

Connections

Pilot Parents is Back!

By Sarah Winter and Bonnie Heath

On March 23rd, Community Living Toronto re-launched its Pilot Parents Program at the Connecting Families Forum. Pilot Parents was developed in order to provide parents with the opportunity to share and support each other at different stages of their child's development, such as early newborn/toddler years, and starting school. We have many ways for parents to connect, such as: face to face time (parents' groups, one-on-one meetings), warm line (telephone supports), public forums, Connect**ABILITY**.ca and Facebook. You can contact your regional Volunteer Coordinator if you are interested in becoming a member. Below is a story that was shared by Bonnie Heath on how important the friendship of another parent can be:

A couple of months ago, I was asked if I would call a young mother who was pregnant with a baby who has Down syndrome. The mother had also found out that the baby had a heart condition. I hadn't been active with the Pilot Parents for years, as my daughter is now 27 years old and life had taken us into different directions. I said yes because the situation was very similar to when my daughter Jenny was born, except back then we didn't know that she had Down syndrome until after she was born. We found out the day after her birth that she also had a heart condition and they couldn't tell us at the time how bad it was.

It's funny, because you think all that is behind you, and can't affect you anymore, but all the feelings and memories come flooding back, and it seems like it just happened. Except now you are reflecting over many years and I know how things turned out. At the time you don't know what to expect and are scared to death, on the outcome. It turned out Jenny had a hole in her heart – it affected three out of four chambers in her heart and the mitral value was split in half. This meant the blood was swishing around the three chambers and eventually some would make its way to

the fourth chamber and out to the rest of her body. It took us eleven long months to get Jenny up to ten pounds so they could operate. She was born weighing seven pounds.

Like I said, reflection is a lot easier, and knowing Jenny as an adult is amazing. She has grown into quite the young independent woman.

So I emailed the family and told them, "Congratulations on your pregnancy, and welcome to the wonderful world of children with Down syndrome." As it turned out we live very close to each other. The mom had an amazingly positive attitude. She had a hard time getting pregnant and was thrilled. Of course the worry there was about the health of the child, but knowing ahead of time, helps to prepare the doctor at delivery. I invited her to come to meet other moms who have children with special needs. The mom came to the Parent Share meeting and felt very comfortable to be amongst a group of women who could immediately relate. Everyone shared experiences and things to do.

I told her about the wonderful things Jenny has been doing and invited the family to come visit her at her home. Unfortunately we have not been able to do that as yet, holidays came, Jenny got sick for quite a while and colds kept coming in and out of the house.

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June 2013

News

Volunteer Leadership

Honourary Patron

The Hon. David C. Onley
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Patron's Council Chair
Duncan N. R. Jackman

Founding Chair
The Hon. Barbara McDougall

Vice-Chair

Andrea Alexander

Michael Adams
The Hon. Zanana Akande
Patsy Anderson
Mary Pat Armstrong
Brad Badeau
Jalynn Bennett
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David Crombie
The Hon. William G. Davis
Michael Enright
W. Robert Farquharson
Paul Godfrey
Pooja Handa
Bob Hepburn
Dale Lastman
Dr. Kellie Leitch
Glenn McConnell
Jack Rabinovitch
Meredith Saunderson
John H. Tory

Board of Directors President

Chris Stringer

Ibrahim Absiye
Colleen Broadhurst
Anny Chow
Paul Cochrane
Lisa Ellis
Victor Figueiredo
Sherron Grant
Bonnie Heath
Morris Jesion
Mark G. Johnson
Colette Kent
David Layton
Nick Macrae
Susan McCloy
Susan G. Seller
Cay Shedden
Stefica Skof

Chief Executive Officer
Garry Pruden

Pilot Parents cont'd

We still plan to get together, so that she can see how well adults with Down syndrome can do!

I received this email from the family: "As you may recall, we are expecting our Baby Boy early March and although finding out he has Down syndrome and some heart issues has been hard, we were lucky to have connected with you.

Thank you for answering all our questions, sharing your experiences and giving us hope."

To become involved with Pilot Parent please contact the Coordinator of Volunteer Services in your region.

