



Esprit Newsletter

Winter / Spring Edition 2009

*Ottawa-Carleton Association for Persons
with Developmental Disabilities (OCAPDD)*

*Association d'Ottawa-Carleton pour personnes
ayant une déficience intellectuelle (AOCPI)*

We're on the Move!

As you may have heard, OCAPDD purchased the building located at 229 Colonnade Road. It will be the new home for our Head Office, including Arc Industries, Community Support Services, Family Homeshare and Supported Work programs.

The Architect's plans are now complete and we have applied for the building permit. The extensive renovations to be done will commence right after the Holiday Season and will be completed and ready for us to move in May of 2010.

The new design will consist of new offices, boardrooms, a large cafeteria and meeting place (which can be used for many other functions), new work and leisure spaces, an exercise room, crafts room etc.

It is a single storey building, which is located right next to a City park, providing ample green space for client and staff activities. We will have ample parking and easy access for Para-Transpo vehicles. We have also been advised, by Councillor Gordon Hunter of the City of Ottawa, that there is a good possibility that the City will install a sidewalk, by early spring, along the front of the building up to Colonnade Rd. North, so that our clients, who travel by public transit, can safely walk to and from the bus stop.



New building located at 229 Colonnade Road

This new facility will provide an improved work environment for our employees as well as a much improved location for our many clients who will attend the Day Program at Arc Industries. More than that, it will provide a more visible presence for our Association and a place to "call home".

Vince Auger
Director of Operations and Asset Management

It all started with a seed...

This September the Rosenthal "garden gang" headed west to Carp. Lana Reid, sister of Diana Reid had graciously given us a plot of her land to do some planting. She had the land all prepared for us, so out we went, seeds in hand and we made the drop. Seeds were planted by all, hole by hole until they were all filled in. Every few weeks or so, we would go out to see how things were going. The work wasn't always pretty or fun, lots of weeding had to be done, but having the opportunity to go out to get some country air, see the Reids and their dogs and see our hard work paid off. Every back twitch with it. By the beginning of October, Lana called us to come back out. Our seeds had flourished into a big beautiful crop of pumpkins. Well to me it was big and beautiful, we had approximately 45 pumpkins. Perfect for us.... Every one at Rosenthal was able to share the experience by taking a pumpkin home.



Rosenthal would like to take this opportunity to thank the Reids for this experience, the hospitality that you always gave us, the BBQ and all the extra weeding and watering that you did when we couldn't make it out.

Nichole Cuglietta, Rosenthal

2009 - Our Best Garlic Year Ever !!

In spite of very uncertain weather throughout the growing season, the tremendous volunteer efforts at Silver Spring Farm resulted in the best year ever for the garlic project. Many, many members and Missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, together with volunteers from MBNA-Bank of America, NCC and many friends of the Silver Spring Farm Garlic Project, devoted thousands of hours to the planting, weeding, fertilizing, scaping, harvesting, sorting, sizing, and selling our nutritious produce. And we appreciate very much the efforts of many of our clients and staff at ARC and Loeb Center for splitting over 10,000 bulbs into 40,000 cloves which were planted in October. In November, volunteers will place straw mulch on top of the covered garlic to offer protection against a 'January thaw'.

During the past season, if you visited the Farm on almost any early morning or afternoon, you would see long- time volunteer (and garlic project originator) Edmund Haines in the field sweating behind a roto-tiller. We are indebted to Ed, who has recently moved to New Brunswick, for his 13 years of dedicated service to the project.

As we move into 2010 the Silver Spring Farm Volunteer Garlic Project Team will be headed by Mel Jones (overall project management), Gordon de Savigny, Jennifer and Bob Potter (field operations), Mike Shaver (barn operations), Bernie and Deirdre Murphy and Lionel Burns (sales operations) and Jack Fraser (publicity).

To each and every volunteer, financial benefactor, and 'in-kind' supporter (see the 2009 Honour Roll on the next page) we gratefully extend a BIG Thank You. We could not have done it without you. To those who would like to assist, we say "Call us at 613-569-8993 extension 245 or 409".



