



## Newsletter Highlights

A Message from  
Executive Director

CLC-K Gives Back

Health & Wellness

Dreams Come True

In Our Community

Events

In Memory

## Colour Your World 2023 Walkathon

SAVE THE DATE

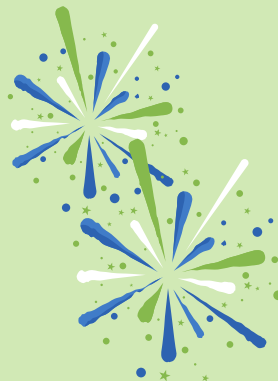
**September 14, 2023**

**Soccer Field House**

(425 Grand Ave W., behind the Courthouse)

**Registration: 5:00 pm**

**Walk: 5:30 pm**



COMMUNITY LIVING  
INTÉGRATION  
COMMUNAUTAIRE  
Chatham-Kent

COMMUNITY LIVING  
INTÉGRATION  
COMMUNAUTAIRE  
Chatham-Kent

Presented By: **Autoliv**

**5K RUN & WHEEL**

**OCTOBER 21, 2023**

Mud Creek  
Chatham, ON

**SAVE THE DATE**

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

JOIN

US!



WWW.CLC-K.CA  
519-352-1174  
INFO@CLC-K.CA

## MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to the Summer Edition of Community Living Chatham Kent's Community Connections Newsletter.

Wednesday, April 26th, was Administrative Professionals Day. At Community Living Chatham-Kent, the Administrative Professionals are absolutely vital. This organization is so very fortunate to have the people that it does in these key positions. Thank-you to the Administrative Professionals for everything that you do. You are awesome!

I congratulate Charlie Beintema, Ella LaMarsh, and David Muckle, winners of the Rob McLandress Make A Dream Come True Fund, Bruce Cockburn, recipient of the Joan Olive Risdon Memorial Award of Distinction, and Darryl Southam, owner of NAPA Southam Automotive in Tilbury, winner of the Joyce M. Carr Champion Award.

The Box Lunch and Box Lunch for Kids occurred on May 11th, and 12th. A record one thousand six hundred and seventy-eight (1,678) lunches went out on the Thursday and a net revenue of \$11,817.13 was raised. On the Friday, three hundred and eighty (380) lunches were provided to kids. Once again, SUBWAY was fantastic. Stores in Chatham, Wallaceburg, Dresden, and the Hospital participated. CLC-K was very grateful for the sponsorship from Enbridge, Enbridge Fueling Futures, and DKI First Choice Disaster Restoration. Thank-you to the eighteen (18) Fueling Futures volunteers, Rick McFarlane, Steve Tuinstra and the Chatham Optimist Club, agency employees, and people who access services, your assistance was extremely valuable.

The Family Network and CLC-K were very happy to host a Henson Trust and Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) Seminar on June 22nd. The presenters were Brad Langford from Brad Langford Law Offices and Ken Bechard and Ian Bechard from Arrival Benefits Solutions. The seminar was outstanding, and much appreciation is extended to Brad, Ken, and Ian.

I am pleased to welcome Alison Topping to the agency. Alison is the new Accounting Assistant.

The sunshine and warmth have arrived, and on behalf of CLC-K, have a safe and enjoyable summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Coristine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Coristine  
Community Living Chatham-Kent



## CLC-K GIVES BACK



### HIKE FOR HOSPICE

Daniel and Nicole participated in the 2023 Hike for Hospice. Daniel enjoyed his walk, saying hello to the other participants, clapping, and encouraging others to keep going.

The weather was absolutely beautiful, making this experience even more memorable, and enjoyable!

### TREE PLANTING

The Aktion Club volunteered with the Kiwanis Club to plant trees at Lion's Park. Everyone enjoyed the great outdoors, and took pride in beautifying Chatham-Kent.

Great job everyone!



### Aktion Club Tree Planting



### THE SALVATION ARMY

DSPs and people who access services donated their time to support the Food Bank Fundraiser for The Salvation Army, and Knights of Columbus Council 1412.

The successful fundraiser was held at The Real Canadian Superstore in April.

# DREAMS COME TRUE



## Rob McLandress Make a Dream Come True Awards

Two awards of \$1,000 each are given annually to people who have diverse abilities to assist in making a dream come true. New this year, CLC-K was honoured to receive the Making a Difference Award from the Provincial Network Human Resource Forum on October 3, 2022, in memory of Lesa Jansen. The Provincial Network also presented CLC-K with a \$1,000 donation, which was used to make a dream come true.

