

The Communiqué

The Newsletter of Community Living Guelph Wellington December 2008

In the January 2008 newsletter, Rozalyn Werner-Arcé, Director, Marketing and Communications, Community Living Ontario announced a communications strategy to re-brand Community Living Ontario through an updated current logo. At the Board of Directors' meeting in September, the board passed a motion that Community Living Guelph Wellington adopt new branding – and we introduce it in this issue of The Communiqué.



Planting for the environment at ARC

Community Living Guelph Wellington received a grant in the amount of \$10,800 from **TD Friends of the Environment Foundation** for the planting of twenty four



Friends of the Environment Foundation

trees and seventy-three shrubs on the ARC Industries site. Linda Carbone, Coordinator, said that TD Friends of the Environment Foundation shares our concern for the environment and recognizes that all of us have a role to play in making a difference in our community.

From everyone at Community Living Guelph Wellington, thank you!

MISSION STATEMENT

Community Living Guelph Wellington advocates for, promotes and facilitates the full participation, inclusion and empowerment of people who have an intellectual disability.

FROM BOB'S DESK

Amidst worldwide economic and political turmoil 2008 is very quickly winding down. We in Ontario are not immune. We all face uncertainty and change, including those involved in the Developmental Services Sector. On September 30th, we saw a new governing Act – *The Services and Supports to Promote Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act* – receive Royal Assent and replace the Developmental Services Act. This new Act: recognizes Person Directed Planning and Funding as ministry supported options; establishes new accountability standards for agencies and families that receive direct funding; provides for a standardized provincial definition of eligibility; speaks to a new application and assessment process; speaks to transferability and portability of supports throughout the Province; and has removed all references to Institutions. The new legislation will come into effect once all of the corresponding Regulations have been developed. In 2008, *Transformation* of the Development Services system continued with the introduction of the Increased Community Capacity Initiative and the Individualized Residential Model proposals. Although, not directly part of the *Transformation* agenda, work has been undertaken to develop a Province wide Human Resources strategy that will assist with recruiting and retaining the very best employees. Within Community Living Guelph Wellington, we have seen tremendous growth and change over the year. A new group home was opened outside of Erin in July. The new ARC Industries facilities were completed and officially opened on November 14th. We were able to provide financial assistance for adults to attend summer camps and other vacation options. A number of people came off the waiting list and are now receiving supports from CLGW. New relationships have been forged with The Rotary Club of Guelph, and Guelph Youth basketball, while the relationship with Special Olympics floor hockey and basketball have been strengthened. I would like to thank all of our volunteers and employees for their dedication this past year and wish everyone all the best this Holiday Season and the New Year.

**SELF ADVOCATES COMMITTEE**

The Self Advocates “People 4 People” Committee has 7 members including 2 staff helpers. We meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at 87 Silvercreek Parkway, Holody Home on the second floor. The committee introduced themselves and presented their workshop “Rights and Responsibilities” to the Quality Monitoring Committee on Nov. 6. They plan to present themselves and their workshop to all program areas in the new year. The committee will be attending a workshop in Midland “Keeping Your Dreams Alive: that is given by a group of self advocates from Community Living Huronia. They look forward to sharing what they learn.

- Guelph Self Advocates, 8 Royal Road, Guelph, 519-824-2480, Ext. 232
email: guelphselfadvocates@gmail.com
- Fergus Self Advocates, Attn. Brian Platt, 280 St. Patrick St. W., Fergus, 519-787-1539
email: fergussselfadvocates@gmail.com
- Mt. Forest Self Advocates, 135 Fergus St. S., Mt. Forest, 519-343-4050
e-mail: northern.lights.selfadvocates@gmail.com

CELEBRATING AT ARC INDUSTRIES

Nov.14 was the Official Grand Opening of the new ARC Building. Guests, dignitaries and families had been invited - but, the fun for the people supported at ARC began before the 11:30 official opening. They had planned their own official opening – with special guest ELVIS! He sang many favourites, a few Christmas songs and many requested songs. Many thanks to Bruce Herron Elvis!!

