

ISSUE
SEPTEMBER 2016

Community Living South Muskoka



Vision

The "Go To" expert for those impacted by a developmental disability.

Mission

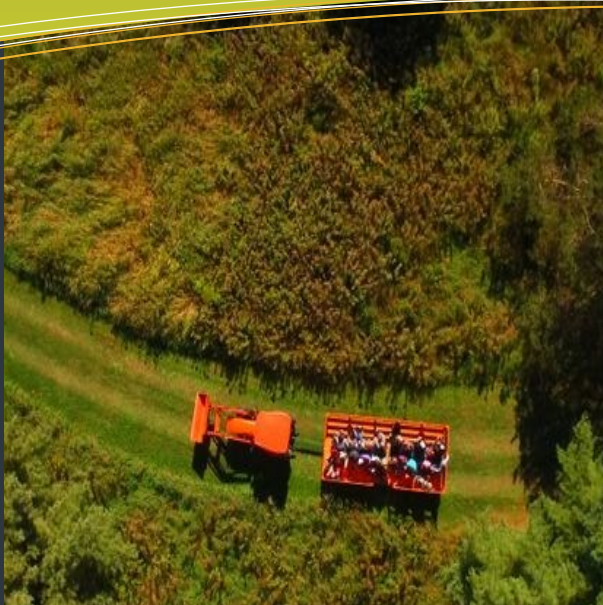
Community Living South Muskoka provides lifetime support to all those impacted by a developmental disability, utilizing skilled staff and effective partnerships involving the individual, the family and the community with the result that the individual is accepted as a valued community member.

Values

Excellence
Trust
Respect

Success Factors

A Highly Valued
Community Organization
A Leader in Innovation
Person Centred
Valued, Skilled Staff



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You are invited to attend

The Annual General Meeting, Awards Celebration & Family BBQ of Community Living South Muskoka

Monday, September 26, 2016

5:00-7:00 pm

Morrison Meadows

1177 Fraserburg Road, Bracebridge

**A very casual, informal evening.
We hope you can join us!**

*Please RSVP to Amanda Brown at
abrown@clsm.on.ca or 705-645-5494 x. 285
by September 20, 2016*

**Membership: \$10 per year . Available in advance or
at the door (only Members are entitled to vote)**



A Message from your Board Chair and CEO

Fall 2016

The Board is fully supportive of the way that the CLSM Strategic Plan is being used as a guide to the work of all staff. All too often, Strategic Plans are adopted and then the only reminder of the Plan is a plaque on the wall. As you read this report you will see how our plan is part of each initiative.

This has been a great summer for weather and activities here at Community Living South Muskoka. Our Facebook page was filled with smiling faces out enjoying the great outdoors both here in Muskoka and throughout the province. At the same time, some hard work was still happening behind the scenes, and we would like to take this opportunity to share a few highlights and invite you to join us in upcoming fall events.

We would like to thank all of the team members who participated in team meetings over the past few months with the CEO to review and discuss the strategic plan. We remind all staff of the invitation to join the management team this fall for our Operational Work Plan meetings.

We continue with our goal of being **A Leader in Innovation** which includes exploring the creation of a Muskoka Social Services Hub. As a first step in this direction, we were pleased to welcome the office of Hospice Muskoka to our 15 Depot Drive location.

The Community Skills Development teams have been busy over the months of July and August at Morrison Meadows for a second summer of Theme weeks. They have also been researching best practices for delivering an inclusive community based support model. We had Live Work Play from Ottawa join us in early June to share how they moved from a centre based skill development model to a fully inclusive, individual community based model. The teams have been using this information to redesign our services, and we are pleased to announce that our implementation plan will be ready to be shared



with you in early October.

Continuing with the theme of being a **Person Centred** organization, the management team is pleased to announce the creation of an operational plan to implement new person centred tools and brush off the dust of some old ones. Our focus continues to be on individual accomplishments, and we welcome you to continue sharing successes to be celebrated on our social media platforms.

Our agency has continued to make strides in being well known in our community as **A Highly Valued Community Organization**. The events over the winter and spring highlighted the wonderful community support we have received. We look forward to our upcoming fall events and invite you to join us. We have the Fall Harvest Festival running at Morrison Meadows September 22-25 and a Tree Planting day planned for October thanks to the generous donation from TD Bank.

Finally, we would like to extend an invitation to our Annual General Meeting, Awards Celebration and Family BBQ on September 26, 2016. To recognize our **Valued, Skilled Staff** we were pleased to be able to announce a new scholarship fund in honour of Barb Luckasavitch, and will also be announcing this year's recipients of the Core Values Awards and Muskoka Employer of the Year.

Submitted by

Gord Haugh, Board Chair

Krista Haiduk-Collier, Chief Executive Officer

“All too often, Strategic Plans are adopted and then the only reminder of the Plan is a plaque on the wall. As you read this report you will see how our plan is part of each initiative”.

***- Gord Haugh,
Board Chair***

Providing broader community experiences for the individuals we serve and celebrating and expanding on their learning

Morrison Meadows - It's an Amazing Experience!