Scarborough Region:

Sarah Winter
647-729-1633
swinter@cltoronto.ca

Central Region:

Karla Galvez-Del Rio
647-729-1209
karla.galvez-delrio@cltoronto.ca

North York & Etobicoke Regions:

Matt Poirier
647-729-1162
matthew.poirier@cltoronto.ca

2013 Annual Regional and Self-Advocate Council Meetings

Scarborough Region

Monday, June 3rd, 6:30 pm
Lawson Dining Room
1712 Ellesmere Road

Central Region

Wednesday, June 19th, 6:30pm.
20 Spadina Road, Boardroom

North York Region

Monday, June 10th, 6:30pm
Victoria Park Hub
1527 Victoria Park Avenue,
2nd Floor
(wheelchair accessible)

Etobicoke Region

Tuesday, June 11th, 6:00pm.
Creative Village Studio
4895 Dundas Street West
(just east of Burnhamthorpe Road)
RSVP: Eric Laimer
416-729-0445
elaimer@cltoronto.ca

Self-Advocates Council

Monday June 17th, 11am-1pm
Foster Clubhouse
30 Birch Avenue

In Ontario News...

Ontario Budget

The Ontario budget was passed at the end of May, staving off an election and enabling many of the promises outlined to be implemented. Included in the budget was an increase in ODSP, as well as allowing people to keep the first \$200 of their employment income before the 50% clawback starts. These changes are part of the recommendations outlined in the Social Assistance Review Commission. We will continue to work with our partners and government to ensure that SARC recommendations benefit people with an intellectual disability.

In addition, \$42 million in new annualized dollars has been directed towards developmental services, to decrease waitlists and provide support to those with complex needs. We have yet to see how these new dollars will be implemented, but the Ministry should announce details in the coming weeks.

The government will work to encourage people with disabilities to take advantage of the Registered Disability Support Program.

A new youth employment strategy that will help young people, including people with special needs, to find and secure employment.

Day at the Legislature

This annual event was held once again on May 13, and over 100 people came from Community Living organizations to celebrate. This event is a partnership between CLOntario and CLToronto and is a great opportunity to meet MPPs and discuss issues that affect people with an intellectual disability. This year there were a few changes:

- The day was restructured to include a luncheon, which was very well attended by MPPs.
- 'Take a Break for Community Living' Kitkat bars were presented to all MPPs. Sponsored by Nestle, this treat was a great reminder to MPPs that Community Living was indeed 'in the House.'



President Chris Stringer, left, presents MCSS Minister Ted McMeekin with a 'Take A Break for Community Living' bar.

Select Committee on Developmental Disabilities

On May 16, MPP for Pickering/Ajax Christine Elliott proposed a resolution to establish a committee to review developmental disabilities, which was passed with all-party support. This resolution was passed last Fall, but was cancelled with the prorogation of the Legislature. Ms. Elliott announced that she will be working with the two other parties to establish the Select Committee as soon as possible.

The Hurdles of Letting Go

"It was my belief that Jenny must live with me, so I could protect her and make sure she does what is right for her."

That was Bonnie's belief before reading a newspaper article about a man with an intellectual disability who was suddenly left parentless, and all alone. What happened to him changed her attitude towards independence, and ultimately, what it means to 'let go.' To read the full story, visit www.lights.to

A Whole Lott More

By Louis Thomas

In the recent poor economic situation and the globalization of many industries traditionally done inside of the United States, many of the smaller companies that supported the large manufacturers are facing serious problems. Throughout the Rust Belt, an area straddling the Midwestern and Northeastern United States, many of these businesses are finding themselves and their workforce without the contracts that they depended upon to survive. One such company was Lott Industries.

Starting in the 1950's as a means to educate children with a developmental disability and to help young adults learn job skills, Lott Industries grew to include several facilities that employ 1200 workers with developmental disabilities. Finding the auto industry contracts stopping, the company has twelve months to reinvent itself. *A Whole Lott More*, featured at this year's Hot Docs Festival, tells the story of those struggles to fix a previously working model into something new through the

Q: Why were you interested in making this particular film and how did you learn about Lott Industries?

VB: I was in a car accident and on crutches for what ended up being close to two years and during the process of being incapacitated, it gave me a sure real window of how people with physical disabilities have to live. And so, from an extension of that I kind of researched life with, well, just basic employment conditions living with disabilities. And then I saw an article about Lott Industries in Toledo, Ohio that employed specifically people with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities from the community in the area. I was very curious about going there and even though I was four thousand miles away, I got on a plane and decided to check it out.