Your Silver Spring Farm Garlic Project Team



2009 Honour Roll

In Appreciation

A-Channel TV
Angie Dinardo
B & G Signs
Barbara Charron
Barrhaven Independent
Battlefield Equipment Rentals Nepean
Bells Corners United Church
Bunny and Bob LeMessurier
Burnside Sand & Gravel
CBC Radio 91.5
CBC TV - CBOT
CFRA
CTV - CJOH
Christ Church Bells Corners
Cindy Chan
Continental Mushroom Farm
Deirdre and Bernie Murphy
EMC –Your Community Newspapers
Friends of Silver Spring Farm
including BB, BH, BN, DB, DE,
EB, EH, GH, GS, JH, JL, JM,
JN, JPL, LT, MB, MF, MFT,
ML, RB, RH, RL, RS, VM, WS
and all others who made
donations of goods, money and
time.

Edmund Haines
Gay Cook
Gordon de Savigny
Harold Black
Jeff Stoate
Jennifer and Bob Potter
Jennifer McIntosh
Joan Riding
John Dufresne
Just Food Ottawa
Kanata Kourier-Standard
Kimberly Lochhead
Lacombe Toilet Rentals
Leona Kavanaugh
Lionel Burns
Lois Tipping
Louise and Earl Landry
MBNA - Bank of America
Mary Lou and Paul Pospisil
Mel Jones
Merle and Jack Fraser
Metro Supermarkets: Greenbank,
March, Stafford and Strandherd
Road
Metroland Media Group Ltd
Mike Shaver

Mike Tracy
National Capital Commission
Nepean-Barrhaven This Week
Nevil Hunt
Ottawa Citizen
Ottawa Region Media Group
Ottawa Sun
Our Customers
Performance Printing Ltd
Robbie Hay
Robert Langille
Rogers Television
SOS Power Sales
Susan Toccalino
Roger Bélanger
St Martin de Porres Church
Teresa and Bob MacKenzie
The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints
Members of the Ottawa Stake
Ottawa Zone Missionaries
The Epoch Times
The Garlic News
The Jewel 98.5
Walter Baker Chapter I.O.D.E.
Wendy O'Keefe

CSS News Update

In October, Dave Ferguson invited a CSS client to speak to a church group about his life in Ottawa since leaving Rideau Regional Centre. There are many CSS clients with stories of triumph about living independently in the community. CSS staff asked Robert Concordia if he would be interested in Dave's invitation, and he replied that he would love to share his story with anyone who wanted to listen.

Robert told the group that he was nervous, but he spoke with passion about his subsidized apartment in the west end, his new furniture, his part-time job, his work ethic, and his support of the closing of Rideau Regional Centre. He inspired the church group to continue their OCAPDD volunteer work with renewed energy. Robert was pleased to receive a personal thank you from Dave, along with his business card. Robert was proud of the work he did and said he would do it again if the opportunity presented itself. Go, Robert, go!!

Lisa Babineau, CSS Support Worker

Christmas Gift Wrap Booths

Christmas is just around the corner... need some help with wrapping those special gifts? We have 2 locations to serve you!

As in previous years, OCAPDD is wrapping gifts at the Carlingwood Mall in the former Stitch It store and at St-Laurent Shopping Center in the Spotlight Lounge (formerly The Sony Store). More than 300 volunteers are helping wrap gifts to raise funds for the Association. If you would like to lend a hand wrapping those gifts please contact Debbie Blasutti at dblusutti@ocapdd.on.ca or at 613-569-8993 extension 243. We will be going until 5pm Christmas Eve.

Looking forward to seeing you this Holiday Season!



Building Bridges with United Way - Creating Hope and Changing Lives



OCAPDD's 2009 campaign was a huge success!! CUPE Local 1521 again was a huge supporter with a donation of \$500 to the campaign. We reached our goal of increasing payroll deduction by 65%. Wow! As a result, we will have raised over \$8,393.

If you have any suggestions for the United Way Campaign please forward them to the United Way team at head office. We are always looking for new ways to get more people involved. United Way Ottawa supports our Volunteer Coordinator position as well as our transportation services. These services are crucial to OCAPDD's clients.

Please donate and participate in our 2010 Campaign!
Thank you

RAYMOND ROCKBURN RETIRES AFTER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE



Raymond Rockburn locks up for the last time at 171 Donald Street.

