

NEWSLETTER

From the Desk of the President of the Board...



PRESIDENT

We hope that everyone enjoyed this Long Hot Summer... it certainly was beautiful!! We are looking forward to a glorious Fall Season in beautiful Niagara.

With Fall beginning in full bloom the Association is very busy with plans underway for what will be the event of the Holiday Season – "Christmas in Mexico". We truly appreciate the support that we have received from the Fort Erie community. To date many event, table and Ad sponsors have been secured to ensure success. This event will be held at the Leisureplex on November 19th. Tickets are going quickly, so get yours NOW!!

We are very pleased to report that we have purchased a new group home on Buffalo Road. It is scheduled to open sometime in November.

OUR 2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RAY ROSETTANI
TERRY SAMPSON &
EXEC. DIRECTOR & SEC.:

MAUREEN BROWN

The Ministry of Community and Social Services has just completed our Risk Assessment for 2016 and we are pleased to advise you that we received a "low" risk score. This is due largely to the hard work and dedication of our Board, Staff, many Volunteers, people we support and their families. Each of you play such a vital role in the life of our Association.



Again please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions or comments that will benefit the Association as we continue to move forward with our Vision for full Inclusion!

IN MEMORY OF GREG PITHOUSE

Community Living~Fort Erie is mourning the loss of a wonderful man Greg Pithouse who passed away peacefully on September 11, 2016.

Greg became a member of our Community Living family over 40 years ago. As a young boy he moved into our Rosedale children's residence on Buffalo Rd. He had the ability to capture your heart with his gentle demeanour and loving soul. As an adult he made his home at Madison, Bertie, Dodd's and finally happily settled with good friends at Catherine St. This is where Greg was very happy to be. He cared for and loved all of his housemates and adored the staff that supported him with such compassion.

Greg loved many things in life including tennis, swimming, concerts, fishing and a good pasta and meat ball dinner! He had a great sense of humour and loved to make people laugh. He was a performer at our Agency drama fundraiser for several years. Greg had the ability to make people laugh and he would light up the stage whenever he performed.

His signature mannerisms will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. We all loved how his palms glided together with excitement or how when he had to repeat himself he would preface his statement with "I said". There are not enough words to describe what a kind hearted man he was. The tilt of his head and the smile on his face would brighten everyone's day. He was one of a kind, in so many special ways!

Greg Pithouse was a brave soul and a peace keeper. He was the true definition of selflessness, always willing to help in any way that he could! Greg will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. He was our Earth Angel!

Information Sharing Meeting

We held our bi-annual Information Sharing Day at the Italo Canadian Hall on September 20, 2016. Approximately 80 stakeholders attended. The meal provided by Maria's Catering was excellent.

We presented our annual service Awards to the recipients. It was really great to see so many families out to support their family member. We also announced the Jackie Sandelli Staff Award that will be presented in 2017.

The Transitional Age Youth Summer Program was highlighted by the program coordinator. As well, a participant,

Ali Kiyani spoke on how integrated experiences have impacted his life & his life direction (Ali & his family are pictured here). He is currently in grade 12 & looking at college programs. Ali was able to obtain fulltime employment this summer in Niagara Falls on Clifton Hill working 40 hours a week at minimum wage. He says it's not about the money, it's about the experience. A very informative presentation board on the program successes was displayed at the meeting to educate and recruit new participants and their families.

Thank you to all those who attended and we hope to see everyone out at our next meeting in June 2017!!

| In This Issue | |
|---|-----|
| PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE | 1 |
| IN MEMORY OF GREG PITHOUSE | 1 |
| AWARDS PRESENTATION | 2-4 |
| ANNOUNCING NEW AWARD | 3 |
| CLFE BURSARY AWARDS | 4 |
| SOBEY'S BBQ | 5 |
| CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO | 6&7 |
| THANK YOU TO FUNDERS | 8 |
| HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD | 9 |
| WELCOME | 10 |
| TAY SUMMER PROGRAM | 11 |
| ESTATE PLANNING | 12 |
| CHAMBER TRADE SHOW | 12 |
| THANK YOU TO OUR BINGO VOLUNTEERS | 13 |
| POSTER FOR FUNDRAISER: CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO | 14 |
| | |

Awards Presented

This year **Paul Piscitello** received the **Bob Martin Award** for "the active role he has played in his community". He actively participates in community activities and volunteers his time. As a responsible citizen he has invested in his community by "giving back to the community where he lives".