**AND CELEBRATING ARC PARTICIPANTS**

Friday night, Dec. 5 was the social event of the year – people supported at ARC (and other programs) attended the Annual Dinner and Dance, this year at Harpo's. Awards were presented for years of service and everyone danced the night away. Congratulations to everyone.



FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS**POOR BOYS' LUNCHEON**

Advocis™ volunteers - Dean, D'Arcy, Ron, Sue and Jacqui
(photos courtesy Snap Guelph)
Craig & Pam ready to enjoy lunch.

This year's Poor Boys Luncheon, presented by Advocis,™ Golden Triangle Chapter at the Italian Canadian Club, was another great success, raising over \$13,000. Everyone enjoyed the pasta and salad, bought raffle tickets and enjoyed music by Delta Rocket!

**GOLFING FOR COMMUNITY LIVING
SEPT. 17- PIKE LAKE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

It was a great day for golf and a barbeque! Lisa from Egremont was featured on the 2008 Golf Program for the 6th annual tournament. This year, proceeds totalled over \$6,000 which will assist with kitchen renovations at the Egremont Home. From everyone at Egremont, and CLGW, thanks to all the golfers, sponsors and prize donors. Next year's tournament is scheduled for Wed., Sept. 16. Contact Janette at 519- 323-4050 for information and registration.

ARC INDUSTRIES POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

Again this year, the Moms' group conducted a very successful campaign in the community. Special thanks to everyone who assisted with the distribution of over 850+ poinsettias. We will advise total raised in the next Communiqué.

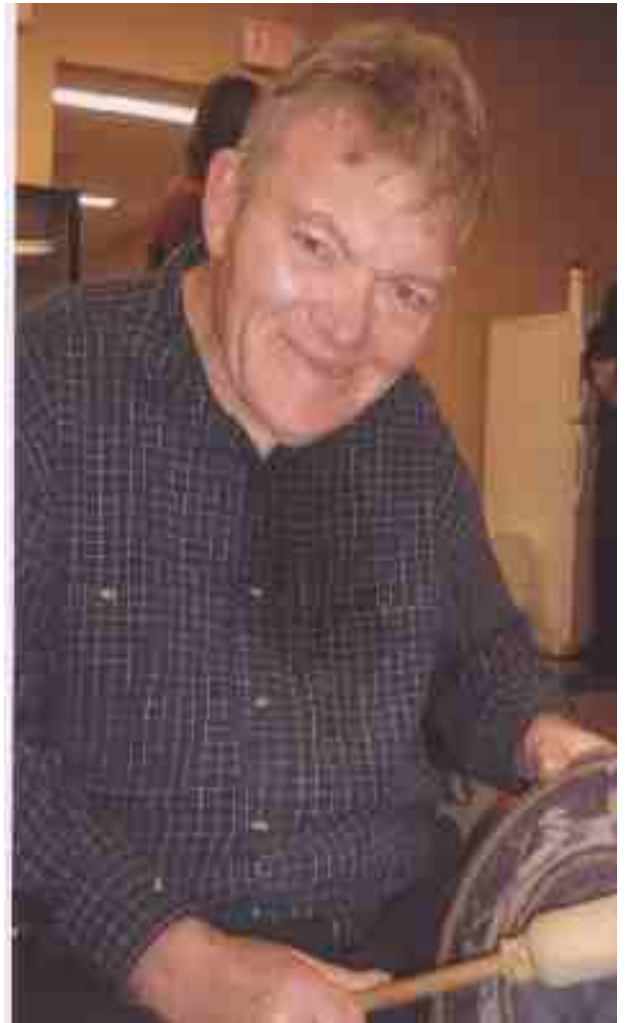
**STAFF SUPPORT ROTARY DREAM HOUSE LOTTERY**

Again this year, staff at CLGW were able to purchase tickets for the Rotary Dream House Lottery through payroll deductions. Many staff took advantage of this initiative and supported the lottery - CLGW has received \$100,000 from the Rotary Club of Guelph. Special thanks to Janice Hacking, Payroll Administrator, for ensuring the successful completion of this process again this year!

