

MERRY CHRISTMAS



ROBERT MAJKUT

A Message from the Board President

2017 was a year of great achievements. As an organization we purchased two new group homes, had a great fund raiser and celebrated our 60th anniversary. We also celebrated the retirement of Maureen Brown. As a result of Maureen leaving, Community Living-Fort Erie was very fortunate in having Vickie Moreland join our organization taking on the position of Executive Director.

Vickie pretty much hit the ground running and dealt with a wide variety of issues in a timely and professional manner. Having the support of our awesome managers and staff she fast became a valued and respected member of the Community Living-Fort Erie team.

With Vickie's experience, wisdom and leadership skills, the board is confident that she will navigate us through any challenges that we as a group will encounter. It's a pleasure to have her here and we all look forward to working together to make 2018 even better.

Sincerely,
Robert Majkut, President



A Message from the Executive Director...

In this year of transition, it has been a pleasure working with the Board of Directors, getting to know many of the staff and people supported as well as participating in the special events and fundraisers here at Community Living-Fort Erie. I am looking forward to meeting more family members during the next year.

The idea of sharing an Executive Director between Community Living-Fort Erie and Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet (CLPCW) was born out of necessity as funding for both organizations was stretched to the limit, and the phrase 'doing more with less' became a hard reality. Three representatives from CLFE Board of Directors are members of the Shared Services Oversight Committee and include President, Bob Majkut, Vice President, Betty Talbot and Past President, Pam Coulthurst. Along with their three counterparts from CLPCW, the Committee provides support and direction to the Executive Director as well as ensure accountability for my performance.

I truly appreciate the warm welcome I've received over the past six months from everyone here at Community Living Fort Erie. It hasn't taken long to feel part of this awesome team of staff and volunteers and to understand the dedication and commitment that each person brings to their position everyday throughout the year.

Sincerely,
Vickie Moreland, Executive Director



VICKIE MORELAND



As 2017 draws to a close it is our pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to extend our thanks for your continued support of Community Living-Fort Erie and to offer our best wishes to you and your family for a very happy holiday season and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

~Bob & Vickie

Celebrating 60 Years of Community Service!

Once Again... Fundraising Event Surpasses Expectations

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRES.: ROBERT MAJKUT
V.P.: BETTY TALBOT
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DEAN DEMIZIO
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DIRECTOR:
VICKIE MORELAND

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On Saturday, November 18th, 2017, Community Living-Fort Erie held it's Annual Christmas Around the World fundraiser celebrating "Christmas in Canada". The committee chose Canada this year to commemorate Canada's 150th birthday, the Town of Fort Erie's 160th birthday as well as Community Living-Fort Erie's 60 years of service to the community.

Planning starts in February each year and the committee works diligently all year to prepare for this event. Over **\$3,000.00** were donated in silent auction prizes and over **\$4,000.00** in raffle prizes. Due to the dedication of our fabulous volunteer fundraising committee the event was extremely successful raising **\$34,758.00**. The proceeds will help to purchase a much needed wheelchair accessible van. A portion of funds raised is also allocated to our Inclusive Opportunities Grant fund.

Our event was sold out again this year with over 340 people attending. Maria's Catering served different dishes from provinces across Canada.

Entertainment included a Neal Young guitarist, Neo Young/Gary Pooler, vocalists Joe Green and Hannah Tumillo. The Canadian Anthem was also sung by Hannah. Mayor Wayne Redekop addressed the crowd as did Robert Majkut, President of the Board and Vickie Moreland, Executive Director.

A special thank you to Constable Daniel Carter who attended the event as a representative of the RCMP and allowed our guests to take many pictures and ask questions!

Smart Booth Images photo booth was provided at no charge to our guests due to the generosity of Scotiabank, Boggio & Edwards Pharmacy and Erion Insurance Group.

J & B Pro Audio Full On Productions and D.J. Mike Maurice entertained the crowd and our guests danced throughout the evening.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS, SPONSORS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS.
THIS EVENT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF
THE FORT ERIE COMMUNITY!

