

CONTINUITY NEWS

Supporting families in Manitoba to plan for an enriched quality of life for
their family member with an intellectual disability

JUNE 2012

From the Office



Like any Manitoban, I am excited for summer to arrive, but have found that the months of April and May have gone by much too quickly. June is on our doorstep and there is much to be done here at Continuity Care before summer gets here.

We have had a change in staff at the Continuity Care office in the position of Accounting and Administrative Coordinator. Liz Allen was with us since November 2007 and it was a pleasure to work with her during the past 4+ years. Liz contributed both her personal perspectives as a sibling, as well as her skills, talents and experience to the organization. We are sorry to see her leave, but wish her much success and happiness in her future endeavors.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Irma Melegrito who has now been with Continuity Care since April 2012. Irma is settling in and quickly learning the many aspects of her position, as well what Continuity Care is all about. Irma also has a brother with a disability at home in the Philippines and appreciates how the organization assists families.

With the arrival of June, comes the time for our Annual General Meeting, which will take place on June 18th. Your invitation is included with this newsletter and we hope that you are able to join us. It is a time to come and meet our Board Members and staff, hear about what we have accomplished this past year, learn about our goals for the coming year and also meet and socialize with other Continuity Care members.

Our workshops and groups will take a break over the summer months but will resume in the fall. Watch for our September newsletter for the workshops we will be offering in the Fall and dates for our support groups and other Coming Events. I would like to extend a special thank you to the presenters and guest speakers that have come out to our workshops and groups to share their expertise, experience and time with our members. It is greatly appreciated!

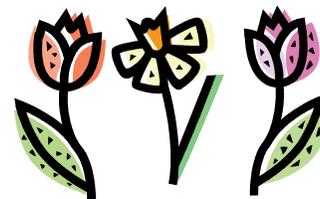
The regular meetings of the Board also take a break for the summer; however, the Board Members will be meeting in late August for a Strategic Planning Session. This process helps us to focus on the Mission and Vision of the organization and look at what we want to achieve in the coming year, but also to look ahead and plan for the future of the organization.

Please know that as members of Continuity Care, there are opportunities for you to be involved in one of our Committees or by joining the Board. If you are interested in finding out more, please talk with me or any of our Board Members.

The Continuity Care office will remain open during the summer months. I will be taking some holidays in July, but Irma will be here and happy to respond to your inquiries while I am away.

Wishing you and your families, many warm, sunny summer days to enjoy with just enough rain to keep the grass green and the crops and gardens growing.

Suzanne Swanton - Executive Director



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The Baby Boomer Cafe', is planning a BBQ this summer at Birdshill Park.

When: Saturday, July 28th, 2012 (Rain, snow or shine!!) 3:00 – 9:00pm

Where: Birdshill Park – Group Use Area No. 1 - Site is 7A

Please note: There is a \$4.00 admission fee to get into Birds Hill Prov. Park!



The Sib to Sib group, known as the Baby Boomer Cafe, is an opportunity for adult siblings and their brothers or sisters with a disability to spend some time together. You are invited to enjoy a summer BBQ!! Meet old and make new friends and have a fun time at our Sheltered Picnic Site!

Come early, come on time, come late, who cares when you get here!! Just come on down and have some fun!!

Don't forget to bring your lawn chair, hat, sun screen, bug spray, football/Frisbee, and even your bathing suit and towel for a quick splash at the beach!

Tentative Agenda:

3:00 - 4:30 - Meet and greet, explore the park, check out the beach, then arrive at site 7A for nature walks, games, or just chill at the site.

4:30 - last chance to participate in the Mike Maunder Deluxe Special Scavenger Hunt, continue to Meet and Greet, Games, etc...

5:30 - Appetizers will be served!

6:00 - Supper will be served!

7:00 - The World Famous Bob Hanley Band and Orchestra will be performing for your entertainment pleasure, along with the Amazing Baby Boomer Cafe Choir! Yes of course, there will be marshmallows and s'mores under the glowing embers of our traditional bonfire!

8:00 – optional sunset beach splash or just relax at the site with the guest DJ.

Please contact Sharon or Albert Yanofsky at 334- 1839 or Mike Maunder at 338-0090 if you are interested in attending and provide them with the number of people in the family/group who plan to attend and the appetizer, snack or dessert that you would like to contribute to this event.

Federal Budget 2012 Announced Improvements to the Registered Disability Savings Plan

The 2012 Federal Budget was delivered on March 29, 2012 and proposed the following changes aimed at increasing the effectiveness of RDSPs:

- Simplifying the process to open RDSPs for individuals who have reached the age of majority and lack contractual competence;
- Reducing the repayment of Canada disability savings grants and Canada disability savings bonds in certain cases;
- Introducing changes to the minimum and maximum withdrawal rules;
- Allowing a tax-free rollover of registered education savings plan investment income into an RDSP;
- Temporarily suspending the termination of an RDSP following cessation of eligibility for the disability tax credit if the beneficiary may qualify for the DTC again in the foreseeable future; and
- Reducing the burden associated with administrative requirements.

Please note the proposed changes will need to receive Royal Assent before they come into effect.

More detailed information on these proposed changes can be found by contacting Canada Revenue Agency or visit the CRA website <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/gncy/bdgt/2012/qa08-eng.html> . More information on Budget 2012 can be found at <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2012/plan/anx4-eng.html#PITM2>