### Congratulations to the 2023 recipients!



You can often find David watching plowing matches, steam engine trains, horse and buggy videos, and tractors working in the fields. He has a very extensive collection of trains, tractors, and farm animals. His dream was to visit the Henry Ford Museum to see the old cars, spend the night at a hotel, and explore Greenfield Village. He mentioned how incredible it would be to see these in person as he has only ever read about them in books or online.

Ella has never been to a spa to experience a facial, or massage. Her dream was to spend the night at a Bed and Breakfast in Blue Mountain, then visit the Scandinave Spa. She was quite excited to learn that this would include fluffy robes as well! She stated that this opportunity would rejuvenate, relax, and reconnect her.



Charlie is a lifetime Toronto Blue Jays fan. He often talks about wanting to go to a game. On Saturdays, you can find him at the train station with his father, watching the trains come and go. His dream was to take the VIA to Toronto, and stay at the Marriott City Centre Hotel, which is where he would watch the game from his room, for the ultimate viewing experience.

**Wishing David, Ella, and Charlie a wonderful time on their trips! Please stay connected with CLC-K through social media as we follow their exciting adventures.**





## DREAMS COME TRUE



Inclusion truly does matter to the employees at Entegrus in Chatham.

This group of men are Charlie's newest friends, and yes, we mean friends. Entegrus had been working in Charlie's neighbourhood for the past few weeks, and during that time, they continuously went out of their way to get to know Charlie.

The friendship started with Charlie watching them from a distance. As time went on, then they began talking more and more. These men took time to have real, meaningful conversations with him. Eventually, the workers were asking for Charlie if he wasn't outside.

When the job was complete, they surprised Charlie by presenting him with a hard hat and shirt stating, "Now you are one of us". Charlie was speechless. He beamed with excitement, and gratitude. This is a true example of social capital, and a feel-good moment. Charlie will never forget this, and we know he will wear his gifts proudly.

With May being Community Living Month, there was no better time to spread kindness, and celebrate inclusion!

Thank you to the Entegrus employees for their generosity!



## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### SUMMER HEALTH TIPS



**Drink water!**  
Staying hydrated fuels you for your daily activities!



**Eat fresh!**  
Add fresh fruits and veggies to your meals, or as a snack.



**Get outside and get moving!** Take a walk or ride your bike!



**Sleep well!** Getting enough sleep is important for the body & mind.



**Disconnect from the internet!** Put down that phone, laptop or tablet and read a book or do a puzzle!

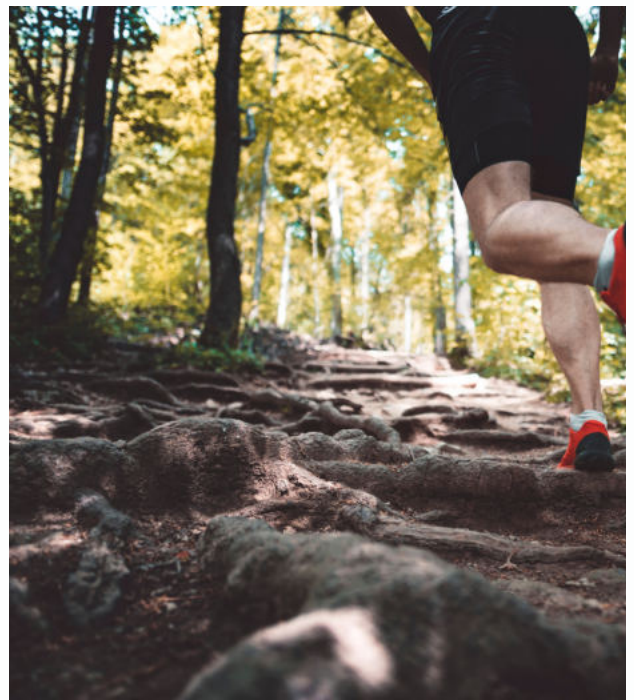
commonmedicalquestions.com

### Chatham-Kent Trails

Chatham-Kent is home to over 55 trails, totaling over 130km! Summer is a great time to enjoy a day of leisurely hiking with routes that are perfect for the whole family.

