

# The Learning Community

McGill Summer Institute • 1994

June, 8 Wednesday, 1994

To: Learning Community Participants

From: Marsha Forest, Judith Snow, John O'Brien, Jack Pearpoint

## Arriving Prepared

We want this summer's learning community to work well for each member. So we ask you to come prepared to share your experiences, your skills, your gifts, and your questions and concerns about inclusive education and community.

### To think about as you get ready to travel...

If you got exactly what you want and need from your membership in this summer's learning community, what would have happened for you by the time you leave?

### To bring along...

- A completed copy of the enclosed form so we can produce a group directory on the first day.
- Pictures of family members and friends

For the community's resource library (you get to take home what you bring)

- A book or an article or that you like
- Materials you have developed that support inclusion.
- A video or audio tape you have found helpful.

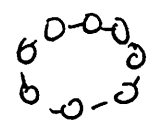
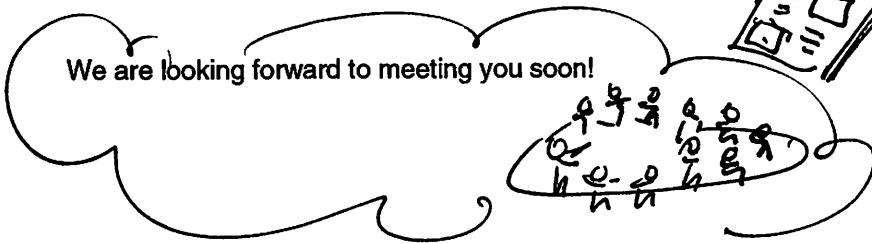
To share with others in the community...

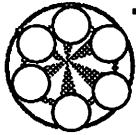
- A music tape you like
- A poem or story that you like
- Other things you might need to share your individual gifts with the rest of the community

For yourself

- A set of water-based colored marker pens (not the permanent kind)-crayola bright colors are best.
- Materials you like to write with for a personal journal
- Things that help you relax and energize yourself

We are looking forward to meeting you soon!





**The Learning Community**

**McGill Summer Institute • 1994**

## Community Directory

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**Who I am:**



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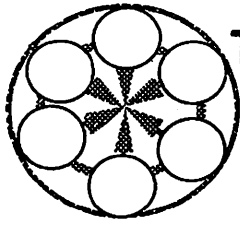
**What I have to share** (experiences, interests, hobbies, skills, ideas,  
information... not just about the topic of inclusion)

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**What I want to do or find out about while I'm here** (experiences, interests,  
hobbies, skills, ideas, information... not just about the topic  
of inclusion)

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*Together we're better!*

## A Living Resource List

Bob Blue (1990). *Starting Small*. From Bob at 54 Walnut St., Apt B2, Watham, MA 02154. \$10.00 per tape.

An elementary school teacher finds songs in his experiences and joins his present and former students to present them.

Dorothy Bryant. *The kin of Ata are waiting for you*.

A novel about dreaming.

Al Condeluci (1991). *Interdependence: The route to community*. Orlando:FL: Paul M Deutch Publishing Co.

### Facilitated Communication

Come to: Judith & Marsha Leary's workshop in October! (Sign up through the Centre).

Read: Doug Biklen (1993) *Communication Unbound*. NY :Teachers College Press.

Barbara Barker (1993). From DRI Press, PO Box 5202, Madison, WI, 53705

Stay in touch with: The Facilitated Communication Institute, 364 Huntington Hall. Syracuse university, Syracuse, NY 13244- 2340.

Paulo Friere. *The Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. NY: Continuum.

Gives understanding to the challenges of persons living under oppression. He explains how these challenges can effect a person's decision toward positive life stories. Friere has put together a methodology for working with these individuals to help them view their lives and gain empowerment.

Howard Gardner. *The unschooled mind*. NY Basic.

William Glasser. *The Quality School*. NY: Harper & Row.

All of Glasser's books I find stimulating and in the philosophy of what we've been talking about in this class. His classic is *Schools Without Failure* and his other books on control theory show that

traditional, coercive management practices are the root of our organizational and educational problems.

John Leonard (1993). *The last innocent white man in America*. (Now in regular bookstores.)

Jennifer Louder (1992). *The woman's comfort book: A self-nurturing guide for restoring balance in your life*. San Francisco: Harper.

This is a wonderful book for both men and women, filled with creative, gentle suggestions for taking care of ourselves. Body-and-soul sustenance to make the hard times easier and the good times better.

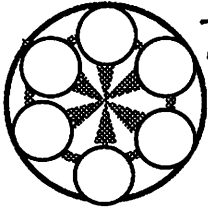
Roger von Oech. *A kick in the seat of the pants* and *A wack on the side of the head*. In bookstores or write; PO Box 7354, Menlo Park CA 94026.

Really great books on thinking and being more creatively!

People First of Washington. (1992). *No More BS! A realistic survival guide for disability rights activists*. From: People First, WA People First, PO Box 648 Clarkston, WA 99403

Bob Williams says, 'Speak up for what you know is right and speak as one united voice. Remember - we have power in our hearts and in each other. We must break the silence.' This guide surely is the voice! People First of WA and Victoria Medgysi have put together a comprehensive resource guide for everything you always wanted to know about self advocacy. Most important, self-advocates speak up in this book about everything from staking the claim for disability rights, why and how to organize, how to take power (the self advocacy way!) to community action and connecting with brothers and sisters.