We hope you enjoyed it!

Holiday Office Hours

Please be advised the office at 615 Industrial Drive, Fort Erie will be closed from noon on Dec. 24th, 2017 until Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, 2018.

We would like to wish Everyone a Very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Please plan to attend next year's event on
Nov. 17th, 2018
 as we celebrate

**Christmas in New Orleans—
 "A Mardi Gras Christmas"**

**Thank You to Our Wonderful Donors for Your Generous Contributions
to Our Christmas Around the World 2017 Fundraiser:**

"Christmas in Canada, eh!"



3M

Barn Board Beauties

Bella Pizza

Betty Talbot

Black Diamond Hair Studio

Bob Brown—Express Plastic

Bob Majkut

Bob Steckley—Crystal Beach Candy & Bottling Co.

Buffalo Bills * Buffalo Sabres

Canadian Clothing Exchange

Canadian Tire Fort Erie—Gordon MacDonald

Chakra Spa

Charles & Hope Goodyear

Charlie the Butcher * Cherry Hill Golf Club

Chris Duchesne

Community Living Port Colborne /Wainfleet

Community Living Fort Erie Board of Directors & Managers

Crystal Wines

Dave Hawkins—Niagara this Week

Dean Demezio

Elena Polko—Fashion Touch

Elite Hair

Fort Erie Golf Club

Garrison Automotive

Glenn Miller

Grand Niagara Golf

GT French—Matt Coley

Heart to Home Designs

HOCO Entertainment & Resorts

Kar Show

Kartek Automotive

Kaye Zanetta

KeyBro Security Systems

Kirkpatrick Monuments * KROWN Rust Control

Langdon's Rona Hardware

Lasting Impressions

Lennox Financial Group Inc.

Lesyk Electric

Lino's Pizza Parlour

Loblaws Inc.

Lux Beauty—Lauren Martin



**Thank You to Our Wonderful Donors for Your Generous Contributions
to Our Christmas Around the World 2017 Fundraiser:**

"Christmas in Canada, eh!"



Marilyn Atherton
 Michelle Della Ventura
 Miller's Autobody / Recycling
 Miskow Generators & Electric
 Niagara Parks Commission
 Niagara This Week—FE Post
 Nigh's Sweet Shop
 On the Mat Yoga Studio
 Pam Copeland * Pam Coulthurst
 Papa's Pizza
 Dr. Patricia Teal Cosmetic Laser & Aesthetics
 Peace Bridge Duty Free
 Person Centred Care
 Posie Pots—Linda Beach
 Ralph Marino
 Randy Lauder
 Ray Rosettani
 Ridgeway Wellness Centre
 Ripley Entertainment Inc.
 Roger Ball
 Rossman's Furniture Ltd.
 S&G Automotive
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 Sandy Hefner
 Sandy Leemet * Sandy Miskolczi
 Shari Allen * Sharon Schilz
 Sobey's Fort Erie
 Southcoast Cookhouse
 Sue Doan
 The Old Bank Bistro
 The Plaice Bar & Grill
 TimBr Mart fort Erie
 Trailsides Bar & Grill
 VIA RAIL
 Vickie Moreland
 WestJet
 Wines with a Twist
 YMCA Niagara
 Yoga Joy
 Zia's Pizzeria



**Thank You to Our Corporate
Table Sponsors Who Made This
Evening Such a Success!**

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Jesse and Kelly No Frills

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Co-operators—Vincent Francescut

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Health Source Plus

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Peninsula Plastics

Edward Jones—Craig Spanier

Carl & Donna Scibetta

Pam Copeland

Gales Gas Bar

Miller's Auto Recycling

**Christmas
In Canada
2017
Fundraising Committee**

Margaret Fidler
Fundraising Chair

Sue Doan
Co-Chair / Bar & Beverage Chair

Pauline Wilson
Secretary / Raffle Committee

Elena Polko
Public Relations & Marketing

Pennie Ruch
Decorations Chair

Sandy Miskolczi
Food Chair

Debbie Eggleton
Entertainment Chair

Marina Parkes
Raffle Chair

Kristina Phillips
Table Favours & Activities Chair

Linda Beach
Program Chair

Bobbi Raymond
Committee Member

*We Wish Everyone A Very Merry Christmas
& A Healthy & Happy New Year!
~ Thank You For Your Support! ~*



Thank You!