Visit [Chatham-Kent Trails website](#) for complete details on trail accessibility, and amenities.

Happy hiking!





## IN OUR COMMUNITY



*Amazing Hiking Trails at*  
**RONDEAU**  
**PROVINCIAL PARK**

### Let's Explore

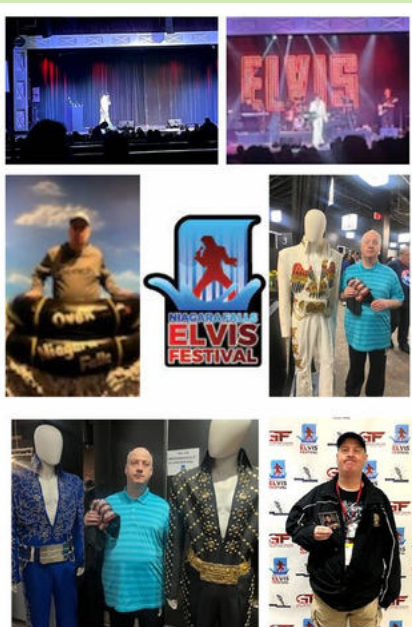
Greg and Alex enjoyed an afternoon at Rondeau Park. The weather was perfect, and the scenery was beautiful!

Can you spot the cute turtle?



### All Aboard

Ron had a fantastic day riding the train to London, Ontario! The smile on his face says it all. It's true - a picture can say a thousand words.



### Thank You, Thank You Very Much

Todd is Elvis' biggest fan! He has numerous items of Elvis collectibles, posters, albums, movies, etc. If you're really lucky, he will sing you, "Blue Suede Shoes."



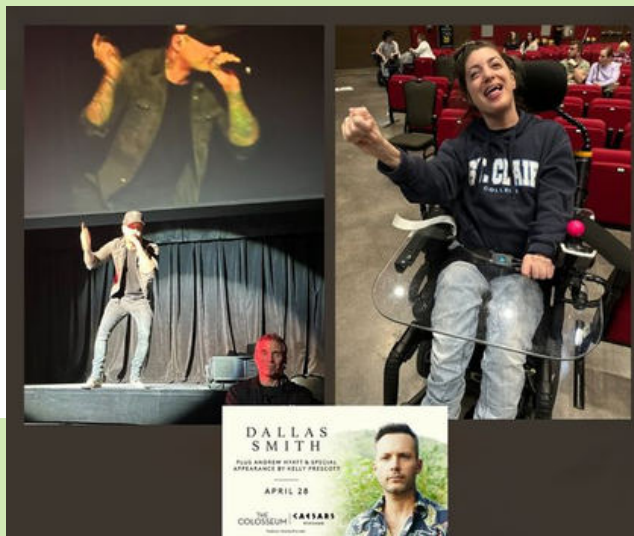
With the help of DSPs, Todd had an amazing four days in Niagara Falls at the Elvis Festival!

## IN OUR COMMUNITY



### A Night to Remember

Morgan went to the Windsor Casino to see the Dallas Smith concert. Before the show, she enjoyed a meal at Spagos, and tried the slots. During the concert, Dallas walked to the end of the stage in front of Morgan to sing to her!



### McHappy Day

It is very important to give back to the community, and what better way than to enjoy a Happy Meal on McHappy Day!



### Connecting with Nature

Randy, Charlie, Todd, Jim, and Tyler spent an afternoon at Point Pelee. They explored the many beautiful paths, and had a picnic lunch.





## IN OUR COMMUNITY



### Harlem Globetrotters

Randy and Tyler visited Budweiser Gardens in London to watch the Harlem Globetrotters, which is an American exhibition basketball team. It was a combination of athleticism, theater, and comedy. They had a great time!