Paul enjoys working in his community! He has successfully held down two jobs over the past few years. He is a valued employee at Madison's Pub and at our local Rona Hardware Store. He has developed countless relationships and has inspired people to get out and "give back" by volunteering their time.

Paul recruited his own Leisure Buddy on behalf of Community Living~Fort Erie. He is known wherever he goes in the community and draws people in with his friendliness and wonderful sense of humour.





Above: (L to R): Board Pres.: Robert Majkut,
Paul Piscitello & Jennifer Corsi,
Leisure Buddy.

Paul is a member of the YMCA and is always recognized and welcomed by the many friends he has come to know through YMCA membership. Paul helps to organize a food drive for C.O.P.E at Christmas time. He shops for food and assists with delivering the donations to the food bank. Paul is always a joy to be around and he has opened the hearts of many in the community. He is a valuable community member who actively participates in many community activities. Paul truly deserves to be recognized for all his accomplishments!

Congratulations Paul on building valuable relationships. As a responsible citizen you have made many contributions to our Community!

Fall 2016



This year **Kali Sheridan** received the award for "demonstrating leadership" in pursuing Community Living's vision of "An Inclusive Community That Only Sees Abilities." This award is granted to an individual on the merits of their progress in self-direction, initiative, motivation and personal growth.

Kali has "demonstrated leadership through her actions and she has educated others on the benefits of including all people in the community." Kali is an active member of her Community. She attends Fort Erie High School and has her Coop placement at Gilmore Lodge Adult Day Program. She has been volunteering at the senior's home for the past two years. This experience has changed Kali's life and she in turn has

added to the lives of those who attend the program and the staff. Over the summer months Kali volunteers additional hours at the Lodge.

Kali is a volunteer with Community Living~Fort Erie and helps out at our major fundraiser and is involved with our fundraising BBQ's. Recently Kali addressed Town Council and spoke at CLFE's Flag raising for Community Living Month. Kali also attended the Day At The Legislature at Queen's Park where she had the opportunity to share with others about the importance of community inclusion!!

Over the past three years Kali has had an uphill struggle to be where she is today. Due to her experiences she has become a great advocate for herself and others. She has learned that it is truly empowering to be independent and make your own decisions. Kali has set goals and obtained them!

Congratulations Kali, You have educated people on the right to be included! You should be very proud of all you have accomplished!



KALI RECEIVED HER AWARD FROM ROBERT MAJKUT, BOARD PRES. & MAUREEN BROWN, EXEC. DIRECTOR

Announcing.... The Jacquelyn (Jackie) Sandelli Staff Award



We are pleased to announce the Jacquelyn Sandelli Award. This award will be given to a Community Living~Fort Erie employee in Memory of Jackie Sandelli. Jackie faithfully served Community Living~Fort Erie for over 25 years.

Her Leadership and Dedication Has Left a Lasting Impression on Our Organization. As the Manager of Human Resources & Operations, Jackie always promoted staff attendance, encouraged positive attitudes and fostered team building. We are better because of her efforts!

- ◆ The award will be Presented Annually at our AGM every June (beginning June, 2017).
- The award will be given to an employee that demonstrates Good Attendance, Positive Attitude and Willingness to Participate as part of the team.
- The recipient of the award will be determined by the Management Team.

ELIGIBILITY: All Employees (except the management team) are eligible for the award. Award winner must have completed 12 months of employment.