Q: Why was this an important story to tell?

VB: Well, I liked the fact that the employees of Lott really wanted to work. They were so focused on working and that's what they wanted to do. It was a way to tell a story about the economy for me from a position I hadn't quite thought of at that point. The economy affected people in many ways, they were very vulnerable within the economy, whose jobs were really at stake. These jobs meant even more than a

eyes of President Joan Browne and employees Kevin, Wanda and T.J.

The film offers a unique perspective on the changing economic situation and the difficulties those with developmental disabilities have finding employment. For them it is far more than just a pay cheque, but a lifeline to the simple dignity and self worth so many others take for granted. Far too often the stigma of developmental disabilities by employers acts as a very real barrier to the self sufficiency they are seeking. It is at the heart of the film this struggle lays, and the candor and dignity with which it is spoken about.

After a recent screening, I had a chance to sit down with *A Whole Lott More's* director Victor Buhler, and former Lott Industries President Joan Browne. Below is an excerpt. You can read the full interview by visiting www.communitylivingtoronto.ca

paycheck. In that way, the stakes were very high. So that was already appealing to me as a story.

Q: There is something to be said for having people with recognized disabilities work in the community versus having them in one particular workplace. Could I get both of you to comment on it?

VB: It's a big, big topic and something we were conscious of all way through and it's a big topic in the disability community as well. That idea of a segregated workplace. And clearly there are many instances of segregated workshops that are not only segregated, which is a problem, but also don't pay their workers enough money. There are a lot of legitimate criticisms to be had. I think the ideal is definitely what Kevin goes through, with a job in the community.

JB: We did everything. We had, I don't even like to call it a production facility, and we expected people to work and we paid minimum wage. Sometimes we paid piece rate which was a higher wage. We did one or the other, but the job coaching and those services you saw also came from Lott.

Central News

Council Listings

Central Regional Council

Chairperson
Peter Wakayama

Vice Chair
Lee Tarshis

Board Representative
Susan McCloy

**Alternate
Board Representative**
Peter Wakayama

Treasurer
Susan McCloy

Chair of Fundraising Committee
Judy Dawson

Members at Large
Paul Cochrane
David Danyluk
Kate Gilhooly
Nelson Raposo
Sandra Ricci
Alda Zimbalatti

Regional Executive Director
Frances MacNeil

Membership Coordinator
Ann-Marie Binetti
647-729-1210
abinetti@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information
Central Regional Office
20 Spadina Rd.
Toronto, Ontario
M5R 2S7

T: 416.968.0650
F: 416.968.6463

**Central Region Annual
Meeting:**
June 19th, 2013
6:30 pm
20 Spadina Road
Room 2B

Congratulations to Geoffrey Poole Central Region's Volunteer of the Year

For the past three years on Wednesday evenings, Geoff has been a devoted Volunteer with the Supper Club held at 30 Birch Ave. This program is an opportunity for individuals with an intellectual disability to come together for a delicious home-cooked meal accompanied by a friendly and social atmosphere.

When Geoff arrives at the Supper Club, he immediately puts his coat and bag aside and greets all the participants, volunteers and staff with a warm smile. He is always open to helping. Whether it is preparing the food in the kitchen, serving the food and drinks to the participants or cleaning up after dinner, he is always willing to do anything he is called upon to do. Geoff does not leave the building until he is sure that everything is completed and under control.

Geoff respects every participant, his fellow volunteers and the staff at the Supper Club. He consistently tells everyone how happy he is to see them. Every week, everyone at the Supper Club looks forward to this arrival.

This is what some of the participants had to say about Geoff:

"He is very kind-hearted and loveable"
– **Melanie**

"He is a good friend" – **Paul**
"Geoff's presence brightens up the atmosphere at 30 Birch. with his easy-going attitude and sense of humour" – **Mary**

On behalf of all staff, volunteers and participants at the Supper Club, we say a big thank you to Geoff for his dedication and service to individuals with an intellectual disability in our community.

Congratulations Geoff!



Geoff and Peter

The Kiwanis Aktion Club presents

The Famous People Players

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

Arrival at 10:30 am. Live performance at 11:00 am.

\$17.50 per person, payment received no later than June 27, 2013.

