

CONTINUITY NEWS

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

WINTER 2015

Continuity Care's Family "FUN" Night



Continuity Care's third Annual Family Fun Night on Saturday, October 17th, 2015 in the gymnasium at Robert A. Steen Community Centre. This family friendly event was attended by 67 people. Dinner was pizza and salad, followed by cookies, fruit and ice cream for dessert. After dinner, people circulated around the various activity stations that included crafts, board and card games, bowling, bean bag toss and the most popular, BINGO. Door prizes were given away throughout the evening. We held a Rainbow Auction and 12 amazing prize baskets went home with some very lucky individuals. We had time to dance to a few favorites, including YMCA and the Bird Dance, before the evening came to an end.



We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the following generous people and businesses for their prize and cash donations for our event: Jeoff Chipman, Jane Schledewitz, Sherry Desilets & Family, Terry and Janet Williams, Linda Ormonde, BayerCrop Science Inc., M.P.M. Insurance, Bank of Montreal, BDO, Joan Zuk, the Lane Family, Old Dutch, McKenzie Begin & Assoc., Terraco, Adeline Berg, Karen Leggat, Merv & Lynda Gunter, Art Hock & Family, Syngenta, Columbia Insurance, The Old Spaghetti Factory, Frank Wade, Rita Janssen, Tricia Guerts and Scott Wolfe.

Thank you to the members of the organizing committee led by Irma Melegrito, Lillian Tendies, Linda Ormonde, Jane Schledewitz, Liz Allen, Laura Schnellert, Sherry Desilets and Suzanne Swanton. A special thanks to our energetic and hard working volunteers as well: Michael Allen, Brian Schledewitz, Dan and Abby Swanton and Charli Feener.

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“The Gift That Keeps On Giving”



In October, I attended Continuity Care’s Family Fun Night, with my family and a staff. It was a wonderful evening, with pizza and salad for dinner, ice cream (one of my favourite desserts), and beverages. After dinner, there are different tables with crafts, bingo, a small bowling lane, bean toss game, and a table for games. I like to join in at all the tables. There are also tickets to purchase for prizes that have been donated. I love this part; trying to decide into which prizes to put my ticket is an important part of the evening.

I was lucky enough to win a basket full of baking items donated by Art Hock and his family. What a perfect basket for me to win! There were some baking pans and measuring cups and a spatula, that are very colorful, and perfect for me to hold, when I am helping staff with baking. The hand towels and dish cloths are used all the time. We have made cookies and still have some of the mixes to use. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I AM USING THE ICING, CUPCAKE PAPERS AND SPRINKLES FOR, DON’T TELL ANYONE, CHRISTMAS BAKING THAT I AM TAKING TO MY FRIENDS FOR CHRISTMAS.

I am giving the DeLuca’s gift card to the staff, who will use it when they are having a staff meeting and share with all of us. My house supervisor is Italian and says the food here is the best. I treated my sister and brother-in-law to a Salisbury house meal and also gave them the Mr. Mikes candies and energy bars, because they are always busy. We hope to order in Boston Pizza one evening when the snow is blowing and no one seems to want to cook. Of course the McDonald’s items have been a treat for me. What a wonderful prize to win. Thanks again to the Hock Family! It is truly a gift that keeps on giving!

Sincerely,

Gladys Bunio

Save The Date!!!



The 6th Annual Mike Keane Celebrity Hockey Classic will be happening in Winnipeg on **February 17th and 18th, 2016 at the MTS Iceplex**. This fundraising event is in support of The Winnipeg Jets True North Foundation and Continuity Care. It is important as it helps to raise both awareness and funds for our little organization.

We need your help again! Continuity Care is the official volunteer provider for this fun filled event and we have a variety of jobs and shifts that need to be filled. Examples of volunteer jobs are: drivers, selling tickets, coat check attendants, assisting with registration, check point security and being a friendly ambassador for Continuity Care while you are there.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact our office by phone at (204) 779-1679 or by email at info@continuitycare.ca

Registered Disability Savings Plan Updates

Over 100,000 plans have now been opened in Canada. There is a new application form for Canada Disability Savings Grant and Canada Disability Savings Bonds which includes consolidation of the two previous application forms into a single form. Streamlined and simplified and easier to use and understand for holders and beneficiaries. In June 2015, legislation was passed to extend the qualifying family member provision until the end of 2018. This means that a spouse, a common law partner or parents of an adult beneficiary who lacks the capacity to enter into a contract, may (until December 31, 2018) open and become the holder of a RDSP on behalf of the beneficiary.

