

# The Communiqué

The Newsletter of Community Living Guelph Wellington March 2011

**BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER: COMMUNITY LIVING GUELPH WELLINGTON AND GREAT-WEST LIFE, LONDON LIFE AND CANADA LIFE**



Bob Butella, centre accepts cheque from Navneet Bains, Darren Sweeney, Alan Dollar and Ron Orr. This donation was used for a new storage facility for ARC Industries' lawn maintenance and lawncare program. The storage facility is now complete; lettering is being finalized and we will feature a picture in the Annual Report in May.

## 2011 FASHION SHOW

Again this year, people supported at CLGW will be participating in this fun-filled fashion show. This opportunity for people we support involves a commitment of several hours of hard work culminating with the fashion show on April 6 at the Italian Canadian Club. This is a great opportunity to enjoy yourself and support these individuals. Please join us! Contact Doreen at admin. 519-824-2480 for tickets (\$40) . Contact Helen at 519-824-7147 for information on the in-house fashion show at ARC where models for the Fashion Show will be selected.

### 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**

With spring comes renewal and growth. CLGW is poised for this renewal – we are looking to make changes that will improve the services and supports we provide. Many exciting activities, events and initiatives are taking place throughout the County on a daily basis and can be seen in the pages of this Communiqué. On an organizational level we are also looking at renewal. We have undertaken a Strategic Planning process to help guide our efforts over the next few years. Led by Fred Galloway, an experienced consultant in this sector, more than one hundred and twenty people participated in seventeen focus groups on February 14 and 15. I would like to thank everyone for taking the time to come to the sessions and provide your views on the strengths, shortcomings and potential future direction for CLGW. Your input has been embedded into an environmental scan that will be used by the Board to establish a three year framework. The Strategic Plan will be presented at the AGM for discussion and review. In addition to and in conjunction with the Strategic Plan, we are looking closely at the emerging needs of seniors supported by CLGW and our day program offerings. Two short term committees have been approved by the Board that will examine these issues and make future recommendations. We are actively looking for Volunteers to serve on these Committees (Committee descriptions follow). If you have an interest in these areas and can provide a few hours over the next several months, please call us at Admin and put your name forward. We are looking for as many opinions and sets of helping hands as we can find to make these successful undertakings.

**Day Services Ad-Hoc Committee****Background:**

In the winter of 2010, CLGW commissioned fourth year marketing students to conduct two reviews for ARC Industries. The first Review made recommendations with respect to launching the Retail Space at 8 Royal Road. Students made recommendations regarding products and product lines, pricing hours of operation, advertising, and short and long term goals for location. The second report focused on finding customers for in-house work. Many recommendations were made in this report that could provide for increased work options and revenues. In conversations with representatives from other day Program locations of CLGW, it was discovered that most sites have similar concerns. Some sites have products or services that need to be marketed. All sites are looking for in-house contract work to keep individuals motivated, to help them increase self esteem and self-worth, to develop new skills, and to keep busy. At the September 2010 meeting of the Board of Directors, it was agreed that an ad hoc Committee with representation from all of our Day Service sites be struck to discuss common issues and to develop common responses to these issues.

**Responsibilities:**

Read the University of Guelph Studies; All Day Sites to present an overview of what takes place now, what issues do they have that were identified in the U of G study, other; Discuss ways in which the sites are integrated now; Make recommendations to address the identified issues;

**Term:** Six – nine months

**Membership – 12** : One management Rep from each Cluster (3), One Direct Support Rep from each Cluster (3), One person receiving supports from each Cluster (3) and one Member of CLGW from each geographic area (C/N, E, Guelph)(3)