"I believe Morrison Meadows is a wonderful place to play, laugh, grow together, and if you believe in yourself you can do anything".

- Tammy Laskowski



Morrison Meadows is a wonderful place to explore life changes, receive education and create memories that last a lifetime.

In the last three summers that I have been volunteering at the farm my experiences with others have changed my life in different ways. I would like to explain what I have learned and accomplished while I've worked and volunteered at Morrison Meadows. Over the last three years I've learned how to maintain the community gardens and pumpkin patch, made wonderful

friendships, learned about new cultures and their history, and I've learned the life cycles of plants, fruits and vegetables. By volunteering I picked up new interests and took a two-year course on landscaping and gardening. My goal was to plant and maintain my own garden boxes and donate all the vegetables to group homes and food banks. I got a 90% grade in the course! My main goal is to open my own gardening and landscaping business in the near future.

Morrison Meadows is a wonderful place to learn new skills. Every year I do face painting at special events like the Fall Harvest Festival and Easter Egg Hunt. If it was not for the staff at

years I made a book on the history of Morrison Meadows which is available to read at the front desk at the farm.

I believe Morrison Meadows is a wonderful place to play, laugh, grow together, and if you believe in yourself you can do anything. Big thanks to Jeff, Kelly, Rob and Shane for pushing me forward to develop my skills and have a brighter future! All the memories I've made at Morrison Meadows will last a lifetime and will be carried with me on my journey of life.

Story by Tammy Laskowski



Morrison Meadows I would never have experienced face painting - it has been amazing! In the last couple of





Success Factor - Person Centred

Developing innovative community opportunities for the individuals we serve

Julie and Teresa's Trip to Niagara Falls

How do you determine someone's 'bucket list' goal when they do not have many words to communicate? The staff at our Douglas Drive home used their powers of observation and TV commercials to do just that. Below, is their story of a wonderful journey that went from enjoying a jingle on TV to making a visit to the real thing happen for two happy ladies.

When Julie moved into her brand new home several years ago, the staff started noting she was showing a great deal of interest in the Marineland amusement park commercial whenever it came on the television. She would hum along with the music, a big smile on her face! As Julie has very little verbal communication, this was definitely something we all took note of. Through the use of physical gestures and questions and prompts from the staff, we started to suspect that it may be more than just the jingle, and she really might like to visit the park one day. Then her friend Teresa moved into the house. Teresa would start dancing and humming with Julie every time the Marineland commercial came on as well. Staff would watch them and started asking if they would both like to go there together, and their answer was 'YES!'.

Now the hard part began. The team spent a great deal of time planning for every detail of a trip that would meet the exceptional support needs of these two ladies, while ensuring that having fun was at the top the list.

We finally made it to Marineland, Niagara Falls on July 19th where we spent 3 wonderful nights. Our first evening was spent enjoying a walk down Clifton Hill, with a visit to the Tussaud

Wax Museum and Ripley's Believe It Or Not. Teresa really liked the lifelike Dr. Phil!

On Wednesday we went to Marineland which was the highlight of the trip. Both of the ladies enjoyed watching the festivities. Teresa especially had fun on one of the rides with Connie, and both ladies enjoyed watching the Beluga Whales who had just had calves. Teresa enjoyed a swim back at our hotel that night.

Thursday we went shopping and a trip to the Bird Kingdom. Julie held a parrot on her arm! Later we went to a show called the 'Dancing Queens' at the Fallsview Casino and then enjoyed a walk along the Falls.

Friday we said a fond farewell to Niagara Falls and journeyed back to Bracebridge.

Both of the ladies thoroughly enjoyed their trip and so did Connie and I. There were a lot of steps to contend with and hills to push those wheelchairs up, but it was well worth it!

Story Submitted by Fran Kettle
Residential Support Professional



"Because of my job at McDonald's and the money I earn there, I am looking for more concerts to go to in Toronto on my iPad. I would like to see Bruno Mars if I could".

- Renee Shurr

Providing broader community experiences for the individuals we serve and celebrating and expanding on their learning

My Job at McDonald's Restaurant



My name is Renee and I have worked at McDonald's Restaurant for 9 years. Before that I was a dish washer at Lisa's & Gail's in Victoria Harbour. At McDonald's I wash dishes and on Thursdays and Fridays I look after the garbage bins. I empty them, put new bags in and then put the full bags in the trash compactor. I wear an orange vest when doing the garbage for safety reasons and so people can see me. After doing the garbage I wash my hands, put on my apron and start washing the dishes. It is my responsibility to have the breakfast dishes and the egg machine clean. I also sweep and mop and clean out the sinks so everything is tidy for the next person.

My favourite part of my job is the dish work. I really like how when I am done doing the dishes people tell me what a good job I've done.

Because I work at McDonald's and the money I've earned I've been able to go see Jan Arden, Katie Perry, and Pink concerts in Toronto. I have seen Reba Macintyre at Casino Rama and also gone clothes shopping a lot, bought an iPad, a new TV and a brand new high tech treadmill with the money I've earned at work.