Starting July 1, 2015 financial institutions will be required to withhold taxable portion of RDSP for withdrawals over \$19,229.

Online resources available through the Government of Canada include:

- RDSP Calculator - link is <http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/RdspCalculator-CalculatriceReei/calc.aspx?lang=en>
- Video on Tax Measures for People with Disabilities <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/vdglly/ndvdl/srs-txmsrs-pwd-eng.html>
- Webinar on Disability Tax Credit (DTC), Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) and tax withholding link is <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/vdglly/ndvdl/srs-txmsrs-pwd-eng.html?clp=ndvdl/srs-txmsrs-pwd2-eng&fmt=mp4>

Source: Canada Disability Savings Program Newsletter November 2015 Issue

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1600 plus people packed into the Manitoba Legislative Building on December 3rd for the launch of Disability Matters: Vote 2016 and to celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The turn-out was phenomenal and the excitement and energy palpable. Malinda Roberts and Allen Mankewich, the campaign spokespeople spoke of the importance of the day and greetings were brought by Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross (NDP) as well as representatives from the Liberal and PC parties.

Disability Matters: Vote 2016 is a non-partisan, cross-disability public awareness campaign and is a joint initiative between Abilities Manitoba and Barrier Free Manitoba.

The next provincial election will take place on April 19, 2016. The voting choices made by the estimated 168 000 Manitoban adults with disabilities will make a huge difference between real progress on disability issues through to 2020.

When you consider the friends and family members of those 168,000 Manitobans, the voting impact is even more powerful. The voting choices made by people impacted by disability will have a considerable bearing on which party forms the next government.

Objectives of Disability Matters: Vote 2016

1. To ensure that all Manitobans with disabilities can participate fully in election activities.
2. To promote priority attention to disability issues in the election.
3. To support Manitobans in making informed voting decisions.

For more information please visit www.disabilitymatters2016.ca.

Holiday Greetings From The Continuity Care Office

As I am writing this December newsletter, I have many Holiday songs playing in my head.

“Oh the weather outside is frightful”Not the case here in Manitoba!! Mother Nature has delivered an early gift for us with these above seasonal temperatures.

"It's the most wonderful time of the year".....For some, the holidays are a time of celebration, joy and laughter, but for others, it can be a time of stress, loneliness and sadness. Remember to take care of yourself and think of others around you.

"Joy to the World"..... With all of the recent events that have taken place around the world, joy and peace is what is needed every day of the year.

"Frosty the Snowman".....We all need to have a little fun in our lives, so take time to play this holiday season.

"I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas".....For all of those hearty Manitobans who embrace winter and can't wait to go tobogganing, ice fishing, skating and ski-doing.

"Let It Snow, Let it Snow, Let It Snow".....So we have enough to make snowmen and enjoy the above mentioned activities.

and finally....."We wish you a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year".....On behalf of everyone here at Continuity Care, we wish you, your family and friends all the best this holiday season and may 2016 be a year filled with peace, joy, good health and prosperity.

Cheers!

Suzanne Swanson



Congratulations Katelyn - You are an Author!

We are proud to share the news that one of our members, Katelyn Enns has written her first book, titled "*Service Bot Storybook*". Katelyn is 27 years old and lives with many difficulties, due to complications before and after her birth.

Katelyn spent about two years working on the stories in the book. She hand-printed the first copy, and then she keyed it page by page into the computer on the days when she visited her mom. She wanted drawings to accompany her stories, so she commissioned her staff to do the artwork. If they weren't getting the details right, she directed them to erase or add or start over, until each drawing met with her satisfaction.



Katelyn has always shown much creativity, so it is not surprising that she could think up this project. What is surprising is that she finished it. Over the years many projects have been started but not completed. She is very pleased with herself for having made a “real book”.

A copy of Katelyn's book is available in Continuity Care's library. Katelyn is also selling copies of her book for \$40. If you would like more information, please call our office.