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Palingenesis™

n. regeneration (lit. & fig.); revival; (from Gk)

Caring for Our Own™

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

Summer 2012

THREE CHEERS FOR STRATFORD'S PAL PLACE



Photo: Amanda Ryan

Pal Stratford has been successful in receiving a grant of \$750,000 from the *City of Stratford*, and in securing a \$400,000 mortgage on their recently acquired property. This funding will permit the 5 units of affordable accommodation to be created in the building (*shown here*), centrally located in downtown Stratford.

While several hurdles had to be overcome, most importantly a rezoning of the site to permit the development of apartments, a Building Permit has now been obtained and "shovels are in the ground". More accurately, renovation work is now fully in progress.

Pal Place in Stratford will open early in 2013.

AGM HAS PAL CANADA ON UPSWING

The Annual General Meeting of *PAL Canada Foundation* was held in Toronto on 25th June. Those in attendance acknowledged with gratitude and some relief that, in these days of economic difficulty, PAL appears to be making headway in its struggle to better serve the senior artists of Canada due, in no small part, to the leadership of our organization and their caring determination.

Encouraging reports were tabled regarding our financial situation, and the strength and progress of our Chapters was abundantly demonstrated through a number of positive reports to the meeting.

The difficulties suddenly created as a result of our President-elect Ron Haney's indisposition was met with determination and greater resolve to continue our move forward until Ron is able to return.

RON HANEY IS FORCED TO WITHDRAW

On the eve of our Annual General Meeting, at which he was expected to be confirmed as PAL's new President, *Ron Haney* was forced to resign from the Board due to health reasons. Still in recuperation from acute appendicitis, he was just informed further surgery would be necessary and has withdrawn from active participation in PAL activities until his health improves.

Displaying a burning desire and determination to help move PAL forward, Ron promises to return to the PAL Board as soon as able.

His many friends and colleagues in PAL wish him a speedy recovery. A Motion to that effect was passed unanimously at the AGM on June 25th.

"SURVEY RESULTS SAY....."

The *Research and Communications Committee*, responsible for this newsletter, the PAL website and related social networks, has upgraded the website. Completely revised, making it more informative, interactive and easier to use, it boasts a plethora of new articles and links on a wide range of subjects.



Articles are submitted bi-monthly and archived after a period of time but will remain accessible. Regular updating will encourage repeat visits. Articles are written and selected by our knowledgeable researcher, Gail Packwood (*shown in photo here*). (Con't on Page 6....)

WHAT, ANOTHER #%@&*! SURVEY?

The moving finger writes.....

Those of you who participated in our recent website survey have provided some interesting and useful information on recent changes and on proposed future ones. At the same time, we have learned a considerable amount about our participants and, through them, some general conclusions about our members attitudes, knowledge and hopes, in general, for PAL.

Of particular interest to this publication, of course, were responses relating to *Palingenesis*. Were we performing well? How thoroughly do members read each Issue? Are there areas not sufficiently covered or perhaps are written about more often than necessary?

You will find another short survey on Page 8 of this Issue. We are not being redundant here. The website survey involved the use of a computer but there are many members who are not computer-literate or who may have missed the website survey for other reasons. We want to learn what our "print-literate" members are thinking too so we've devised this small series of questions for you, if you wish to participate. For those able to submit results by computer, do so. For those wanting to send written responses through Canada Post, mail your reply to PAL Canada. Address information for both is found on the lower right of this page.

Your response will assist us in the selection of articles and in forming our approach to items being considered for future publication. Thank you in advance.

We recently learned, from a small, local questionnaire, that members like to have things more fully explained, such as the breadth of artists PAL serves -it's not just performers- and to re-explain things, from time to time. As one website respondent said, the website content was useful because, "It reminds me of stuff I already know." We've heard similar comments from other sources as well. Reiteration can reinforce our convictions.

