



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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A Message from your Board Chair

As I write this column, we are just a few days after the AGM of Community Living and I still feel invigorated by the great evening we had at Morrison Meadows.

As part of that meeting, the members in attendance received a copy of the 2017-18 Annual Report. In that report, was printed the Chairman's Report outlining some of the highlights of the past year. To see a copy of that report, go to our [website](#) and click on 'About' then 'Annual Report'.

As usual, we approved the minutes of the previous meeting, heard an oral report from the Chairman, heard an oral report from the CEO, heard a few words from our auditor and did all the other business that has to be covered at such a meeting.

But, it was not the business of the meeting that gave me such warm feelings. What did, you may ask.

Well, first and foremost, it is always wonderful to see so many of the individuals that we support enjoying themselves at the meeting.

Of course, for some the meeting is just a prelude to the eventual serving of dinner.

But for most it was a chance to have an evening out together and to help us celebrate another year of achievement. And, to be very frank, the evening felt like a really big family gathering. As they arrived, our folks greeted each other and the staff that had gathered. With each new van load that arrived, the decibel level increased as it became obvious that this was going to be a fun evening for everyone in attendance. The one big family atmosphere was heightened later in the meeting as the awards were handed out. With each announcement, it was obvious that it wasn't just staff that were recognizing the winners. Those we support were on their feet to help congratulate the individual and team achievements. It was emotional to see the heartfelt handshakes and hugs that those who were recognized received from all the very special people in attendance..

There were a few things that I mentioned at the meeting that I want to highlight again. It was a great year for activities and fundraising In our communities.

A Message from your Board Chair

We started the year with Fire and Ice, had a great Community Living Month Breakfast in May, a fabulous CLSM idol evening supported by the Oar in Gravenhurst and a very successful boat cruise in August. To top it off, while it is still being calculated, we raised record amounts during the smile cookie campaign. We will receive over \$9,000 from the store at Depot Drive alone. This would not have been possible without the involvement of our great staff. They arranged for so many pre orders that the stores could not keep up with the demand at times. Thanks so much for this tremendous team effort.

I mentioned the awards that were given out during the meeting. Each award was important and well deserved, but I want to highlight a couple of special categories. We always say that CLSM is a great place to work, and the awards for lengths of service back that up. Awards, as usual, were handed out for 5,10,15 and 20 years of service. But the awards don't stop at 20. This year we had 6 individuals recognized for 25 years of service, but even that wasn't the end. Kathy Kruger, Janice Clark and Sarajane Charron were all recognized for 30 years of service to CLSM. This is extra special when you remember that last year we celebrated our 50th Anniversary as an agency.

Thanks to the entire CLSM family for another great year.

Submitted by:

Gord Haugh, Board Chair.



"It was emotional to see the heartfelt handshakes and hugs that those who were recognised received from all the special people in attendance"

**- Gord Haugh,
Board Chair**

Nucleus Labs—Transforming our record management system.

The week of May 21-25, 2018 was a hub of activity in the CLSM boardroom with a total of 149 CLSM employees from all departments participating in 1 of the 10 sessions that were set up during the four days of Nucleuslabs Training – the new client record management system. Nucleuslabs trainers Crystal and Rianna were knowledgeable and dynamic facilitators that transferred their enthusiasm to our employees. CLSM staff left the training energized and ready for the implementation date of May 25, 2018 to begin using the new system.

Since the inception, everyone has been eagerly entering and checking data to ensure that all the information is accurate for each person's electronic file. To date there has been 17,052 notes entered on the system, with 1480 documents uploaded. There has been 930 medication updates and 803 Com-Box messages sent.

Impressive numbers and thank you everyone for your efforts in the transition process to the new system. To keep the momentum moving forward the Nucleuslabs Implementation Committee will be rolling out the next step in our goal to remove the paper form and transition into Nucleuslabs. A big thank you to the Nucleus labs Support team for all their guidance and patience throughout this change, and to remind all supports to use the excellent resource.



Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

Dons Niagara Adventure:

The long weekend in May provided Don and his family home providers the perfect opportunity to sample some of the delights which Niagara Falls has to offer.