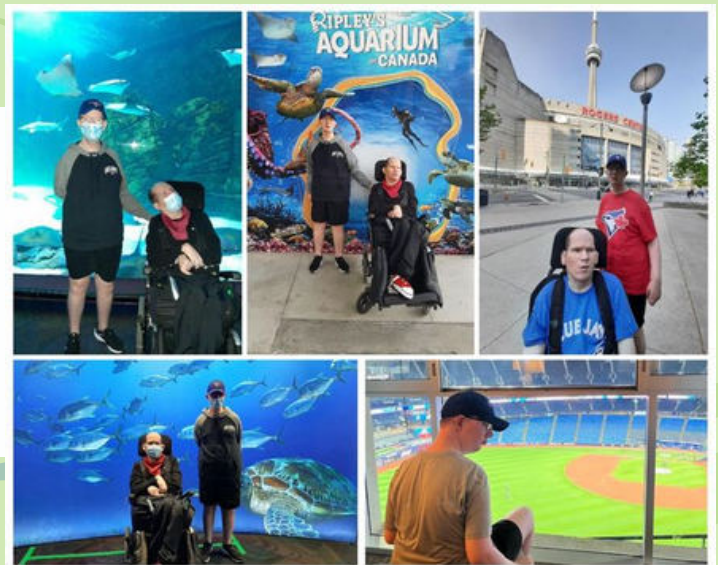
### Here Fishy, Fishy!

These men got together at CM Wilson's Conservation to take advantage of the beautiful weather. They enjoyed having a BBQ lunch, and an afternoon of fishing. Jim was the lucky one to catch a fish!



### Aquarium Fun

Kevin and Randy had a fun trip to Toronto! They stayed overnight in a room overlooking the Blue Jay's field, which was a very cool experience. They also loved all the exhibits at Ripley's Aquarium.

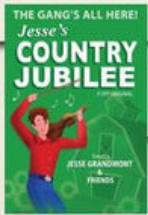


## IN OUR COMMUNITY



### Vroom Vroom

Charlie spent the afternoon watching Monster Trucks take on an exciting collision course. He was quite excited about his big slice of pizza, too! It was as delicious as it looks!



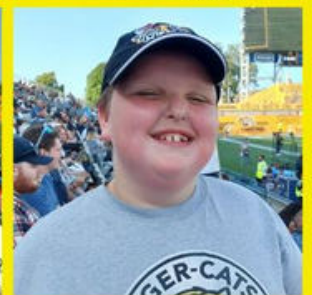
### Good Ol' Country Music

Tammy and Drew enjoyed a drive to Petrolia to see Jessie's Country Jubilee Show, at Victoria Playhouse. They sang along to great music.



### Let's Go Tiger-Cats, Let's Go

Trevor and Daniel went to Hamilton to watch a great rivalry between the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, and the Toronto Argonauts. They loved eating popcorn, and cheering for the Tiger-Cats (who won)!





## IN OUR COMMUNITY



### A Trip To Remember

Tabatha always wanted to visit Paris, Ontario. She was excited when her dream came true, with DSP Nicole! It happened to be butter tart festival, which was a lot of fun. They filled their day with mall visits, food truck stops, and delicious meals!



### Accessibility and Inclusion

Throughout CLC-K, employees and people who access services wore their Red Shirts proudly to show support for Accessibility, and Inclusion. Pictured here is DSP Lisa, and Marius!



### First Day of Summer

HELLO  
SUMMER!

Gayle and DSP Nicole enjoyed a picnic lunch in Mitchell's Bay. After lunch, they went for a walk along the South Lakeshore Trail, and then treated themselves to an ice cream cone. It was a perfect way to celebrate the first day of summer!

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



On April 20, 2023, CLC-K celebrated the incredible volunteers shown above, by hosting an Appreciation Breakfast at the Links of Kent.

Volunteers play a crucial role in advancing CLC-K's mission by contributing their time, skills, and passion. CLC-K is beyond blessed to have this wonderful group of selfless individuals. Each person was presented a volunteer certificate from MPP Trevor Jones.



CLC-K was honoured to have Tom Sinclair as the virtual guest speaker at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. Tom spoke of overcoming his challenges, and the importance to never give up. He discussed his experience of starring in "Champions", which is major motion picture movie with Woody Harrelson.

Tom's message was to believe in yourself, and never let anyone tell you what you can't do. Thank you, Tom, for your inspirational words!

Congratulations to Bruce Cockburn, the recipient of the Joan Olive Risdon Memorial Award of Distinction.

Bruce has been involved with CLC-K for many years. He joined the Board of Directors in 2016, and he coordinates "The Bowling Stones" fundraiser that benefits CLC-K, Outreach for Hunger, and St. Clair College Scholarship Fund. But more than what Bruce has done, is his personality that is the true gift to Chatham-Kent.

Always with a smile, always there to assist, Bruce has a simple way of making everyone feel important. He has created a warm, inclusive environment at Bowlerama.

Thank you, Bruce, for your continuous contributions to CLC-K!





