

PERSPECTIVES

May 2023

COMMUNITY LIVING MONTH

May 24, 2023 . For the first time since 2019, we were able to hold our May is Community Living Month barbecue. Approximately 175 people attended!



The return of a staple for
Community Living Owen Sound
& District
-Craig Rourke



BBQ Continued



Everyone who made it out braved the cold wind, and soaked up the sun as it poked out just in time to greet everyone who shared the afternoon reconnecting, meeting new people, and enjoying burgers, dogs, and games. The event was a massive success, thanks to the hard work commitment and collaboration between the communication strategy committee, the social committee, and a number of people who offered to pitch in. It was wonderful to be with each other, hear the laughter, see the smiles and share our stories with each other. We also had a surprise appearance from Captain America! Special thanks to our friends at the Owen Sound Police services for providing their super cool BBQ and cooler trailer. Thanks to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to join us at Harrison Park. And thanks for everyone who came together and contributed to make the event a return to the good times, the memories and the fun that we so often have when we come together. We are ever so grateful for the opportunities we have to meet and get to know so many awesome people. We can't wait to do it again!

*Craig Rourke
Manager Accommodation Supports*

Giving Back



The Communications Strategies Committee was very happy to be able to support the Hot lunch program offered to the Community members through the Chesley Baptist Church. CLOSD purchased enough groceries to provide for 200 people with takeout, delivery and eat-in options at the Church. The night prior committee members each cooked up huge trays of pasta ahead of time, so that the following morning, they would be warmed up in the oven and served with a roll, veggies and dessert. The volunteers at the drop in meal program were amazing, and food was very well received to those who enjoyed it. What a rewarding experience to be able to give back to the community and serve nutritious hot meals to those in need.

Kim McCorkindale, Tammy Cameron, Shanie Corbett and Marsha Alexander



EMPLOYMENT

Albert and Zak are motivated, focused and excellent team members who enjoy working at Tim Hortons in Owen Sound.

We're very sorry for the mix-up with your names and picture in the recent Winter 2023 Perspectives Newsletter!

Employment Specialist Kim McCorkindale is proud of Albert and Zak's efforts on the job and pleased to see them doing their best each and every shift. She'd like to send a big shout out to Store Owners Louise and Martin Harshman for their years of partnership.



Thank you! YOU ROCK!



Kim McCorkindale
Employment
Specialist

kmccorkindale@trialliance.ca
519-379-5265



Miguel Agudelo
Employment Service
Administrator

magudelo@trialliance.ca
519-375-2526

Alliance employABILITY has been created to support people reach their employment goals.

Through funding from Employment Ontario our team has the expertise that you need to get started on your employment path. Employment Specialist Kim McCorkindale and Employment Service Administrator Miguel Agudelo will work with you to help you figure out what supports you need. They will assist you to get and keep a job.

Alliance employABILITY is not just an employment agency, it is far more than that! It is a welcoming place where you will receive professional assistance to help you discover your abilities and find sustainable employment. We will provide support to build your career. Same great support services, now offered to ANYONE with barriers to employment within Grey and Bruce Counties.



Alliance employABILITY is excited about the opportunity to support people in our communities gain meaningful employment.

Active In Our Community

Many people enjoy being a part of their community by participating in activities and sports that keep them active and engaged physically. This can include activities such as bowling, horseback riding, hockey, soccer, running, etc.. It can also take place in many different ways such as through private groups or clubs, community teams or leagues, specialized programs or Special Olympics.

In this edition we are proud to showcase some of the many active and engaged individuals that live and play in our communities. We invite you to have a look at all of the happy and engaged faces that may belong to people in your neighbourhood. We would like to thank all of the individuals, families and groups that helped to make this feature possible.

Stay active and engaged and keep doing what makes you shine!

Cathy Foster
Family Support Worker



Aimee G skiing with Owen Sound Special Olympics



Barrett G bowling with Owen Sound Strykers



Becca F riding at GRACE in Owen Sound



Gabe and Gavin playing hockey in Owen Sound



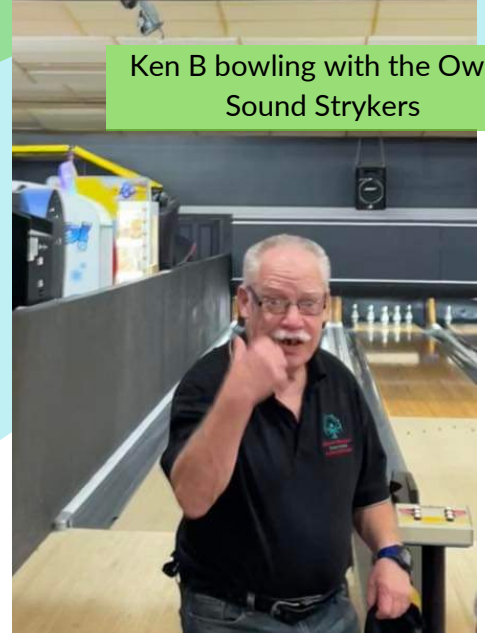
Active In Our Community



Annie H skiing with Owen Sound Special Olympics



Lachlan M swimming in Owen Sound



Ken B bowling with the Owen Sound Strykers



Liam B playing tball in Owen Sound



Gary H riding at GRACE in Owen Sound



Jacob B riding at GRACE in Owen Sound



Active In Our Community



Madison B doing gymnastics
in Port Elgin



Makaylah riding at GRACE in
Owen Sound



Nola S riding at PRANCE in Port
Elgin



Kyle W bowling with
the Owen Sound
Strykers



Micheal D bowling with the
Owen Sound Strykers



Tucker T bowling with the
Owen Sound Strykers

A POST-PANDEMIC DAY AT THE BEACH

In the Spring 2020 Perspectives newsletter article, I wrote about how Child and Family Support Services had changed during the COVID pandemic. We were riding the waves, caught in the undertow, and hoping to keep our heads above water until it was time to reconnect in person again with our families.