SUNSET CLUB

Sunset Club, led by Support Worker, Gwendoline Howarth, meeting on Tuesday evenings, always has a dynamic atmosphere. This fun recreational program has an attendance of between 25-40 individuals, who enjoy Bingo, Swiss Chalet, Dances, Pot luck, Karoke, Movie Night, etc. Put together an evening of snacks, music, dancing, and friends, and there's a winning combination for people we support! It is not difficult to find volunteers for Sunset Club. There are several "Moms", who are regularly involved, as well as several University and College students. We are a diverse group with many skills, accomplishments and stories. Tuesday Nov.25/08 saw us gathering with expectations of our usual meeting of friends, calmly unaware that we were soon to be delightedly surprised. Jan Sherman arrived with an air of someone with a beautiful secret. She brought seemingly ordinary musical tools, rattles, bells, and drums to share with all. We were quickly swept into a unique blend of English Canadian and Native Canadian beats. I have heard it is said that the drum is a voice with a soul in the music. Jan Sherman set the time and we spoke. We danced, we sang, and we enjoyed our own community in a new way. What we hadn't seen in her seemingly ordinary musical tools, was her secret ability to shine a light on others' talents. We extend a hearty thank you to Jan Sherman for one of the most interactive and musical evenings Sunset Club members have had the good fortune to enjoy. Jan Sherman teaches at the Anishnabeg Outreach Centre. She says of herself that she has been singing and drumming her whole life.

She can be contacted through: 179 Woolwich Street, Guelph, ON N1H 3V4, (519) 763-5292, www.anishnabegoutreach.org



John enjoying drumming

The Wellington-Guelph Bunsmaster Rollers Special Olympics floor hockey team, with coach Paul Turner, won the national championships recently and will be representing Canada at the Special Olympics World Winter Games this February in Boise, Idaho. They train twice a week and practice once a week at the *Holody Centre for Sports and Recreation* (ARC Industries) but will practice more frequently as the competition gets closer. Good Luck!! Go team!!

Moose Robert

My name is Moose Robert, my friends call me Moose. I was born November 1950. I am a senior now. My sisters Mamie and Becky came after me. This is my story. I lived at home with my Mom, Dad and sisters. I went to Sunnydale School in Guelph, ON. My Mom and Dad and some more families built this school for



me and my friends. My Mom has pictures of times when all the parents and us kids raised money for the school. We had teas, Mom made funny hats; we sold Christmas cards & apples in the fall. We had fun. My Mom told me I went to see a doctor in London, ON for a “sessment”. The doctor told us about this new place in Cedar Springs. He told us this was a good place for me, a place I could get help. I was 11 years old. It was far from my house. The doctor told Mom & Dad it would be good for me to go to this new hospital so I did. We all cried. My sisters cried a lot. Mamie said she always missed me every day. My family drove every weekend to see me from Guelph to Cedar Springs. We all cried when it was time to go again. I did not like being away from my family. Mamie said someday I will get you home. I moved many times. I got too old for Cedar Springs. I went to Palmerston, Woodstock and finally St. Thomas in the 1970’s. I never liked any place. I hated the time out rooms. Some staff was good but not all of them. I only liked it when my family came on weekends to visit or take me home. Over all the years my Mom and Dad tried to get me into a group home but no homes would take me.