We will honour Jackie's memory by recognizing staff through this award!



This bursary is in memory of Wendy Henderson who was a Family Support Case Manager with 24 years of service with Community Living~Fort Erie. Wendy's passion for the youth of our community was demonstrated frequently as she supported them to overcome barriers to further their education or obtain employment. This bursary is awarded to a young adult who is transitioning from High School.



ABOVE: PAULA DEVEREAU (JESSE'S MOM), JESSE DEVEREAU & ANDRIA WILLICK

This year's recipient of the Wendy Henderson Bursary is **Jesse Devereau.** Jesse will be graduating this year from Lakeshore Catholic High School with credits that he has worked very hard to obtain. He excelled in carpentry and metal shop.

Jesse is a great advocate for himself when it comes to being involved in inclusive activities. He knows what he enjoys and he knows that he wants to be active with his peers.

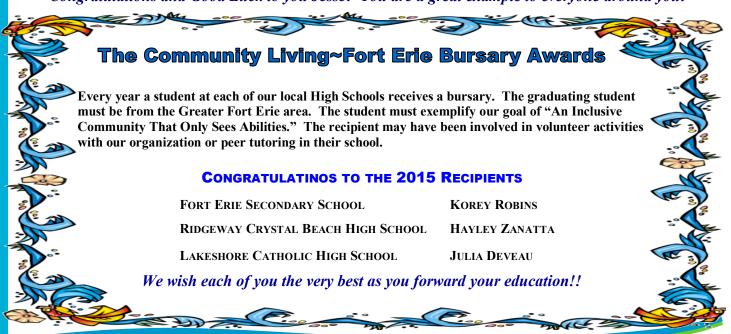
He has become a familiar face throughout the High school and can be found in the halls daily greeting EVERYBODY!! Jesse is a very popular student!

Jesse strives to help others. He has been assisting a neighbour who is a senior with any help he may need around his home. This has led to a friendship between the two gentlemen and they now help each other whenever needed.

This past year Jesse was involved in our Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Summer Program and landed a position cutting grass for a Community family. They loved his work so much they asked him to return again this year. Jesse also volunteered at several local events last summer including the Ridge Fest, Pet Expo and the July 1 Ridgeway Legion Event.

Jesse often went above and beyond and would stay for 10 hour shifts. He is motivated, self-directed and passionate. Jesse's goal is to pursue a carpentry position.

Congratulations and Good Luck to you Jesse! You are a great example to everyone around you!



BBQ at Sobey's was Fun & Successful



On Saturday October 3, 2016 Community Living~Fort Erie volunteers raised \$764.00 at a Sobeys Fundraising BBQ.

Due to the generosity of Fort Erie Sobeys six volunteers sold hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages to the Fort Erie community!

Funds raised at this event will be combined with our "Christmas In Mexico" Fundraiser to help with the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van!!

A VERY special thank you to our volunteers:

Dave Trelford, Debbie Eggleton, Dee Dee Hayslip, Terry Sampson, Pauline Wilson & Bobbi Raymond who accepted donations throughout the day!!



A special Thank-You to Sobey's for allowing us to hold the BBQ at their place of business.





HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Volunteers Prepare to Celebrate Christmas in Mexico!



PICTURED ABOVE (FRONT L-R): MARINA PARKES, SANDY MISKOCZI, SUE DOAN, (BACK, L-R): LINDA BEACH, DEBBIE EGGLETON, PAULINE WILSON, MAUREEN BROWN (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR) BOBBI RAYMOND, & ELENA POLKO. REGRETS: DAVE TRELFORD & PATRICIA BOLES.

OUR ANNUAL
"CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD" FUNDRAISER
WILL BE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 19, 2016.

THIS YEAR WE WILL CELEBRATE

Christmas in Mexico

Community Living~Fort Erie is a Not-For Profit organization with almost 60 years' experience providing advocacy and support to individuals with an intellectual challenge and their families. We support over 200 children and adults in the Fort Erie community.