For more information, please contact: Karla Galvez-Del Rio at

karla.galvez-delrio@cltoronto.ca or 647.729.1209

Council Listings

**Etobicoke/ York
Regional Council**

Chairperson
Ann Marie Fierro

Board Representative
Stefica Skof

Alternate Board Representative
Laura Parsonson

Treasurer
Ruth Nagy

Airi Clifford
Zdenka Bilic
Mary Byne
Janina Coulthard
Wally Richards
Joan Karout
Gaston Karout
Christine LeClair
Peter Marrese
Mary Pawson
Stefica Skof
Sharon Totafurno

Regional Executive Director
Brad Saunders

Membership Coordinator
Eric Laimer
647.729.0445
elaimer@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information
Etobicoke/York
Regional Office
295 The West Mall,
Suite 204
Etobicoke, Ontario
M9C 4Z4

T: 416.236.7621
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**Annual Regional
Meeting:**
Tuesday June 11th.
6:00 pm
Creative Village Studio
4895 Dundas St. West

Etobicoke/York Volunteer of the Year Ann Marie Fierro

By: Eric Laimer



Joan Karout and Ann Marie Fierro

Ann Marie Fierro has been a member of Community Living Toronto and a Council member since the early 1980's. She is supportive of her younger sister, Rosa, who works at the Etobicoke Employment Training Services and lives in a Community Living Toronto group home in Bloor West Village. In recent years, she has become the family member responsible for Rosa.

Ann Marie became an active member of Central Council before the four regions were established. She was one of the leaders in starting the Spring Fling fundraiser, which has become one of the top annual fundraisers in the Association, and she has remained a contributor to this success over the years. For a number of years, she served as the Central Council representative to the Board of Directors.

Since joining the Etobicoke/York

Council ten years ago, she has been the leader of the annual Bowl-a-thon planning committee and has served on the Nominating Committee of the Board. For six years, she represented Etobicoke Region on the Board and is now currently in her first year as Council Chair.

Ann Marie continues to show enthusiasm, dedication, and efficiency in her varied volunteer roles. She's flexible and easy to work with and always ready to take on new tasks. By her participation in Council and Board meetings, her keen decision making ability, and her active role in annual fundraising, she has contributed her ideas, time and energy in support of the Association's mission of improving the lives of people with an intellectual disability.

Join Us!

The Etobicoke/ York Annual Regional Meeting will be on Tuesday June 11th at Creative Village Studio (4895 Dundas W.) Tour the studio and feast your eyes on some amazing art. Learn about recent developments with Community Living Toronto and vote for the 2013-2014 Council.

6:00 pm Light Buffet 7:00 pm Meeting

Contact Eric Laimer
at 647-729-0445 or
elaimer@cltoronto.ca
for details.



North York News

Council Listings

North York Regional Council

Chairperson
Nancy Ceci

Board Representative
Colleen Broadhurst

Alternate Board Representative
Morris Jesion

Treasurer
TBD

Members at Large
Teresa Bhandal
Shirley Germuska
Eva Lipa
Dr. Norbert Kerenyi

Regional Executive Director
Brad Saunders

Membership Coordinator
Wendy Dyke
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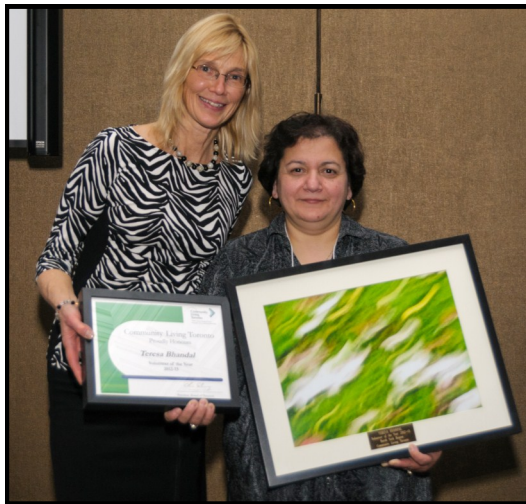
Contact Information
North York Regional Office
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Toronto, Ontario
M3J 3J5

T: 416.225.7166
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Next Council Meeting: Annual Regional Meeting

**June 10, 2013
Victoria Park Hub
1527 Victoria Park Ave.
2nd Floor
6:30 - 9:00 pm**

North York Volunteer of the Year - Teresa Bhandal



Nancy Ceci presents award to Teresa

Teresa Bhandal was named this year's North York Region's Volunteer of the Year. Teresa has been a member of Community Living Toronto since 1992, first coming into service with North York Early Childhood Services for her son, and also with the North York Parent Group for parents of Autistic children.

