

Norfolk
Association
for Community

Living

INSIGHT Newsletter

Oskee Wee Wee!
...at the Hamilton Tiger Cats Game!

Look inside for lots of great
articles and information!

Jim and Bruce's Day of Football
was arranged through Passport!

Passport

for people with developmental disabilities

Hamilton-Niagara Region

LOOK INSIDE for our Feature Article on the Passport Program!

2015 Re-Launch Issue!



Message from the President | *Franciss Dykstra*

I am delighted to be your new President. I promise you that I take this commitment seriously and will do my absolute best to make you proud!

I would like to take a moment to thank our outgoing Board Members, Susan Yager (Treasurer), Judy Scrivener (Secretary) and of course, Ann Engell, our Past President. Ladies... your hard work, enthusiasm and continuous dedication have been an inspiration. It has been a pleasure to serve alongside you.

It is important that you all know that when we are sitting in that Boardroom, we are very aware of who it is that we serve.

During the upcoming year, the Board will undertake a significant review of our Strategic Plan. This is no small feat and will in fact, shape the direction of this Organization for years to come. This is your Association, your Board and we welcome your input, your opinions and your feedback. In addition, we are always looking for new Board Members. If you can make the commitment, please consider volunteering your time.

This year, we can once again look forward to a host of fundraising activities; the Winter Carnival, the 3rd Can U Dig It, the 8th Annual Friends and Family Picnic, Pancakes in the Park, a number of BBQs and dinners. We hope to continue to visit those supported in their homes.

Again, I am thrilled to be your new President. If you would like to reach me to discuss something, or to inquire about serving on our dynamic Board of Directors, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Call: 519-426-5000 extension 301 | Email: president@nacl.ca



Kristy Long and Heather Meulemeester served up a delicious **Broccoli, Baked Cheddar and Bacon Soup** at the Annual Holiday Soup Luncheon. They **SOLD OUT** as you can imagine!



Congratulations

to the new Mrs. Amanda Spier on her marriage in September!

Amanda is NACL's amazing

Lifestyle Services Administrative Assistant.

She and her husband, Adam (and doggy Sierra) live in Simcoe. Adam is the owner/operator of ADS Automotive Repair and Care and one of our amazing Ad Sponsors!

Congratulations, Amanda and Adam!

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Passport

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NACL is proud to act as a Broker in the facilitation of activities and supports that utilize Passport Funding. Our role in the Passport process goes above and beyond administration. The Passport Team is made up of passionate, experienced individuals who are dedicated to providing exceptional opportunities for People Supported. **Read on for information on what Passport funding can be used for, how to attain funding and to get introduced to the NACL Team that makes it all possible!**

What Is Passports?

Passport is funding provided by Developmental Services Ontario for individuals with disabilities to participate in their community. This funding can be used for anything that assists with personal development, community participation and caregiver respite. This can include

- Easing the transition after post-secondary school life
- Developing independence
- Building social, emotional and community-participation skills
- Personal interest classes or further education
- Participating in enjoyable activities in the community
- Preparing for a job or volunteering
- Taking part in community classes or recreational programs
- Developing work, volunteer, and daily life skills
- Hiring a support worker
- Creating their own life plans (this is called person-directed planning) to reach their goals
- Obtaining temporary respite for their caregivers

New Adventures through Passports | Larry is an adult who lives in a 24 hour supported home in Simcoe. When it comes to his health he had been struggling to stay motivated and incorporate physical activity into his daily life. The Passport Team connected Larry to a personal trainer at Norfolk Fitness Centre and allowed the trainer to use her expertise to create a workout program that matched Larry's interests and abilities. Larry started off only spending 15 minutes walking around the gym looking at equipment and watching other member's workout before leaving. Now, 6 months later, Larry loves working with his trainer to use the treadmill, bicycles, weights and exercise balls for a full hour session. The creativity, patience and partnership between the passport team and the personal trainer allowed Larry the time and motivation he needed to find his love of fitness!