Our annual fundraiser is made possible by the hard work and dedication of our ten volunteer team.

Without the hard work of these incredible volunteers we would not be able to hold these fundraising events which directly benefit the people who receive service. Each volunteer is responsible to plan and implement portions of the event. Planning an authentic Mexican dinner menu, coordinating a table full of prizes for raffles, creating the evenings signature drink, arranging for entertainment and the evening dance are just portions of the work they do to ensure a wonderful evening for our guests. They begin meeting in February and work extremely hard throughout the year to ensure a successful event.

The money raised from every fundraising event directly benefits the people we support. This annual fundraising event raises funds to assist Community Living~Fort Erie to minimize accessibility barriers and promote the inclusion of people with intellectual challenges into all aspects of community life. This year's fundraising proceeds will help with the purchase of a much needed wheelchair accessible van. Funds are also available to the people we support throughout the year through our Inclusive Opportunities Grant (IOG) which is made possible due to our volunteers dedicated fundraising efforts.

This year's Event Sponsors are:

BOGGIO & EDWARDS RIDGEWAY PHARMACY, ERION INSURANCE & SCOTIABANK.

Where: Fort Erie Leisureplex

Tickets: **\$45.00** each.

Tickets available at our office: 615 Industrial Drive, Fort Erie.

Corporate Tables Available.

Please contact Margaret Fidler @ (905) 871-7660 ext. 239 or mfidler@clfe.ca if you are interested in MAKING A DONATION, BECOMING A TABLE SPONSOR OR PLACING AN AD IN OUR PROGRAM

our Help Is Needed

The goal of this project is to raise funds for our organization to enhance available programs and services in our community. As funding decreases we are at risk of having to reduce available supports and services offered. We must fundraise and seek alternative ways to raise the funds required to address the needs of our community. We also hope to increase awareness in the community of the abilities of people with intellectual challenges. If you only choose one event to support this year, we encourage you to make this event your choice!

This event brings the community together to raise awareness and improve the quality of life for people with disabilities living in the Greater Fort Erie community.



e are thankful
for any support
that you choose to offer
and we will gladly answer
any questions you might have.
Together we can continue
to make a difference in the lives
of people with intellectual
challenges and their families!

To aide in the success of our 2016 fundraiser CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO

you can contribute to the evening in the following ways:

Table Sponsorship - \$500.00

YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION WILL...

- * Be displayed on our website at www.clfe.ca
- * Receive a table of 8 for dinner at the event
- * Be displayed on programs at the event
- * Be recognized in our newsletter
- * Be publicly acknowledged at the event
- * Be able to display corporation signage on table
- * Receive a charitable donation receipt

Tables of 4 are available for \$250.00

~ OR ~

DONATE A RAFFLE PRIZE

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Fidler at (905) 871-6770 ext 239
Or by email at mfidler@clfe.ca

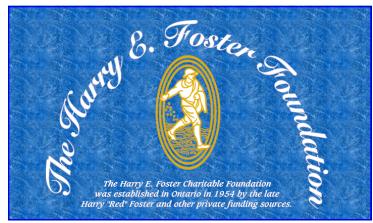
Dlease Join Us!

Thanks to the Generosity of the Following Funders...

...a total of \$30,240.00 in grants were received to fund Community Living~Fort Erie 2016 Summer Programs

A grant of \$10,000.00 from the Harry E. Foster Foundation allowed Community Living~Fort Erie to hire a TAY Coordinator and a TAY Facilitator for the summer.

Due to the generosity of the Harry Foster Foundation we were able to run our Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Project this year. Without their support this project would not have been available to youth in our community with intellectual challenges.





Human Resources Services Development Can-Employment and Social Development Canada ada funded four positions this year with a grant approval of \$14,240.00.

