



# Connections

Supporting rights and choices for people with an intellectual disability.

## FEATURED STORY

### The 70th Annual General Meeting



(L-R,) President of the Board, Victor Figueiredo, CEO Brad Saunders, The Honourable Lisa MacLeod, and Self-Advocate Council representative of the Board of Directors, Nelson Raposo.

On Thursday September 27th, we held our 70th Annual General Meeting at the Alliance Francaise. The morning started off with a light reception with breakfast, coffee, and mingling.

The Honourable Minister Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, was our special guest at this year's AGM. Minister Lisa MacLeod, stated that she looked forward to working alongside Community Living Toronto to shape public policy and to bring greater awareness of people who have an intellectual or developmental disability. We presented her with a gift of artwork created by Alex at Creative Village Studio.

Nelson Raposo, the current Self-Advocates Council representative on the Board of Directors, did an awesome job hosting this year's event. Community Living Ontario's Chris Beesley also presented us with a certificate marking our 70<sup>th</sup> year!

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You can watch the full AGM coverage on our website: [cltoronto.ca](http://cltoronto.ca)

Check out our Digital Annual Report [here](#).

If you would like a printed copy of the Annual Report, please email Karla Dendrinis at:

[karla.dendrinis@cltoronto.ca](mailto:karla.dendrinis@cltoronto.ca)



(L-R,) Self-Advocate Council representative of the Board of Directors, Nelson Raposo, President of the Board, Victor Figueiredo, and CEO of Community Living Ontario, Chris Beesley.

## Re:Action4Inclusion: A Conference for Youth



Community Living Toronto Council Sponsored Students at 2017's Re:Action4Inclusion Conference

By: Michelle Grimley

It's hard to believe it was nearly a year ago that six High School students from across Toronto set off for the Re:Action4Inclusion Youth Conference, where they joined youth from all across Ontario. 2019 will mark the tenth year of Re:Action4Inclusion, a provincial movement that has steadily built momentum since 2008, working to ensure students with intellectual disabilities experience a sense of belonging.

Community Living Ontario hosted the 3 day Youth Conference the weekend of October 20-22, 2017 at YMCA Geneva Park in Orillia, Ontario. It was a picturesque setting where attendees were surrounded by nature. After full days of community building interactive workshops, engaging youth and keynote speakers and a 'Change Maker Marketplace' there was lots of fun to be had by the campfire and at a Much Music Video Dance Party! Each student said they wanted to return to continue learning about how to be a better ally and leader in their community and to build a culture of inclusion.

Thank you so much to the Central, Etobicoke/York, North York and Scarborough Councils for generously sponsoring this group of students and future change makers and enabling them to pursue their passion for advocating with people with developmental disabilities!

Stay tuned for 2019 Re:Action4Inclusion Youth Conference registration details:

CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF YOUTH LEADERSHIP  
MARCH 29 & 30, 2019  
The Kingbridge Centre  
King City, Ontario

Check out the Re:Action4Inclusion website at:  
<https://reaction4inclusion.com/>

For further details please contact:  
Emily Branje at 1-800-278-8025 x249 or  
[ebranje@communitylivingontario.ca](mailto:ebranje@communitylivingontario.ca)

## Upcoming Central Events

### Central Region Dinner Club

Every Wednesday  
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
30 Birch Ave

### Downtown Parent Share

Monday October 1, 2018  
Monday, November 12, 2018  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
38 Regent St,  
Second Level  
For information contact:  
Bonnie Heath at  
416-645-6000 ext. 1311  
[bheath@woodgreen.org](mailto:bheath@woodgreen.org)

### sprOUT Meeting

Type 2 Diabetes Prevention  
Monday October 15, 2018  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
20 Spadina Rd  
Meeting Room 2B

### Central Region Council Meeting

Tuesday October 9, 2018  
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
20 Spadina Rd  
Meeting Room 1  
All are welcome!

### Education Consultation

Tuesday October 9, 2018  
10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
20 Spadina Rd  
Meeting Room 1  
By Appointment Only  
Contact: Tracey O'Regan  
at 416-371-3162 or

### One Direction Social Group

Saturday October 27,  
2018  
12:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
Snakes & Lattes Board  
Game Café  
600 Bloor St W

For information on any of the above events,  
contact Michelle Grimley  
at 647-729-1210 or  
[michelle.grimley@cltoronto.ca](mailto:michelle.grimley@cltoronto.ca)

## Kiwanis Kingsway Generous Donation

By: *Laura Parsonson, Council member*



*Bo Fleishman from Rotary, Laura Parsonson and Paul Collins*

On September 4<sup>th</sup> the Kingsway Chapter of the Kiwanis Club hosted their monthly meeting and luncheon at the Old Mill.