In 2006, Teresa became a member of North York Regional Council. She continued her work in advocating Community Living Toronto services and supports through her connections to other families. As a Council member, she contributed greatly to the goals of growing membership by taking membership forms to every function for parents of special needs children she attended. She encouraged parents to sign up and then collected the

completed forms to bring back to the Membership Coordinator for processing. She has also lent a hand with making follow up calls during our membership drives. Through her willingness to share her personal story with families of individuals in service, she was able to demonstrate how membership to Community Living Toronto can make a difference to the direction of services and supports for not only her child, but the overall sector. This unrelenting commitment to membership has help to increase the membership in North York Region by a significant number.

Teresa is a strong advocate for Community Living Toronto and truly believes in the importance of helping and mentoring others who have children with an intellectual disability. She is committed to the supports and services offered by the Association and always follows through on promises, whether it be helping with membership drives, making phone calls, or picking up food for Council events, you can count on her to be there.

Teresa frequently tells the staff at Community Living Toronto, "Thank you, thank you for all you do for me!" when the Association should be the one thanking Teresa for her support of our work and the many families she has helped. Thank you Teresa!

Scarborough News

Council Listings

Scarborough Regional Council

Co-Chairpersons
Judith Andrenacci
Alison Thomas

Board Representative
Bonnie Heath

Alternate Board Representative
Donna Britten

Treasurer
Alison Thomas

Membership Chair
Pat Sparks

Members at Large
Donna Britten
Donald Hale
Deborah White
Kathy Lisle
Ellen Armstrong
Robert Shaddock

Regional Executive Director
Sue Lynch

Membership Coordinator
Felicita Zanatta 647-729-1635
fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

Contact Information
Scarborough Regional Office
1712 Ellesmere Rd.
Scarborough, Ontario
M1H 2V5

T: 416.438.6099
F: 416.438.6144

**Scarborough Region
Council Annual Meeting:**
Monday June 3, 2013
6:30 pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd
Dining Room

Scarborough Volunteer of the Year 2013 Rendtor Erfe



Alison, Stacey and Red

For over seven years, Rendtor (Red) has volunteered at the Tuesday night Drop In program in Scarborough. This volunteer based program brings youth/young adults with and without an intellectual disabilities together in a social atmosphere and could not

continue without Red's tireless dedication.

He arrives early every week to help set up the bingo and gym and stays late to help clean up and make sure that everyone gets home safely. He is always there when someone needs a hand. Red has become pivotal to the running of the program, and when the other leads cannot attend, he takes over for them so the program can continue.

Red always has a smile on his face and that smile seems to be infectious! All the participants of the program are always so happy to see him and it is his positive attitude that rubs off on everyone!
Congrats Red!

Free RDSP Information Session

Monday June 17, 7-9pm
Scarborough Region
1712 Ellesmere Rd

**For Registration and
Information Please call**
Felicita Zanatta 647-729-1635 or
Email fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

Sessions will be presented by Brendon Pooran, a Toronto based lawyer who provides advice on wills and estate planning, Government benefits and disability law.

Hello & Farewell!!

By Felicita Zanatta

Hello everyone, you may be aware that Charles Hackbarth has resigned from his Membership Coordinator position at Community Living Toronto. We wish Charles all the best for the future! Ann-Marie Binetti is now the Membership Coordinator in Central Region. Congratulations Ann-Marie!

I have enjoyed my role as Coordinator in Central Region and will continue as the Coordinator in Scarborough Region.

Thank you for all your support and involvement. I wish you all the best and I will see you at the many events such as the Annual Picnic on June 8th, 2013 at Lawson!

