Koskie Minsky LLP has commenced a class proceeding against the Province of Ontario in respect of the lengthy waitlists for developmental services in Ontario. The statement of claim alleges that the issue of waitlists for desperately needed services has been a repeatedly identified issue for years, which Ontario has continued to ignore and failed to act upon in any reasonable manner.

The essential services denied to the class by virtue of the lengthy waitlists impact their most basic daily needs. The claim alleges the wait times are often indeterminate and will last for years, placing families in a perpetual state of crisis.

For further information or to see if you qualify to be a part of this class action suit, please e-mail Koskie Minsky LLP at waitlistclassaction@kmlaw.ca or call toll-free: 1-866-474-1740.
CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

During 2018, many companies gave hundreds of corporate volunteer hours at people's homes and community base sites.

The corporate volunteers gave their time to enhance gardens, decks and outside appeal of individual's homes and to provide an opportunity for people we support to participate in meaningful social, recreational and leisure activities.

Thanks to all of our corporate partners for their volunteer support this past year.

- Cummins Eastern Canada
- Region of Peel (3 separate projects)
- Medtronic
- General Electric
- Suncor (3+ separate projects)
- Shell Canada
- Scotia Bank (3+ separate projects)
- C.I.B.C.
- Ausrion
- Ontario Teachers Pension Plan
- Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc
- R.B.C.
- Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services

Lisa Molinaro-Dayboll (left), presents her sister, Lily, with a cheque for $5000 on behalf of the employees at Transplace. Over the past year, the team at Transplace have participated in a number of fundraising activities with the goal of raising money for a local, community-based organization.

Thanks to everyone at Transplace for their support!

TRANSPLACE DONATION (continued)

Lisa Molinaro-Dayboll, Associate Director, Strategic Accounts, has a sister who is supported by Community Living Mississauga, so choosing a charity to support was an easy decision.

Lisa’s sister, Lily, who visits her sister at the office and is well known by most of the staff, stopped in just before Christmas to accept the donation.

Both Lily and Lorraine Montgomery, Support Manager at Community Living Mississauga, said a few words of thanks and explained the impact the donation will make for the individuals we support.
TIM HORTONS RAISES $89,614 DURING 2018 SMILE COOKIE CAMPAIGN

From September 11-17, Tim Hortons guests were able to purchase a specially baked chocolate chunk Smile Cookie for $1, with all proceeds being donated by Tim Hortons restaurant owners to support hundreds of local charities, hospitals and programs across the country.

In Mississauga, more than $89,000 was raised in support of Community Living Mississauga,

“We are honoured that Tim Hortons chose to support us with the Smile Cookie for a fourth straight year,” said Eugene Nolin, President of the Board of Directors at Community Living Mississauga. “Proceeds from the Smile Cookie Campaign will go towards Community Living Mississauga’s unfunded leisure and recreational programs including the Summer and March Break programs supporting over 200 children and teens to have a fun summer, participating in the life of their community alongside their non-disabled peers.”

Over the past four years, the Smile Cookie Campaign has raised more than $324,000 for Community Living Mississauga.

The campaign started in 1996 to help raise funds for the Hamilton Children’s Hospital in Ontario and has grown to become a major fundraising event at Tim Hortons restaurants.

Community Living Mississauga and local Tim Hortons restaurants have a long-standing relationship. Twenty-five individuals supported by Community Living Mississauga currently work at 21 Tim Hortons restaurants across the city and Tim Hortons has twice received recognition as Employer of the Year from Community Living Mississauga’s Employment Resource Centre.

Members of the Kaneff Corporation, Kristina Kaneff, Vice-President and General Counsel (left), Dr. Ignat Kaneff, President (second from left) and Tracey McMahon, Administrative Assistant (right) present a cheque for $50,000 from the Kaneff Charitable Foundation’s annual golf tournament to Eugene Nolin, President of the Board of Directors of Community Living Mississauga.
Since receiving the Grow Grant for the HIRE (Helping Individuals Reach Employment) program from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, HIRE has continued to open doors for students who have an intellectual disability and employers who recognize the benefits of inclusive hiring.

HIRE is currently connected to 18 high schools in Mississauga, coming a long way since 2015 when it was piloted in just one school. The program continues to offer dynamic programming to support students who have an intellectual disability to transition from high school into the job market after graduation.