Raymond Rockburn, building cleaner for the Quinlan Centre (formerly John Butler School) finally hung up his mop for the last time on Friday, August 28, proudly, yet sadly, bringing his 33 year career with OCAPDD to an end.

Raymond was hired as the permanent full time cleaner in 1976, responsible for the care and maintenance of the John Butler School. During Raymond's tenure, he worked successfully and loyally through the many leadership changes at OCAPDD and to the tenant changes of the building he fondly referred to as his second home.

Raymond built many long lasting friendships with colleagues and clients alike, always taking the time to say "hello" and "how are you?".

On August 27, the Quinlan Centre staff team, along with friends and former colleagues, honoured Raymond with an evening in his honour at Gabriel's Pizza.

Happy Retirement Raymond!

Ann-Marie Engelberts-Cousineau, Quinlan Centre Supervisor

UFEO Hosts Meeting for Families with MCSS Representatives

The United Families of Eastern Ontario (UFEO) is a newly established network of family-focused organizations and individuals. UFEO was created to unite the efforts of families in getting the best supports and services for people with developmental disabilities.

“Families of OCAPDD” is a member of UFEO. The day to day functioning of UFEO is guided by an elected steering committee. Bonnie Dinning, parent of a son supported by OCAPDD, sits on UFEO’s steering committee as a representative of “Families of OCAPDD”.

UFEO has been very active since its first AGM six months ago:

- Terms of Reference and a strategic plan focusing on raising awareness of the issues of concern to individuals in the developmental disability community have been produced;
- A website <http://ufeo.ca/> and an e-mail notification system of members regarding new postings are now in place;
- Representatives of UFEO partner in the planning of services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities as a member of the Regional System Planning Table (sets overall direction for delivery of supports and services in the Eastern Region of the province); and as a member of the Regional Dual Diagnosis Advisory Committee (responsible for policy advice to those ministries involved in delivering services to individuals with a developmental disability and mental health issues or challenging behaviours);
- We have written to the Assistant Deputy Minister MCSS seeking to participate in other regional and provincial round tables and consultations’ and;
- We have met with Minister Madeleine Meilleur to inform her of UFEO and to offer to work with her and her officials in improving Ontario’s developmental services.

UFEO recently provided an opportunity for families to hear from MCSS representatives about upcoming changes to developmental services. These changes are being guided by “The Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008.” The Act will change the definition of developmental disability and the way services and supports are assessed and delivered. The first part of the system to be implemented is the Application process which was the topic of the meeting UFEO hosted on November 18th at the R.A. Centre.

The system described by MCSS staff will start to roll out in 2011 but will take many years before it is applied to everyone. Those currently in the system will continue to access services and supports as they have in the past.

The first part of the system implemented will be the Application Entity – the place that will provide information, act as a point of entry, determine eligibility, assess need and administer direct funding. There will be one Application Entity for the whole of the Eastern Region (Ottawa, Renfrew County, Prescott-Russell and Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry). The planning for this piece will take place in 2009-2010.

The second part implemented will be the Funding Entity – the place that will determine how resources are allocated and prioritized. The planning for this piece will take place in 2011-2012.

To apply, people will fill out an application form and be assessed with a tool called the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS). The tool measures the supports required by the person to lead a successful life in the community. It will require a lengthy interview (6 to 10 hours over a period of time) with the person with the developmental disability, and up to two people who know him/her well.

If you would like more information about UFEO, please email us at info@ufeo.ca or call Eva Rangno at 613-749-6602.

If you would like to become an active member of “Families of OCAPDD”, please contact Bonnie Dinning at bonniedinning@rogers.com or 613-728-6483.

Linking Boomers

Interested in staying connected to your community through events, work, volunteering, classifieds, and meeting other people?

Check out www.LinkingBoomers.com. It is a free and easy to use website for anyone 50+.



