

International Family Day Care Conference UCC – Cork – July 2009

Message from outgoing President of IFDCO Patricia Murray

The IFDCO Conference was a great success, with excellent feedback from the delegates, particularly with regard to the quality and range of keynote speakers and seminar presentations.

Even the weather was kind! It rained as we were in plenary sessions and the sun shone as we move about the splendid UCC campus and for the tours.

There were 200 delegates from all over the world, with strong representation from Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Japan. Europe, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and England were also represented. Many delegates made a family holiday, taking in an extended holiday in Ireland.

This conference marked the end of the Irish IFDCO Presidency 2006 – 2009 and the World Presidency has now passed to Australia – to Grace McDonald in Brisbane. Grace will host the next IFDCO International Conference there in 2012 – so start saving now!

The task of putting the conference papers on the IFDCO and *Childminding Ireland* websites is underway and a conference report is being prepared and will be posted in due course.

A big thank you is due to the Board of Directors of *Childminding Ireland* who were enthusiastic about hosting the conference and the commitment of staff time involved. Without this support and encouragement, and without the support of the following sponsors, the conference would not have been possible. Our thanks to all our sponsors