

INSIDE

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FALL 18

COMMUNITY LIVING MISSISSAUGA



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JAMES MONTGOMERIE COMMUNITY AWARD PRESENTED TO COMMUNITY LIVING MISSISSAUGA

Community Living Mississauga was presented with the 2018 James Montgomerie Community Award during Community Living Ontario's Annual General Meeting and Conference, held Sept. 12th - 14th.

Established in memory of Jim Montgomerie, an educator and past president of Community Living Ontario, the award is based on Jim's belief that people who have an intellectual disability and who live in institutions, homes for special care, and nursing homes deserve a better quality of life.

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15TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC RAISES OVER \$102,000



More than 200 golfers battled the courses at Lionhead Golf Course and Conference Centre as well as the heat on August 28th at Community Living Mississauga's 15th Annual Golf Classic.

Presented by Scotiabank and ScotiaMcLeod- The Symons Group, the tournament included many on-course activities, raffles and live auction, raised more than \$102,000 in support of Summer and March

Break Programs for children, teens and youth.

Michael Demelo, who is supported by the organization, took a few moments during the evening's ceremonies to explain how the proceeds from previous events have impacted his life and thanked participants for helping ensure the programs will continue to be

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JAMES MONTGOMERIE COMMUNITY AWARD

The award is presented to an organization that actively addresses the legacy of institutions in our society and moves toward practices that focus on inclusion and individual autonomy.

Community Living Mississauga was recognized for its work with the City of Mississauga's Recreation Division to support and facilitate the inclusion of adults who have an intellectual disability in recreational activities.

The award also recognized Community Living Mississauga's ongoing partnerships with local school boards and families which continue to address transitional issues affecting young people, including post-secondary education, life-long learning employment and housing.

In addition to the award presentation, Lisa Kitchener, Manager, Respite and Leisure Services, Community Living Mississauga; Lisa Boyce-Gonsalves, Manager, Community Programs, Recreation Department at



Community Living Mississauga's Jamie Curran and Lisa Kitchener, accepted the award from Chris Beesley, CEO of Community Living Ontario (back left); and Members of the Council of Community Living Ontario, James Taylor (second from right) and Raina Flexhaug (front).

the City of Mississauga; and Jennifer Cowie Bonne – Manager, Community and Neighbourhood Development, Recreation Department at the City of Mississauga, presented a panel discussion at the conference

highlighting the two organizations' Community Engagement Team Pilot Project.



JOAN AND GORDON MURLESS FUND HELPS FAMILIES PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

The Joan and Gordon Murless Fund was established in 2014 as a result of a generous donation to Community Living Mississauga to provide assistance to families interested in planning for the future. The funding assists families by covering part of the cost of having wills prepared.

To date, 52 families have completed the process which involves signing an Agreement, attending two information sessions, developing a plan and completing their wills. People who have completed the Murless Fund requirements have reported that they appreciated having the deadline to motivate them to

complete their wills, and they appreciated the information and support that they received.

If you are interested in participating or would like further information, please contact Sue Taggart at 905-542-2694 ext. 2312.



15TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC (continued)

Michael Demelo, a young man supported by the organization, took a few moments during the evening's ceremonies to explain how the proceeds from previous events have impacted his life and thanked participants for helping ensure the programs will continue to be available to others in the future.

Thanks to the many sponsors, participants and organizers for making the event a huge success!



Presented by



The Symons Group

ScotiaMcLeod, a division of Scotia Capital Inc.

Community Living
MISSISSAUGA

We Gratefully Acknowledge Our Generous Supporters

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Bill Mahood

JOB PATH REVAMP PROVING TO BE A SUCCESS

In September 2017, Community Living Mississauga's Employment Resource Centre revamped the Job Path program into a six-week work readiness program adopted from Community Living Sarnia Lambton's program of the same name.

Job Path provides individuals who have an intellectual disability who have a goal towards competitive employment and who have little to no work experience with the opportunity to gain the skills necessary to be successful in today's job market.

The program focuses on job preparedness by covering a wide range of topics such as career exploration, work ethics, learning styles, safety at work, as well as communication and interviewing skills. Guest speakers and opportunities for community engagement support the development of work readiness skills for participants to ensure a well-rounded approach to learning.

In addition, during the six-week session, Job Path provides a volunteer placement where participants in the program volunteer on a weekly basis to practice what they have learned in class.

Josh, who graduated from Job Path in March 2018 and secured employment at Stanley Black & Decker in April of 2018, credits Job Path with his success in reaching his employment

goals. "The instructor did an excellent job on formatting and updating my resume. Job Path got me this job," states Josh.