Connecting Boomers with Their Communities

The idea for LinkingBoomers.com came from two Ottawa businesswomen who saw a real need for such a site. Ruth Gmehlin and Jill Geddes own a business in Ottawa called Trillium Teams. They help organizations build stronger teams through their team building and facilitation services. In 2007 and 2008, several of their clients had discussed their concern for the labour shortage on the horizon with the baby boomers retiring. Over a coffee at Starbucks one afternoon their discussion turned from retirement concerns to retirement fun. They thought up the idea of building an “anti-corporate” website to help link boomers to post retirement work opportunities to stay young and connected. After they initiated several focus groups with boomers, LinkingBoomers.com was started with one aim in mind - to be the virtual meeting place for boomers looking to connect with their community for work, volunteer opportunities, and events.

In addition to boomers benefiting from such a community, businesses can too. Businesses often find it difficult to find dependable, trustworthy, and experienced workers. Small business owners often would like to have a reliable person to call to work occasionally when they’re really busy or when they go on holidays, but can’t always commit to offering full-time hours. This site allows them to connect with flexible and available boomer workers.

Crisis Response Team

In June OCAPDD launched an innovative pilot project aimed at providing those we serve with a coordinated response to client crisis within our programs. Wendy Skinner has assumed the role of Crisis Prevention Supervisor under the direction of Cheryl Lapointe, who now adds “Director of Crisis Prevention” to her title.

Our primary focus is on recognizing the warning signs that an individual is moving toward crisis and intervening proactively to prevent or minimize its impact. A team, consisting of OCAPDD management, supervisors and direct care staff as well as others such as outside professionals, family or advocates is formed around the individual. The teams’ role is to quickly assess and respond to the situation. In addition the team engages in mid- to long-term planning to address any underlying concerns that may have contributed to the individual’s crisis.

In times of crisis, individuals often need more attention than usual. For that reason, we have formed the Fast Individualized Responsive Support Team (FIRST). Members are OCAPDD staff available to be called in to provide additional support for the person in crisis.

By providing a prompt, coordinated response the goal is to identify and respond to concerns before they escalate to the point of client crisis and to minimize the duration and intensity of those that do.

Wendy Skinner
Crisis Prevention Supervisor

Seeking Dedicated Board Members

The Ottawa-Carleton Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OCAPDD) is a non profit, community based agency founded in 1956. It is the largest and longest-serving association of its kind in Ottawa. OCAPDD provides support to hundreds of persons with developmental disabilities, in every aspect of life whether seeking work opportunities, securing living arrangements or dealing with day-to-day tasks.

OCAPDD's management team oversees the operation of several residences, day programs and support services, which in turn are staffed by several hundred full-time and part-time employees who support individuals living either in family settings or independently.

OCAPDD works with a volunteer board of directors, which includes parents of persons with developmental disabilities. Board members are also tireless advocates on behalf of all persons with developmental disabilities.

OCAPDD is seeking enthusiastic and committed individuals to join their Board of Directors.

Nominations Criteria:

To be eligible to stand for election, you must be 18 years of age or older, and a member of OCAPDD for no less than thirty (30) days prior to the AGM on September 15th, 2009.

The 12 members of the Board of Directors are comprised of:

- i. at least three who represent families/parents with a disabled relative;
- ii. two from the francophone community, and
- iii. the remainder from the public, private and non-profit sectors with every effort to ensure visible minority representation from the community, as appropriate.

At this time we are eagerly looking for nominations from the francophone community.

If you would like to speak to the Nomination Committee Chair, about the nominations process, please contact them at 613-569-8993 extension 225 or by email at ocapdd@ocapdd.on.ca.

The Annex Open House

The open house for the Annex was held on June 30th, 2009. The day gave staff and clients the opportunity to show friends, family, Board members, management and other OCAPDD employees the newly renovated Annex building.

Guests were invited to tour the building and view the many new activities that are now available to clients of our Leisure Program.

One of the highlights of the day was our new Snoezelen Room, which was made possible by a HOPE Volleyball Tournament donation. The day was a huge success. We would like to thank the many people who helped make the day possible.

The Annex Staff



Susan Craig, Mary Smith and Tracey Brown.

Ratan Residence

Ratan Residence is a house filled with great people (residents, staff, family members, volunteers and students). We currently serve seven individuals full time and have one bed as an emergency bed. The program is known for its specialty in serving individuals with medical needs.

