

"Supporting the rights and choices of people with an intellectual disability."

FEATURED STORY

Celebrating Community Living



<<< Nelson Raposo,
Self-Advocate and
Board member
getting ready with
his photo for
#ITookABreak19!

We have a lot of exciting events coming up that are promoted through out this newsletter. Here is a breakdown of what to look forward to:

Easy Roller Bowl-A-Thon Etobicoke

Saturday April 27th

A fun Saturday Evening of bowling and fundraising!
For more info go to page 11.

Leaders in Philanthropy

Tuesday April 30th

For more info go to page 8

31 days of Community Living

May 1st - May 31st

Watch our social media pages every day in the month of May. Celebrating Community Living month!

#ITookABreak19

Monday May 6th

Visit www.cltoronto.ca/itookabreak19 to find out more or watch our social pages! See photo above!

Community Living Day at the Legislature

Monday May 6th

Community Living's across the province will be at the legislature on May 6th.

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Stay at Great Wolf Lodge

May 14th - 17th

Stay at Great Wolf lodge for Community Living week! For more info go to page 9.

9th Annual Bingo Bowling Extravaganza

Sunday May 5th

An afternoon of Bingo Games and Bowling! For more info go to page 10.

Rummage Sale – Etobicoke

Saturday May 11th

Donations and Vendors Wanted for Etobicoke's Rummage Sale! For more info go to page 12.

Waterpark after dark

Friday May 17th

Come to Great Wolf lodge for an evening of fun at the waterpark! You don't need to stay at the lodge to join our event. We have the entire waterpark to ourselves for that evening! For more info go to page 13.

Family Fun Fair

Saturday June 8th

Come one come all! Our annual Family Fun Fair is an event we look forward to every year! Bring your family and enjoy the day with us! For more info go to page 8.

Spring Fling Returns!

By: Michelle Grimley



Kicking Off the Dance Party at Spring Fling 2018!

Much anticipated sunshine has arrived and we just celebrated one of Community Living Toronto's annual highlights: Central Council's Spring Fling Dinner & Dance! Since 2008, more than \$130,000 has been raised by Central Council and Spring Fling.

On Saturday, April 6th, we hope you got to join us at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre for a celebratory night, complete with a tasty three course buffet dinner, a live DJ, and dancing galore!

Spring Fling is an event that so many people look forward to each year and is largely how Central Council funds initiatives that foster inclusive communities and support the rights and choices of people with an intellectual disability. Funds raised through ticket sales, donations, and Silent Auction bids help to support numerous Community Living Toronto programs and activities including: a weekly dinner club where

individuals share a meal and quality time with their friends; a social group for young adults that meets once a month to spend time with friends and participate in entertaining activities in their community; and sponsorship of our Annual Family Fun Fair where individuals of all ages and abilities, families and community members come together for a fun-filled day of games, food, live music, and more.

This year for the first time ever, an online Silent Auction featured incredible items and built excitement for the live Silent Auction on April 6th! Bidding online is a great way to support Spring Fling's Fundraising efforts while treating yourself from the comfort of home.

Upcoming Central Events

sprOUT Meeting

Thursday April 25, 2019

4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Griffin Centre

1124 Finch Ave West, Unit 1

One Direction Social Group

Saturday April 27, 2019

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Movie at the new Clubhouse

20 Spadina Rd

**For information on any of the above events,
contact Michelle Grimley**

at 647-729-1210 or

michelle.grimley@cltoronto.ca

Pilot for the Day!

By: Paola Diaz



Giovanna flying over the GTA

Giovanna Russo is a resident at the Elmcrest Group Home in Etobicoke. After moving into Elmcrest almost two years ago, Giovanna had her first Person Directed Plan (PDP) meeting and was asked to share her dreams and aspirations for the future. If you know Giovanna, you know that she is active and busy in the community and loves trying new things (even if she is scared).

At her PDP meeting she enthusiastically shared with her team, “I want to fly a plane” and loves the idea of being a pilot. Staff had their work cut out, supporting Giovanna’s dream to fly a plane and to help her make it a reality.

It was clear Giovanna had to start with baby steps. The summer of 2017, Giovanna purchased a Wonderland Season Pass, to ride roller coasters that are out of her comfort zone and to experience the thrill of flying.

Next she subscribed to an airplane magazine to learn more about planes and flying. Getting closer to her dream, we found a simulation experience located in Mississauga called UFLY. On November 27, 2018, Giovanna had the most amazing opportunity to fly a Boeing 777 through this simulation experience. She lifted off from Pearson Airport, drove all over Toronto, right beside the CN tower, all the way to Niagara Falls and back to Pearson! She was the pilot the entire way through with an experienced co-pilot by her side giving her brief directions. Giovanna was amazing!