Dana Ragoonath, a support staff who facilitated the Job Path session Josh participated in, credits him with his own success. "Josh was an active participant in the program and practiced professionalism and hard work both in class and through his volunteer placement. He worked hard and it paid off for him," shares Dana.

Job Path is facilitated three times per year. Linda, a participant enrolled in the Fall 2018 session, feels that Job Path is going to help her reach her goal of securing employment. "Job Path talks about how to be a professional. It will get me ready for a job and give me the experience and help with interviews."



This messaging resonates with many participants in Job Path who are working towards achieving their employment goals.

Job Path offers evaluations and continuous feedback to ensure that participants have the opportunity for continued growth and development in working towards their goals. With the right support and the right job match, many participants are successful in reaching their employment goals.

Andrew Day, Supervisor of the Employment Resource Centre, believes that "this program offers the opportunity for people who have an intellectual disability to reach their employment goals through an innovative and engaging learning experience where they learn not only about work but about themselves."

For further information, please contact Community Living Mississauga's Employment Resource Centre at 905-542-2694. Individuals who are interested in Job Path must apply through Developmental Services Ontario (www.dsontario.ca).



WHAT'S HAPPENING

NOV, DEC, JAN

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

Nov. 23 - 24
Streetsville Village Square
Admission: FREE
villageofstreetsville.com



MISSISSAUGA STEELHEADS OHL HOCKEY

Oct. - Mar.
Admission:
Ticket prices vary by seating location
mississaugasteelheads.com/

BRAMPTON BEAST ECHL HOCKEY

Oct. - Apr.
Admission:
Ticket prices vary by seating location
bramptonbeast.com

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR



November 2 - 11
Exhibition Place Toronto
Admission:
Adults: \$27.50
Seniors: \$20
Youth (4 - 17): \$16
royalfair.org

RAPTORS 905 BASKETBALL

Nov. - Mar.
Admission:
Ticket prices vary by seating location
raptors905.com

CLARKSON MUSIC THEATRE PRESENTS MY FAIR LADY



Nov. 16 - 25
Meadowvale Theatre
Admission:
Adults: \$30
Students/Seniors: \$28
culture.mississauga.ca/

ONE OF A KIND CHRISTMAS SHOW AND SALE

November 22 - December 2
Enercare Centre
Admission:
Adults - \$13
Seniors (65+)/Students (13 - 17) - \$7.50
Children 12 and under - FREE
oneofakindshow.com/toronto

CHRISTMAS FAMILY WEEKENDS



Nov. 17 - Dec. 23
Black Creek Pioneer Village
Admission:
Adults: \$15
Seniors: \$12
Youth (4 - 14): \$11
trca.ca

MEADOWVALE MUSIC THEATRE PRESENTS MARY POPPINS

Feb. 8 - 17
Meadowvale Theatre
Admission:
Adults: \$30
Students/Seniors: \$28
culture.mississauga.ca/

**DON'T
FORGET TO
VISIT:**



A BRONZE IN SOCCER, A GOLD IN INDEPENDENCE



The journey to independence is often long and winding. Small triumphs and setbacks are expected and there is no definable finish line, much less an actual award. Success is measured by hard earned small increments - new tasks being completed independently with support staff moving back one step at a time.

As an organization, we are committed to celebrating our successes. This is the success story of a young lady's hard work and commitment, combined with a greater partnership to achieve Olympic success.

When Ashley Simpson moved into a 24-hour group home in 2006, support staff supported her in many aspects of daily living - especially participation in community activities.

For several years, joining a club or being member of a team was a long term goal with no actual completion date in sight. Support staff and

Ashley were persistent knowing that it may take a long time, but that she would get there one day and she would be triumphant.

In 2009, Ashley joined the Special Olympics basketball team. She has always been an avid sports fan and she was excited for the opportunity to play. However, she was shy and stuck close to support and coaching staff.

Slowly but surely, she came out of her shell and wanted to also join the soccer team. This is where she met the coaching staff who taught her skills to further propel her independence and fellow players who became her friends.

With each passing year, Ashley's skills continue to grow as does her level of independence.

During the summer of 2018, Ashley along with her Special Olympics team won the provincials title,

earning her team the only spot in the nationals for an Ontario team in the sport of soccer.

The nationals were played in Nova Scotia and Ashley, along with her team, made the journey with pride and excitement. Accompanied by their coach, the team enjoyed all aspects with the games. Ashley walked with her team during the opening ceremonies and attended a dinner and dance. Most importantly, Ashley played five matches during the tournament - resulting in her team winning the bronze medal.

