



December 17, 2008

**Sparrow Lake Alliance member:**

Twenty years have passed since the inaugural Sparrow Lake Alliance conference of 1989.

There is much to celebrate. We hope that all members can attend this year's conference - those who worked alongside with Dr. Paul Steinhauer and esteemed colleagues plus those who have more recently become dedicated partners.

As we reflect on the past twenty years, the stories and reflections from the membership will be an important part of the legacy we hope to share. Please submit to our attention at [sparrowlake.mail@sickkids.ca](mailto:sparrowlake.mail@sickkids.ca) by April 1/09.

It is easy to focus on the challenges triggered by tougher economic times. In true Sparrow Lake Alliance spirit – we have chosen to look at the situation differently with a conference dedicated to looking at the unique opportunities that adversity presents to us. **“Opportunities in Times of Adversity – The Time is Now”** An exceptional roster of cross-sectoral presenters and panelists are joining us and we look forward to the stimulating dialogue that is the essence of all of our annual meetings.

We also plan to present the Sparrow award to Dr. Richard Meen – an event we have had to postpone for far too long.

The steering committee welcomes input from all our members as we plan our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Sparrow Lake Alliance Steering Committee

- ❖ Pauline Thornton, (Co-Chair) Coordinator of Integrated Services, Trillium-Lakelands District School Board
- ❖ Patrick Lake, (Co-Chair) Executive Director, York Region Children's Aid Society
- ❖ Judy Finlay, Professor, Ryerson University
- ❖ Dr. Ian Manion, Executive Director, Provincial Centre of Excellence for Child and Youth Mental Health
- ❖ Aleem Punja, Clinical Consultant, Children's Aid Societies of Northumberland, Hastings and Durham
- ❖ Thom Rolfe, Executive Director, Hiatus House
- ❖ Virginia Rowden, Director of Policy, Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies
- ❖ Kathy Simpson, Program Director (Simcoe), Kinark Child and Family Services
- ❖ Dr. Susan Scott, Principal SPS Research and Evaluation
- ❖ Keith Zehr, Executive Director, Creighton Youth Services