

Where choices change the lives of people with an intellectual disability

FEATURED STORY

Duncan's Farm Day!



A group photo of everyone that came to Duncan's Farm Day!

By: Karla Dendrinis

On July 31st, Duncan Jackman, our Patrons Council Chair, hosted Duncan's Farm day! Each year he plans a fun-filled day at his farm in Vaughan ON.

This year Duncan's Farm day was Fiesta Themed . There was yummy food that was prepared by our friends at Seventh Heaven Catering, a mariachi band, a DJ, a pool, piñatas, an ice cream truck, and a even a pony!

Everyone that comes looks forward to this day every year. It is a good chance to catch up with friends that they don't usually get to see or hang out with.

Every year, artists from Creative Village Studio set up their table and paint wonderful creations through out the day.

Thank you Duncan for hosting this fun filled day!

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The Mariachi Band!



Creative Village Studio's table!



The Pony and Ice Cream Truck making friends.

CENTRAL REGION

Annual Vacation to Colonial Resort and Spa



Annual Group Picture at Colonial Resort and Spa —Most people who have attended this trip have collected these group photos since 2006!

By: Chris Potter

Since 2006, a group of people that we support from all four of our regions have been enjoying a 4-day vacation to Colonial Resort and Spa in Gananoque, Ontario.

This is such a popular trip that we reach our capacity every year! This trip includes: meals, transportation, entertainment, and day trips. The vacation is carefully planned around everyone involved and includes a variety of trips and social activities.

Some of the fun activities include:

High Tea at the Brockville Museum, the Thousand Islands Boat Cruise and lunch, the Smith Falls Railway Museum, the Brockville Aquarium, and a Trolley ride through Kingston!

At Colonial Resort, there is nightly entertainment, lots of dancing, Karaoke, swimming, and also a Community Living Toronto Olympic Day. The lodge has a popular game room and bar and a charming dining room where the meals are served.

The owners and the staff are very helpful, know all the guests by name, and always go on about how we are their favourite group!

Thank you so much to our dedicated staff for always making this trip a blast!

UNTIL NEXT YEAR!!

Upcoming Central Events

Central Region Dinner Club

Every Wednesday
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
30 Birch Ave

Central Region Council Meeting

Tuesday September 12, 2017
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
20 Spadina Rd, Room 2B
All are welcome!

Parent Share Central Region

Monday September 11, 2017
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Parents for Better Beginnings
38 Regent St, Second Level
RSVP: Yulia Prudova at 647-729-1209 or yprudova@cltoronto.ca
or Bonnie Heath at 416-645-6000 ext. 1311
bheath@woodgreen.org

Central Region Mindful Parents

6 Week Program
Wednesdays, September 27 to November 1, 2017
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
20 Spadina Rd
RSVP: Yulia Prudova at 647-729-1209 or yprudova@cltoronto.ca

For information on any of the above events, contact: Michelle Grimley

at 647-729-1210 or
michelle.grimley@cltoronto.ca



MyCommunityHub is an online registration space for activities, classes, programs, workshops, respite and camps offered by Developmental Service Agencies across Ontario.

Let's Play Ball!



Sporting Custom T-Shirts at Jimmy John's Field in Utica

By: Brian Wittich

On June 8th, 4 vans from the Etobicoke region filled with 24 excited sports fans headed to Detroit. This was their 16th annual trip to meet up with Michael Ward (*who is playfully referred to as "The Trip Guy"*), and his wife, Deb, to see a baseball game.

Over the past 16 years, Michael has organized and funded this annual trip for people in service to see hockey, football, basketball, and especially baseball games. This year everyone was proud to wear their new T-shirt's that they got from Michael that said "All Star Group, Community Living Toronto" to the game. The group also wore Marathon medals donated from "Medals for Mettles".

Michael planned the 2-day trip that included the hotel accommodations and dinner at Uno's Pizzeria! Everyone ate as much pizza and pop as they wanted and then headed to Jimmy John's Field in Utica to see the Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers vs. the Westside Woolly Mammoths. (The Beavers beat the Mammoths 9 – 4.)

As a nice surprise this year, Michael had invited a few local Special Olympic Athletes to the game with us!

After the game we stayed in The Hyatt Place Hotel where Michael had set up rooms for everyone to stay the night. In the morning we enjoyed free breakfast at the Hyatt and headed to Target to do some shopping. This year everyone received a gift bag full of snacks put together by Target! If that wasn't enough, there were even more free snacks and drinks for the drive home.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to Michael Ward for putting this all together every year.