To

BOGGIO & EDWARDS PHARMACY
307 Ridge Road, Ridgeway, ON
(905) 894-2200

Scotiabank

1105 Thompson Road, Fort Erie, ON
(905) 871-5663

&

Erion Insurance Group
177 Niagara Blvd., Fort Erie, ON
(905) 871-0700

For providing Smart Booth Images
free to all our Guests.





WESTJET GIFT OF FLIGHT

WestJet supports charities and not-for-profit organizations in the communities they serve through the Airport Community Giving program with an in-kind gift of flight donation of a roundtrip for two, anywhere they fly! Due to their generosity organizations across Canada have been able to increase fundraising proceeds by using this donation as an auction or raffle item. Community Living Fort Erie's 2017 Christmas In Canada Event was lucky enough to be the beneficiary of this donation again this year!!

The raffle raised \$5,310.00. Funds raised directly benefit the people we support and proceeds will be used towards the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van.

The winner of the "Westjet Gift of Flight" raffle was Wendy Reid. Wendy has been a life time resident of Fort Erie. The winning ticket was sold to Wendy by Shari Allen.

Wendy said she is "not sure where she will be travelling yet, but knows she will be going somewhere with a long sandy beach!" Congratulations Wendy! Happy Travels!



**OUR SINCEREST THANKS TO WESTJET
FOR DONATING
"THE GIFT OF FLIGHT" TO THIS YEAR'S FUNDRAISER!**

COMMUNITY LIVING PARTNERS WITH GFT MARKETING....



WILD MAGIC performed by International Grand Champion of Magic, **Greg Frewin** dazzles audiences of all ages with a powerful mix of the most outrageous and astonishing mind-bending acts of magic and illusion ever to be seen on stage.

This Vegas style format non-stop show is packed with thrilling and sophisticated magic of unprecedented proportions.

WILD MAGIC has been hailed as a jaw-dropping magic experience and a family friendly entertainment experience. This stunning

show features real tigers including a rare white Siberian, and exotic birds from around the globe. These mesmerizing animals are an integral piece of the Greg Frewin Theatre experience. We make theatre magic – **Join us!**

Exclusive offering to Community Living Centres | Promo Code: LIVING2017

- Complimentary show ticket to all caregivers
- 20% ticket savings to all patrons

Please contact **Margaret Fidler** for more information.
(905) 971-6770 ext. 239 or mfidler@clfe.ca



Thank you to United Parcel Service Canada!



Pictured left to right: Karen Pantano/ UPS Fort Erie International Supervisor, Marg Fidler/Manager of community Development CLFE, & Maria Palmer.

Community Living Fort Erie received a \$1,000.00 donation from United Parcel Service Canada. A Community Allocation Committee Donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 was presented to our organization to assist with the purchase of a new wheelchair accessible vehicle.

UPS supports charities that are dedicated to strengthening their communities and helping those in need. UPS Canada recognized our commitment to making a difference in our community and provided us with additional financial support needed to reach our goal!

Thank you UPS Canada for making a difference through your commitment to local charities!!

COMMUNITY LIVING RECEIVES DONATION FROM GORE MUTUAL

"Community Living—Fort Erie is very pleased to be receiving this grant," stated Vickie Moreland, Executive Director.

The funds received from Gore Mutual Foundation and Erion Insurance Group will be used to assist with the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van. Community Minded Business Owners truly make a difference for our Not For Profit Organization.