The time spent adjusting to our new norm of virtual visits, problem solving with families in crisis, and learning new skills to coach families from a distance was time well invested. The pandemic brought more time for reflection of our services, the supports we can provide, and how flexible our teams can be to bring specialized skills to families who are accessing services.

Now feeling confident in our diverse delivery of supports, it feels like a day at the beach. The sun is shining a light on innovative ways to follow through with suggestions for families without always being hands on. Families have more options to connect through in-home visits and partnering with our community to meet in shared spaces, while still connecting through phone calls and virtual visits. We have brought buckets and shovels to advocate with families to dig themselves out of crisis. We have adjusted to the challenges families are facing right now, and feel more equipped to guide them through community resources and programs whose services have resulted from the pandemic. The waves are rolling gently in, and we have learned it is better to ride them to the shore to understand the routines and strengths of our families, rather than trying to walk against the waves. We are working to understand how their children learn, develop and grow in order to guide families through what feels natural.

The pandemic brought change to our services hard and fast, and those waves gave us the opportunity to find the true value in the work we did, to feel more resourceful and articulate in our communications with families, and to understand we could offer a hand to hold as we walked through each day together. The change brought with it a confidence that Child and Family Support Services are here and ready for the sun, the sand, and the waves.

Pass me the sunscreen. Let's stay here for a while.

*Stephanie McGregor
Infant & Child Development Consultant.*

COME JOIN US!!!

NEW Soccer Program for athletes with Development Challenges following the Long Term Development Model.

Ages 7-12-Fundamentals Thursdays 6pm-7pm

Focus on the ABC's of movement, Agility, Balance, Coordination and Speed and provide participants an understanding of soccer skills.

Ages 13 + - Game Skills Thursdays 7pm - 8pm

Focus on small sided games, being part of a team and developing soccer skills.

Adult Competitive: Wednesdays 6:00- 7:30pm

All sessions will take place at Alexandra School Community School.



For more information, please email
owensound.soccer@ontariospecialolympics.ca or visit us at
our next registration evening.

Not to brag, but...

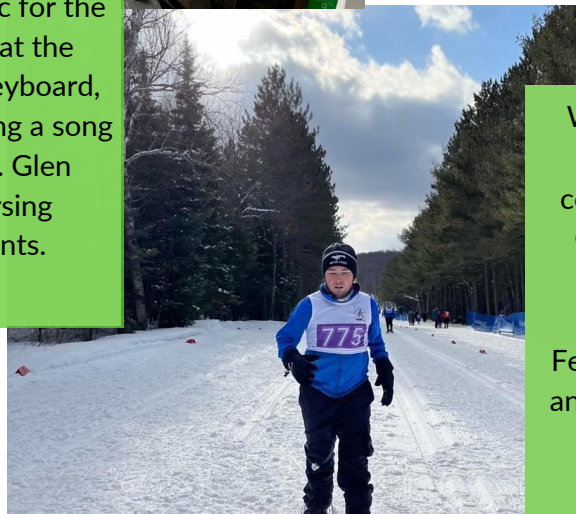


For Glen, music is his passion. So, he was thrilled to be invited to play live music for the participants of 'Music and Mocktails' at the Link on April 21st. Glen played the keyboard, the fiddle and the guitar and even sang a song or two. Glen also plays the accordion. Glen often shares his talents with local nursing homes by going to play for the residents. Bravo Glen!



Joseph B is a valued volunteer at the Grey Bruce Animal Shelter. His job is to work on socializing the cats so that they can be adopted into their fur-ever homes.

Joseph visits the shelter twice a week and enjoys his time with 'his' cats. Good job Joe!



Wyatt R is a member of the Artic Foxes Snowshoe team who competed at the Special Olympics Ontario Nordic Ski & Snowshoe Provincial Championships at Arrowhead Provincial Park in February. He received a gold medal and a bronze for his efforts. Way to go Wyatt!

Ron Fenwick is the new Athlete Representative for Special Olympics in Owen Sound. In this role Ron must understand and adhere to the "Athletes Rights and Responsibilities", assist other athletes, coaches or council members when asked and able to. Ron must ensure his activities and conduct positively reflect on Special Olympics and that he is able to share the opinions, feedback and suggestions of his fellow athletes. Congratulations Ron!

EDITORIAL TEAM

Cathy Foster, Vicki Reevey,
Laura VanderHulst & Chloë
Deschênes

PHOTOGRAPHER

Fely Clarke
Charles Cottrell

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Michele Bell

COMMUNITY LIVING OWEN SOUND & DISTRICT 2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Ros Brooks **Vice-President:** Michael Forcier

Treasurer: John Cherry

Members: James Nicol, Paul Middlebrook, Dave Wenn, Ron
Fenwick, Al Smethurst, Judy Porteous, Bob Nicol

Community Living Owen Sound & District

769 4th Avenue East, Owen Sound, ON N4K 2N5

Telephone 519-371-9251, Fax 519-371-5168



@communitylivingosd
communitylivingowensound.com