The notion that we all may need reminding of the many services provided by PAL throughout Canada, and of the sometimes amazing manner in which we are able to do so, prompts us to note that PAL is an organization founded totally on volunteerism. We were founded by volunteers, continued by volunteers and expanded by them. We continue operating as a volunteer organization and, while it might become necessary to provide some small financial recompense in some part-time areas from time to time, we pride ourselves in accomplishing so much, thanks to the dedication to the PAL Idea of our many volunteers.

We hear so often how effective we are and how our efforts are appreciated, and such praise is heartening. Volunteerism comes with a cost, however, and the need to replenish our ranks, as well as the physical and emotional reservoirs of those in the trenches, is constantly with us. Altruism sometimes takes a toll, but it has its rewards too....in a simple word of thanks for what we do.

And having writ moves on.....

LETTERS

Editor: Re Palingenesis Winter Issue

A great publication - and grand news about the "lodge" in Stratford.

-Martha Henry

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Exec. Director Paul Shaw

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

We have continued to make good forward progress and shall continue to do so and there is good news from our PAL communities across the country to back that up.

Reviewing progress on our *3-Year Strategic Plan* adopted in 2010 we see we achieved 70% of the goals. It was time to assess what we hadn't achieved and why, and to reset our objectives. We did this throughout November and January and, in concert with input from the *Chapter Liaison and Support Committee*, new objectives were adopted by the Board in March and have become the initiatives for this "new Board year".

Generally speaking these objectives involve building on the strength of our national reach, taking concrete steps to expand our sphere of influence and extending our capacity to provide educational support for new and existing Chapters.

The next steps called for President-elect Ron Haney and myself to make recommendations about moving forward on the plan. However, this is presently on hold until decisions are finalized by our new Board under Acting President, *Jane Heyman*.

As always, our power to achieve our ambitious objectives comes down to our ability to raise money. We are making advances in building our knowledge of fundraising and we have been doing somewhat better lately in the charitable moneys we have been able to bring in from enhanced relationships with associations such as the ACTRA Fraternal Benefit Society, the International Association of Theatrical Stage Employees and the Bank of Montreal. Already this year we have exceeded our modest budgeted objective by 100% with the year only half over.

The *Executive Committee* and the chair of the *Development Committee* have approved the concept of engaging a *development intern* to assist in seeking monies from appropriate sources. We have developed a job description, and have received four (4) expressions of interest already. New laws governing intern contracts require further thought before proceeding but, once we have chosen our *Development Intern* and given her/him the appropriate orientation, we shall move on to the next set of potential partnerships and methods of solicitation.

PAL has done a lot this year though we still have a lot to get on with, as usual. I would like to say how pleasing are the strides we have made. I trust we shall maintain our momentum.

PAL Stratford received its City Building Permit. Construction is under way. Occupancy is planned for the New Year.

NEW MEMBERS ANNOUNCED FOR BOARD OF PAL STRATFORD

President *John Banks* has announced that *PAL Stratford* recently added new Board members. They are *Richard Fitzpatrick*, an actor recently seen in the Global TV series *Bomb Girls* and a former Board member and Vice-President of PAL Stratford, and *George Jansen*, owner of *West End Pharmacy*, who has a strong interest in the Arts. The Stratford Chapter has also been fortunate in recruiting *Allan Tye*, a retired teacher, to serve as *Recording Secretary*, along with *Kel Morin-Parsons*, a university teacher, administrator and actor and *Milton van der Veen*, a life-long teacher who, for 23 years, served as a director/producer of educational television programs for *TV Ontario*. Milton has also become PAL Stratford's Webmaster for palstratford.org.



LOVELY OLD HOME BEING REDESIGNED INTO PAL PLACE

Here are some further photos, courtesy of *Amanda Ryan*, showing the beginning of the transformation taking place at 101 Brunswick Street in Stratford. We hope to provide photo updates of the project.

The property is being renovated into 5 separate units comprising one Bachelor Suite and four 1-bedroom suites. Work is now moving ahead and the building is expected to be ready for occupancy early in 2013.