Over the summer, the team organized fun filled activities for the group. They enjoyed many of Ottawa Valley's community and cultural events. Two individuals attended a swim program. As fall approaches we are looking forward to the Aktion Club, the Hintonburg Thursday Nite Rocks and of course the 67's games and hopefully a few Senators games, with any luck against the Leafs!!!

Thanks to Lori and Michelle, 2 regular volunteers, one of our ladies can maintain some independence in the community. This fall we are again welcoming a student from Algonquin College. We are proud supporters of the DSW program and hope to help form the new generation of DSW's. Welcome Emma!

In the coming months we will be hosting four teams of volunteers to help us clean out and re-vamp our residence via the United Way – Day of Caring. Thanks to all four teams we will have a fresh new look by the end of this year. We also have a massage therapist who comes to the Program and offers individual sessions based on specific needs. We hope to add Zoo-therapy to our services in the coming year; we are currently on the waiting list for a dog and a volunteer.

This coming September, we are hosting, for the families, our First Annual Perennial BBQ to beautify our environment. We are planning on volunteering at the Christmas gift wrap event at the mall, a family get together. As you can see Christmas events are already in the planning.



Suzanne Brewster, Supervisor Ratan Residence

Holiday Happenings

On Thursday, December 3rd the Best Buddies group will celebrate the holiday season with a dinner and activity at the Legion Hall 5:30 to 8 p.m. This year the group boasts a membership of 56 pairs, our largest ever.

Tuesday, December 8th brings the Aktion Club Christmas party for both the Red and Blue Groups. A special dinner will be served, live entertainment and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus is expected. Time is 6 to 8 p.m. 330 Kent Street, 2nd Floor.

Also happening this holiday season is the Knights of Pythias Christmas dinner on December 9th. Campbell, Charette and Moffatt Houses will enjoy a Christmas dinner and sing along thanks to the Knights of Pythias volunteers.

♥ Hearts for the Holiday Campaign is a Bank of America sponsored program that encourages associates to create holiday cards for individuals during the holiday season. More than 6,300 associates across all lines of business in 53 cities created more than 48,000 holiday cards that were delivered to over 250 different organizations across the United States and Canada. This will be Ottawa's second consecutive year participating in the program. Last year was a very successful first year delivering over 1000 holiday cards to over 5 different organizations. All holiday cards are non gender/age and religion specific and are intended to spread joy and happiness in the holiday season. This year OCAPDD will be recipient of the Hearts for the Holiday greeting cards. Cards will be distributed through the Volunteer Program.

In addition to the Hearts for the Holiday Campaign, Bank of America will be providing us with four Christmas hampers which cover a gift for each person in the home plus Christmas dinner. We are very blessed.

Back again for the fourth season is Lynne Ferguson-Bourguignon and her group from the City of Ottawa, Parks and Recreation Branch. Each year Lynne and her group provides the individuals of Ahearn with Christmas dinner and gifts for all. Thanks to all of you Lynne.

Debbie Blasutti, Coordinator of Volunteers

Happy 10th Anniversary Aktion Club!

In the fall of 1999, Harold Moore and Thomas Assaly held the first National Capital Aktion Club meeting which was the first Club meeting in Canada. Initially there were 20 members from OCAPDD with four participating Kiwanis Clubs. By 2001, the Chapter received its Charter Membership. The Aktion Club continued to grow and in November 2003 there were 75 members and participating agencies included Ottawa Carleton Lifeskills and TELCI. The popularity of the Aktion Club was so great that in November of 2004 the Club broke into two groups. The Bytown Chapter received its charter in December of 2004. Each group had over 50 members! There are now approximately 110 members between the two groups and seven Kiwanis groups with OCAPDD supporting the clubs. Participating agencies now also include Tamir. The Aktion Club has received tremendous support from the Montgomery Branch 351 of the Royal Canadian Legion in the way of facilities and services.

A special dinner was held on October 6th where over 80 people attended. It was a fun evening of good food, great music and of course friendship. Harold Moore was presented with an OCAPDD Lifetime Membership and Award as a token of our appreciation for his outstanding volunteer work.

The Aktion Club continues to meet every Tuesday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Montgomery Legion on Kent Street.

Debbie Blasutti
Coordinator of Volunteers



Harold Moore & Dave Ferguson.

So You Think You Can...