To see the whole story you can visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ADmW0ahyS0g>

Upcoming Etobicoke/York Events

Etobicoke/York Region Council Meeting

Tuesday September 12, 2017

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

4895 Dundas Street West (Creative Village Studio)

All are welcome!

RSVP: Georgina Stergiotis

at 647-729-0445 or

georgina.stergiotis@cltoronto.ca

Friendship Club

Monday September 25, 2017

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

295 The West Mall, Suite 204

Registration: LauraLee Edmiston

at 647-729-0440 or

ledmiston@cltoronto.ca

Parent Share Etobicoke/York Region

Thursday September 21, 2017

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

295 The West Mall, Suite 204

For information contact: Sarah Winter

at 647-729-1633 or

swinter@cltoronto.ca

or Bonnie Heath at 416-645-6000 ext. 1311

bheath@woodgreen.org

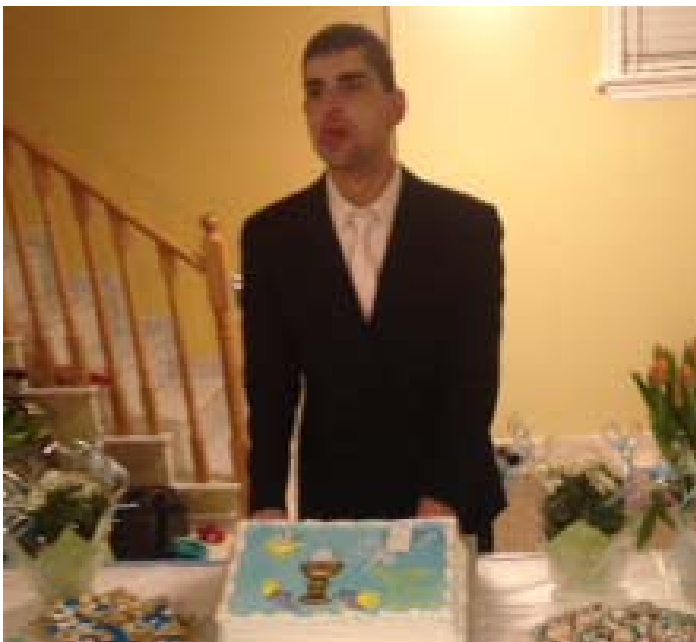
Note: Friendship Club and Parent Share park in the underground on **P2**

**Etobicoke/York Council's
Wine and Cheese Social Fundraiser**
Thursday September 28, 2017
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
4895 Dundas Street West (Creative Village Studio)

If you are interested in Joining our Etobicoke/York Council contact: Georgina Stergiotis at 647-729-0445 or georgina.stergiotis@cltoronto.ca

North York

Davy's Communion and Confirmation



Davy Celebrating his Communion and Confirmation

By: Mary Gionas

Davy is a 40 year-old individual who resides in one of our North York Residences, and when he was younger he enjoyed going to church.

At Davy's Person-Directed Plan meeting one year his parents asked if it was possible for him to attend church once a week. When asked if that was something that he would like to do, Davy showed excitement and enthusiasm in going and it was made into a goal.

A church close to his home was chosen and Davy began attending mass every Friday morning. This was the first time in many years that Davy attended mass. He stared at the rooms, smiling and laughing as he looked around.

When the choir sings, Davy moves to the music and wants to go up to join them. After every mass, Davy goes to the alter to look at the statue of Jesus and Mary and signs the cross. He then goes up to the candles and, after one year of staff assistance, he puts the coin in the box slot on his own. This is something he seems very proud of doing. Davy enjoys going to the wall that is filled with pictures while having staff read out loud what they represent. His final stop before heading home is the back of the church, where he faces the pews, makes the sign of the cross and says goodbye to Jesus while dipping his hand into the holy water.

Davy has made friends with the other members of the church and looks forward to parishioners coming to talk to him and shake his hand. When mom asked for Davy to have his first communion, she was thrilled when Father Joseph replied "yes" as Davy was not able to do so when he was younger. Davy practiced at home with the aid of his support team to take the communion so he would be able to do it on his own. Davy was beaming on the day of his communion. He was thrilled to have his family there and a party was held to commemorate his accomplishment.

The next step in Davy's journey was to get permission to have his confirmation. Father Joseph made the request and the Bishop granted permission, as Davy had been attending mass regularly. Davy and the family were ecstatic. They tried to have Davy registered for Catechism to prepare him for his 1st holy communion in 1984, but were refused by two churches. Davy's confirmation ceremony took place on August 4th, 2017 with his family present to celebrate and honour this milestone.