Daniel Manus Pinkwater. *The big orange splot!*



# The Learning Community

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*Together we're better!*

April 25, 1993

To: Learning Community Participants

From: Marsha Forest, Judith Snow, John O'Brien, Jack Pearpoint, & Evy Lusthaus

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We are looking forward to meeting you soon!

Marsha + John +  
Jack + Evy  
+ Judith





# McGill

Centre for Educational Leadership  
Centre de perfectionnement du  
leadership en éducation  
McGill University

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3724 rue McTavish  
Montréal, Québec  
H3A 1Y2

Telephone: (514) 398-7044  
Facsimile: (514) 398-7436

June 9, 1992

Dear Summer Institute Instructors,

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in a few weeks -- the Institute seems to arrive so quickly.

Marsha and I met several weeks ago, and planned out details for this year's Institute. Everything looks good!

Within McGill, we have had some administrative changes, and I am very happy about them. The administration of the Institute is being transferred to McGill's Centre for Educational Leadership. This is a unit that does research and training about educational issues, and they have good experience in running training events like ours.

Because they are able to pay instructors, your check this year will be coming from them. Enclosed you will find a contract from them. Please be sure to contact Sylvia Sklar, coordinator of the Centre, if you have any questions about it. I'm sure you will be happy to see that we were able to raise your reimbursement to \$4500.

Please keep all your receipts for expenses. I hope it is not necessary to submit them, but I'm not yet certain. I am trying to get this clarified with McGill.

The Institute is completely full and we have had to turn applicants away. I tried very hard to respect your requests about size limits for your classes. Lots of people are coming in groups - it's very exciting to see teams from the same school board, association or agency.

Please let me know if there is anything you need. As usual, we will have a short meeting on Sunday evening, after an informal welcome to the participants (7:00). I look forward to seeing you all very soon,

Fondly,



5 August 1993.

34a Daffome Road  
Tooting, London SW17 8TZ

Dear Marsha & Jack,

Well, your Fax Machine was not at all welcoming of my wonderful message - in fact the lady in the Fax shop said it would cost me £5 to be told that you are both away on holiday, why she didn't charge me because she told my attendant "That little lady is so brave, she keeps me going..... always smiling even with her terrible problems....."!! Oh well.

Yes, I will come to McGill next year to be a resource person. I cannot imagine how at the moment, but I have a year to think about it. I realized after the Summer School, and after talking to some of the disabled people there, that we have developed a unique resource in the U.K. which we call Disability Equality Training, and that consequently we have developed a more complex analysis of the creation of 'disability', and how to help people change their understandings & practices. I could find no equivalent in <sup>the</sup> North American Disability Movement, and perhaps this is why we find ourselves talking at cross-purposes sometimes.

For the Brochure, please say I am a survivor of the Segregated Education System in the U.K, a parent, a trainer, an author, and co-ordinator of a National Campaign for Inclusive Education.

We had a wonderful time in Canada, both at McGill and afterwards in Toronto & Quebec. I'm full of ideas as to how to develop our own strategies here. My 'Team' are very excited. - Government have 'Given up' over publishing competitive League Tables and some of the worst aspects of



National performance Testing. This is good news for us.  
 They are also 'slimming down' the National Curriculum and  
 allowing teachers more scope and flexibility in lesson-planning.  
 The Minister for Education has become "ill" and had to go  
 to "Hospital" so he cannot explain why they have made  
 these decisions so soon after their crashing defeat in a recent  
 by-election.....

I will write soon and send you a present, but  
 I thought I'd send this reply quickly <sup>(marcha)</sup> Thanks for  
 the photos. I have a BEAUTY of you and Herb.  
 lots of love, micheline & Lucy. XXXX

An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure

Postcode

Micheline Mason  
 31a Daffern Road  
 Tooting, SW17 8TZ  
 England.

Name and address of sender

Aerogramme



Royal Mail International



Marsha Forest & Jack Pierpont  
 24 Thome Crescent  
 Toronto, Ontario,  
 CANADA M6H 2S5

By air mail  
 Par avion

Great Britain  
 Postage  
 Paid







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(514) 398-4758

2 August 1993

Dr. Marsha Forest  
Department of Educational & Counselling Psychology  
3700 McTavish

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Dr. Forest:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Governors, in accordance with the University Statutes, has reappointed you part-time Adjunct Professor in the Department of Educational & Counselling Psychology, Faculty of Education, for the term beginning **September 1st, 1993** and ending **August 31st, 1995**. This appointment does not confer eligibility for tenure.

This letter of appointment and the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff, as in force from time to time, form the whole contract of your University appointment and no derogation or amendment or understanding relating thereto has any validity unless approved by the Board of Governors and communicated to you in writing by its Secretary-General.

On behalf of the Board of Governors I congratulate you on your reappointment and express the hope that you will continue to enjoy your responsibilities here at McGill.

Sincerely,

R. David Bourke  
Secretary-General

/gj

cc: Dean of Education  
Chair of Educational & Counselling Psychology