## Seniors' Services Ad-Hoc Committee

**Background:**

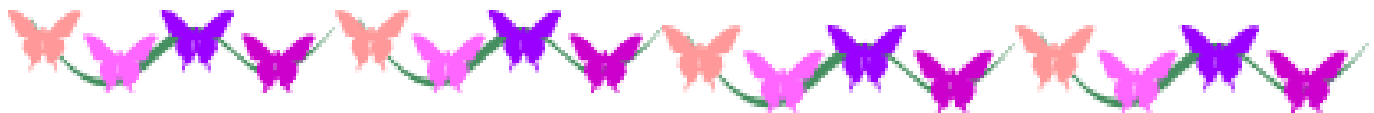
Research has indicated that 72% of those with a developmental disability living in Guelph that are over the age of 50 years are receiving residential services. This means that ageing issues are becoming increasingly prevalent. In order to help address these issues, CLGW contracted with Heather Willis in the winter of 2010 to undertake a feasibility study regarding the development of enhanced seniors' services. The Report describes the development of a physical structure and appropriate programming options that would support the "aging in place" philosophy. At the September 2010 meeting of the Board of Directors, it was agreed that an ad hoc Committee with representation from within, and external to the agency be established to discuss the Willis Report and to make recommendations regarding the development of enhanced seniors' services.

**Responsibilities:**

Read the Feasibility Planning Document ; Make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the development of new senior's services, taking into consideration resources available, location, construction, programming, etc.;

**Term:** Six – nine months

**Membership - 11:** One Management Rep from each Cluster (3), Representatives from Seniors' Service Network (3), One Member of CLGW from each geographic area (C/N, E, Guelph)(3) and Two Board members (2)



**Saturday, June 11, 2011**

**8 a.m.**

**Maude Squad Garage Sale**

**and ARC Spring Sale**

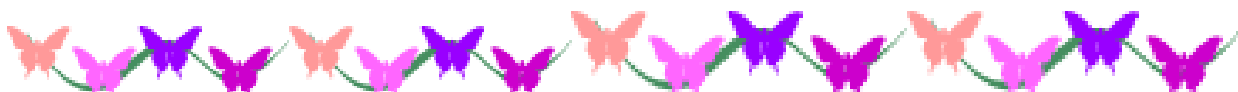
**- baking, wood working, composters, rain barrels**

**Also a BBQ**

Donations of gently used items will be accepted at ARC after May 2.

Please call Cheryl at 519-824-7147 ext. 259 for more information or to arrange drop off time for donations.

Look for flyers soon with more information.



## OUT AND ABOUT WITH SIL PROGRAM



We visited the **Festival of Trees at the River Run Centre** on Dec. 11 and gave a small donation to the Saint Joseph's Long Term Facility in Guelph. Pictured left to right: Marion, Mary Ellen, Jake, Jane, Tim and Scott.

Some SIL individuals went to watch the **Circa at the River Run Centre** on Jan. 9/2011 at 2 pm. The presenters came all the way from Australia and they did a great job with dancing and acrobatics. They were bouncing on their hands, hanging off trapezes, flying through the air, tumbling etc. It was like a circus but they danced a lot too. We were very excited to watch them and we were very lucky because our group was donated four free tickets. I would like to thank the generous donors for these tickets. They made it possible for us to have a delightful, enjoyable Sunday afternoon. - **by Marian Zemann**



Pictured are D'Arcy, Anne, Mary Ellen, staff, Diane, Jenn, Scott, Marian and friend.

### “THE WONDER OF YOU” - Cathy Kuehni

This is a group created by Christine Rickards, Trellis Behavioural Consultant, and Cathy Kuehni, FC&SS Intensive Support Worker. Together, with interns and CLGW staff support, they facilitate a weekly group experience for twelve weeks which focuses on a variety of social skill development; coping skills and strategies; understanding and learning to regulate emotions; healthy conflict resolution; working through grief and drawing from hope; trust; rights and responsibilities; empowerment; team building; recreational/ nutritional health; empathy and giving back to the community. “The Wonder of You” experience becomes a place where individuals can celebrate who they are, grow and learn together and take the learning back into their homes and working environments. The focus is placed on practicing these skills TOGETHER through the use of brainstorming, hands on experiences, drama and role-play. We have also been very thankful for the gift of being able to join the African Dance Class of AdjoiBadoe. As well, students from the Recreational Therapy program at Georgian College will be facilitating an upcoming group. Chances are, if you wander by the training rooms at the admin office of CLGW on any given Monday afternoon between 1 and 3 p.m., you will hear enthusiastic participation in the midst of our learning!