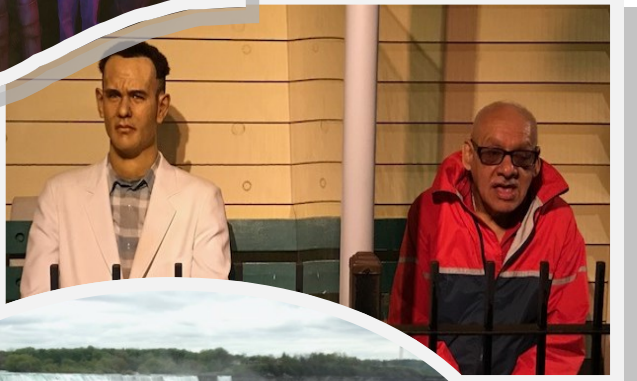
The trip was all Fun! Fun! Fun! As Don marveled in the wonders of Ripley's Believe it or Not, as well as mixing it with the stars in the numerous wax work museum's.

The sights and Sounds were something to behold, and the highlight of the trip was when they lit up the falls at night seen from the Ferris wheel!

The 3D movie theatre was a firm favourite as was the much anticipated visit to the casino.

Don is very much looking forward to visiting Niagara again with so many other attractions to see and enjoy!

Submitted by
Declan Ormsby



Success Factor - Person Centred

Focus on the individual to maximize their capabilities

Camping! Camping! Camping! at Bon Echo Park



From a staff perspective it is always amazing and special to be able to participate in this trip. It provides us with the unique opportunity to watch the people we support really relax, let loose and have a good time.

We are looking forward to next years trip already!!

Submitted by:

Monica Marchand



September 10th 2018 saw nine individuals supported by Community Living South Muskoka, along with three staff embark on the three hour drive to Cloyne Ontario to camp at beautiful Bon Echo Provincial Park. This was the first time any of the group had been to the park and it proved to be a fantastic location.

The lake was the perfect spot for fishing, with many hours spent on the shore casting lines and reeling in fish. For those less interested in fishing there were numerous other activities to enjoy such as hiking, swimming and canoeing. Although the weather was not the kindest the daily camp fires and delicious homemade donut's, s'mores and campfire popcorn put a smile on everyone's face.

The campers were treated to all the best things which nature has to offer, from the hooting of Owls to the rustling Raccoons, indeed the Raccoons even joined the party enjoying a cookie or two!

Some of the most memorable aspects of the trip were just sitting together over a meal, laughing, sharing jokes, and telling stories.



Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

Spreading Joy and Happiness One meal at a Time!!

"I love going to the daycare and helping Linda cook lunch, and spending time with the little kids"

Randy

Randy volunteers at Bracebridge Children's Place in the kitchen. He has become very independent and now requires minimal assistance while volunteering. Randy helps the kitchen staff cook lunch for the children. He also helps with grocery shopping and dishes. The children and staff at Bracebridge Children's Place are always happy to see Randy's smiling face on Tuesday mornings. Randy also attends Community Kitchens every Monday morning. He enjoys the social aspect of the cooking group, and has gained some cooking and cleaning skills that he is able to use at home and at his volunteer position.

Randy commented that his favourite things about volunteering at Bracebridge Children's Place were:
"Everything! I love going to the daycare and helping Linda cook lunch and spending time with the little kids. We make sandwiches, salad and spaghetti"
"Monday's we go to the cooking class. I like doing dishes and cooking pizza. I like to see my friends and talk with them"

Submitted by:
Taylor Fry



Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organisation

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by CLSM

Full steam ahead for Wenonah Boat Cruise

Friday August 10, 2018 will live long in the memory of everyone who joined us for our Second Annual fundraising cruise on the Wenonah Steamship.

Unlike last year, this years cruise set sail in blissful sunshine which set the tone for the evening ahead. All those on board were treated to some delicious food courtesy of Christine Bib, as well as the musical overtones of Blue Moon. Whilst the silent auction created a great buzz of excitement with some spectacular prizes up for grabs.

A great evening was had by all, and if you were unable to join us this year, don't worry we plan to do it all again next summer!

We would like to thank all our sponsors for helping to make this event such a success!