We were able to hire one Transitional Aged Youth Facilitator, an Inclusive Camp Coordinator and two inclusive camp facilitators with the funds provided. This funding ensured that children with intellectual challenges were included in existing camp programs in their community with their peers!

A grant was received from Niagara Community Foundation to support our 2016 Summer Inclusive Camp Program \$1,500.00 was received to provide one on one support to a child in the program. The Niagara Community Foundation also funded \$500.00 to purchase two laptops for the TAY Program through a Mini Grant.





The Summer Experience Program granted \$2,875.00 to our organization to fund a Summer Camp Inclusion Facilitator for the 2016 Program.

A new Ministry of Training, Colleges & University grant was received for \$1,125.00 to subsidize a Summer Inclusion Camp Facilitator.

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 FAMILES!**

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

COMMUNITY LIVING FORT ERIE BREAKS GROUND WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY!!



Above: TEAM REPRESENTATIVES GOT TOGETHER TO "BREAK GROUND" ON AUGUST 17, 2016.

A brand new Habitat for Humanity house will be built on a lot that was generously donated by a friend of Habitat, located on Crescent Road in Fort Erie.



We have been fortunate to be able to have two teams who will be representing Community Living~Fort Erie in TWO Build Day projects. One will be held on October 3rd build team included Simon Reeves, Michelle Dellaventura, Andria Willick, Chris Wolfe, Jeremy Charron, April McCreary & Amy Mallete. The other build day will be November 23rd. We are very excited to be able to give back to our community in such a wonderful way!

This house will become a new home to a local family, Carlos, Rocio and their five children, who emigrated from El Salvador to Canada in 2011. The family found it difficult to leave their home country of El Salvador, but when their family was threatened by gang violence, they knew they

needed to leave to protect their children.

Many local businesses and community groups have signed up to participate to help build the house through Habitat's Adopt a Day sponsorship program. The program allows 6 - 8 volunteers the opportunity to work on the build site for a day as a fun and interactive way to give back. A combination of volunteer hours and financial contributions double the group's impact.

Whether or not individuals have ever swung a hammer or are already skilled in the construction field, they can all be part of Habitat's Adopt a Build Day program. Simon Reeves will be heading the volunteer teams on behalf of our organization!!



Melcolite

Kaylee Tremblay began her student placement with Community Living~Fort Erie on October 3, 2016. She is a second year student at Niagara College in the Social Service Worker Program. Kaylee chose her placement with us to increase her knowledge of Developmental Services. She hopes to obtain insight into counselling and make informed decisions about what she would like to do post-grad. We know that Kaylee will gain the experience she requires during her placement with our organization. Thank you Kaylee, for choosing Community Living~Fort Erie for your placement!



KAYLEE TREMBLAY



KOREY ROBINS

Welcome Korey

Korey Robins came to Community Living Fort Erie with the desire to learn. She is presently an EASNS student at Niagara College in her first year! She hopes to gain valuable experience by volunteering in our Residential Programs. Korey has always had a passion for helping others. She has been a caregiver for different family members and have helped others in the community in need. Between going to school and working... when she has free time... she enjoys going to the gym, movies and painting. As a new volunteer to Community Living~ Fort Erie Korey is excited about gaining new experiences and supporting people within our organization. Welcome Korey!!



SWAIZIE LAUZON

Welcome Swaizie

Swaizie plans to attend college to obtain her Personal Support Worker Certificate to work with people with special needs. She came to Community Living Fort Erie hoping to gain experience and valuable skills she can utilize in her future career. She volunteers with other organizations in our community including the Food for the Soul Program, The Pomegranate Restaurant and Gilmore Lodge. Swaizie enjoys helping others, scrapbooking, music and gardening. Throughout the summer months Swaizie volunteered at our Inclusive Camp Programs at the Boys & Girls Club. She will continue to be a valuable volunteer with our Children's After School, Christmas and March Break Programs. She hopes to volunteer in our residential settings in the future and looks forward to making a difference for

others by donating her time. Swaizie's sense of humour, caring personality and willingness to help are sure to make her a great asset to Community Living Fort Erie! Welcome Swaizie!!

