follow through for full volunteer initiation.

Our volunteer hours were down significantly for 2006, for the first 6 months of 2007, many of the 2006 figures have been surpassed. The volunteer hours for 2006 was equal to 2,802 man hours, the number of fingerprints totaled to 2,839. In 2006 we educated 972 children; in the first 6 months of 2007, we have educated 1,012. For the fingerprinting, we have surpassed our 2006 halfway mark.

The latter half of 2006 had Child Find Alberta looking for a new office location for its Calgary operations. In February '07, we moved into the Storehouse 39-3-10. This building houses various other not for profits.



Vicky Cairney
Manager Volunteer Resources



Human Resources Committee Report

Change is exciting and challenging for an organization, its staff and volunteers. This year has been no exception. The HR team ensures that our organizational structure and Human Resources policies keep pace with changes in the market we serve, regulatory environments and the general employee and employment market.

Staff and Board Member changes were numerous this year. In March we welcomed Ms. Terri Sperle as our Executive Director. She brought with her a wealth of experience in the not-for profit sector and an energy that was contagious. In July Ms. Sperle found that family commitments meant she needed to resign. We thank her for the work she did and welcome her to the board of directors. We were very fortunate to have Mr. Cameron Campbell agree to take over as Executive Director and Case Manager as Mr. Dave Credland also left to take another job. Cam's experience with organization and search and rescue in the military and the police have been helpful in fulfilling his job. One other change occurred in September when long time staff member Sharon Dyck left for other endeavors. We miss her but wish her the best and thank her for all of her time and efforts. We welcome Renee Gillespie to the Business office.

Board Member changes occurred also. Several members resigned and we thank them for their efforts. We have been lucky to recruit ten new members who bring experience, excitement and a desire to make Child Find and effective and exciting organization.

Now we look ahead to refining internal human resources practices, work with the Board committees as they bring in new ideas, and begin the process of recruiting for Edmonton and Lethbridge, restoring operations in both centers. Stability and keen staff will bring a new vitality to Child Find Alberta.

Priscilla Popilchak
Human Resources Committee Chair



Fund Development

Child Find Alberta continues its investment in the safety of Alberta's children. Fund Development is one of our biggest Challenges.

Our volunteers contributed over 2,800 hours of their time in the past year. The value of those hours has cash value of \$28,000 at \$10.00 per hour. This is not an accurate reflection of value however, as the volunteers bring with them many skills and abilities that cannot be quantified. The real value is in the variety and the willingness to give that of their abilities that those volunteers provided. Without their contributions, Child Find Alberta would have had to contract for the services of those volunteers



Maximum Fighting Championship held a Poker Tournament in June 2007 to raise funds for Child Find

Child Find Alberta has implemented a number of special events fundraisers in the past year. We have participated in golf tournaments, "A Christmas Carol", silent auctions, and a pre-stamped 50/50 draw event at Ranchman's in conjunction with Bull Bustin'. These events are all in addition to our regular fundraising initiatives such as wristband and cookbook sales, our direct mail donation campaign and grant application submissions. In the past year, a number of businesses have been generous in donating their services or products to Child Find Alberta, this enables us to reduce costs and continue services to children and families in Alberta.

Child Find Alberta recognizes and appreciates the impact of both the large and small donations generously given by individuals, businesses, corporations, and foundations. The funds donated to our organization provide us with the opportunity to carry our mandate on behalf of the children of Alberta. It is important to us as a non-profit organization, to keep our costs down and to ensure that resources raised in Alberta are spent on providing the education and awareness programs or in searching for Albertan children.

In the upcoming year, our focus will continue to be on increasing revenue with additional special events, direct mail campaigns, presentations to special interest groups, grant applications to corporations and foundations. Child Find Alberta will also continue with events and activities that have proven to be successful in the past few years.

To all of our donors, large and small, we would like to express our thanks for your support! Without you, our successes would not be possible.

Kim Simpson
Revenue Developer