Affordable accommodations progress -Redevelopment guidelines have been altered as the City adopted new redevelopment plans

in the last year or so. Also, we are now changing horses in mid-stream with City Council Elections in the Fall.

Halifax's new *HRM by Design* concept has designated the North End area where our proposed affordable accommodation land is located as (new terminology) a "commercial corridor". This is a good / not-so-good scenario. It allows our development partner to build in a beneficially designated area, but it requires that he jump through some newly constructed hoops. Nothing really insurmountable, but it does set the project back a few steps in having to adjust the plans yet again. Nevertheless, we sally forth!

Engaging members -Transportation for PAL Halifax members is problematical. They are not concentrated in one or two areas, but spread all over Halifax Regional Municipality. Our better coordination of times and locations will help further establish our work such as Supporting Cast services - the soul of PAL. We will tackle membership problems through much improved communications and the development of regular and timely gatherings and notifications. Not an easy task, but then who said it would be?!

-Dan MacDonald



Our Annual Scrabble® with the Stars fundraiser -our 8th- was held in early April this year, in The Acadian Court, and was a healthy financial

success raising well over \$56,000.

The building- PAL Place successfully addressed some major building structural problems and experienced some challenges addressing the updated Toronto Fire Code which required many adjustments to hall and wall items as well as mobility aids and 'old comfortable habits'. All is now peaceful.

Assisted Care- There was increased discussion for the need of more Assisted Care for PAL residents, leading to investigation of the possibility of hiring one or two PAL Place Personal Support Workers. This project is ongoing.

Celebrity Club-The PAL Place Celebrity Club had a healthy and happy 2011 and continues to be one of the popular spots for fun and entertainment on The Esplanade!

Supporting Cast- SC was steadily busy and continues its work in all manners of 'Outreach' for PAL residents and members of the Arts, on and off site. ↗

Town Hall Meetings- The Toronto Board held two 'Town Hall' meetings where residents were able to learn about Board responsibilities as well as the committees and sub committees; to share and exchange concerns of PAL Place. These meetings have been well received and will continue in the future. The work of PAL Canada is truly a gigantic challenge but then challenges are what keep us alive!

-Patty Gail Peaker

As reported earlier, last February PAL Stratford purchased property, a former Bed and Breakfast, with plans that it would become the *Pal Lodge* in Stratford. This has been our major preoccupation over the last few months. We were successful in receiving some \$ 750,000 from the City of Stratford. A mortgage was also secured for \$ 400,000. This funding is a major contribution



and will permit us to create 5 units of affordable housing. We have successfully overcome several hurdles, most importantly a rezoning in order to permit redevelopment. We then had to obtain engineering studies to determine the structural and mechanical state of the house and to define work that needed to be done. Architectural drawings had to be prepared, studied and revised on several occasions. The five units will offer 1 Bachelor Suite and 4 one-bedroom suites.

We are now planning our major, annual fundraiser *Expect the Extraordinary*, which will be held October 15th. in the Festival's *Avon Theatre*.

Finally, I am pleased to report that the PAL Stratford webpage now benefits from the skills of a webmaster. The page has now been substantially improved and, we hope, more accessible and informative. Please check out our website at palstratford.org. - John Banks

OTTAWA



We will hold an inaugural General Meeting in September, to elect a Board to succeed the Steering Committee and the Founding Directors. We owe a vote of thanks for the work on this to *Alison Atkins*,

who, although not a theatre professional, was one of the founders of the original *Theatre Guild in Whitehorse*.

Since we have not yet established a client base, we have not started fundraising yet, but have been lucky in acquiring a Communications Director, Emmanuelle Coutu, a singer now pursuing management studies. in this position. (Cont'd Page 6)



Our community has initiated a number of benefits for PAL

Winnipeg over the last year. In total these member-initiated benefits raised almost \$6,000 for PAL Winnipeg.