I was very happy to address the group and tell them about the wonderful programs offered at Creative Village Studio. They were interested in the history of Community Living Toronto, ODSF and were particularly keen to know about fee-for-service day programs. Art work from the studio was displayed for their viewing pleasure.

Our application to Kiwanis was for funds to help support people who have no discretionary money to pay for day programs. Many individuals have little or no opportunity to take advantage of the art, photography, choir, computer or pottery classes at Creative Village Studio. The real issue is about equity.

Bo Fleishman from Kiwanis Kingsway presented our region (Etobicoke/York) with a cheque for \$3000. Bursaries are available to individuals who have limited resources and would like to attend classes at Creative Village Studio.

If you would like to apply for a bursary please contact Georgina Stergiotis at 647-729-0445 or Laura Parsonson [lauraparsonson@gmail.com](mailto:lauraparsonson@gmail.com)

Applicants may apply for more than one bursary throughout the year.

## A Valuable Summer Experience

By: *Jeneel Gowie and Krisztina Siroki*

During the course of this summer, Jeneel Gowie and Krisztina Siroki- were hired by Community Living Toronto's Community First to work with Mike Adair and Flora Nichols as Youth Employment Facilitators in the Youth Summer Employment Transitions Program funded by Employment and Social Development Canada. Janeel and Kristztin worked alongside five students with intellectual disabilities to help them find jobs, and then support them throughout the job. They were assisted with job development, interview preparation and on the job coaching. Finding employment positions was challenging. In the end, every one of the candidates had an opportunity for a summer placement. Each one of the participants loved their placements, and were all able to gain valuable employment skills and experiences that could be transferred to future job opportunities.

To wrap up the summer program, a picnic at Christie Pits Park was planned to give everyone a final chance to hang out with each other, have fun, and celebrate the successes had by all over the summer.

## Upcoming Etobicoke/York

### **Etobicoke/York Council Meeting**

4895 Dundas St. West  
Tuesday October 9, 2018  
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

### **Etobicoke Parent Share**

295 The West Mall,  
Suite 204  
October 18, 2018  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

### **Friendship Group**

#### **Come out and enjoy an evening with friends!**

295 The West Mall, suite 204  
Wednesday October 24, 2018  
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

### **For Information any of the above events contact Georgina Stergiotis**

647-729-0445 or [georgina.stergiotis@cltoronto.ca](mailto:georgina.stergiotis@cltoronto.ca)

## Fond Memories of Eva

By: Wendy Dyke



*Long time North York member and Member of North York Council Eva Lipa*

Eva Lipa was an amazing lady who was a strong advocate for the Community Living movement. She first became involved with Community Living Toronto in the early 1980s when her daughter Christine entered our services. Eva, along with her husband, Michael, became Association members in 1985. Shortly after, they both became volunteers and then members of Regional Council contributing in numerous ways.

I first met Eva in 2005 when I became part of the North York Community Support team as the membership coordinator. I clearly remember meeting Eva and Michael at the first Council meeting that I had organized. I was nervous about the meeting running well. At the end of the meeting, a few of the members provided me with feedback about how the meeting was organized. I believe that the feedback was meant to be helpful but as someone new to the job it just sounded critical. In response to this, Eva and Michael leaned towards me at the table and told me not to listen to those Council members; they both thought I did a good job of organizing the meeting. Sadly, Michael passed away a few months later. However, I knew I had an ally in Eva and could count on her to provide guidance if I needed it.

Eva provided a lot of input into Council sponsored initiatives and hands on support organizing events hosted by Council. She was quick to help with the

annual holiday event Council hosted each December to thank staff and volunteers for their hard work. Eva enjoyed these events as she felt it was important for Council to express their appreciation to staff and volunteers in a face to face format.

Eva often voiced her opinion at Council meetings on matters she thought were important to take to our Board of Directors. She took her role as representative for regional members very seriously. Eva was also one of the first to support any new regional initiatives that were brought forward to Council for funding support for various social recreational programs.