It is with great pride that Ashley speaks of her accomplishments with the Special Olympics. Not only have her skills increased, but lifelong relationships have been built and pride is abundant.

Ashley is very much looking forward to the 2019 season and so are all of her cheerleaders.



A BUDDING FRIENDSHIP STARTS AT STAP

Summer; a time for relaxing, enjoying the weather and creating memories of fun times and adventures spent with friends.

Every summer The Summer Teen Activity Program (STAP) provides teens and young adults the opportunity to explore Mississauga, try new activities, meet new people and make friends.

The formula to make friends seems straight forward; however, the reality of navigating the difficult process of meeting new people, recognizing common interests and cultivating a friendship with someone can be a struggle.

This summer, two young men who participated in Community Living Mississauga's Summer Teen Activity Program hit it off almost instantly and were able to make a connection and develop a friendship.

After spending two weeks exploring Mississauga together, riding the bus from one corner of the city to another and challenging each other at Playdium, Ethan and Tyler became close friends. The shared activities and the opportunity to spend time together focused on an activity, provided the right environment to let their friendship develop and take root.

Throughout their time in the Summer Teen Activity Program, Ethan and Tyler enjoyed being in each other's group, they connected every morning



and spent the day encouraging each other as they both tried new activities and shared their enthusiasm and expertise in more familiar activities.

As the summer drew to a close, both Ethan and Tyler were keen to keep their friendship going. Through the support of their families both Tyler and Ethan have eagerly agreed to keep in touch and are planning to continue to try activities in Mississauga together.

Caroline, Tyler's mother, is happy with this new found friendship. She says "I am so happy that the boys built a friendship over the summer and I'm proud of Tyler for initiating a continuation of their friendship. His social skills have been building and STAP has really given him an opportunity to make friends and have a fulfilling summer. It has helped him grow as an independent youth and he also learned many skills in the program, such as taking the public transit."

Ethan's family is also pleased that the two have become friends over the summer. Grace, Ethan's mom, says "Hopefully Tyler's and Ethan's friendship flourishes - loving Tyler for his persistence!"

She went on to say "The experience and being out with his STAP family always brings Ethan such joy! He always looks forward to seeing his friends and spend the summer with his STAP family.

Next year will be his last STAP year and his summer would never be the same without the company of his friends."

We look forward to seeing these two friends again next year in our Summer Teen Activity Program and hearing about the adventures they had throughout the year!



FUTURES PROGRAM - A NEW SUMMERTIME OPTION FOR YOUTH



In the summer of 2018, Community Living Mississauga introduced a new summer program called Futures.

Young adults, who were on a summer break from high school, were invited to participate in this program developed in partnership with our Respite and Leisure Services and our Employment Resource Centre.

The Futures program supported participants to blend their interest in gaining valuable work readiness experience with their desire to have fun and enjoy the summer. Students registered for a two-week block placement and participated

in a workshop to develop pre-employment skills, gain a greater understanding of workplace culture and discover more about volunteering in a variety of locations within Mississauga.

With the support of a summer staff, the participants put their new found knowledge into practice by volunteering every morning with one of our partner organizations.

In the afternoon, the students explored recreational options in Mississauga and participated in a variety of summertime activities. Throughout the eight week period, Futures supported 20 individuals to enhance their employment readiness skills and knowledge.

Marc, who volunteered at Studio 89 and PLASP, was one of these 20 individuals. Marc told the staff that he thought the program was “awesome”.

Vincenza, Marc’s mom, says “I was very pleased that he took part in the program and he also seemed to have been happy to have participated! It was an excellent way to build skills within the community, and to do so

with expert support and guidance. Because he learns skills while "on the job" (rather than in the abstract), it is important for Marc to know that someone is available for him to ask for help. This is his way of figuring out what is expected of him. He likes to succeed. It was also good to have a balance of work and recreational programming.”

When asked what she would like to see for the future of Futures Vincenza replied, “My ask? Bring on more! It would be wonderful to have such a program extended over a number of weeks rather than only two.”

The success of Futures was due in large part to the strong partnerships developed with organizations that could offer the youth a supportive and inclusive workplace.

Thank you to Habitat for Humanity, JDRF, PLASP, Salvation Army Thrift Store, Studio 89 and Vita Centre for their strong commitment to the success of the Futures program.

We wish the students well in the upcoming school year and we hope to see them back in the Futures program again next year.

SMILE COOKIE CAMPAIGN

For the fourth year in a row, Community Living Mississauga was the recipient charity for proceeds from Smile Cookies sold at Tim Hortons restaurants in Mississauga between September 17th and 23rd.