We are very keen to reinvigorate our *Supporting Cast Committee*. This committee represents the very tangible activity that would help define and strengthen our housing project. It speaks to a community wanting to help each other - just what we are trying to build in our PAL. The Supporting Cast will help us to identify and address the support needs that already exist in our community.

Our biggest immediate challenge is Membership and it is our task to galvanize the Winnipeg Arts community. Each and every member of PAL Winnipeg is challenged to encourage membership - membership is a vote of support from our community that speaks to all the funders and partners we need to make our housing project rise. It is my hope that by this time next year we will see much increased membership.

-Rea Kavanagh



PAL Calgary has been pausing to regroup and reassess. We hope they are back to their creative submissions in the near future.

-Ed



PAL EDMONTON

We're picking up the pace. We're widening the circle.

We've held three design charettes (see photo on page 7) with our architects, *Kasian Architecture* and 40 prospective occupants of the building to be called the *Artist Quarters*. Three exciting, lively, and creative meetings, bursting with interest and speculation about the possibilities of the project moving forward, refining what we're creating and how it will serve its owners/tenants and fit into a completely revitalized area of the city.

(continues *Up Right* ↗)

(PAL EDMONTON Artists Urban Village Cont'd)

We're waiting for the architect's results, a first feasibility study, which we'll use to generate more funding for the second phase. It will also begin our marketing of the building and its spaces, for it won't go up unless it's fully occupied before the first shovel's turned.

Dizzy, exhilarating times.

- Robert Clinton



In March, *Western Gold Theatre Society* produced a staged reading of *Waiting In the Wings*, donating to PAL Vancouver net proceeds of their two public readings on the Easter weekend at

the *PAL Studio Theatre*.

The *PALS Chorus*—including residents and other 55+ locals, under the direction of *Lonnie Delisle*—presented a fall concert, a fun and eclectic repertoire of pop favourites, including their interpretation of *Lady Gaga, Adele, Billy Joel* and others. Special guest performers included residents *June Katz, Don Stewart* and *Lorraine Foster*.

That was the beginning of a busy June. With a project grant from PAL Studio Theatre, *So You Think You Can Write*, spearheaded by residents *Yvonne Adalian* (director) and *Camilla Ross* (producer), issued a call across Canada for new scripts, up to ten minute in duration, and received more than 30 scripts. Nine pieces were selected to be performed as staged readings at PAL Studio Theatre, by four actors in various combinations: *Eileen Barrett, Dolores Drake, Michael Patric* and *Ari Solomon*. Two of the performed scripts were by resident *Mark McConchie*.

Mid-June saw *Like-Minded Co-op's* production of *Morris Panych's* international hit *Vigil*. *Kim Selody* directed *Anna Hagan* (a much cheekier old Auntie) and *Alan Zinyk* (one of the west's finest comedic actors) as the impatient nephew. Net proceeds to PAL Vancouver.

Up next, PAL Studio Theatre produces its 3rd annual July 1st free *Canada Day Party*, beginning with a Pancake Breakfast in our rooftop garden, an antique car show in the street and a dance party in our theatre in the evening. The building is abuzz with preparations.

-Ellie O'Day and Gary Glacken

CSARN LAUNCH A MUTED AFFAIR

Canadian Senior Artists Research Network (CSARN) had its public launch 16 April with a series of seminars on artist-related topics held at *Pal Place*, Toronto. The series, sponsored by Morneau-Shepell, a supplier of health services to Actra Fraternal, met a number of stumbling blocks in this, its first direct contact with senior artists, when it was unable to be delivered as advertised. Apparently because of cost and privacy considerations recording of the sessions could not take place and webcasting was abandoned, although *Garry Neil*, Interim Executive Director, has stated that at least parts of the sessions may be available in recorded format at some future point. Unfortunately, this meant only senior artists living in Toronto were able to attend (plus one French language session in Montreal). Since all the English sessions were held in Pal Place, most of the attendees were PAL members already familiar with information and services available because of the work of our *Supporting Cast* programmes. Numbers dwindled from the opening session to the end.