Eva was a generous donor as well as a volunteer and advocate. During the time when Christine was living in one of our residences, Eva would provide treats for the residential holiday party. The party was always attended by the entire Lipa family. She often brought in treats throughout the year to the residents and to occasionally take program participants and staff out for dinner.

On a more personal level, Eva and I often engaged in conversations where we shared our personal experiences. She often spoke about her children, grandchildren and their family vacation properties. Eva always spoke of everything in a positive and up beat manner. I am going to miss our conversations, her laughter and her wise ways of looking at the world. I hope that her family and friends will find comfort in sharing their many memories of Eva.

## Upcoming North York Events

### North York Council Meeting

Tuesday October 10, 2018

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

North York Office Boardroom

1122 Finch Avenue West, Unit 18

### North York Parent Share

Thursday October 4, 2018

10 am to 12 noon

18—1122 Finch Avenue West

**For information on any of the above events contact Wendy Dyke at 647--274-9281 or [wdyke@cltoronto.ca](mailto:wdyke@cltoronto.ca)**

## Healthy Cooking Class

By: Felicita Zanatta



*The Healthy cooking class enjoys their well prepared meal.*

The Healthy cooking class has been operating in Scarborough for many years now. Betty Anne Wilson is the teacher and along with some consistent wonderful volunteers has been holding a class twice a year with fantastic results. There is usually a waitlist for this delicious class.

Betty Anne selects healthy mains to include in the cook book that everyone takes home. Each Monday night of the class, Betty Anne and the volunteers demonstrate how to make that night's dish. Then each budding cook makes the dish for themselves. The students take turns preparing accompanying salads and doing clean up.

The class is geared to budding cooks who are interested in preparing their own meals and are encouraged to cook at home possibly even for family and room mates, lucky people.

Betty Anne has found some popular recipes and changes them to include many variations. She has the budding cooks thinking about healthy cooking and the recipes reflect that with a variety of foods and

vegetables. Any dietary restrictions can be accommodated. The cooks also receive instruction in kitchen safety, cleanliness, measuring and Canada's food guide. The main dish is usually all prepared in an individual foil container and baked in the oven.

The students enjoy trying new things or learning to include their favorites. At the last class, as a special treat, the class also prepare dessert.

The fall cooking class started in September and then we plan to have one in the spring of 2019. The class runs for 10 Mondays from 5-8pm for \$150. The class is sponsored by the Scarborough Council.

For any information or to register, please contact Felicita at [fzanatta@cltoronto.ca](mailto:fzanatta@cltoronto.ca) or 647-729-1635.

## Upcoming Scarborough Events

### Council Meeting

Monday October 1, 2018  
6:30 pm  
1712 Ellesmere Road  
All are welcome!

For more information on all of these events and to register contact Felicita Zanatta at 647-729-1635 or [fzanatta@cltoronto.ca](mailto:fzanatta@cltoronto.ca)

### Bingo at Lawson

Friday October 19, 2018  
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
1712 Ellesmere Road  
\$5 for a snack

**Connections Dance**  
Friday October 26, 2018 at 7:30 to 9:30 pm  
1712 Ellesmere Rd.  
\$8 admission  
Call Lester at 416-566-7252

### Winter Literacy

Begins  
Saturday November 3, 2018  
9:00 am to 11:45 am  
1710 Ellesmere Rd.  
\$25 registration and \$5 per class  
Eligibility determined by interview

## Self-Advocates Council Partnership with the Toronto Police Service Grows Stronger

By: Tara Bates



Nelson Raposo, Shineeca McLeod, and PC Peddle and Jason Mayer from ConnectABILITY.ca

At the end of June this year, the Self-Advocates Council asked the Toronto Police Service to attend a talk about how to better communicate with people with disabilities. The SAC members were eager to start a partnership with the Toronto Police and have their voices heard. The talk was a great success and started an ongoing partnership between the Self-Advocates Council and the Toronto Police.

In September, SAC members invited Police Constable (PC) Jason Peddle, Vulnerable Persons Coordinator from the Toronto Police to 20 Spadina Road to be a part of a video they wanted to make. PC Peddle graciously accepted the invitation to be a part of the video. The purpose of the video is to talk about the newly formed partnership between the police and SAC members, and to talk about the conversation they had in June. SAC members Nelson Raposo, Shineeca McLeod and Mark Miller all had the opportunity to have a conversation with PC Peddle on camera to talk

about the conversation they had in June, the partnership and share their personal stories. ConnectABILITY's Jason Maher agreed to be the filmmaker and director of the day.