For staff appreciation events I have gone to the Elmvale Zoo as a group and just a little while ago we went to see a Blue Jays game. The Jays won and all of us from McDonald's were happy because they won their game. We also went to Balm Beach last year for a work crew outing.

On pay day at work Yvette will bring in treats for all the employees to share and we all talk together in the crew room. I usually have a few of the treats, then I get to work and get my job done because it's important!

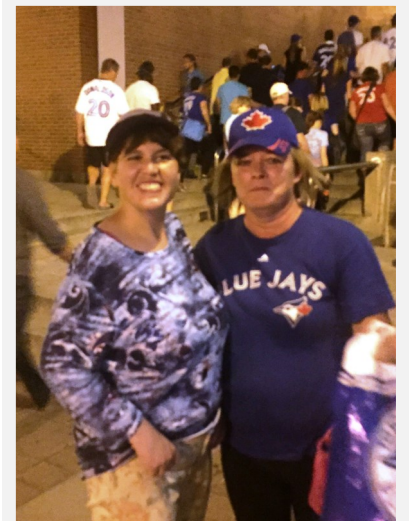
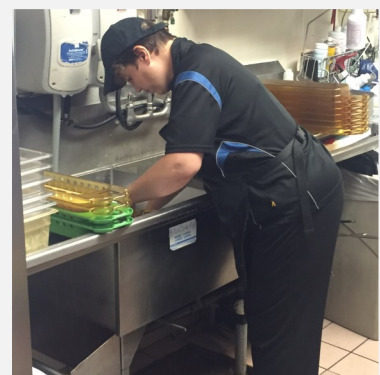
Everybody at work is really nice to me, I don't have any favourites. I talk with Kathy (Crew Manager), Rachel (Crew Manager), Monica, Patrick, Susan and Tina. I also like Michelle and Brenda. I talk to them the most, especially if I need help.

I always say "good morning" to everyone.

Because of my job at McDonald's and the money I earn there, I am

looking for more concerts to go to in Toronto on my iPad. I would like to see Bruno Mars if I could. I will always enjoy shopping for anything, especially clothes or whatever else I need.

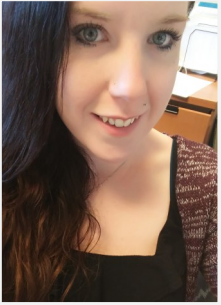
Story by Renee Shurr



Developing a learning culture to encourage continuous education and personal growth

One Page Profiles - Meet Your Admin Team!

One-page profiles are a practical way of recording and sharing information about people. You can use them to get to know both colleagues and people you support. Each member of the Administration team has created a mini one page profile for you to get to know us better and see how one page profiles can help build teams.



Cassie Dietl

What others appreciate about me

- Highly Organized
- Capable
- Positive

What is important to me

- Friends & Family
- Music
- Outdoor Activities



Christie Thickett

What others appreciate about me

- Fun-loving, Positive Spirit
- Bubbly, Upbeat Personality
- Fun to Work With

What is important to me

- Friends & Family
- Food
- Laughter



Monica Beaumont

What others appreciate about me

- Impeccable Work Ethic
- Non-Judgmental
- Friendly

What is important to me

- Family & Friends
- The Water
- Farming



Bryan Scott

What others appreciate about me

- Sense of Humour
- Problem Solver
- Dedicated

What is important to me

- Sports
- Music
- Travel



Nell Buera

What others appreciate about me

- Friendly
- Detailed Memory
- Hard Worker

What is important to me

- Family
- Outings & Excursions
- Fishing



Amanda Brown

What others appreciate about me

- Professional
- Calm in the Eye of the Storm
- Positive Outlook

What is important to me

- Family
- Music
- Books & Movies

COMMUNITY FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL



Hosted by Community Living South Muskoka



1177 Fraserburg Road, Bracebridge

September 22, 23, 24 & 25, 2016
10am to 4pm

Included with Admission

Hay Wagon Rides
Accessible Playground

Maze

Tractor Train Rides
Trails

3-Wheel Bike Track
Face Painting & Tattoos
Potato Launcher

One Pumpkin per Family
Country Hoedown Theme

Also Available

Pick your own Pumpkin
- small \$2, large \$3, white \$5

Snack Bar

Helicopter Rides



AGAIN THIS
YEAR!

HELICOPTER RIDES!

Saturday & Sunday



FAMILY ADMISSION: Children under 2 - FREE, 2-5 years - \$5, All others - \$10
Families of 4 or more - \$30, Families of 10 or more - \$75

GROUP RATES AVAILABLE - call Amanda at (705) 645-5494 x. 285



Morrison Meadows is owned and operated by Community Living South Muskoka - 15 Depot Drive, Bracebridge, ON P1L 0A1, tel: (705) 645-5494, www.clsm.on.ca

**Need more
information?
Contact us at**

**Community Living
South Muskoka**

15 Depot Dr.

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www.clsm.on.ca

www.morrisonmeadows.com

**Senior Leadership
Team**

Krista Haiduk-Collier

Chief Executive Officer

Gene Greenhalgh

Chief Operations Officer

Send your
newsletter story
ideas to Amanda at
abrown@clsm.on.ca



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