Self-Advocates Council Update

Self-Advocates Council Listings

Chairperson
Robert Shaddock
Vice-Chair
Sam McKhail

Board Representative
Paul Cochrane

**Community Living Ontario
Representative**
Peter Marrese

Treasurer/Secretary
Robbie Cowdrey

Members At Large
Caseen Johnson
Candice Doherty
Lorraine Bradley
Margherita Cappiello
Mark Miller
Mike Murray
Nelson Raposo
Nick Lappas

**Community Support
Coordinator**
Sue Hutton
647-729-1205
shutton@cltoronto.ca

Next Council Meeting:
Monday June 17, 2013
11 - 1 pm
Foster Club House
30 Birch

Self Advocates Council Volunteer of the Year - The Ken "Sam" Samler Award Goes to Bill Rolf



Bill, left, is presented his award by Agnes Samler and Self-Advocate Council Chair, Robert Shaddock

Bill Rolfe is as devoted a volunteer you will ever find. He loves people, and loves sharing everything he has. Not only is Bill looking out for the people at Foster's Club House, but the animals too.

He volunteers with a smile at Foster's every day before heading to his job at Sunrise Janitorial. Bill is the first one to notice if you happen to be feeling down and helps make you smile if you're having a bad day. You can count on him to be the first one there and the last one to help close things down at the Adult Protective Services Worker program holiday party every year. Aside from this, Bill is the number one bowler at Foster's – and is always happy to share his tricks.

Bill is proud of his aboriginal heritage. Here's a story about his natural connection to nature: One day, there were a few bees inside the club house.

Everyone but Bill panicked. Bill offered to help the bees free. He stood on a ladder, careful of the life of the bee, "Don't worry little buddy, I'm not going to hurt you"...he said as he held the biggest bee in his hand, and calmly let it go safely outside.

When raccoons were caught in the garbage bins outside the clubhouse, Bill took a piece of wood, and spoke gently to the animals, "Don't worry little guys, I'm going to help get you out." He used the wood as a ladder for them to carefully make their way out.

This is his way, quietly helping others every day, with a smile.

Congratulations Bill!



Bill has chosen to keep his framed picture at the Foster Club House

Jim Turner Award for Outstanding Voluntarism - Bill and Pat Sparks



Diane Turner, left, presents the award to Bill and Pat Sparks along with Board President, Chris Stringer

When their daughter Sherri was born with Down syndrome, Bill and Pat Sparks wanted what any other parent would want for their child; a good life with full participation in her community. This evoked their journey of advocacy and involvement with Community Living Toronto, impacting the lives of people with an intellectual disability through education, inclusion and independence for over 40 years.

Both teachers in their professional lives, Bill and Pat were early and strong advocates for inclusive

education, and Bill even took a year from his professional life to identify best practices not only in Toronto but across North America. This has helped create real choice and inclusion of students with an intellectual disability in our schools.

Bill and Pat knew that inclusion started from birth, and provided support to other parents with children with intellectual disabilities. This gave new parents not only reassurance, but guidance on navigating a new world. That's why they also helped other parents form Pilot Parents, a key support program for new parents.

In memory of their daughter, they created the Sherri Sparks Travel Training Program, which has helped hundreds of people increase their independence, confidence and self-esteem by learning to use the TTC.

Bill and Pat have also been active members in Scarborough Regional Council, the Education Committee, the Board of Directors and SEAC. Bill has also been the President of Community Living Ontario and was recognized by the Province for his work related to the Five Year Plan for Deinstitutionalization.

Congratulations Bill and Pat.



Improv!

The Second City Training Centre will deliver a newly developed 7 week series of Improv workshops. These 2 1/2 hour workshops are fun and engaging and have been used when participants are training for effective communications. Did we mention they were just plain fun? And the best part, there is no prerequisite! Everyone is welcome. Workshops are capped at 12 participants each, so register early.

When: Thursday evenings starting September 12th

Where: 40 Birch Avenue (Foster's Clubhouse)

Fee: \$285 (plus HST)

How to register: watch www.secondcity.com for details.

Watch our facebook and twitter pages for more information!

The Second City has a 40 year history of delivering excellent Improv Workshops and The Second City School Program has been delivering curriculum-based Improv workshops for over a decade and has taught thousands of people the joy of effective communication and collaboration.

Youth Volunteer of the Year - JaiRui Pu

JaiRui Pu has been volunteering at Community Living Toronto for the past three years as part of the Jumpstart Literacy team. Jumpstart is a literacy class for adults with an intellectual disability that has been operating on Saturday mornings since 1998.

Jia has displayed tremendous tenacity and has stepped up whenever needed, often without cues. Jia came to Jumpstart Literacy to attain her 40 hours of volunteering for high school, but has far surpassed those hours, choosing to come consistently every week and continue this relationship that she likes to call “volunteer fun” rather than “volunteer work”. Jia is a joy to work with. The participants confide in her, respect her, miss her when she is away (which is seldom) and they regard her as ‘one of us’.