As Giovanna’s staff, it was a proud moment watching her achieve her dream of becoming a pilot and flying a commercial aircraft.

Remembering Danny George

By: Heidi Lahtinen

Danny started his long association with Community Living Toronto in the late 1970’s. Before joining “ARC Industries” as it was called at the time, Danny attended the program as a student.

In the earlier years at Supported Work and Community Activities (SWACA) Etobicoke, Danny enjoyed contract work. In more recent years, Danny enjoyed music and bowling. Some of the great joys of Danny’s life include his family, shredding papers (he even had his own machine at SWACA) and an intense interest in the weather. He also took great delight in some comfort foods such as hamburgers, sprite and smarties. At every holiday party Danny could always be counted on, with great enthusiasm, to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From 2015 to last summer, Danny moved from his family home to live at Mill Rd.

Danny passed away on March 6, 2019. Danny will be fondly remembered by all SWACA Etobicoke participants, Mill Road residents and Community Living Toronto staff for his sweet and contagious smile!

Upcoming Etobicoke/York Events

Council Meeting

Tuesday April 9
6:30 PM
Creative Village Studio
4895 Dundas St. W
All are welcome

Parent Share

Thursday April 18
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
295 The West Mall,
suite 204
Bonnie Heath at
416-645-6000 ext. 1311

Friendship Group

Wednesday April 24
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
295 The West Mall, suite 204

Easy Roller Bowlathon

Saturday April 27
4:00 to 7:00 PM
Rexdale Bowlerama
See flyer for details

Rummage Sale for Charity

Saturday May 11, 9 AM- 2 PM
See flyer for details

Christlie Celebrates 75th Birthday with SWACA Friends

By: Wilma Nad, Program Supervisor



Christlie (in front, seated) celebrates her 7th Birthday with her friends from North York Supported Work and Community Activities Program

On February 14th Christlie celebrated her 75th Birthday at North York Supported Work and Community Activities program (SWACA). The celebration with all her peers at the day program included a photo booth with opportunities to have their pictures taken with Christlie. They were able to “dress up” in a costume for the pictures. There was also music and dancing, along with a lot of delicious Chinese food for lunch. Christie, her peers and staff thoroughly enjoyed the party

Christlie has been with Community Living Toronto many years and lives with a wonderful host family in our Life Share program. Christlie started at Warden Woods Employment Training Services in the Assessment Program as one of its first participants. Christlie now enjoys being at North York SWACA four days a week with one day off to relax and do other things she enjoys.



Christlie right centre enjoys her favour lunch of Chinese food with her SWACA friends.

Upcoming North York Events

North Parent Share

Thursday May 2, 2019

10:00 am – noon

North York Office

Boardroom

18 - 1122 Finch Ave W

Everyone Welcome!

Sibshop

Saturday May 11, 2019

10:30 am to 2:30 pm

Victoria Park Hub

1527 Victoria Park Avenue

2nd Floor

Must register for this event.

Pizza/Bingo at the Hub

Wednesday May 22, 2019

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

1527 Victoria Park Avenue

2nd Floor

\$3.00 at the door

Everyone Welcome!

Please pre-register

For more information about the above events please contact: Wendy Dyke at 647--274-9281 or wdyke@cltoronto.ca

Annual Achilles 5km Walk/Run

By: Felicita Zanatta



Scarborough Team is Ready!

On beautiful, sunny Sunday March 17, 2018, the Scarborough team joined the Annual Achilles St. Patrick's Day 5km Walk/Run. It was truly perfect weather for the event as the temperature was neither too warm or cold and the sun shone. At the end of the race, Achilles Canada treats the participants to Chili, Beer, Entertainment and Prizes. After all, it was St. Patrick's Day.

The Scarborough region Council has sponsored this event for 14 years. The fundraising event raised \$445 for the Scarborough Council. This money will be used to support the events and activities of the Council. Activities like cooking class, dances, literacy class and events like information sessions for families are all supported by the Scarborough Council. These are wonderful benefits of Membership that are possible due to all the fundraising work of the Scarborough Council.

This was the 20th Anniversary of the 5km Walk/Run for Achilles Canada and as always there was a sell out crowd to celebrate the milestone.