Upcoming North York Events

North York Region Council Meeting

Monday September 11, 2017

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

North York Office Boardroom

1122 Finch Avenue West, Unit 18

All are welcome!

For More Information and to register

Contact: Wendy Dyke

at 647-729-3627 or

wdyke@cltoronto.ca

Jumpstart Literacy

Every Saturday

9:30 am to 11:30 am

1122 Finch Avenue West, Unit 16

Registration fee:

\$20.00 per person

Weekly fee:

\$5.00 per person

To learn more and to register, please contact:

Karla Galvez- Del Rio

at 647-729-1162 or

kgalvez@cltoronto.ca

Parent Share North York Region

Thursday September 7, 2017

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

1122 Finch Avenue West

For information contact: Sarah Winter

at 647-729-1633 or

swinter@cltoronto.ca

or Bonnie Heath at 416-645-6000 ext. 1311

bheath@woodgreen.org

SCARBOROUGH REGION

Tireless DJs

By: Alison Thomas and Ellen Armstrong

Eighteen years ago, Alison Thomas and Ellen Armstrong decided to start the Connection Dance. Their daughters and other young people benefitted from having this monthly dance to provide a social outlet for their dance moves.

Last year, Ellen and Alison needed to withdraw from the leadership of the Connection Dance and it was announced that the Dances would finish. As they were preparing for the end of the Dances a phone call from Pierre and Lester gave the Connection Dance new life.

As of September 2016 these two remarkable people have taken over. They are helped by long-time volunteer Penny Kuhne. Lester and Pierre have now introduced their children to volunteering for the dance as well.

On June 5, 2017 at the Scarborough Council Regional Annual Meeting, Ellen and Alison presented Pierre and Lester with plaques in appreciation of their constant involvement with the Connection Dance.

Thank you so much from Alison and Ellen, Scarborough Council and all the dancers for your commitment.

The next Connection Dance will be on September 29, 2017. See you there! For information about the Connection Dance please call: Lester at 416-566-7252 or Pierre at 416-684-6562



Alison and Ellen present plaques to Lester and Pierre

Upcoming Scarborough Events

Scarborough Region Council Meeting
Monday October 2, 2017
6:15 pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd
All are welcome!

Contact: Sarah Winter at 647-729-1633 or swinter@cltoronto.ca or Bonnie Heath at 416-645-6000 ext. 1311 bheath@woodgreen.org

Bingo at Lawson
Friday September 15, 2017; 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd
\$5 for a snack and prizes

Winter Literacy
Saturday mornings
9:00 am – 11:45 am
1710 Ellesmere Rd.
\$20 registration and \$5 per class
Eligibility determined by interview

Tuesday Morning Drop In
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
\$4 each week
1712 Ellesmere Rd
RSVP: Sarah Winter at 647-729-1633 or swinter@cltoronto.ca

Cooking Class
Monday Evenings
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd
\$150 for 10 classes
Next session starts September 25, 2017

Connections Dance
Friday September 29, 2017; 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd
\$8 admission
Call: Lester at 416-566-7252

For more information on all of these events and to register contact: Felicita Zanatta at 647-729-1635 or fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

Parent Share Scarborough Region
September 28, 2017
9:30 am – 11:30 am
Cedarbrook Community Centre
91 Eastpark Blvd

Self-Advocates Council

The Newly Elected Self-Advocates Council



From L to R: The new SAC poses after the election - Robbie Cowdrey, Shineeca McLeod, Felicia Marchese, Darryl Liscio, Novelette Murray, Mark Miller, Mike Edser, Caseen Johnson, Patrick Harrington, Gus Yoon, Richard Newland, Kevin John Head (Absent: Dhonnie Trinidad)

By: Sue Hutton

The Self-Advocates Council held its bi-annual election at Foster's Clubhouse in June. About 40 peers labeled with intellectual disability gathered to cheer each other on and listen to speeches about why people wanted to be involved in self-advocacy at Community Living Toronto.

People talked about wanting to make a difference and standing up for their rights. People talked about believing that everyone labeled with an intellectual disability has the right to be included in the community.

The elections are held right at Birch. Support staff help self-advocates mark the pictorial ballot to show the self-advocates they want to vote for. Only people labeled with intellectual disabilities vote.

After the elections were held, DJ Mark Miller played some tunes to celebrate the day.

The new council will get down to work in September. First off, an orientation will be held to help new members become familiar with the SAC work. It will also give SAC facilitators a chance to learn about the needs of the new members.