Got a hidden talent you would like to share with the Aktion Club? Looking for a place to try out a new routine? Singing, dancing, drama! Then we have a date and time for you! Individuals are needed on January 12, March 2 and May 19, 2010.

Please contact Debbie Blasutti at dblasutti@ocapdd.on.ca or at 613-569-8993 extension 243.

Hockey with Bite!

The Ottawa 67's were excited to welcome their fans back for yet another season full of promise and entertaining hockey!

OCAPDD clients were among those lucky fans thanks to GRADE A Techs. For a second year, GRADE A Techs purchased 10 season tickets and donated them all to OCAPDD clients.

Our hockey fans have been enjoying the games since the end of September and will be going until the end of March.

Thank you GRADE A Techs!!!



10th Annual Golf Tournament

Need a gift for that special person? Why not give them the ultimate day! OCAPDD's 10th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on June 21st at the Hautes Plaines Golf Club. This fabulous day includes great prizes, live and silent auction, excellent food and laughter. Register directly on our website: www.ocapdd.on.ca

Our 2010 fundraising goal is to sell out (36 foursomes). We can achieve our goal if we all participate. The success of our golf tournament is due to all of the participants and sponsors.

If you would like to be a sponsor at our golf tournament, donate a prize for the silent auction, door prize or participate, please contact the 2010 Golf committee at 613-569-8993 extension 245, or visit our website at www.ocapdd.on.ca

OCAPDD wishes to give special thanks to our 9th Annual Golf Tournament MC and Sponsors

MC

Mr. Charles Hofley from Hicks Morley.
What a great job.
Thank you for coming to our rescue.

Hole in One Sponsor with a special closest to pin contest

Surgenor National Leasing

Gold Sponsors

Corporate Renaissance Group
Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP
Hicks Morley
Coughlin & Associates LTD.
GradeATechs
Entro Building Sys. Inc.

Silver Sponsor

MBNA Canada Bank

Bronze Sponsors

Emond Harnden
HMS Tropical Plants Inc.
CUPE Local 1521
Geoff & Bobbie McGowan
RE/MAX Affiliates

Door Prize Sponsors

Club Links
Foursome at Hautes Plaines golf course
Home Depot- \$50 Gift Certificate

Card Game Sponsors

Weekend Getaway
Hilton Garden Inn Ottawa Airport
\$25 Gift Certificate at St-Laurent Shopping Centre
\$50 Gift Certificate at Home Depot
Deluxe Picnic Basket

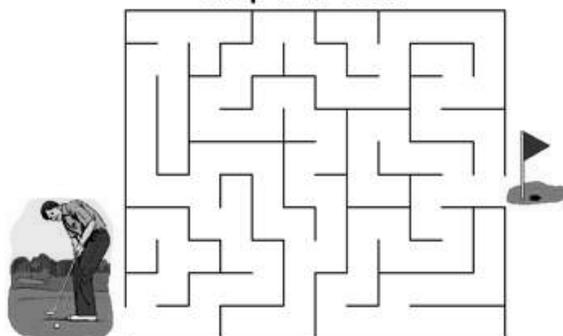
Gift Donations

Various Individuals & Enterprises

Committee Members

The Golf tournament would not be possible without the help of dedicated people.
Special thanks to the committee members: Sylvie Moore, Debbie Blasutti, Jocelyne Parent Lewis and Natalie Deschamps.

Help Dad Golf!



Thank you!



PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As we have noted in the last two editions of *Esprit*, *The Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act* was passed last fall but has yet to be proclaimed. A public consultation on the first set of associated Regulations did occur during the summer months. Another round of consultation on the second set of Regulations is anticipated during the next couple of months, so we suggest that you monitor the Ministry's website for any announcements, along with the draft Regulations themselves.

One of the changes that the legislation will create however, is that of there being only one Application Entity per Regional Office of MCSS. That is, 9 across the province. Locally, the Ministry is utilizing the Systems Planning Forum Group as the reference group for input into the development of the Application Entity for Eastern Ontario. The Ministry also recently met with the United Families of Eastern Ontario to outline information about this change, and will be hosting another information session in English on December 17th. If you are interested in attending, please contact Natalie Deschamps at 613-569-8993 ext. 225 for the details. The registration deadline is December 11th.