She always works under minimum supervision, and often takes teacher role when extra support is needed. She always works with a smile on her face while exhibiting remarkable conscientiousness and an unwavering sense of humor. She is consistent, diligent, assertive, modest, and trustworthy. Her

openness and willingness to assist, learn, grow and inspire has earned her this award.

Jia has done amazing work and she is a true example of Community Living Toronto’s mission in supporting choices and changing the lives of people with an intellectual disability.



JaiRui with Jumpstart Literacy teacher Florine Wolfe

Public Relations/Fundraising Volunteer of the Year – Ron Dekker



Ron with Board President, Chris Stringer

Ron Dekker became involved with Community Living Toronto in 2009 as part of a working group for Connect**ABILITY**.ca. After visits to a number of our different locations he was inspired to do more. Ron, who has a personal love of music, heard about Community Rocks, stepped up and took on the Co-Chair role in 2010 and again in 2012.

Since joining our roster of volunteers, Ron has been instrumental in raising the profile of Community

Living Toronto, mostly through Community Rocks, which has become one of the city’s most exciting fundraisers. He has leveraged his corporate contacts, created new opportunities and with a strong team, Community Rocks has raised over a million dollars (gross) for the Association.

When Ron is not busy with Community Rocks, he is always there to ensure individuals we support are having a great time. Ron has organized outings for small and large groups to amazing events such as the Toronto Raptors game, Rogers Cup, Blue Jays games and more. He is always generous with his time and gifts. Ron also participates in other events such as the Shadow Lake Golf tournament. Ron is always ready to step up and lend a hand.

Through Ron’s leadership and expertise, he has played a critical role in the success of raising our profile and much needed funds for Community Living Toronto, and the people we support. Congratulations, Ron!

Bridging Diversity

Central Adult Day Program Celebrates Multiculturalism



Jeremy stands in front of display ADP participants and staff created

In honour of the International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination (March 21), the staff and participants of the Central Adult Day Program (ADP) decided to hold a multicultural celebration. The event was held on March 22 and was a huge success for all 45 people in attendance.

Although the ADP had only a few days to prepare, staff and participants were committed to making this an enjoyable and educational event for all. After deciding to focus on, and celebrate, the 15 countries that are represented by staff and participants at the ADP, all got to work immediately by researching facts, flags, cultural rituals, music traditional attire, and, of course, food. All were then tasked to work together to create the flags and posters representing each of the 15 countries. The next step was to begin cooking the feast for the day. Staff and participants worked on this task together as well and learnt from each other as they cooked delicious treats from a range of countries. Once the preparation was done, all

got to enjoy the fruits of their labour with dishes from Jamaica, Ethiopia and India to name a few.

The day ended with music, traditional dances and a friendship circle where everyone joined in singing songs. Norma Maracle, Support Worker III at Central ADP, said that the day was so enjoyable that they would like to make this an annual event at the ADP. The hope is to also expand the celebration to learn about even more countries and open the celebration to friends and family.

DID YOU KNOW?

International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination is observed annually on March 21. On that day, in 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid "pass laws".

Since 1966, the United Nations set the day as a reminder for the international community to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

Source: www.un.org



On June 30, 2013 sprOUT Toronto will be marching in the Pride Parade once again.

If you are interested in marching alongside sprOUT participants and staff in support of

LGBTQ people with intellectual disabilities, or would like more information, contact Nooreen Pirbhai at npirbhai@cltoronto.ca

Resources, Networking And You

Success for Kids

A TOOLKIT FOR CHILDREN WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIOURS IN THE CHILD CARE SETTING



A TOOLKIT FOR CHILDREN WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIOURS IN THE CHILD CARE SETTING

- Do you work with children with high behavioural needs in a group setting?
- Do you feel your program would benefit from additional resources to meet the needs of these children?
- Do you want to offer parents and caregivers new information about community resources and supports?
- Do you want access to a wealth of resources at your fingertips?