Ripley's Aquarium Trip

Gavin and his group of friends enjoyed a visit to the World Class Ripley's Aquarium in Toronto this summer. This was made possible through the Passport Program and is sure to become a frequent request for many people!



Larry working out on the bike at Norfolk Fitness Centre!

Amber's Story: Amber is a young adult who lives semi independently in Simcoe and receives Passport Support through NACL. While talking with her Passport Support Worker she mentioned a dream of getting her driver's license. She had been told in the past that this wasn't a realistic goal but the Passport team worked together with Amber make this dream a reality. By breaking the goal down into small steps and persevering through the process Amber passed her G1 written test and is now taking driving lessons through Young Drivers. She is so proud of her accomplishment and enjoys every minute of freedom on the road.

Are you eligible for Passport Funding?



You can begin the process by contacting Developmental Services Ontario to request an intake interview for passport funding. Do your research and speak to a member of the passport team here at NACL. We can assist you in preparing for the interview in order to maximize the outcome. Once qualified, it would be our pleasure to provide assistance in brokering your funding and providing expert support.

Learn more about Passports!

Contact Amanda Massi,
Service Program Administrator

Phone: (519) 426-9513 ext 213

Email: amandamassi@nacl.ca

Preparing for your Interview with DSO | Often, family members walk into a DSO Passports Interview unsure of what questions they will be answering about their loved one. This interview is very important as it determines how much funding their loved one will receive. Funding amounts correlate to the amount of support a person will need in order to achieve their personal goals. Family members often forget how much they actually support their loved ones on a daily basis and miss out on opportunity for realistic funding. If you would like information on the interview process, or about Passports in general, please contact Amanda Massi!

Meet The Passports Team



Amanda Massi, Angela Hisaw, April Hardman and Jonnelle Legault

Meet Amanda: I have worked with NACL for about 3 years and have been involved with Passports since March of this year. My favorite part about this job is having an active role in helping people truly become an active member of their community. I love hearing all of the inspiring stories of community members reaching out and appreciating what these individuals have to offer! Integration is a two way street and there are perfect examples of that here every day.

Meet Jonnelle: I have worked for NACL since April 2012. I feel that Passports means freedom to try new things for the people that we support. It is also an opportunity to be more active in their communities and provides a chance to broaden their horizons. Seeing the looks on peoples faces when they see that they are able to go to the fair, the zoo, Wonderland-even the gym for the first time gives me a sense of joy and pride in what we do everyday. Bettering peoples lives is what we got into this field to do and Passports makes that easier for us all.

Meet April: I have been working with NACL for over a decade, and on the Passports team since the Spring. My favourite aspect of my job is discovering activities and possibilities that people using NACL's Passports services may not otherwise have the chance to do. Our search for new resources is ongoing! Even when I am not working it is almost impossible to not look at the community through the lens of Passport. We look forward to providing more and more people with interesting, enriching and fun opportunities as Passports grows!

Meet Angie: I joined NACL in the summer of 2013 and had the pleasure of being Passport's first staff member! It's difficult to summarize all the things I love about Passports, however I will try! Passports is about helping people find their passions. Opening doors to the community...and the community opening its doors to the people we support. I have personally witnessed tremendous breakthroughs, milestone moments and just plain old fun times that people have been able to experience through the support of Passports. It has been said that Passports helps to give people a life of their own through true community discovery. It is an absolute pleasure to be part of this exciting division of NACL and I am grateful for my experiences here.

NEW WHEELS!

This summer NACL was able to add TWO new vans to our fleet of 15 vehicles that get NACL people where they need to go! Our vehicles are primarily serviced by Wilson Truck and Trailer.



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Fun Happenings...



65

Three lovely ladies celebrated milestone birthdays!

NACL wishes Wendy (top left), Glenna (bottom left) and Sandra (bottom right) many



60



60



Truck And Tractor PULL!



