



**Vickie and Angie Sharing their first meal in their new apartment**

## **Executive Directors Update – October, 2018**

### **Move In Day!**

After a relatively painless construction process, the tenants of 339 Mary Street took possession of their new apartments on October 22, 2018. Everyone that moved into the new building was pretty happy and excited. It was such a huge day in the life of people we support. Family members and a dedicated team of staff were on site to help with the move. It was so wonderful to see how excited everyone was with their new home and the opportunity to have a key of their own, a kitchen to prepare their own meals, and their own telephones. (well they have not all arrived yet, but people are pretty excited about it). It was so great to see so many families there to help on move in day. Thanks for all your hard work. It was very much appreciated by not only BPAAC, but also your family member who was able share their excitement (and worries) with you on this very meaningful day.

Move in day had the usual logistical ripples that occur whenever anyone moves into a brand new home. How to get the TV working just right, where to put the spices and the cereal boxes, unpacking all the clothes that you swore you purged before the move, and the strange feeling of sleeping somewhere new for the first time. Everyone did exceptionally well on that first night. Well everyone with the exception of Moe the cat who was a bit stressed out. Happy to say he has relaxed and every time I have visited since he is comfortably lounging on Vickie's bed.

When asked if she liked her new home Angie Simkins said “oh, yes”. When asked what she liked best about her new home, Angie replied “Everything”. I would say that is one very happy person and high praise for the new building. One evening in the first week it was reported that one home had their dinner in the crock pot, another person was peeling potatoes for their dinner, and the third home decided on pasta for dinner. Choice and independence in meal selection and preparation is one of the wonderful advantages of the home.

Staff members supporting the new home are managing the transition well, focusing on individualized support for each person in the building. Supporting new routines and focusing on supporting people to live independently.

I am so very proud of everyone; proud of the resilience of the people who moved into a brand new home, some with new roommates, proud of our staff team who supported people on move in day, particularly the staff who joined in to help on the day of, even though they don't work at that location nor scheduled to work that day, proud of the family members who were so supportive during the move and so very proud of the BPACL community who have taken a big leap in supporting a new concept of residential living for people supported. We look forward to hearing about all the new adventures of the tenants of 339 Mary St. We all wish you well in your new home!



**Move in Day Pizza – Mary Beth enjoying a slice in her new apartment with her beautiful room in the background. Joseph and Blair taking a break for Pizza after a few hours of organizing their new home.**

We are so very thankful for all the local trades people who worked so hard on making the building so beautiful. We had an amazing team who did an exceptional job to create a very beautiful building, both inside and out. Thank you for all your hard work!

### **Strategic Planning – A Vision of the Future**

On Oct 18<sup>th</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Jen Keilty-Friesen and Janine Halliwell of People Minded Business facilitated eight focus group meetings over the course of two days. We received some great input and feedback on where we are at and where we should consider moving towards.

Jen and Janine enjoyed meeting everyone and have lots of good information to synthesize and collate (Step Four in the chart below) for our full day planning session scheduled for November 23 at the Propeller Club. (Step 5 on the Chart Below) On November 23, Jen and Janeen from PMB will facilitate a one day session to formalize our strategic direction and goals as well as a review of our mission vision and values to ensure they continue to reflect our future focus. We are looking for people to attend the planning day on November 23 – Please consider joining us!

## PMB's 6-Step Strategic Planning Process

"I have seen a lot of Strategic Plans on shelves gathering dust, but this Plan sets a clear new direction. I am excited about our future".

*Board Chair, Brockville and Area Community Living Association*

PMB engages all those who have a stake in your organization's future in a dynamic and inclusive six-step strategic planning process. It begins with stakeholders defining what matters most to them now and in the future, and it ends with clear strategic directions and measurable goals that will guide your organization's activities and progress moving forward.



If you would like to participate in the full day session on November 23, 2018 please contact [mbell@bpacl.ca](mailto:mbell@bpacl.ca) or [dsmith@bpacl.ca](mailto:dsmith@bpacl.ca) . We would like input from all stakeholders at the planning day.

### Big News!

You may have heard that BPACL has sold 550Berford/314 George St building. We will be leasing the space back from the new owner as we begin to make plans for our next

development plan to relocate our Administration and Community Support Services (Community Participation, Family Supports, and Bruce Grey Employment Support Services) to a larger more accessible space.

Stay tuned for further updates. But for now, nothing changes. We will continue to work from our current location; we just won't own the building.

## **Management Portfolios**

As people supported have been moving into new living spaces and as there have been changes in the Management Team we have recently made changes to the Management Portfolios.

**Laura Balint** will continue to manage all Group Residential Support Services (570 Mary, 339 Mary and 294 Berford Unit) as well as managing Bruce Grey Shores Employment Supports Services (BGSES). Laura can be contacted at [lbalint@bpacl.ca](mailto:lbalint@bpacl.ca) or her cell phone at 226-668-5610.

**Jeanie Finger** will manage Supported Independent Living Supports, Enhanced Residential Supports, Community Participation, and Family Supports Services. Jeanie can be contacted at [jfinger@bpacl.ca](mailto:jfinger@bpacl.ca) or by cell phone at 226-668-5794.

**Cara Scheuerman** is the Supervisor of Community Participation reporting to Jeanie. Cara can be contacted at [c.scheuerman@bpacl.ca](mailto:c.scheuerman@bpacl.ca) or by cell phone at 519-375-2526.

**Deb Smith** is the Supervisor of Quality Assurance and Special Projects. Deb will be moving to half days and will also be completing many of her work tasks remotely. Deb can be contacted at [dsmith@bpacl.ca](mailto:dsmith@bpacl.ca) or by cell phone at 226-668-5892.

## **Up Coming Events**

|                      |   |                    |               |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|---------------|
| November 23          | Strategic Planning Day  | Propeller Club     | 8:30 to 3:30  |
| December 7           | Staff Christmas Party   | The Walker House   | 6pm           |
| December 14          | Family and Friends Christmas Lunch                            | The Propeller Club | 11 am to 2 pm |
| December 24 to Jan 1 | Holiday Closure of Administration and Community Participation |                    |               |