If so, please visit the “Success for Kids” toolkit on ConnectABILITY.ca

<http://bit.ly/Successforkids>



Events / Workshops

North York Council Presents Job Placement Services and Victoria Park Hub Services

Monday June 10, 2013

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

1527 Victoria Park Avenue, 2nd Floor

Learn about employment supports, ODSP,
social enterprise initiatives, IBM/Celestica
& explore Hub resources

Staffed Information Booths:
Connect**ABILITY**.ca, LIGHTS (residential options)
& Community Living Toronto Supports & Services

For directions & more information contact:
Wendy Dyke
wdyke@cltoronto.ca or call 647-729-3627

Central Region Council invites you to the Annual Meeting

Wednesday June 19, 2013

6:30 - 8:30 pm

20 Spadina Rd. Boardroom

Guests: Chris Stringer,
Community Living Toronto President
Garry Pruden, Community Living Toronto
Chief Executive Officer
Nick Hadjiyianni and Ron Janes from Community
Living Toronto Job Placement Services

**To RSVP or for information please contact
Ann-Marie Binetti at 647-729-1210
or abinetti@cltoronto.ca**



The graphic features a central circular photo of a family (a man, a woman, and two children) sitting on a lawn. Surrounding this photo are various icons and text boxes: a green box with 'dancing', an orange box with 'BBQ', a green box with 'carnival', an orange box with 'music', an orange box with 'games', and a green box with 'Games, activities & fun for the whole family!'. At the bottom, the text 'Community Living Toronto' is in green, followed by 'annual' in large green letters and 'picnic' in large orange letters. Below this, it says 'SATURDAY JUNE 8, 2013' in blue and '11 AM - 3 PM' in blue.

Community Living Toronto

annual picnic

SATURDAY
JUNE 8, 2013
11 AM - 3 PM



The picnic will take place at our Lawson Site at **1712 Ellesmere Rd.**, just a short walk from the McCowan subway stop. Parking is limited.

Don't forget to bring your lawn chair or blanket and sunscreen.

Admission: minimum donation of \$2 per person

Let us know you're coming!

ETOBICOKE

Eric Laimer
647-729-0445
elaimer@cltoronto.ca

NORTH YORK

Wendy Dyke
647-729-3627
wdyke@cltoronto.ca

CENTRAL

Felicitia Zanatta
647-729-1210
fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

SCARBOROUGH

Ann-Marie Binetti
647-729-1635
abinetti@cltoronto.ca

For more information and directions visit
www.communitylivingtoronto.ca

Calendar of Events

June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Central Region: Ann-Marie Binetti 647-729-1210	Etobicoke/ York Region: Eric Laimer 647-729-0445	North York Region: Wendy Dyke 647-729-3627	Scarborough Region: Felicitia Zanatta 647-729-1210			1
2	3 Scarborough Annual Regional Meeting	4 RDSP Info Session - Spadina	5 Central Dinner Club	6	7 Lawson Dance	8 Annual Picnic
9	10 NY Annual Regional Meeting	11 Etobicoke Annual Regional Meeting	12 Central Dinner Club	13	14 Lawson Bingo	15
16	17 RDSP Info Session - Scarb. SAC Annual Meeting	18	19 Central Annual Regional Meeting Central Dinner Club	20	21 Connections Dance	22 Central Youth Group
23 30	24	25	26 Central Dinner Club	27	28	29

July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Central Dinner Club	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Central Dinner Club	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Central Dinner Club	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Central Dinner Club	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Central Dinner Club			

Regional Council Nomination Form

In accordance with the bylaws of Community Living Toronto, this is to inform you that it is now time to nominate members to serve on Regional Council for the 2013-2014 membership year.

Councils meets once per month and undertake the development and implementation of initiatives to ensure a better quality of life for our community. Council is comprised of parents, professionals, people with special needs, and other interested community members. Any person willing to serve on Council must be a voting member of Community Living Toronto and be willing to serve for a period of at least one year. The election of Council Officers will take place at the June Annual Meetings. Please see page 2 and events page for information about the annual meetings. Please forward Council Nominations to the regional office or bring your nomination(s) to your Annual Meeting.

I, _____, being a registered member of Community Living Toronto, do hereby nominate
_____, also a registered member, to serve on the _____ Council for the
2013-2014 membership year.
Enter Region of Membership

I, _____, being a registered member of Community Living Toronto, do hereby nominate
_____ also a registered member, to serve on the _____ Council for the
2013-2014 membership year.
Enter Region of Membership