## EVENTS

# COMMUNITY LIVING MONTH



## Shine a Light

Blue and green was shining brightly throughout the municipality on May 1, 2023 to kick off Community Living Month. CLC-K changed their exterior lights to bring awareness to Community Living Month.

## Flag Raising and Barbeque

The Flag Raising Ceremony was held on May 2, at the Civic Centre. Mayor Darrin Canniff, Ron Coristine, Stephanie Chavigny, and Terri Bell brought greetings. CLC-K extends a thank you to OPSEU Local 148, Schinkels Gourmet Meats, Subway, and Maple City Bakery for their continued support.



## Craft and Yard Sale

With over 30 vendors in attendance, this year's Craft & Yard Sale had something for everyone! A special thank you to the Optimist Club of Chatham who served up delicious food for the event, and for their \$400.00 donation to CLC-K!



## CLC-K Day at Boston Pizza

What a perfect way to celebrate Community Living Month! Thank you to each person who purchased food on this day to contribute to the success of the event. It was great to have so many supportive people!



## Library Cafe

Thanks to the generosity of Postma Heating and Cooling, the Library Café offered a free beverage throughout the month of May. Many citizens of Chatham-Kent benefited from this tasty treat.



## Food Drive

It is very important to support other organizations in our community. CLC-K hosted a Food Drive in support of Hope Haven. Hope Haven expressed their sincere appreciation for the wonderful donations.





# EVENTS

## Box Lunch

Thank you to Enbridge, and Enbridge Fueling Futures, who sponsored the 2023 Box Lunch fundraiser for CLC-K. Eighteen Enbridge Fueling Futures volunteer drivers were on hand to assist with deliveries on event day! We also want to extend our appreciation to DKI First Choice Disaster Restoration for their support.

We were elated with the community response. There were over 1,650 box lunch orders from Wheatley, Ridgetown, Blenheim, Tilbury, Wallaceburg, as well as many others throughout Chatham-Kent.



Thank you to Subway for all their hard work in ensuring a successful day. Below are a few of the wonderful volunteers who helped with Box Lunch, and Box Lunch for Kids. This event would not be possible without their efforts. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



Thank you to CKSS, who supplied box lunches to their class of 2023 Graduates!



## Box Lunch For Kids



Thank you Chatham-Kent! Because of your support and kindness, students from various schools within the municipality enjoyed a donated meal through the Box Lunch for Kids program. There were a total of 380 lunches delivered. The children were extremely grateful!



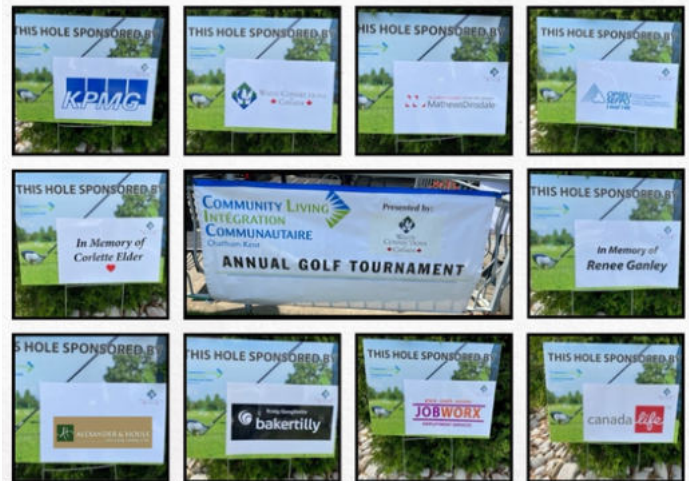
# EVENTS

## 2023 Golf Tournament

presented by:



WASTE CONNECTIONS  
OF CANADA



## Golf Tournament

The 25th Annual Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, June 17, at Willow Ridge Golf and Country Club.

The weather, golf, and food were outstanding.

Nineteen teams participated, and the event generated around \$12,000 for Community Living Chatham-Kent.

We were grateful to have Red Barn Brewing Company on hand providing free samples to the golfers throughout the day.

Lance Balkwill from the Optimist Club of Chatham won the 50/50 draw.

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who assisted in making the day a success!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

# FOOD TRUCK *Crawl*



Presented by: **CAMPBELL**



July 20, 2023  
**Sons of Kent  
 Backyard!**  
 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm




This *Hawaiian* summer event is a night you **MUST** attend!

