



Media Release

For Immediate Release

June 12, 2013

The Cowan Foundation Supports Children and Families in the Guelph- Wellington Community

Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County (F&CS) has received a \$12,500 grant from The Cowan Foundation in support of the Agency's Prevention and Early Help Program, a program of the Children First Fund.

The Children First Fund has been established to provide financial assistance to much needed programs which are not currently funded through the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. It has been through the generous support from the individuals, businesses and organizations within the community that the Agency has been able to launch these programs. The Prevention and Early Help Program offers supports and services for vulnerable families, children and youth who do not require traditional child protection services and their families need help.

"We are pleased to support The Early Help Program because it engages participants in solutions that have the potential for providing clear and compelling positive changes," explained Larry Ryan, President, Frank Cowan Company. "By focusing on ensuring the safety and well-being of children in Guelph and Wellington County, the program has far reaching impacts now and in the future."

"I am pleased that The Cowan Foundation has chosen a project in the community we are active in," says Tom Waind of the Ostic Group. Tom is a local broker and representative for Frank Cowan Company.

All families have challenges from time to time. Those that have networks, resources and supports to problem-solve see that those challenges do not harm their children. Not all families have access to support so that when problems become intractable, children can be harmed. Undoing harm is extremely difficult, with these children more likely to struggle with mental health issues, addictions and deep vulnerability as they grow into adulthood.

Daniel Moore, Executive Director of Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County offers: "We are grateful for the financial support to our Children First Fund as it allows us to support children and families in our community who may be struggling and need help before their issues become deeper and more difficult to address. We have a long history with Frank Cowan Company and Cowan Insurance Group and are pleased that The Cowan Foundation has chosen to invest again in the Guelph- Wellington community."

For more information:

Daniel Moore

Executive Director
Family & Children's Services of
Guelph and Wellington County
Tel: 519-824-2410
colleen.reardon@fcsgw.org

Lynne Short

Director, Communications & Community Relations
The Cowan Foundation/ Princeton Holdings Limited
Cambridge, ON
Tel: (519) 650-6363 ext. 31608
lynne.short@princetonholdings.com



From left to right: Tom Waind (Vice President, The Ostic Group), Steve Smith, (Regional Manager, Frank Cowan Company) and Daniel Moore (Executive Director, Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County)

About Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County

Established over 100 years ago, Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County (also known as the Children's Aid Society) was created to support families and protect children from physical, emotional and sexual abuse or neglect. Any one of the following issues impact a family's ability to care for children: isolation, poverty, family violence, serious mental health issue, or serious substance abuse. Family & Children's Services knows from experience that if families can be supported before things get to a crisis point and they make other connections in their neighbourhood that this process will help to protect children and youth from harm.

About The Cowan Foundation

The Cowan Foundation was started in 1995 in honour of Frank Cowan, the founder of Cowan Insurance Group and Frank Cowan Company. The Foundation is sustained by the ongoing success of the Princeton Holdings group of companies including Cowan Insurance Group, Frank Cowan Company, The Guarantee Company of North America and Millennium CreditRisk Management. Together they provide insurance and risk management products and services for individuals, businesses, organizations and public entities as well as assist employers with their group benefits, retirement and health and disability management plans. The goal of The Cowan Foundation is to make a positive difference in the lives of Canadians and the broader well-being of our communities. www.cowanfoundation.ca