For those of you who attended the AGM, you will know that we had two additional members voted onto the Board. Bill Cowie is in fact returning to the Board. David Key is our newest member. We welcome them both to the Board and look forward to their contributions. We do have one further candidate in the recruitment process, but as always we encourage you to consider forwarding names of individuals who might be interested in becoming a Board member.

Also coming out of the presentations at the AGM, the Board has decided to support additional work being focused on the issue of 'seniors' within the DS sector. Certainly the two presentations at the AGM identified that OCAPDD's client base closely mirrors the DS population in the province and the issues associated with supporting them appropriately. There is also activity beginning within the Ottawa DS sector on this topic as well, so look forward to further reports and information on this in future editions.

We are very pleased with the development of, and initial work of OCAPDD's internal Crisis Response Team. There are more details on this item in this edition of *Esprit*.

We are pleased to announce that OCAPDD has purchased a building that will house the ARC Program, Supported Employment, Community Support Services, Family Homeshare, our maintenance personnel, and the Administrative Office. The building is located at 229 Colonnade Road, and we took legal possession September 15th. The former owner remained as tenants until recently, and we have been working with architects to develop the detailed plans for the renovation of the building. The actual work is projected to begin first thing in the New Year, with an expected move in by mid-May. There will be more details in the next edition of *Esprit*, but we are planning to hold an Open House shortly thereafter, and plan to host next year's AGM at the new location.

We would also like to acknowledge Susan Bihun, Regional Director of MCSS on her recent retirement at the end of October. We wish her all the best and thank her for her support of OCAPDD over the years.

Finally, we are looking forward to the next round of The Silver Spring Farm Scholarship Award being announced in January. We anticipate the next 2 Award recipients to be announced before the end of February.

On a lighter note, we would like to wish you and your loved ones a safe and joyous holiday season, and look forward to further communication with you in the New Year.



Happy Holidays! Joyeuses Fêtes!

Stephen Arbuckle, President

David A. Ferguson, Executive Director

Arc Industries Temporary Location

OCAPDD purchased a new building at 229 Colonnade Road. The plans are to totally renovate the building so that it can be configured to meet the needs of both Arc Industries and the Head Office. To limit the number of moves the people attending Arc Industries would need to make, it was initially planned that they would occupy the office area of the building while the rest of the building was being renovated.

Once we actually took possession of the building however, there were concerns noted that the area not being renovated might feel the effects of the construction, such as air quality and noise. As a result of this possibility, it was decided that the health and safety of everyone was more important than limiting the number of moves from Breezehill.

Therefore, OCAPDD has temporarily leased the 4th floor of the City Centre building at 250 City Centre Avenue, just two floors away from our Head Office. All of the individuals who attend Arc Industries will attend this temporary location until the renovations have been completed at Colonnade. It is anticipated that the building will be completed sometime during the month of May 2010.

We do recognize that this has been very confusing for many, and has caused inconvenience to people and their families. Despite this, we believe that it will make the transition better for all. The space at the City Centre building is larger, certainly quieter, and very close to the old location at Breezehill.

On a positive side, we are very excited to have the opportunity to retrofit the new space exactly as we want it. It will allow us to offer a greater range of options to people. The new Arc Industries will not only maintain its vocational focus, it will also offer a wider range of leisure and recreational options.

During this transition, the agency, and particularly the employees of Arc Industries, will be doing everything to make this period of time work for everyone. They can be reached via the main telephone number 613-569-8993.

Judy Bernstein, Director of Quality Enhancement

A Dream Come True

Tom Fitzpatrick dreamed of meeting one of his heroes, Max Keeping. On October 2, 2009 this dream came true. Tom had written a letter asking Mr. Keeping to visit him at the Annex. Mr. Keeping accepted the offer and joined us for coffee and muffins.

Mr. Keeping was a wonderful guest, taking the time to answer numerous questions. He spent individual time with everyone, making us all feel special. Tom and Mr. Keeping exchanged gifts. Tom proudly wore his new CTV baseball cap and enjoyed coffee in his new mug. The anticipation and excitement leading up to Max's visit continued throughout his entire visit.

The Annex Staff



Tom Fitzpatrick and Max Keeping