

Annual Report

Message from the President, Ross Davidson

**President's Report to the Membership, June 2017
Transition to Transformation**

In my last year's report, I noted and reported our progress from age 50 to 52 and likened that year to one of acceptance of the end of a phase in a life journey and the staging for the next. I am so pleased to say that the looking back and the getting ready were the necessities of last year. Plunging into a new era has been the watchword of this year. Under Michele's leadership, we have had a year of transformative change. The change has been one of moving from organizing our workforce to work *in* programs and locations to working *for* person-centered programming in locations.

Michele Bell and Joanne Young have shaped training, restructuring and redeployment of our workforce. They have successfully pursued an Employment & Modernization Grant from the Ministry that will springboard our transformation of engagement in the community. We have more full time employees and thus more continuity for persons we serve.

The best news about this change is that our staff are taking on new positions and responsibilities with enthusiasm and, I think, a renewed sense of excitement that comes when one is both challenged and listened to. Hurray!

Finally, I would commend to the membership the thoughtfulness, deliberation, and careful consideration of the Board of Directors this year. We accept with regret the resignation of our Vice President, Craig Dawson due to unfortunate personal considerations and thank him for his contributions to the Board and to our building project these last 4 years. We welcomed Pat Lenson, an accountant to the Board this spring and will look to her particular strengths as we will miss Craig's Engineering background.

Mission Statement

BPACL promotes a holistic approach where all individuals can participate as equal citizens in community life.

2016/2017



Board of Directors 2016/17

**Ross Davidson,
President**

**Craig Dawson, Vice
President**

**David Diebel,
Treasurer**

Diane Chavarie

Judy Larkin

Dave Waddington

Ed Laksmanis

Kelly Day

Wyn Chivers

Pat Lenson



BPACL RECEIVES \$178,000 GRANT

Helena Jaczek, Minister Ministry of Community and Social Services (left) and Michele Bell, Executive Director, Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living at the March 30, 2017 announcement Phase 2 of the Employment and Modernization Fund. The grant

is for a two year project to assist BPACL to modernize and transform our Community Participation Program. We are so very pleased to be recognized for all the hard work that we do, and our continued commitment to service improvement.

To Improve is to Change, to be Perfect is to Change Often.

Winston Churchill.

Years Service Awards 2017

5 Year

- Danielle Berube
- Helga Rankin

10 Year

- Ian Brown
- Andrew Elliott
- Cathy Good
- Christie Nuttall
- Michele Ramsay

15 Year

- Cindy Deakins

25 Years

- Nancy Robinson

Executive Director Report: Michele Bell

In our 2016 Executive Report everyone was asked to welcome and embrace change. Welcome and embrace change you did, with trust, a sense of humour, patience and commitment. Throughout my career I have worked in many agencies implementing change and I can honestly say I have never experienced the openness and willingness to adapt to change as I have experienced here at BPACL. Everyone has worked very hard these past twelve months to improve our service delivery supports to individuals.

We have made changes to our support locations, preparing for the future new building, we have changed our staffing structure to improve service delivery and better meet our QAM requirements, we have changed our staffing schedules to address concerns of staff and at the same time improve supports. The point of all the change is to improve our supports and services.

Everyone should be very proud of our accomplishments this past year. We should be proud of how hard we have worked to support the change process. We should be prepared to continue to expect anticipate and support change as we strive for perfection.

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work!

- *We realigned housing options creating a residential environment where individuals can live more independently with shared supports overnight. As with all new ventures – there have been some challenges along the way and the teams are working together in a cooperative manner to make the new model a success.*
- *We worked very hard to improve our commitment to QAM requirements resulting in significant improvements in our annual inspection.*
- *We supported someone through end of life care, providing compassionate support that allowed the individual to remain at home surrounded by family and familiar faces. We partnered with the palliative care services of our community to make this happen. With great sadness we said goodbye to someone who was part of our community for a very long time.*
- *We met someone new and welcomed them into support.*
- *We updated and implemented all our support services policies and have the draft of updated HR policies in the wings and ready to be implemented.*
- *We served 200 free lunches on February 3rd – giving back to the community that support us every day. Many of those lunches became random acts of kindness as cars stopped at the light were offered a meal.*
- *We served hot apple cider at the Santa Clause parade and provided parade goers with a place to keep warm before the parade.*
- *We volunteered at community events contributing to their success.*
- *We were the recipients of the Mac Mackenzie Award for our continued and long standing support of the Warton Wilie Festival.*
- *At every turn we are asking ourselves does this make sense? Is there a better way of doing this? What can I do to improve this situation*
- *We have begun the changes that will position BPACL for success in the future to ensure that we continue to be aligned with funder expectations and sector trends .*

Reaching Goals



Mr. Jason Tout – Volunteer Extraordinaire at the Bruce Peninsula Multi Sport Race August 2016

Dean Brody Concert Night!