The program focuses on working with local schools to provide education to teach staff and support networks about employment, as well as prepare students for work through in-class workshops, summer employment opportunities and co-operative education placements that transition to paid employment after the student graduates.

Since the HIRE program started, 12 students have been supported in their final year of high school to secure a co-operative education placement within an area of interest that lead to paid employment upon their graduation.

In addition, 18 students have been supported to secure paid jobs during the summer through the Summer Employment Program component of HIRE.

In 2018, six of the students who participated in the program were also offered permanent part-time positions – allowing them an opportunity to continue to gain valuable paid work experience to prepare for their future employment goals.

"Jacob was extremely independent and great at his job. Even other employees were impressed with his performance and work ethic,” shares Alessia Giordano, Connecting Dots Behavioural Services Inc. Senior Therapist who employed Jacob throughout the summer and offered him a permanent part-time job following his placement.

This feedback resonates with other employers involved with the Summer Employment Program through HIRE with 77% of employers rating the students’ quality of work as excellent compared to employees in similar positions. Students’ and family members’ feedback also supports the benefits of summer employment and the HIRE program: 77% of families rated the value of the skills learned as excellent and 66% of the students who participated in the Summer Employment Program felt that the program helped them decide on a potential career path.

Aiming to reach 125 students by 2020, the HIRE program is well on its way to reaching its target – having supported more than 40 students through in-class workshops and their support networks, including teaching staff and families, through workshops highlighting the benefits of employment first and how to support students to prepare for work in school, at home and in the community.

The HIRE program is coordinated through Community Living Mississauga’s Employment Resource Centre. If you are an employer looking to learn more about the business benefits of hiring people who have an intellectual disability, a job seeker who has an intellectual disability looking for work or are just seeking more information about HIRE or other employment programs, please contact us at 905-542-2694.
OUTDOOR SKATING
Through March (Weather Permitting)
Celebration Square - City Hall
Daily - 10 am to 10:30 pm
Admission: FREE
www.mississauga.ca

MUSIC THEATRE
MISSISSAUGA PRESENTS:

MARY POPPINS
February 8-10, 14 - 17

SISTER ACT - THE MUSICAL
March 8 - 10, 14 - 17

CURTAINS
April 5 - 7, 11 - 14
Meadowvale Theatre
Admission:
Adults: $30
Students/Seniors: $28
www.enceoreseries.ca

MAPLE MAGIC
March 9 - April 7
Bradley Museum
Admission:
Adults: $6
Children, Students, Seniors: $5

ONE OF A KIND
SPRING SHOW AND SALE
March 27 - 31
Enercare Centre - Exhibition Place
Admission:
Adults: $15 ($10 with student ID)
Seniors (65+): $8.50
Youth (13 - 17): $8.50
Children (12 & under): FREE
www.oneofakindshow.com/toronto

SPRING CANADIAN PET EXPO
April 19 - 21
International Centre
Admission:
Adults: $15
Seniors: $8
Children (5 - 17): $8
www.springcpe.ca

TORONTO SPORTSMAN SHOW
March 13 - 17
Enercare Centre - Exhibition Place
Admission:
Adults: $20
Seniors (65+): $15
Youth (13 - 17): $13
Children (12 & under): FREE
www.torontosportshow.ca

DON’T FORGET TO VISIT:
www.cultureonthemap.ca
CHARITY COOKBOOK PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT COMMUNITY LIVING MISSISSAUGA

Want to try recipes from Olympian Silken Laumann, CFL legend Michael ‘Pinball’ Clemons, Chef Michael Smith and support Community Living Mississauga?

A new cookbook, ‘Sip, Sup, & Socialize’ includes over 100 recipes from famous and not-so famous foodies with all net proceeds going to support people who have an intellectual disability through Community Living Mississauga.

The project came about as a way to remember Nancy Murless who was supported by Community Living Mississauga much of her adult life.

"When Nancy passed away in 2010 we really wanted a way to honour Nancy and to bring awareness to, and support for, people who have an intellectual disability,” explains her brother, Doug Murless. “We came across an old copy of a charity cookbook ‘Sip, Sup & Socialize’ compiled in 1975 and decided to create an updated version.

So Doug and his wife, Karen Wilson, began emailing and texting everyone they knew to get recipes. “We were so amazed by the response,” says Karen. “Everyone was on board with the idea right away and soon our inbox was full.”

