

The Public Good Society of Dartmouth



On behalf of *The Public Good Society of Dartmouth*, we'd like to thank you for the invitation to be part of the community panel at your recent visioning weekend. It was a marvellous opportunity for us to share something of the Society's work in the downtown area and to have input from Christ Church parishioners. For those who may not have been in attendance for the presentation, here's a little background and history.

“When I sit down in solitude to the labours of my profession, the only questions I ask myself are, what is right? what is just? what is for the public good?” This was a statement made in 1835 by journalist, politician and public servant, Joseph Howe. Throughout his public life he sought to make this province the best it could be for all its citizens. In late 2004, Howe's sense of social justice

inspired a group of community members representing residents, business, health, community services, the voluntary sector, and government, to form *The Public Good Society of Dartmouth*, a non-profit organization dedicated to these same principles. In particular, we are committed to advocating on behalf of, and enhancing the level of support and its effectiveness, for people living in vulnerable circumstances in our community.

The Public Good Society's 2006 Core Service User Survey of consumers heard firsthand about the well-being of those surveyed and what services they would find most useful. Based on this information, the Board of Directors developed the *Connections that WORK* Project.

This project is currently helping users of core services, such as hot meal programs and food banks, to connect with programs they identify as next steps towards employment and self-reliance. The project's outreach person, Kevin Little, regularly visits Margaret's House and Dartmouth food banks, including Christ Church's, and provides information, support and refer-

rals to other services in the community. Not only does *The Public Good Society* raise awareness and understanding about the root causes of the complex social issues facing the Dartmouth area, it is helping to identify gaps in service and policy and to broaden support services for vulnerable persons. Improved coordination of community-based services delivered by all levels of government and the voluntary sector is a more efficient use of human and financial resources.

Christ Church has long been a leader in the areas of social justice and outreach. As we share the same passion for all members of our community, we would like to thank you for all the work you do in the neighbourhood. Together we are making a real difference.

with kind regards,

Marilyn More, MLA

The Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith

To learn more about the Society's work, visit our website
h t t p : / /
www.publicgoodsociety.ca

Smile Pretty, it's being preserved!!

The Historical Committee is busy planning their June Display. This years theme will be "Comings and Goings". *How appropriate!* Anyways, they are looking for your pictures that you may have taken at any church event this year that you would like to share and add to their archive.

Any or all church events are relevant!!!

All pictures will be copied and returned to the photographer. Don't be shy!!! Spread the word and click those shutters.