Please join us for this terrific event next year or sponsor one of our team members. For any information on the fundraising events or any of the Council sponsored activities please contact Felicita Zanatta at 647-729-1635 or fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

Upcoming Scarborough Events



Bingo Bowling Extravaganza

Sunday May 5, 2019
3:30-5:30pm;
registration and lanes open at 3:00pm
\$25 per person, includes shoe rental, sweet table and fabulous prizes to win!
At the Parkway Bowl, 67 Ellesmere Rd.

Bingo at Lawson

Friday April 12, 2019 at
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
1712 Ellesmere Road
\$5 for a snack and prizes

Connections Dance

Friday April 26, 2019 at
7:30-9:30pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd.
\$8 admission
Call Lester at
416-566-7252

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



Flying to Freedom– Survivors and Supporters Stronger Together

By: Sue Hutton



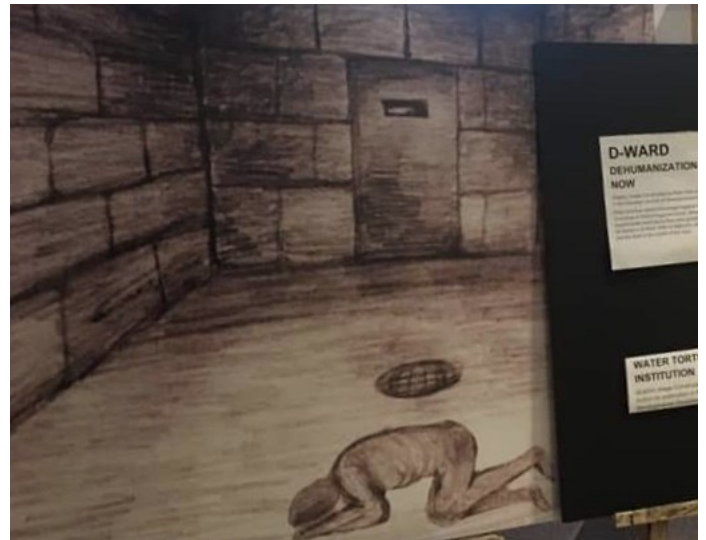
Shineeca, Peter and Emanuel

You may know Emanuel Chasi as Community Living Toronto's bill of rights artist, but now he is adding his art and his voice to a bigger cause. Emanuel has joined with the Respecting Rights group at ARCH Disability Law Centre. Respecting Rights is using art, music, theatre in a peer-advocacy model to teach people labelled with intellectual disabilities about their rights to make their own decisions. Emanuel is getting ready to do artwork for the project, and is jumping in presenting, script-writing and acting in videos too.

Emanuel had his first experience presenting at Flying To Freedom, a special event hosted by Community Living Ontario, marking the 10th anniversary of the closing of the institutions.

The event brought survivors together to tell their stories and share in art, theatre, music and story telling with a community working together for change. Respecting Rights founder Peter Park had artwork on display- using graphic recording to tell his story (Co-created with Sue Hutton, who drew Peter's vision from his memory, with Peter's direction).

It's exciting for new artists and advocates to get involved. Says Emanuel "It was my first time public speaking and I was a little nervous! But my goal of the day was to get the message about rights, and institutions no more across. I think we got our message across because the applause was great. I heard someone say "you're doing great".



Drawing by Sue Hutton in collaboration with Peter Park

Peter Park acts as a mentor to Emanuel, and the two of them work together on advocacy efforts with Respecting Rights. Emanuel: "I'm a visual artist, and all I needed was to see the artwork of Peter's experience in D Ward at the institution, and it said everything. I want to know all about these stories. As the next generation of advocates it's good to know this stuff to keep us going".

Emanuel really looks out for Peter when we are working together. Emanuel is lucky enough to not have lived in an institution, and feels awful seeing what people lived through. "I wanted to make sure he was doing okay with all the talk and memories about abuse that day. "We gotta look out for each other".

Peter and others spoke about still needing to make change for people with developmental disabilities and that the fight is not over for everyone to be included and respected. Emanuel: "Lots of changes need to be made". What needs to change, is for people to follow the bill of rights – across the province. When I hear that people are not having their rights upheld I get upset and want everyone to have their rights. Individuals are the ones paying rent in these homes, and I think the message at Flying to Freedom is that we all need to look out for each other and make sure people are having their rights. The advocacy work we're doing together right now, we are taking to the government. We are excited to take this as far as we can. People's rights are that important.

It's an honour to work with Peter Park. He's legendary and his story will live on. We are different generations and we are fighting for the same thing".

Dignity. Respect. Inclusion.