It's an opportunity to find out what kinds of activities and communication needs will make the SAC experience as accessible as possible. Stay tuned for upcoming projects and work of the new SAC!

VOLUNTEER VOICE

Volunteer Orientations and Trainings

If you are interested in getting involved as a volunteer, please sign up for one of our upcoming volunteer orientations! Existing volunteers are also required to attend one session per year to update their annual training's. Register for an upcoming session at

www.cltoronto.ca/volunteers

Orientation Dates	Regions
Monday October 2, 2017 at 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Central



Mark Miller holds up a picture ballot and Membership Coordinator Michelle Grimley, who was on hand to help with the elections, holds up a pen used by self-advocates to mark ballots.

Self-Advocates Council Meeting

Wednesday October 25, 2017

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

20 Spadina Rd

People labeled with an intellectual disability and their supporters are invited. People labeled with intellectual disabilities elect their new Council.

For more information please contact:

Sue Hutton at

shutton@cltoronto.ca



SAVE THE DATE! This year's theme is DISCO!

When: Saturday November 10th, 2018

Where: Queen Elizabeth Theatre!

Find out more at: communityrocks.ca/

ConnectABILITY.ca



Volunteer Opportunities

Friendship Group Volunteer

Are you free on Wednesday evenings and looking to do something fun and different!?

Community Living Toronto runs a Friendship Group for individuals with an intellectual disability, who meet once a month.

This group is facilitated by Community Living Toronto Staff.

Each month, the get together has a different theme,

ie. Halloween, Movie Night, Wii Night, Holiday Party!

It's an fabulous opportunity for friends to come together to share food, fun and friendship!

We are looking for dedicated and committed volunteers to help out with running the group, set up and clean up and just some good friends for the individuals to get to know!

Minimum hours per week: 2; flexible

Location: 295 The West Mall, Suite 204

If you are interested in volunteering as a Friendship Group Volunteer,

please visit our website at www.cltoronto.ca to learn more about Community Living Toronto,

And then submit your resume to

Karla Galvez-Del Rio at

karla.galvezdelrio@cltoronto.ca

with the subject "Friendship Group Volunteer"

Jumpstart Literacy Volunteer

Jumpstart Literacy is a great annual literacy program offered for adults with an intellectual disability who are interested in building their literacy skills.

This program focuses on English literacy and selected sessions are devoted to building mathematics literacy skills as well.

We are currently looking for volunteers to join our team! If you are patient, helpful, enjoy sharing your knowledge and are eager to give back to the community, this is an amazing opportunity for you!

Experience working with people with an intellectual disability is desirable, but not necessary.

This opportunity is ideal for future educators or Resource Teachers who can get some hands on experience in planning special education curriculum, materials, visual aid, etc.

This program runs every Saturday

Starting September 9, 2017 - June 23, 2018

From 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

North York Regional Office located at
1122 Finch Avenue West, Unit 16

If you are interested in volunteering as a Jumpstart Literacy Volunteer, please visit our website at www.cltoronto.ca to learn more about Community Living Toronto, and then submit your resume to

Karla Galvez-Del Rio at

karla.galvezdelrio@cltoronto.ca

with the subject "Jumpstart Literacy Volunteer"

We hope to hear from you!

cltoronto.ca/volunteers/



69th Annual General Meeting



Our AGM was held on:

Thursday September 21, 2017.

You can find our video of the Meeting on our website and on our Facebook and Twitter pages!

cltoronto.ca/about-us/

Follow Us!



@CLToronto

www.CommunityLivingToronto.ca

Information Fair

A Free Event

Wednesday October 18, 2017

1:00pm - 8:00pm

The Warehouse Event Venue

Downsview Park

35 Carl Hall Road. Unit 2

THE DAY INCLUDES:

* Information from Toronto based agencies on services and supports for transitional youth (16 years of age and older) and adults (18 years of age and older) with a developmental disability.

The opportunity to explore purchasing services with your Passport dollars.

* Information on fee for service programs.

* Agency and Community Partner presentations on topics such as:

* Developmental Services Ontario, ODSP and Passport;

* What you can do while you wait for services and supports;

* Self-Advocates presenting Yellow Brick Road

* dsto Council.

* Opportunity for families to speak to dsto agency staff, self-advocacy groups and family groups.

* More information will be available on the Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) website as we get closer to the event. Please check in for updates at

www.dsotoronto.ca

* Presentations from the Fair will be available for viewing after the event at www.connectability.ca

Renew Your Membership

cltoronto.ca/membership/