Transportation is one of the greatest barriers to inclusion for many of the people we support. Local businesses, grantors and foundations play a vital role in assisting our agency to purchase needed equipment. An accessible van is the equipment we require to connect people in their community. Some of the people we support have difficulty utilizing generalised transportation which greatly inhibits their ability to access the community. A wheel chair accessible van will allow us to provide opportunities for social inclusion and reducing social isolation by removing transportation barriers, therefore increasing individual specific transportation, improve individual's self-directed service and get people connected to their community through recreation and leisure. With the funds raised at our Annual Fundraiser and contributions made by generous supporters like Gore and Erion we hope to raise the required funds to make this purchase in 2018. We are very appreciative of the support we have received from our community."



Pictured above: Brian Maskell, Erion Insurance o/b Glenny Insurance, Vickie Moreland, Executive Director and April Ravarra, Gore Mutual Foundation.

VISION: "An Inclusive Community that Only Sees Abilities"

MISSION STATEMENT: "Community Living-Fort Erie exists to promote inclusion and to ensure people with intellectual challenges have their rights and privileges upheld.

THE TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH (TAY) SUMMER PROGRAM



When are you going to get yourself a job? A typical question posed by most parents of adolescents and/or young adults. The Transitional Age Youth (TAY) summer program at Community Living Fort Erie offers a supported employment summer program, addressing pre-employment training and employment opportunities that meet the needs of youth between the ages of 14 and 24 with intellectual disabilities.

Those who show interest in the program and are committed to its objectives, receive pre-employment training so as to become job-ready applicants. In conjunction, the program links TAY participants with inclusive volunteer experiences, work-training, and/or competitive wage employment positions within the local community with the primary aim of full integration with minimal support. Through the development of TAY plans this aim is achieved, and each participant is matched to a placement opportunity based on their unique goals and interests.

This year the TAY program numbers were impressive! Overall, 21 TAY participants were involved in the program. Seven TAY participants obtained paid employment, 12 TAY participants received volunteer or work-training positions, and 2 TAY participants solely dedicated their time to pre-employment training. **Thus, 90% of participants acquired work-related experience, and of this 90%, 30% of TAY participants successfully landed a job!** These opportunities would not have been available without our community partners and local employers and we thank you for being part of a TAY participants journey into adulthood!

- Marissa Peressotti, TAY Program Coordinator



Thank you to Everyone For Supporting Our B.B.Q.

Community Living volunteers raised \$690.44 at our B.B.Q. fundraiser held again this year at Sobeys's Fort Erie. Hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages were sold to the Fort Erie community! Funds raised at this event will be combined with our "Christmas in Canada, Eh?" Fundraiser.



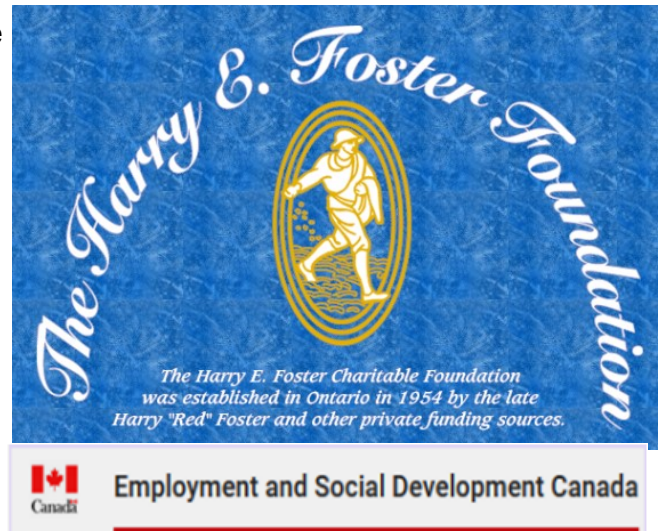
A special Thank you to the volunteers that did such an amazing job: Joanne Zuccarelli, Gemma Phillips, Kristina Phillips, Bobbie Paonessa, Terry Sampson, Swaizie Lauzon, Pauline Wilson, Linda Beach, Andria Beach, Julia Cotton, Deryk Tilden & Deryk Cotton.