The couple also decided to go after well-known chefs and celebrities to really create interest in the book.

“We wanted to get some recognizable names so we could leverage their celebrity for promotional purposes and create more awareness for people who have intellectual disabilities,” says Karen.

Through email and tweeting, the pair managed to get chefs such as Susur Lee, Michael Smith, as well as Olympians Heather Moyse and Silken Laumann, Hockey Night in Canada analysts Kelly Hrudey and Nick Kypreos — and even Chelsea Clinton,

“I tweeted Chelsea one night out of the blue to ask if she would send us a recipe and explained what it was for,” says Doug. “A few minutes later she answered back and said ‘absolutely, what do you need?’ I was thrilled.”

The book is being sold for $30 (which includes tax) and the couple are hoping that once printing is paid for, the net proceeds will amount to approximately $20 per book which will initially be donated to Community Living Mississauga.

As Doug says, “Our goal is to eventually use the book to help raise funds for Community Living associations across Canada. The need is great everywhere and we hope to help out in as many communities we can.”

You can order your copy of Sip, Sup & Socialize by visiting www.sixdegreesfromnancy.com
TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER - A NEW INTEREST BASED VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

In this new Community Living Mississauga pilot project, volunteers aged 18+ will be matched with adults who have an intellectual disability to pursue mutual leisure and recreational interests.

Once a week, for 12 weeks, volunteers will meet with designated individuals to enjoy an activity that is of mutual interest to both parties.

The goal of this volunteer position is to ensure that the participating individual’s quality of life in the community is meaningfully improved.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer in this pilot project or learning about other volunteer opportunities at Community Living Mississauga, please contact Deb Wach, Manager of Volunteer Services at debwa@clmiss.ca.

IF INCLUSION MEANS EVERYONE, WHY NOT ME?

A group of organizations committed to creating a fully inclusive education system for all students, including those who have an intellectual disability, has penned a letter to Premier Doug Ford and Education Minister Lisa Thompson requesting a meeting to discuss recommendations for reforming Ontario’s education system.

The letter was co-authored by Community Living Ontario, ARCH Disability Law Centre, Brockville and District Association for Community Involvement, the Inclusion Research Team at Brock University, the Canadian Research Centre on Inclusive Education at Western University, and Inclusive Education Canada.

The group is calling for a systemic review of the status of education in Ontario specific to students who have disabilities and the ongoing barriers they face.

Updates about these meetings and any resulting outcomes will be published at clmiss.ca.
Community Living Mississauga is proud to offer the following Information Sessions to individuals and their families living in Mississauga.

At these sessions, professionals speak about a wide variety of topics including – ODSP, Wills and Trusts, Powers of Attorney and Guardianship, Role of the Trustee, and Financial Planning.

To register, please send an email to infosessions@clmiss.ca or call 905-542-3400 ext. 2400.

**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, January 30th or Thursday, April 11th
7 - 8:30 pm

**Financial Planning**

A great opportunity to learn how to develop a sound financial plan that ensures your son/daughter’s future is as secure as possible. Topics will include funding a trust and the RDSP.

Guest Speaker:
Michael Parris, Financial Planner

Tuesday, March 26th
7 - 9 pm

**PARENT GROUPS - COME JOIN THE CONVERSATION**

Community Living Mississauga is pleased to support a number of parent groups where parents and sometimes extended family can join together, share successes, look for information and just have the opportunity to chat with others.

**Parents of young children** – This informal group of parents of young children meets every few weeks on Wednesday evenings to share information and conversation. The group’s next meetings are on January 23rd and March 20th from 7 - 9 pm.

**Parents of tweens** – This informal group of parents of tweens (9-14) meets every few weeks on Thursday evenings to share information and conversation. The group’s next meetings are January 17th and March 7th from 7 - 9 pm.

**Parents of teens, young adults and adults** – This group meets informally on Tuesday evenings every few weeks to share information and conversation. The group’s next meetings are on January 15th and March 5th from 7 - 9 pm.

If you are interested in learning more about any of the parent groups mentioned above, or you wish to join, please contact Sue Taggart at 905-542-2694 ext 2312 or via email at suet@clmiss.ca.

---

**All of the above sessions will be held at Community Living Mississauga, 6695 Millcreek Drive, Unit #1**

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