Tickets are on sale at [www.clc-k.ca](http://www.clc-k.ca). Each ticket includes delicious food at all five participating food trucks.

Food trucks include Smashburger, Sitara Indian Cuisine, Funnel Cake Dream, Dog Days BBQ, and Vittorio's On the Go.

Entertainment provided by Big Shiny Toons!



**REGISTER NOW >**





## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Annual Walkathon

The CLC-K "Colour Your World" Walkathon is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, at the Soccer Field House.

Colour plays a tremendous role in how we react or respond to things around us. It can affect the way we feel, how we think, how we interact, and even whether or not we buy a specific item. Each colour is different, but brings a uniqueness to the world.

CLC-K invites everyone to attend this event! The Optimist Club will be on location with great menu items.



### 5K Run & Wheel

This timed 5K run is one of the few runs that take place in Chatham, and CLC-K is excited to partner with W.R.A.C.E, and Race Roster to ensure a successful event.

Whether you are a competitive runner that is interested in the time-chipped bib, or looking to get out to enjoy a leisurely walk, it will be a great day!

Registration will open soon. Stay tuned to [clc-k.ca](http://clc-k.ca) for details!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## CK BUSINESS SUMMIT



Community Living Chatham-Kent was proud to be a part of the 2023 Chatham-Kent Business Summit.

Chatham-Kent Economic Development hosted a two-day business summit to showcase CK's existing business offerings in hopes of helping to forge new partnerships, and offer educational opportunities to drive success. The Summit took place April 20 and 21, at the JD Bradley Convention Centre.



*Pictured: Ron Cristine (FOCUS Board Chair), and Debbie Dymont (FOCUS Ambassador)*

## OASIS CONFERENCE

CLC-K employees attended the Ontario Agencies Supporting Individuals with Special Needs Conference in Niagara Falls on April 26-28.

The Conference featured a number of incredible speakers, and informative break-out sessions.



**Thank you  
Boston Pizza  
Chatham!**



## BOSTON PIZZA



A big shout out to Boston Pizza in Chatham for hosting CLC-K Day on May 25. CLC-K was very grateful to receive a donation of \$1,100.00 from this fundraiser. What a delicious way to celebrate Community Living Month!

Thank you Boston Pizza staff for your hard work, amazing service, and your generous donation.



## Henson Trust and RDSP Seminar



## FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

The Family Support Network has been pleased to host several events for families/caregivers of those in the community of Chatham-Kent. The Family Support Network provided an opportunity for connection, learning, and engagement through events such as a Family Pizza Night, Spa Night, and the Henson Trust/RDSP presentation given by Ken Bechard, and Brad Langford. All events are free of charge to families. Support is available for children/young adults for the duration of the meetings, at no cost.

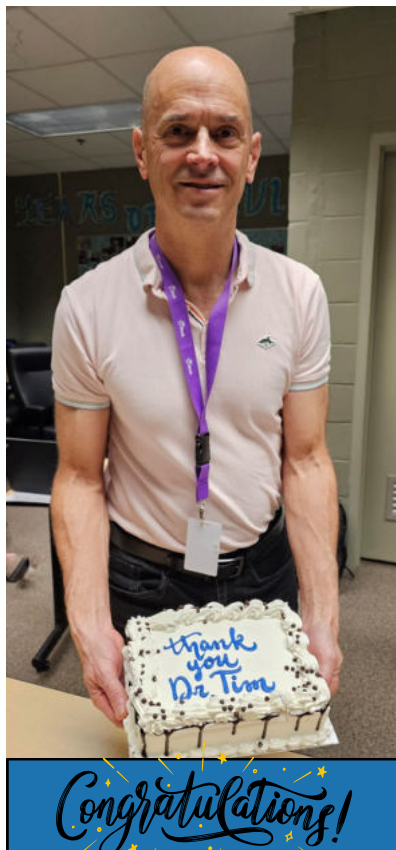
We are looking forward to hosting more exciting events, and opportunities. If you have questions please contact Natalie Jansen at [njansen@clc-k.ca](mailto:njansen@clc-k.ca).



## CONGRATULATIONS DR. BAKER

Where do we even begin to thank this long-standing volunteer, and agency partner? Dr. Tim Baker, Registered Psychologist, has been a valued partner to our agency since June of 1996. He has contributed year after year to our Policy Committee for Rights and Behaviour Support, and is known to many as a gifted and trusted Psychologist at Linck (formerly Chatham-Kent Children's Services).