One of our families won a pair of Dean Brody tickets and offered them to BPACL. It was immediately evident who could make the best use of these tickets. Attending a country music concert was one of Ray's goals for the year. Ray and his sister (Yvonne) enjoyed a fantastic night out together and posted this picture on Facebook. Ray is our biggest country music fan! The smiles on their faces tell it all!



A VISIT TO "THE SOCIAL"

So, I mentioned to my worker that I wanted to go see a live taping of a TV show. My worker and I went online and picked "The Social" which is taped in Toronto. We picked out three dates online and waited for a response. "The Social" emailed us with a date of May 9th 2017 to attend the show which was free. Staff support and transportation was arranged. My friend Janet and her worker from Port Elgin came with us. I felt happy to be there and meet the TV stars of "The Social". They were all so nice and so kind. On our way home we went for supper at Boston Pizza in Orangeville. On my way home I said "Could we go back tomorrow again."

Melissa Hunt

Community Living Day at the Legislature



Each year **Community Living Ontario** and **Community Living Toronto** invite member associations, community partners and friends to celebrate the achievements in making Ontario a more inclusive province. This year the event took place on May 11th at Queens Park in Toronto. BPACL participated in this event for the third consecutive year.

The day's main event was a lunch reception in the main legislature building. Guests were joined by Members of Provincial Parliament. Participants were then invited to attend the afternoon legislative session in the House, where the work of Community Living was recognized by MPPs. Participants were also provided with an opportunity to attend scheduled tours of Queen's Park in the morning.



We had an opportunity to connect with Bill Walker, our MPP to thank him for his hard work and dedication to making Ontario a more inclusive province for people with an intellectual disability. We were inspired by the speeches of the Minister and other MPP's, Representatives of Community Living and particularly James Taylor, Chair of the Council of Community Living the provincial self advocate body.

Caitlyn, Cody, Dax, Val, and Diane represented BPACL at the event. We arrived in Toronto in the late afternoon on May 10th, checked into the Residence at U of T, had a lovely dinner together in China Town, and took in a Blue Jays game. We rode the streetcar, and had late night Burger King. It was a great evening!



There was lots of opportunity over dinner and during the ball game and through out the day at the Legislature to discuss the resurrection of the Self Advocate group. These individuals are excited to get the group functioning again. The SIL support team has included it in their planning for 2017/18.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Heraclitus said: — 'No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man.'

Supporting people through the constant flux of life can be a challenge that is exciting and inspiring. During the last year, Community Participation supported Jason, Megan, Diane, Joseph, Derek, Brian and Valerie to succeed in their jobs. Tiffany, Tara, Megan and Jason volunteered at the multisport race, one of the biggest sporting events of our community. All supports happened outside of the traditional “9 am to 3 pm Monday to Friday” timeframe. The focus on change has inspired the Community Participation program to begin to rethink how we offer supports. We are better able to meet the needs of people supporting them to participate in community activities they are interested in. When people came to us and said that they would like to go on a weekend trip to a horse pull event or that the dance they wish to participate in will not end till 2 am we were able to say: “Let’s sit down and plan it”. In the coming year we will stretch even further offering more inclusive, community based educational, recreational and vocational activities and supports.



CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BUILDING

339 Mary Street

Demolition of the existing building on the property at 339 Mary St has occurred. The land has been levelled, the drawings prepared, and the application for the building permit will happen in the near future. Lots of work behind us and a whole lot more work ahead.

When completed the new building will consist of four self contained 2 Bedroom units with additional central common space. This new design will provide individuals with the opportunity to be as independent as they wish within a residential model.

Membership

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living we would like to extend an invitation to become a member of our Association.

Our Annual General Meeting is held in June each year. Details will be published in the Wiarton Echo. It is a night of community fellowship, and the opportunity for you to learn more about Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living and our contributions.

Membership fees are \$10.00 per person per year (April 1st, 2017 –March 31st, 2018). These fees assist us in providing an advocacy voice in the Developmental Service Sector while promoting our vision, values and mission statement throughout the Bruce Peninsula.

Another year has passed, where once again we have seen many positive accomplishments and a strong membership is a key component. Please extend an invitation, on our behalf, to any friends or acquaintances who may be interested in joining.

During the fall and winter months we have not been publishing the AVISO Newsletter, but rather our Executive Director has been publishing a quarterly report. Please visit our website at <http://bpacl.com> to view this report. If you would prefer to receive the quarterly update by mail, please contact the office at 519-534-0553.

Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living encourages you to help us promote 'Community' as an equal citizen for the people we support.

The form below can be completed and forwarded to: Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living, or dropped off at our administration office.

Kindest regards,



President

Ross Davidson

**BRUCE PENINSULA ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$10.00/per person**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

P.O. Box 95, 314 George St, Wiarton, Ontario N0H 2T0