**BEST BUDDIES... - “Making a difference, one friendship at a time.” -**

Mary Strimas, Host Site Coordinator

Best Buddies Canada is a national, charitable organization dedicated to enhancing our communities through one-to-one friendships between people with intellectual disabilities and students. It is about creating friendships. The University of Guelph and Community Living Guelph Wellington have formed a Best Buddies partnership. Tom and Jackie Sam willingly agreed to talk with me about their friendship.

**WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN THE BEST BUDDIES PROGRAM?**

**Tom:** I wanted to do more things and meet more people.

**Jackie:** I spent most of my time studying and hanging out with my University friends. When I learned about the Best Buddies Program at Club Days, I thought that this could be an opportunity to make a special friend.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN THE BEST BUDDIES PROGRAM?**

**Tom:** I've been in the Best Buddies program for six years. I had three other Student Buddies before Jackie. She has been my Student Buddy for three years (grins).

**Jackie:** I became a Student Buddy for the first time in the 2008-09 Season. Tom and I were a good match, right from the start. We had a lot in common, and we found new things to learn about together.

**WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU'VE DONE TOGETHER?**

**Tom:** We get along. I call her and she calls me. We make plans to do something. We laugh a lot when we sing together and do karaoke. “She comes to watch me play basketball, sometimes.”

**Jackie:** We try to go to all the large group Best Buddies events. They are always fun and we get to see all the other Students and Buddies having fun, too. That way, we meet and make even more friends. Sometimes, we go to see a movie at the Galaxy.

**DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE MADE A LASTING FRIENDSHIP?**

**Tom:** Yes. We get along all the time. We're happy to see each other. It's better than hanging out with just your brother or your sister. We always figure out something to do.

**Jackie:** I agree with Tom. I think we've made a lasting friendship. We enjoy each other's company and get along easily. I get updates from him and he has good ideas about things to do.

**WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO OTHERS ABOUT THE BEST BUDDIES PROGRAM?**

**Tom:** I'd tell them to join Best Buddies. You make friends that are fun. You still get to see your old friends. You get to go out in the community and do new things.

**Jackie:** I'd encourage other students to get involved with Best Buddies and have some fun. I can't believe how much I have learned. I appreciate this special friendship that has developed. Even though I'll be graduating in April, 2011 and will be moving back to Toronto, to study physiotherapy or occupational therapy at the University of Toronto, I will maintain contact with Tom.

**Tom:** Yes, I'll miss her, but we can talk on the phone and maybe she will visit me sometime.



**DOLMAGE ET AL V ONTARIO, HURONIA REGIONAL CENTRE CLASS ACTION  
COURT FILE NO. CV-09-376927CP00**

We received a letter from the Huronia Regional Centre Class Action Administer which says:

“This letter is directed to you, as the executive director or administrator of one of the 383 community agencies funded by the Ontario government to provide developmental services. Your organization has been identified as one that may be providing services to former residents of the Huronia Regional Centre (“Huronia”). This communication was ordered by the Honourable Mr. Justice Cullity of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (order dated July 30, 2010) as part of a notification plan for former residents of Huronia.”