Dr. Baker is retiring at the end of June, 2023. We would like to take this time to thank him for his years of service and work with many families, children, and young adults, co-supported by Linck, and CLC-K. From a behavioural consultative perspective, he has willingly shared his wisdom, experience, insight, and remarkable skill in writing policy, and intricate details that a policy encompasses. CLC-K, and his fellow Committee members would like to wish Dr. Tim the very best in his next chapter...a well-deserved rest. Congratulations to Dr. Baker!





Pictured: Angela Corso, Director, CLC-K, Deborah Hook, Executive Director, CLW, and Kayla Martin, SFNS.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce's *Coffee. ConneCKt. Learn* brought together Community Living Chatham-Kent, Community Living Wallaceburg, and the Southwestern First Nations Secretariat – SFNS to discuss the importance of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion on Wednesday, June 8 to Chamber members. A valued education session for all.



## NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

CLC-K extends a thank you to the Maawnjidiimi Indigenous Network for the invitation to join the celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day at Ska:Na Family Learning Centre, on June 21.

It was a beautiful evening of music, dance, food, stories, and sharing.



## CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH

## PRIDE MONTH

CLC-K proudly supports Pride Month. It is a time for people of the LGBTQ+ community to promote equal rights, inclusivity, and acceptance.

The Progress Pride Flag is hanging at the Administration Office, 101 Stewart Street building, and 1099 Park Avenue West Building during the month of June.





## Celebrating employee work anniversaries



**Congratulations to our  
many dedicated employees!**

### APRIL

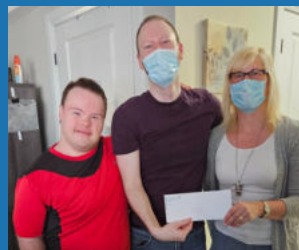
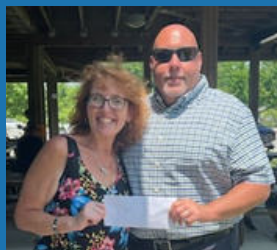
Jose Grande – 20 years  
Jessica Echlin – 5 years  
Marie Morden – 5 years

### MAY

Rebecca Blommers – 25 years  
Angela De Haas – 10 years

### JUNE

Jennifer Ganley – 35 years  
Dawn Caughy – 25 years  
Rochelle Stothart – 20 years  
Katelyn Meyerink – 10 years  
Lee McFadden – 5 years



**CONGRATULATIONS!**



**COMMUNITY LIVING  
INTÉGRATION  
COMMUNAUTAIRE**  
Chatham-Kent

# DREAM MAKERS

## *MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM*

**DONATE NOW**

- ✓ Feel good knowing you're making an ongoing, lasting impact
- ✓ Budget your financial impact by giving 12 smaller gifts a year, versus one larger one
- ✓ Preauthorized monthly payments are easy and convenient
- ✓ You can upgrade, change, or cancel your monthly gift at any time
- ✓ Monthly donors receive a consolidated tax receipt

CLC-K invites you to join the **DREAM MAKERS Monthly Giving Program**, which makes a difference all year long!

A gift of \$10/month works out to \$2.30/week, but accumulates to \$120/year! It may be difficult to donate \$120 at one time, so spreading it over twelve months makes it easier to budget financially. If you increase your monthly gift to \$20, or \$50, the impact grows!

Join this wonderful program by visiting [www.clc-k.ca](http://www.clc-k.ca), clicking "Donate Now" in the top right corner, then select "Donate Monthly", or simply click the "Sign Up Now" icon below.

**SIGN UP NOW**





*"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near. Loved, missed, and very dear."*

 in  
loving  
memory

Jack McKillop

Marjorie Mitton

Joan Risdon

*If you are interested in donating in memory of a loved one, please contact Nicole at [nroeszler@clc-k.ca](mailto:nroeszler@clc-k.ca).  
Donating in memory of someone special is a meaningful way to honour their life, create a lasting impact,  
and ensure that their influence continues beyond their lifetime.*



COMMUNITY LIVING  
INTÉGRATION  
COMMUNAUTAIRE  
Chatham-Kent



**CONTACT US**

[www.clc-k.ca](http://www.clc-k.ca)

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