Upcoming SAC Events

Each month the council has activities lined up. Meetings are the third Wednesday of every month from 11-1:30pm. For further information, contact Sue Hutton at shut-ton@cltoronto.ca or Tara Bates at Tara.bates@cltoronto.ca

Volunteer Orientations and Trainings

For new Volunteers, these are dates for upcoming Volunteer Orientation Sessions:

April 10, 2019 @10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
295 The West Mall, Suite 204
[Click here to register](#)

May 15, 2019 @5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
1122 Finch Ave. W., Unit #18
[Click here to Register](#)

June 19, 2019 @10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
20 Spadina Rd.
[Click here to Register](#)

For registered Volunteers who would prefer to do their annual training in-person, these are the dates for upcoming Annual Volunteer Refresher Training:

June 12, 2019 at 1122 Finch Ave. W., Unit #18 from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZZ7EKKRdh3u1ED3gSY08Q9nk5JPp59Ebxah4QQZ1soj8/edit>

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities



Scarborough: Summer Literacy

We are looking for volunteers to support our Summer literacy class which runs Monday to Friday from July 2 to August 2 from 9 am to 3 pm at 1712 Ellesmere Rd. In the class you will support a group of dynamic learners to build literacy skills, math, social and have a lot of fun! This is a great opportunity for those looking to fulfil their 40 hours for high school graduation, those looking for teaching experience or those who simply want to get involved with the community.



North York: Cooking Class

We are looking for volunteers to support individuals with a passion in the kitchen! The class runs April 2 to May 28 in the North York Kitchen, 1122 Finch Avenue West, Unit 16 on Tuesdays – 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Volunteers will be hands on cooking and teaching safe kitchen practice, the Canada food guide and the love of food and friendship! This is a great opportunity for volunteers with a passion for cooking, who are looking for experience for culinary school or who want to join the fun!



SUMMER 2019



Already 50% sold out!

MyCommunityHub.ca

APPLY NOW

Leaders in Philanthropy AWARDS

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Time: 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Parkview Manor
55 Barber Greene Road
(Don Mills and Eglinton)

Watch for your invitation in the mail!



Because you are making a difference in the lives of so many we want to celebrate you for your dedication and support.

COMMUNITY LIVING
Toronto



SATURDAY
JUNE 8TH

11AM—3PM

1712 ELLESMERE ROAD

\$4 ADMISSION

COMMUNITY LIVING
Toronto

United Way
Greater Toronto

CARNIVAL, BINGO, BBQ, GAMES AND MORE!

WWW.COMMUNITYLIVINGTORONTO.CA



GREAT AWAITS...

Community Living Month

Valid May 14 - 17, 2019

Rates starting at

\$174.99 PER NIGHT

Valid on Family Suites

Additional charges may apply. Includes waterpark passes for up to four people.

Great Wolf Lodge® amenities include:

- 84-degree colossal indoor waterpark
- Exciting Northern Lights™ Arcade
- Clock Tower Show and Story Time
- Daily Wolf Walk™, a hands-on look at nature
- Fantastic restaurants — **and much more!**



USE GROUP CODE: 1905COMM

Must book by April 14, 2019

Limited number of rooms available.

**For more information, or reservations,
visit greatwolf.com/niagarafalls
or call 800.605.9653**

GREAT WOLF LODGE.

Upgraded suite types are available for a fee and are subject to availability. Please call directly for more information or to book.

GROUPS & MEETINGS

Plan on it.

Offer valid only at the property and dates specified above. Valid per night for single or multiple night stays; group code must be mentioned at time of reservation. Limited number of rooms available. May not be combined with any other discount or promotional offers. Multiple night minimum stay may apply. Offer based on four guests per room and may be terminated at any time without notice. Must have one individual 21 years or older staying in each room. Offer is not transferrable and is not redeemable for cash.

9th Annual Bingo Bowling Extravaganza!!!!