There have been delays in establishing a web presence and CSARN has yet to open a permanent office, although plans call for much of the organizational work to be completed by this Fall, and funds have been raised to underwrite staffing costs. More funds are being sought for setting up a number of client-related facilities (such as an 800 number for calls directly to a resource person, and the creation of the functioning 'electronic resource centre' itself). PAL has hopes that these teething problems will be dealt with soon so the intentions of CSARN may be integrated into the provision of services which we see as critical to the present and future needs of our older artists. An encouraging note is the recent allocation of funding for a mentoring programme in the near future.

CSARN was formed to assist older artists in various areas of their work lives. Participating organizations hope it will provide a web-based resource centre with information and live assistance, to guide artists in finding programmes fitting their needs. It will also work through existing organizations to maintain and expand established programmes and help in creating services not now available.

The potential is great for a coordinating network working to help our older colleagues, and participating groups are to be thanked for guiding CSARN through its formative stage and laying the groundwork for the fulfillment of its potential. PAL continues supporting this noble endeavour struggling to maintain integrity amongst sometimes questionable

Survey Cont'd...

This spring, *Rosie Shaw* helped prepare an online User Survey. The response was generally very positive and results have provided the Committee with valuable information.

81% of those responding found the site "easy" or "very easy" to navigate. 70% found the information "excellent" or "good". Most popular topics included Cultural Affairs, (21%); affordable Housing (25%); Aging (19%) and Event Information/Ways to Get Involved (16%). We will be focussing on these topics in the coming year.

Respondents suggested more articles on Physical Health, Mental Health, Municipal Affairs and Financial Matters would be appreciated. We also hope to respond to these suggestions in the coming months.

JOHN BANKS HONOURED

He served PAL over many years and in many capacities, recently retiring as Past President. John Banks was honoured for that devotion with the presentation of a memento by acting President Marston earlier this year in Stratford. That does not mean he is severing ties with PAL. Far from it!

John is Founder and long serving President of PAL Stratford and central to its tremendous growth and success during the years. With the opening of its own lodge only months away, he will be concentrating on overseeing a major funding drive and other activities. He will no doubt maintain that keen interest in the national affairs of PAL also.



(PAL Ottawa Chapter Notes Cont'd...)

We are particularly happy to have a fluently bilingual person in this position. Also, *Supporting Cast* is led by *Michael Namer* and *Mitzi Hauser*.

Meanwhile, we're recruiting volunteers and will be partnering with the VON for training in the Fall.

-Jim Bradford

FLASH!

Ottawa has just received official Letters of incorporation and will be coming on board as a formal PAL Chapter imminently.

PAL PLACE GARDEN GROWING ANXIOUS

The gardens are revealing exciting plantings and usable areas. In this photo, some of the greenery wants to take up residency right away.

According to Allan Watts PAL Stratford's garden designer, the new lodge has much potential for a number of delightful garden oases on the property.



Photo by Amanda Ryan

PAL EDMONTON BASHES AHEAD

Readers will shake their heads in admiration at the swiftness with which our Edmonton Chapter keeps pushing things forward.



A photo from one of PAL Edmonton's design charrettes

Embarked on their 2nd arts-related building, our western colleagues expect to be able to provide affordable housing for even

more artists when this project, called *The Artists Quarters*, is operating. PAL Edmonton (**Artists Urban Village**) has partnered with *Arts Habitat Edmonton* and the *City of Edmonton* to create the new facility as an integral part of the redevelopment of Edmonton's downtown east side.

PLACES PLEASE

-A Call for Funding Assistance

The major challenge now being addressed by PAL Stratford is paying off the mortgage. To this end a fundraising campaign "Places Please" has been launched.