Watch our website at clmiss.ca as we will announce this year's proceeds as soon as the information is passed along to us from Tim Hortons' corporate office.



GOVERNMENT RESCINDS PLANNED INCREASE TO ODSP RECIPIENTS

The Council of Community Living Ontario and Community Living Ontario have expressed their disappointment in the government's announcement that they were reducing the support rates to recipients of the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works from 3 per cent to 1.5 per cent on September 1st and October 1st, respectively.

In a letter to the Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Minister, Children, Community and Social Services, sent on Aug. 2nd, James Taylor, President, Council of Community Living Ontario and Jim McNamara, President, Community Living Ontario spoke on behalf of the more than 73,000 Ontarians who have an intellectual or developmental disability and who rely on ODSP to pay for desperately needed living expenses.

They indicated that the reduction, which results in \$17.50 less than what was expected, will no doubt

come with some difficult decisions for recipients, including food purchases, transportation and other basic needs.

It is a decision that is punitive and comes on the backs of the province's most vulnerable citizens.

Community Living Ontario recognized there are shortcomings with the current Social Assistance program, something the now-cancelled Basic Income Pilot Project was intended to explore and wants to work with the government to examine the critical items announced in the March 2018 Budget that have now been repealed.

The collective aim must be to lift people up and provide them with more jobs and more opportunities.

A meeting between representatives from Community Living Ontario and Hon. Lisa MacLeod, scheduled for August 29th, was postponed by



Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Minister, Children, Community and Social Services, announces the rescinding of the promised increase in ODSP funding.

MacLeod until a later date.

Does this reduction in support rates affect you and your family members?

If so, this presents a perfect opportunity to get to know your new local MPP:

YOUR LOCAL MEMBERS OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Deepak Anand

MPP Mississauga – Malton
deepak.anand@pc.ola.org

Rudy Cuzzetto

MPP Mississauga – Lakeshore
rudy.cuzzetto@pc.ola.org

Natalia Kusendova

MPP Mississauga – Centre
natalia.kusendova@pc.ola.org

Kaleed Rasheed

MPP Mississauga East – Cooksville
kaleed.rasheed@pc.ola.org

Sheref Sabawy

MPP Mississauga – Erin Mills
sheref.sabawy@pc.ola.org

Nina Tangri

MPP Mississauga – Streetsville
nina.tangri@pc.ola.org

FAMILY INFORMATION SESSIONS SCHEDULED FOR FALL OF 2018

Wills & Trusts

A great opportunity to learn how to establish a specialized Will that ensures your son/daughter's future is as secure as possible.

Guest Speaker:
Lisa Sticht-Maksymec,
Pallett Valo LLP

Thursday, October 25
7 - 9 pm

Estate Planning 101

Come out and learn about some of the things you will need to consider when it comes to doing your estate planning.

General information about Wills and Trusts, the RDSP and other financial considerations will be available.

Wednesday, November 7
7 – 8:30 pm

Ask the Expert

A great opportunity to ask your questions about TAXES as well as ESTATE PLANNING to an expert panel comprised of a Lawyer, a Corporate Trustee, a Financial Advisor, and a Tax Accountant.

They will be able to address questions about factors to consider when estate planning, taxes and the Henson Trust from their unique perspectives.

Guest panelists:

Lisa Sticht-Maksymec, Lawyer,
Pallett Valo LLP

Winifred Kanyogonya, Manager
Private Trust, TD Wealth Private Trust
– The Canada Trust Company
Kevin Wong, Partner, MDP LLP

Mike Parris, Investment Advisor, BA,
CFP, CPCA – Manulife Securities

Tuesday, November 27
7 - 9 pm

All sessions will be held at:
Community Living Mississauga
6695 Millcreek Drive, Unit #1

*Space is limited,
so register early at*
infosessions@clmiss.ca
or 905-542-3840 ext. 2400

PARENT GROUPS SET MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Are you looking for an opportunity to network, share experiences, and voice concerns in a mutually supportive environment? Come out and join the conversation!

Parents of young children (aged 3 - 9) - November 14th – 7 to 9 pm

Parents of individuals (aged 14 or older) - November 20th – 7 to 9 pm

AND OUR NEW GROUP

Parents of children (aged 9 - 14) - November 22nd – 7 to 9 pm

RSVP to Sue Taggart at 905-542-2694 ext. 2312 or suet@clmiss.ca

All sessions will be held at: Community Living Mississauga, 6695 Millcreek Drive, Unit 1.