Welcome Dave

Dave Trelford was approached last November to join our 2016 Fundraising Committee. After attending our "Christmas in Italy" event he decided he would join our team.

Dave brings many talents to our organization. His creative and innovative.

Dave brings many talents to our organization. His creative and innovative approach to decorating has quickly earned the trust and admiration of the fundraising team. Dave has been a Floral Designer at Sobeys for the past four years. He has been an active member of Fort Erie and is well known within our community. As a member of the Fundraising committee Dave has spent many hours planning for our "Christmas In Mexico" event. It is wonderful to have Dave work with our other volunteer members to create what is sure to be a wonderful evening for our guests!! We look forward to having Dave as a volunteer with our organization for many years to come.

Welcome to Community Living~Fort Erie, we feel very lucky to have you as part of the team!!

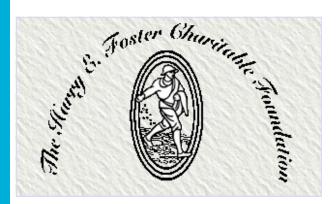


DAVE TELFORD

TAY Summer Program

(THE TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAM)

This is the second year that we have been able to offer the Transitional Age Youth Summer Program thanks to The Harry Foster Foundation Grant and the Employment and Social Development Canada Grant. These grants allowed us to hire 3 summer staff; a coordinator and two facilitators.



This program is offered to youth who are between the ages of 14-21. Participants receive pre-employment training, certificate opportunities and paid and volunteer placements that match their individual goals and interests.

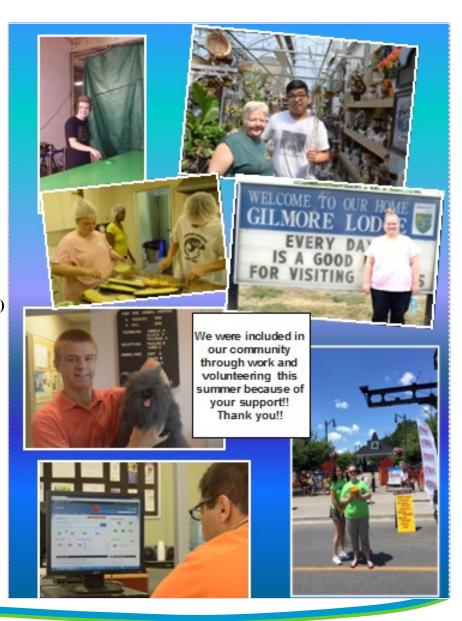
This year we had 20 TAY participants and 20% of those people successfully found minimum wage summer job placements, 95% received volunteer experiences within the community and 100% completed employment training/certificates in either WHMIS, First Aid, Food Safety Handling, Smoke Free Ontario Act, 4 Steps Safety, Transit training and interview training.

Several of these placements have been taken over through the schools coop's program as they are in line with the persons TAY Plan and are relevant to their interests and goals.

We successfully partnered with:

Boys And Girls Club of Niagara Bridges Community Health Dunn the Mover Ltd Fort Erie Animal Hospital Fort Erie Friendship Festival **Fort Erie Historical Museum** Fort Erie Railway museum Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS) **Fort Erie SPCA** Gilmore Lodge G.O.A.L Program (DSBN) Job Gym **Kinsmen Pool Lakeshore Catholic High School March of Dimes ODSP Employment Supports Pateraks Landscaping & Supply** Ridgeway BIA **Salvation Army**

Thank you so much for supporting this valuable program!





Serving the communities of Fort Erie, Ridgeway, Crystal Beach & Stevensville

"The Voice of Business"

GREATER FORT ERIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TRADESHOW 2016



ABOVE: CHRIS ROBIDIDOUX & NIKKI BOON

On September 15th, Community Living~Fort Erie took part in the annual Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce's Trade Show.