Mom said the doctors in St. Thomas understood me best and they knew what medications I needed. I liked going to workshop at St Thomas. I did woodwork and crafts. We had open house for our people and friends to see what we do. That was fun and I could make something for my family. Then they closed the workshops. We had no place to go, nothing to do, why? I asked why? I loved to go to work. I did not like it when we could not go to work. It was terrible. My sister says that was in the 1980’s when they closed our workshop and we got locked on our wards. I was 34 years old. I wanted to work. I wanted to go home. More years passed, my Dad died in 1995 and my sisters moved home to help. That was a hard year, I wanted to go home and take care of my Mom and my sisters and be the man of the house for them. In 1998 St. Thomas “tution” got me to a Seniors Place. It had stairs and I had a bad fall. The staff there did not know how to help me. My sister quit her job and said I was going home with her. I went to live with my Mom and sister. I was very sick because the doctor at the Seniors Home changed all my pills from the “tution”. I could not walk good any more and kept falling. My sister tried all over to get help. I had no pension or money because when I left the “tution” they forgot to do some papers and somebody said I fell in the cracks, whatever that means. My sister said Dad was looking out for me. We prayed a lot. Some very good people from Guelph Community Living said I could come to Seniors Program. I love it. I got to go to a Group Home too! Now I am in a house just 10 minutes from my family. I live with some of my friends from when I was a kid. I go home every weekend and my family comes to my house too. I go to work at Seniors Program Community Living and I love it. I am home for good. I don’t ever have to go back to that “tution”. I am 58 years old in November. I love weaving, going to work and being with my family. Come visit, my Mom will draw you a map.



Sharing a coffee break in support of Alzheimers
(photo courtesy of Snap Guelph)



Enjoying the Zoomobile!



Fun at St. Jacob's market



Jeremy with his parents (photo courtesy of Snap Guelph)



JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST THEME DINNER

Margo Jackson-Taylor, Cheryl Bourque-Turner and Brenda Randell have coordinated the first ever Theme Dinner for Community Living Guelph Wellington. The Theme is *A Tropical Get-Away*. We invite people supported by CLGW, members, staff and volunteers to join us. Enjoy the Culinary Expertise of the ARC Food Services Crew.

Friday, Feb. 20, 2009 in the ARC Cafeteria, 8 Royal Road, Guelph
Refreshments: 6:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Dress: Theme apparel **Ticket Price: \$15/each**

Only 70 tickets available, don't be left out, get your tickets now!

To order tickets or for more information, contact:
Cheryl Bourque-Turner, 519-546-5193
Margo Jackson-Taylor, 519-824-7147, Ext. 266
Brenda Randell, 519-824-2480, Ext. 228

Proceeds to support ARC Industries.



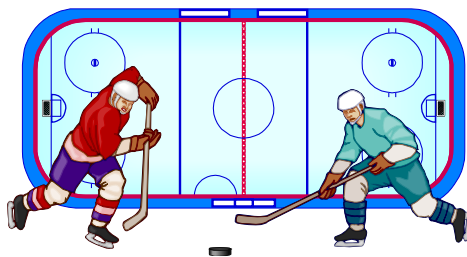
REMEMBER COMMUNITY LIVING GUELPH WELLINGTON

When you want to make a donation in lieu of flowers at a funeral, give a gift to commemorate a special occasion or buy for someone difficult to buy for, a meaningful gift is to make a donation to Community Living Guelph Wellington. We would be grateful to receive your donation and accept cheque, Visa, Master Card, American Express or Interact. A letter will be sent to the appropriate person to acknowledge your gift on their behalf; you will receive a charitable tax donation. (Charity Registration No. 10745 7061 RR0001).



**2009 ROTARY CLUB
5th ANNUAL HOCKEY CHALLENGE
FEBRUARY 21, 2009**

**The Board of Directors and Friends challenge everyone to a contest
Players get pledges from friends and families
Contact Bob Butella, 518-824-2480, Ext. 222
to enter a team, make a pledge or for more information.**



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Web site: www.clgw.ca E-mail: admin@clgw.ca

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Marion Zemann

If you would like to be heard through this newsletter, contact the Admin. Office at 519-824-2480, Ext. "0".