More information is available on the PAL Stratford website: palstratford.org. You may also contact the Campaign Coordinator, **John David Sterne** at: 519-272-5804 or at jds@stratfordartistsmanagement.ca. Final details are being put into place for this Capital Campaign to raise \$400,000, PAL Stratford's undertaking towards the elimination of the mortgage.

DISAPPOINTED BUT UNDAUNTED

-PAL Winnipeg Soldiers On

Through last Summer and Fall Winnipeg's historic *James Street Pump House* was explored as a possible site for a PAL Winnipeg development. The property was owned by *CentreVenture*, the *City of Winnipeg's Development Corporation*, and was the focus of PAL Winnipeg's first application for provincial funding. However the site was not secured, nor was a later application for *Senior's Housing* successful.

The first needs assessment survey elicited an unexpectedly small number of interested individuals and other housing models were considered. A decision to pursue mixed *Co-Op Housing* was made, with the hope of serving both our senior artists and other individuals. We also started discussing other properties. Talks with *Qualico's Streetside Division* elicited a letter of interest from "Streetside" regarding a turnkey development for another building, and thus information about a specific development was able to be included in yet another application to the Province in November. The call, for *Expressions of Interest for Mixed Family Housing*, achieved a larger number of respondents (26 of whom would be ready to move within 6 months) and a proposal for a PAL Co-Op was submitted. Sadly, this application also proved unsuccessful although it did make it through the first round of bureaucratic scrutiny. Progress.

So, while these difficulties have proven very disappointing, both applications, as well as an unsuccessful one for *Provincial Project Development Funding*, have revealed the areas where PAL Winnipeg will expand its efforts beyond the identification of a suitable site. Onward and upward, as they say, and PAL Winnipeg remains undaunted, a shining example of determination and drive.

BRIEF PALINGENESIS SURVEY

Do you receive Palingenesis each quarter?
 Yes No Don't know

How often do you read it?
 Every edition Some editions Never

How would you rate the information?
 Excellent Good OK Bad Very Bad

Do you find enough useful information on:

	Yes	No	N/A
PAL Canada	Yes	No	N/A
Chapter Info & News	Yes	No	N/A
Chapter Formation	Yes	No	N/A
Health Issues	Yes	No	N/A
Cultural Affairs	Yes	No	N/A
Municipal Affairs	Yes	No	N/A
Finance Info PAL/Personal	Yes	No	N/A
Affordable Housing	Yes	No	N/A
Aging	Yes	No	N/A
Fundraising & Donations	Yes	No	N/A
Events/How to Get Involved	Yes	No	N/A
Contact Information	Yes	No	N/A

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Surveys (unsigned) may be submitted:
 via e-mail palingenesis@eastlink.ca, or mailed to
 Palingenesis, PAL Canada (Address Page 2)

WEST COAST MAKES CHANGES

PAL Vancouver has appointed *Miro Kinch* as *Interim President* following *Paul Plater's* move out of the area. PAL Van also decided to hold its *Annual General Meeting* this year in September.

KELLY HANDEREK LEAVES BOARD

The Board of PAL Canada has reluctantly accepted the resignation of *Kelly Handerek*, longtime representative from Saskatchewan. Kelly cited his increased university workload, which takes him out of the country for long spells, as his reason. He leaves amidst much applause from PAL.

EVENTS

What's Coming Up in PAL Chapters

PAL VANCOUVER

-19 July, 2012

PAL STUDIO THEATRE OPEN HOUSE
Noon-6PM

Come See What's New

PAL OTTAWA

-September, 2012

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
To Elect Founding Board of Directors

PAL STRATFORD

-15 October, 2012

EXPECT THE EXTRAORDINARY
In Stratford Festival's
Avon Theatre

PAL HALIFAX

- 19 October, 2012

SCRABBLE® WITH THE STARS
in former *WINDOWS Restaurant*
Halifax Trade Centre

PLEASE NOTE

RE: CONTACT INFORMATION →

Some information in this list may have/should be/
has changed.

Please check the accuracy of your information.

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