Community Living
South Muskoka
Serving those with a Developmental Disability

Thank You To This Evening's Sponsors

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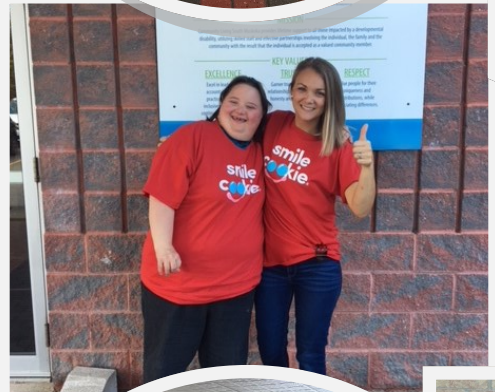
Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organisation

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by CLSM

Smile Cookies help bring in the Dough!!

The week of September 17 to 23 saw CLSM partner with Tim Horton's Bracebridge for this years Smile Cookie Campaign. It really was a case of Give a Smile Get a Smile for all those in the community who either pre ordered their cookies and had them delivered or visited a Tim's store during the week.

With over \$12,000 raised the campaign was a great success and this was in no small part to the enthusiasm shown by the people we support, as well as the generosity of everyone in our community.



Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organisation

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by CLSM

Celebrating Fall the CLSM Way!

September 21-23 saw CLSM host their annual Fall Harvest Festival at Morrison Meadows. As with previous years the event was well attended with approximately 1000 people and 3 preschool groups joining the festivities over the three days.

Along with the traditional attractions such as Tractor Train Ride, Hay Wagon ride and Face Painting, we were delighted to welcome the Petting Zoo, and vendors such as Muskoka Baby, Muskoka's Menu, My Sweet Creations, and Burnt Things to the festival for the first time.

We were also very fortunate to have Bracebridge's newest music station Country 102 join us on Saturday, and this contributed to the jovial atmosphere at the farm.

The planning process has already begun for next year's event and if you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer please contact Taylor Watson at twatson@clsm.on.ca



FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

MORRISON MEADOWS

1177 Fraserburg Road, Bracebridge
September 21, 22, & 23, 2018
10am to 4pm

Admission Includes:

- Hay Wagon Rides
- Tractor Train Rides
- 3 Wheeled Bikes
- Potato Launcher
- Meze
- Accessible Playground
- Trails
- Field Games
- Sand Box
- Face Painting
- One Free Pumpkin per Family
- AND MUCH MORE!!

Also Available:

- Pick your own Pumpkin - Small \$2, large \$3
- Snack Bar (vegetarian options available)

Guest Appearances by:

FAMILY ADMISSION: Children under 2- Free, 2-5 years - \$5, all others - \$10
Family Carload - \$30 CASH ONLY
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE: Call Declan 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

Success Factor - A Leader in Innovation

Exploring innovative service programs

Summer Youth Camp Program

During the months of July and August the CLSM Summer Youth Works Program was in full swing with 8 youths aged 15-18 participating in the 8 week program.

This innovative program is funded utilizing money raised through fundraising events such as the Wenonah Boat Cruise, and this year the Smile Cookie Campaign with Tim Hortons.

Participants enjoyed numerous exciting activities including, Cleveland House Water Park, Canadas Wonderland, Hummer tour and Santa's Village Sports Land just to name a few.

Feedback from the participants was extremely positive with the staff on the program receiving some high praise.. Comments included "Bree and Rachel were good to talk to" "They were fun to hang out with" and "The girls were funny"

And it wasn't just the participants who felt that the program was worthwhile with several of the participants parents also commenting that the program was 'Nice and offered different activities', and that "I would love to send my children back next summer".



Submitted by:

Lynn Dennys





Success Factor - Valued, Skilled Staff

Investing in our staff to build skill, confidence and tenure

Barb Luckasavitch Memorial Scholarship Award



Last year I was fortunate to be chosen as the recipient of the Barb Luckasavitch Memorial Scholarship Award. I chose to attend the Autism Intervenor 1 course at the Geneva Center for Autism. During the three days I was there, the course focused on diagnostic characteristics, learning styles, teaching essentials, communication challenges, social skill difficulties, sensory processing differences and anxiety. This seminar provided me with a whole new way of looking at people, my job and how I can do things differently than I did before.