The Order of the Honourable Mr. Justice Cullity, certifies the above-noted action as a class action on behalf of:

- 1) All persons who resided at Huronia between Jan. 1, 1945 and Mar. 31, 2009 who were alive as of Apr. 21, 2007 (the “Resident Class”) and
- 2) All parents, spouses, children and siblings of persons who resided at Huronia between Mar. 31, 1978 and Mar. 31, 2009 who were alive as of Apr. 21, 2007 (the Family Class”)

This letter is requesting that you, as executive director or administrator:

- a) Identify any individual to whom your organization provides services, if any, who resided at Huronia between Jan. 1, 1945 and Mar. 31, 2009
- b) Advise whether your organization will agree to assist in facilitating communications with identified Resident Class Members throughout the duration of the class action; and
- c) Respond to us, by mail or email, within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter with the information requested above.

**Please contact Bob if this applies to you or your family.**

**BUY A BRICK FOR ARC UPDATE**

We are still receiving new bricks for the “Buy a Brick for ARC” Campaign! Thanks to the following individuals who have contributed since the last listing of all donors. **If you still wish to purchase a brick, please contact the admin. office at 519-824-2480.**

Dayna Weiler – in memory of Molson

Derek Todd and Karen and Lorne Wood

Lois Kuz for Angela and Paul Hargest

Margaret Jones for Marlene Howard – 12 years of service at ARC

Anonymous for Wayne Hyland, President, 1997–2000 – Deep appreciation for your munificent service

We invite everyone to visit ARC soon and locate their brick on the wall!

**IN THE NORTH...** by Pat Brown.

On Dec. 16, Santa found his way to the Mount Forest Social Club, what a jolly fellow he is. With 30 people around the tables, we had the turkey and all the trimmings. The ladies were busy serving up the meal while the people we support were eager to eat. Before the pumpkin pie was served, guess who came?? A man in a red suit – yes, you're right, it was the old boy himself. Santa spoke to every guest. The biggest surprise was when Sheila recognized Santa and called out his name – everyone was in awe. This was the best gift to us! Santa took his place on the bench and everyone took turns getting their picture taken and received a bag of candy. Then, in a wink of an eye and a nod of his head, he touched his nose and up the chimney he rose. It was a good night.



Lisa with Santa!!

Enjoying the party!!

**“BE MINE” VALENTINE PARTY.**

On Feb. 10/2011, the Mt. Forest Social Club had a Valentine party at the base. Egremont, Jeremy, Melissa, Church St, and the base came with food and ready for a good time. There was music by Lorraine and her husband playing the guitars, and staff joined in playing the spoons!!!! We ate, we laughed and kept the dance floor busy – what a great evening!!



Ruth and Janice play the spoons



Keith and Marlene enjoy the fun!

## FUTURE PATHWAYS GRADUATES

**October 2010**

Congratulations to our 6 graduates from the October 2010, 4- Part Workshop Series of Future Pathways. These young adults, their families and their circle of support completed the 4-part series, planning for their transition from school to the community. We wish you all the best in your transition.

Workshop Parent Leaders,  
Marjorie Stokman & Jane Heipel



Panel of Speakers on Graduation Night  
Judy Noonan, Kelly Stephenson (AIR –  
Passports) Julia Niimi, Ryan Fox

**SHARING AND CARING...** *an invitation to Moms, Dads and adult relatives of the people supported by ARC/ADS programs to come over for coffee...connect, share stories and experiences, ...and give each other encouragement and support as we journey together, caring for our sons and daughters. I'd be delighted for you to join me for one or both Sharing and Caring gatherings that are scheduled for this winter and spring! Dates are Sat. May 14, 2011 and Sat. Oct. 1, 2011 from 10 AM until Noon. Gatherings will be held at my home, 1160 Gordon St. Guelph. Feel free to bring a snack to share. (Tea, coffee and cold drinks provided.) Please call or e-mail me to RSVP – this will help me plan for numbers. Also contact me for more detailed directions to our home. Mark your calendars - hope to see you then! Margaret Jones(519)821-1137 E-mail:[margaretis@rogers.com](mailto:margaretis@rogers.com)*

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010-2011

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### PEOPLE 4 PEOPLE

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Jamie Ridgeway	Cheryl Turner

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