The tradeshow was held at the Fort Erie Leisureplex from 2:00 to 7:00 PM and was well attended.

This is Fort Erie's only trade show and proved to be an excellent opportunity to promote the upcoming fundraiser as well as Community Living~Fort Erie's

Vision: "AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY THAT ONLY SEES ABILITIES".

Thank you to Elena Polka for manning the booth.

We are so thankful to be a part of such a caring and support community!



Community Living Ontario's Inspiring Possibilities Estate Planning Guide is a comprehensive resource meant to ensure that present financial arrangements and future considerations for you or your loved one who has an intellectual disability are respected.

TOPICS DICUSSED IN THIS ONLINE RESOURCE INCLUDE:

* Will Planning * Trust Planning * Consent * Capacity and Legal Decision Making * *Ontario Disability Support Program * Disability Tax Credit * Registered Disability Savings Plan.. and much more!!!

Know your options, find out how to pursue them, and when and where to seek out professional support.

DOWNLOAD THIS ONLINE RESOURCE FREE OF CHARGE AND GET STARTED TODAY!! VISIT: www.PlanInspiringPossibilites.ca

Community Living Ontario's Inspiring Possibilities Estate Planning Guide is an easy to use document that enables people to navigate tax, trust and estate planning resources that can be used to improve and secure the quality of life for you and your loved one who has a disability!

From the Desk of Jo-Anne Zucarelli....



Thank You!!! Let me start by saying a huge heart felt thank-you to our list of dedicated Bingo volunteers. We are fortunate to be given many Bingo slots per month. Which in turn is a lot of spaces to fill, but together we do it! I'm always telling others how wonderful our Bingo Volunteer "Family" is! We couldn't do it without them! But we always need new people with the onset of vacations and different circumstances in people's lives!

So what's this Bingo all about? Community Living~Fort Erie, as one of the charities sponsored by Uncle Sam's Delta Bingo receives funds for each time slot filled by 2 volunteers that represent the organization. We enjoy each other's company, greet

and assist the customers and help keep the bingo hall clean by wiping tables, and putting chairs back in place. If you are helpful and social that is always a bonus! Some volunteers share turns driving, so add environmentally friendly to the list of great things. If you don't drive, we can work around that too.

It gets better!... No evenings or weekends and no stress! The majority of the time you will be socializing with your partner. Some people love consistency and want the same day & time every week, but it can be as simple as one 2 hour time slot a month, or even just be on the "on-call" list. We are thrilled to have people come out and give it a try! Such a great way to give back to your community and help Community Living Fort Erie raise funds for the people they support!

> First step: contact Marg Fidler @ (905) 871-6770 ext 239. Then: attend a 2 hour training session at Delta Bingo to get you registered.

We would like to thank the following individuals for volunteering at our

BINGO sessions!

Gail Willsie Bobbi Paonessa Tyler Williamson James Reintaler **Candace Somerville Brian Richards Jason Anderson Terry Sampson Rob Lamb Elizabeth Winrow Pat Coke Gloria Moon** Dee Dee Hayslip Pam Copeland **Pam Coulthurst Debbie Eggleton Kristin Foley Cathy Ettinger**

If it sounds good, you will receive a golf shirt with our Community Living logo on it and a name tag. You'll just be responsible for your own black pants and shoes. Then we can chat in person or by phone to go over the calendar of available time slots.

What I'm most proud of is that we have had such a great team of dedicated and flexible volunteers. With full confidence I will often match an experienced person with a new volunteer to continue an easy transition.

Our team is an absolute asset to me! Our volunteers are so appreciated! Due to their effort Community Living~Fort Erie has received approximately \$39,000.00 to date, this year.

Thank-you to all our bingo volunteers! To all that have been there for us and all that will consider joining us!

You all truly make a difference!

Jo-Anne Zucarelli

Volunteer Bingo Coordinator