THANK YOU TO FORT ERIE SOBEY'S FOR ALLOWING US TO HOLD OUR BBQ FUNDRAISER AT THEIR LOCATION!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS FOR MAKING OUR 2017 SUMMER PROGRAMS POSSIBLE!

Due to the generosity of the following funders we were able to provide our Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Summer Program and our Inclusive Summer Camp Programs this year!

A sincere thank you to *The Harry E. Foster Foundation* for contributing \$5,000.00; to *Human Resources Services Canada* for providing \$8,000, and to *Ray Rosettani & RE/Max Fundraising Corporate Challenge Fundraiser* for donating \$3,000.00. These funds were necessary to furnish our TAY Summer Program.



These grants provide the funds necessary to hire a TAY Coordinator and two TAY Facilitators. This year's program showed over-whelming success in providing summer experience programs for transitional age youth with a result of 33% of the individuals participating obtaining jobs.



**WITHOUT THIS SUPPORT GENEROUSLY DONATED BY THESE
FUNDERS OUR PROGRAM WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE!
OUR SINCERE THANKS!**



Inclusive Summer Camp Programs were made possible through funding from *Human Resources Services Development Canada* (\$11,000.00), *Grants Ontario Summer Experience Program* (\$2,979.00) and the *Niagara Community Foundation* (\$1,500.00)

This funding ensured that children with intellectual challenges were included in existing, inclusive camp programs in their community with their peers!

**WITHOUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THESE FUNDERS
COMMUNITY LIVING-FORT ERIE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO
PROVIDE THESE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS THROUGHOUT THE
SUMMER MONTHS TO CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

Community Living Fort Erie Exists to promote inclusion and to ensure people with intellectual challenges have their rights and privileges upheld.



Inclusive Summer Camps



Everyone Benefits From Inclusion!!

For the 2017 summer we were able to offer camp opportunities to 25 children with varying abilities. The summer camp was made possible through several grants we received from HRSDC Canada Summer Jobs, Grants Ontario Summer Experience Program and The Niagara Community. We provided support to children at CAN-ter, Boys and Girls Club of Fort Erie, the Fort Erie YMCA and Heartland Forest. We employed nine full time staff at the 2017 Inclusive Camp Program.

Heartland Forest was new to some of the families this year. Heartland received funding through the NPI grant, which allowed our families to have the opportunity to receive free transportation to and from camp. This opportunity allowed campers to attend Heartland Forest for the first time. The young participants explored the outdoors; participated in new adventures, learned about how to care for our forests and respect nature, as well as participating in tie dying and making salsa. Stephanie, one of our camp counselors, who was new to us, developed a long lasting bond with this particular camper. She is currently enrolled in the EASNS program with Niagara College and hopes to pursue a career in the field of disabilities.

Campers at the Boys and Girls Club in Fort Erie, participated in weekly trips. A trip that all camp participants enjoyed was an excursion to the Shaw Festival Theatre, where they watched the play "Wilde Tails" and received a behind the scenes tour about how they construct the plays. One of our campers developed a keen interest in the backstage process where the costume designer used him for costume demonstration. Now this camper and his family are looking to attend Drama camp next year. Another trip that was a favorite amongst the participants was the weekly trips to the Kinsman Pool.

Campers participated in 'Swim to Survive' trainings where they did swimming lesson activities, developed swimming skills learned about water safety. The campers were able to play and enjoy the water with their peers in a fully inclusive environment.



Photo: Campers are enjoying some time with St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dogs. They had the opportunity to see three different dogs, learn about the care, feed them treats and enjoy their company.

Providing support to campers through the summer takes a great deal of commitment from the families, program counselors and inclusion facilitators, Community Living and along with the camp providers. We worked together to develop programming, modifications and inclusion for our young friends to have a fun and enjoyable summer experience filled with learning and laughter.

In the upcoming year we are committed to developing new camp opportunities that relate to camper interests. With the new minimum wage increase we will all need to work together to ensure campers will have opportunity to attend camps that are within their budgets and meet the needs of families. We will strive to be more creative in how we implement camp programming and support so that all children will have the chance to explore camp next summer.