It has been an invaluable training tool that has allowed me to tailor my approach to each

person and situation encountered, with greater successful outcomes. It has also spurred me on in my desire for more education. My next step will be to obtain my registered behavior technician certificate by completing the online course through the Geneva Center.

Submitted By:

Nicole Bowser

CLSM Annual General Meeting 2018

Monday September 24, 2018, saw the Annual General Meeting and prize giving for Community Living South Muskoka take place at Morrison Meadows. The evening provided CLSM with the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the contribution that all its staff make in helping those whom we support lead meaningful lives. Congratulations to all the award winners!

"The seminar provided me with a whole new way of looking at people, my job and how I can do things differently than before"

-Nicole



Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organization

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by CLSM

Volunteer Focus

Community Living South Muskoka is growing, Literally! At Morrison Meadows the team has been working since spring to plant and grow as much as possible, and after months of hard work and dedication we are proud to announce that we have harvested hundreds of tomatoes, zucchinis, onions, pumpkins and herbs all of which have been distributed to the people we support.

None of this would have been possible without the devotion and commitment of a couple of extraordinary volunteers, Sharron Norrie and Cathy Norman. Together they spent countless hours at the farm planting, watering, weeding and harvesting plants, come rain or shine.

We were delighted to recognize and honor their contribution at our recent Annual General Meeting, where they received the Volunteer of the Year award.

On receiving the award Cathy commented "I find it very rewarding and satisfying to work within a project that I know is going to help others. When you are actually involved in something from the beginning to the end you see all the benefits, all of the good things that happened, but you also see all the things which didn't work, and you contemplate how to make it better for next year"

CLSM extends a huge thank you to Sharron and Cathy for their support and hard work over the past year.



Submitted by:

Taylor Watson



A message from the CEO



September seems to bring a whirlwind of activity here at CLSM. This year was no exception with the agency planning and hosting our Fall Harvest Festival, Annual General Meeting and Tim's Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign. To make things even more interesting we spent a number of days in union negotiations with our OPSEU unit, hosted the provincial OASIS Sensory Partners Meeting, presented at the breakfast meeting for Bracebridge Rotary, worked with the Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club to prepare a proposal for a partnership to purchase special equipment for accessibility, and continued with work on our innovative individualized housing needs and community supports. The list could keep on going, but I think you get the idea of all the happenings here and how the teams are working so hard to bring positive change and make a meaningful difference to people's lives.

With all of this activity we often forget about looking after ourselves. It is easy to slip into a routine where we get out of balance and don't take the time to make sure we are healthy. I am so pleased that we have a dedicated group of staff here leading our efforts to make wellness a priority at our agency. The Wellness Team has been making recommendations and championing a culture of a healthy workplace. They have organized and run a number of events and information sessions to promote physical activity, social wellbeing and belonging, healthy eating and team work. We continue to have Yoga every Tuesday here at the main office, we are currently in the middle of a team step challenge, we held a successful clothing drive, had teams out to participate in lawn bowling, hosted lunch and learn session for healthy eating, and held a baseball game and fundraiser. The Wellness Team has been a great addition to the agency and I want to thank each of the staff who have been contributing to organizing events, and thank each participant for taking the time to make your own health a priority!

Submitted by:

Krista Haiduk-Collier
CEO



Morrison Meadows Accessible Farm, 1177 Fraserburg Road Bracebridge

School groups are invited to come out and enjoy
some good old fashioned outdoor fun at



1177 Fraserburg Rd., Bracebridge

Spring and Fall outings can be booked Monday through Friday from
9:30am to 2:30pm at a cost of \$10/student.

Contact Jeff today to book your school outing at
jdewetering@clsm.on.ca

Activities include:

Tractor train ride
Fitness trail walk
Potato sling shot
Volleyball court
Accessible Playground
Large sandbox
Caterpillar crawl
Maze
Field Games



Spring outings can include
plant your own pumpkin seed!

Fall outings can include pick
your own pumpkin!



Morrison Meadows is owned and operated by Community Living South Muskoka
For more information visit www.morrisonmeadows.com



**Need more
information?
Contact us at**

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Senior Leadership Team

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Chief Executive Officer

Kelly Miles
Chief Financial Officer

Gene Greenhalgh
Chief Operations Officer

Send your
newsletter story ideas to
Declan at
dormsby@clsm.on.ca



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