PC Peddle talked about how excited he and the police service are to continue working with the SAC. SAC members' input at our June discussion is directly impacting the 2019 training curriculum that all officers receive at the training academy. Also, SAC has been invited to attend a town hall meeting with the Toronto Police in November. SAC members talked about what this partnership means to them and how some now feel much more comfortable approaching and speaking to a police officer.

Great job, Self-Advocates! You've started a GREAT partnership that will be very helpful in forging a new future for individuals labeled with an intellectual disability and their relationship with the police.

For information on SAC contact Sue Hutton at [shutton@cltoronto.ca](mailto:shutton@cltoronto.ca)

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## Volunteer Day by Home Depot

By: Terri Walton



Home Depot employees gearing for a hard days work at Guildcrest Residence

Guildcrest Residence was gifted a Volunteer Day by Home Depot. The store and volunteers were extremely generous in the donation of their time, skills and product. They beautified our gardens in the front of the home with low maintenance perennials and brightly colored planters. We now have a large gazebo out on the back deck that will protect the ladies from the direct sun, making the use of our deck more available. The plan was to repair the back fencing that was damaged in the big windstorm but the volunteers found the damage too great so spent even more money and time replacing the majority of it! They increased the beauty and safety of the home. For that we are very grateful. Our appreciation goes out to these wonderful, generous and friendly employees of our local HOME DEPOT!



A little piece of paradise planted at Guildcrest Residence

## Volunteer Orientations and Trainings

Upcoming Volunteer Orientation dates:

October 17, 2018 in Central

November 21, 2018 in Scarborough

December 12, 2018 in Etobicoke

October 22, 2018 in Central Region

March 13, 2019 in Etobicoke Region

June 12, 2019 in North York Region

### Annual Volunteer Refresher Training

Wednesday, December 12, 2018 in Scarborough

To Register for any of the above training dates please visit: [Cltoronto.ca/volunteers](http://Cltoronto.ca/volunteers)

If you have any further questions you can contact Karla Galvez at [kgalvez@cltoronto.ca](mailto:kgalvez@cltoronto.ca)

MyCommunityHub.ca

MyCommunityHub is an online registration space where people with a developmental disability and their families can find activities and programs that reflect their interests.

# JOiN— Annual JOiN Conference

Visit: [joininfo.ca/event/](http://joininfo.ca/event/) for more information !



**JOiN**

**FUTURE OF WORK**

HOW DO YOU STAND OUT WHEN IT COMES TO INCLUSIVE WORKPLACE LEADERSHIP?

ANNUAL JOiN CONFERENCE  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**DEC 3-4, 2018**  
TORONTO, ONTARIO

Proud to announce our new addition of a Career Marketplace on Day 1 where individuals with disabilities looking for work will be able to connect to employers and service providers while also getting to experience various workshop offerings.

## Developmental Services Information Fair 2018



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Thursday, October 11, 2018**  
**10:00am-7:00pm**

**Developmental Services Information Fair 2018**

Formerly the dsto Information Fair



**PARKVIEW MANOR**

**55 Barber Greene Rd N°1**  
**North York, ON M3C 2A1**

- ✓ Free event, free parking, pre- registration not required
- ✓ Information about services and supports for individuals over 18 years old
- ✓ Agency and Community presentations
- ✓ An opportunity to learn more about Employment Supports, Creative Housing and ODSP

Contact: Mia Tremblay  
Developmental Services Toronto  
p. 647-729-1158  
e. [mia.tremblay@cltoronto.ca](mailto:mia.tremblay@cltoronto.ca)



De l'information sur les services aux personnes ayant une déficience intellectuelle sera disponible en français

More information will be available on the Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) website as we get closer to the event. Please check in for updates at [www.dsotoronto.ca](http://www.dsotoronto.ca)



# Celebrate Good Times, Come On!

## COMMUNITY ROCKS

**With Performances By:**

*Juno Award Winners*

**SAM ROBERTS BAND**

DJ Raptor Marc & DJ Lynz

Host: Ben Mulrone

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2018**

**Queen Elizabeth Theatre**

**6PM**

**TICKETS \$175/PERSON**

[communityrocks.ca](http://communityrocks.ca) |     | @cltoronto | #crocks18

Major Sponsors:



Event by:



Food and Beverage Sponsors:



Designed by the C&D Group



[www.CommunityLivingToronto.ca](http://www.CommunityLivingToronto.ca)

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