Keith, who lives in one of the NACL supported homes, attended the Norwich Optimist Truck and Tractor Pull on August 14th. Keith found seats on the bleachers that were in full view of the various large trucks and tractors that excited young and old. The onlookers cheered as engines roared and black smoke filled the air. Mud was flung in all directions! Debates about which tractor would win the match could be heard throughout the evening; however, there was applause whether a tractor succeeded or not. There was plenty of snacks and drinks along with a corn maze, and a concert followed the Tractor Pull. What a great way to spend a summer's day!



JASON GORDY

Has been honoured with a **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT** award from Special Olympics Ontario!

The Simcoe Reformer featured an article on Jason in early September.

Congratulations, Jason!

Forty Years with NACL

Debbie Hickman Celebrates and Reminisces...

40 years have gone by so fast! I celebrated 40 years involvement with NACL on July 18, 2015 and have really enjoyed my involvement with NACL. I have so many happy memories looking back over the years: Christmas parties at the Port Dover Legion when I was at ARC Industries, attending many AGM's at the Moose Hall when Mrs. Smit was there and participating in the walk-a-thon with my dad there to raise money for ARC Industries.

I have had really great support staff and I have fond memories of working with Mary Wapshaw. I would like to thank all the staff of NACL for their support over the past 40 years. I look forward to many more years involvement with NACL!



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Happy 20th Anniversary BSS!



Business Support Services celebrated 20 years in business on August 21, 2015. We had been planning the celebration for approximately one year and really enjoyed the entire day together! The day included luncheon for all of us, an OpenHouse for our customers and the community and a party at the Simcoe Legion that night for our families and friends. We each had our own individually coloured t-shirt that read "Cheers to 20 Years" on it that we wore for the Open house and party. We had a group photo taken in our shirts and we looked like one big rainbow!

Each of our guests to the Open House signed one of our "Cheers to 20 Years" t-shirts which is now on display at BSS. Everyone seemed to have a good time at the Open house, we had a large crowd, enjoyed some cake and we were all glad to see everyone who came by. We had a great time at the Simcoe Legion that night dancing, eating and visiting with everyone. We were so happy to have our families and friends partying with us! The slideshow we created from the past 20 years was enjoyed by all and gave us a lasting keepsake of everyone who has been a part of our team over the last 20 years. We want to thank everyone for sharing in our memorable day! Thank you to our customers, the community, everyone at NACL and most especially our families and friends!

Celebrity Guests and Certificates of Recognition!

At the Open house, Councilman Peter Black and Toby Barrett, our MPP, stopped by and presented us with a certificate from the Province of Ontario congratulating us on our 20 years in business.

RIGHT: Mayor Charlie Luke also stopped by to present us with a certificate from Norfolk County for our 20 years in business. Tom Maracle is pictured here receiving the award on behalf of BSS.



Cheers to 20 Years!



AGM 2015



The NACL Board of Directors enjoyed the 63rd Annual General Meeting on June 16, 2015. The Delhi German home served as the host of the evening, providing excellent service and a delicious meal. Representatives from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, our local MPP and Mayor Charlie Luke were able to bring their greetings to everyone.

Bringing so many people together in the name of celebrating and sharing all that is "NACL" is a powerful and energizing experience. We are so fortunate to work with committed staff, neighbours, members, families and friends towards promoting and supporting Inclusion within Norfolk County and beyond!

We will announce details of 2016's Annual General Meeting in the New Year and invite you to join us!



Darryl Godby and Karen Godby



Jean Huffman and Carolyn Anderson



Previous NACL Board of Directors President, Ann Engle formally introduces our new President, Franciss Dykstra.



The 'Davis Chicks' lead everyone in the singing of O' Canada.



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What a FUN evening we enjoyed at
Can You Dig It 2015!
 Mark your calendars for
SATURDAY, APRIL 30th, 2016
 at the **Port Dover Community Centre**
 Tickets will be available in the
New Year!
 We look forward to seeing you for a fun night
 out in support of NACL!



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