Sunday May 5, 2019

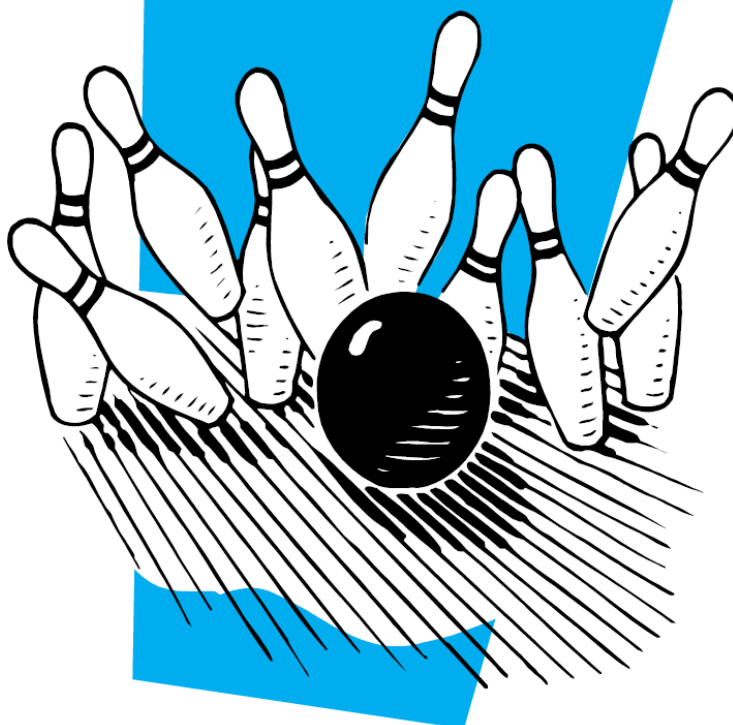
3:30pm to 5:30pm

**Registration: 3:00pm;
lanes are open**

**\$25.00 per person
(includes shoe rental
and sweet table)**

Location:

**Parkway Bowl
67 Ellesmere Rd,
Toronto, ON, M1R 4B8**



Please join Scarborough Council for a fun afternoon of Bingo Bowling and help us raise funds to support our great initiatives!

- There will be tickets for a chance to win fabulous prizes !
- *Get your Team of 6 registered now to guarantee your lane!*

**Please contact Felicita Zanatta to register
at 647-729-1635 or fzanatta@cltoronto.ca
Deadline for registration is April 29, 2019**



Etobicoke/York Council's Eleventh

Easy Roller Bowl-A-Thon



Saturday April 27, 2019

4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

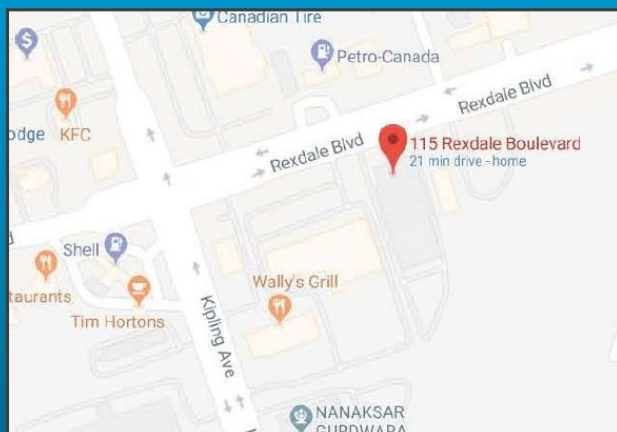
Rexdale Bowlerama

115 Rexdale Blvd.

PRIZES, RAFFLES and MORE!

To Enter:

- \$25 to register or a minimum of \$25 in pledges
- Includes bowling shoes
- Preregister preference for 5 or 10 pin
- 2 games guaranteed



TTC DIRECTIONS:

1. Go to Kipling Subway Station
2. Take the Bus 45 North - 45A Kipling (towards Steeles.)
3. Stop ID: 14724 - Kipling Ave at Rexdale Blvd.
4. walk about 2 minutes from bus stop

Space is limited — Must register by April 11

To register contact: Georgina Stergiotis

647-729-0445 or georgina.stergiotis@cltoronto.ca

Proceeds raised will benefit programs and activities at Community Living Toronto

Community Living Toronto- SWACA Etobicoke's

Rummage Sale!

May 11, 2019

Donations and Vendors Wanted

Gently used items will be appreciated!

**Please no toiletry items, large furniture or clothing.*

Table Vendors wanted (jewelry, arts & crafts, stain glass, unique items)



Drop items off at: 288 Judson St Unit #17

**Contact: Christine-Lisa Denis cdenis@cltoronto.ca
or 647-728-0396**

For vendors, table rentals & sponsors contact:

Janina Coulthard at yancha.co@gmail.com or 416-526-2352



Come Celebrate Community Living Month with us!

Friday May 17th, 2019

9pm-MIDNIGHT

\$30 each or \$100 for 4!

Can't attend?

Sponsor someone that would like
to attend or make a donation!

A limited number of tickets are available. Purchase yours today to secure your spot!

CommunityLivingToronto.ca/waterparkafterdark

You do not have to stay at the Lodge to access our event. If staying at the Lodge, note that you will need to purchase tickets separately to attend the Waterpark After Dark.

Follow Us On Social Media!



www.CommunityLivingToronto.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.

