



Bruce Peninsula Association for
COMMUNITY LIVING  **ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019**

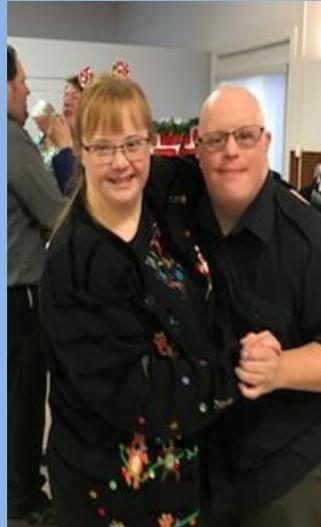


Table of Contents

Our Mission Statement	2
Service Principles	2
Value Statements	2
Transformation, Accomplishment, Challenge, Renewal	2
Board of Directors.....	2
A Year in Review	2
Strategic Planning	2
2018-2019 By The Numbers.....	2
Residential Support Services.....	2
Supported Independent Living	2
Intensive Support Residence	2
Community Participation.....	2
Self Advocates.....	2
Employee Service Awards	2
Thank You to Our Donors	2

Our Mission Statement

Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living promotes people participating and contributing fully in their community and becoming all they can be.

Service Principles

Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living will support people with a developmental disability in a holistic, person-directed manner recognizing that individuals supported have the same rights as any other citizen.

Service and supports for families and individuals with developmental disabilities will be as inclusive, flexible and adaptable as possible to meet their changing needs.

Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living will promote an inclusive community through advocacy, education, public awareness and the development of partnerships.

Value Statements

Mutual Respect

I want to be treated well and I will be kind to others. We play together, we work hard together and we help each other.

Trust

We need to be honest with each other. Trust has to be earned.

Tolerant/Non-Judgmental Informed Choices

Support me in making choices about my life.

Flexibility and Responsiveness

My needs may change at different times in my life.

Consistency and Stability

I can count on my worker.

Fairness

I want to be treated fairly and I will advocate to be sure that even those who do not have a voice will be treated fairly also.

Commitment

I want to do my best.

Ownership

I am responsible for my own decisions.

Community Inclusion

Taking part in things I enjoy is important to me. I will work to help the community look at making facilities accessible and be aware of the contributions I can make.

Lifelong Learning, Risk and Opportunity

I want to learn and try new things.

Transformation, Accomplishment, Challenge, Renewal Ross Davidson, President

I have once again had the privilege of assuming the role of President for the Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living this 2018/19 year. As it is not my first year in the role I feel comfortable in assuring our membership that we as a Board of Directors have met our responsibilities.

Our work as a Board of Governors, in general terms, is to *envision* a future for the Agency and to *manage risk*. First let me say that I use the term 'Agency' specifically because we are a 'Transfer of Payment Agency' for the Government of Ontario. We receive the great bulk of our funding in the Transfer as we, as the old saying goes 'have the tune played dictated to us'. While we have creative latitude, the Ministry has clear guidelines on one hand, and quality of service measures on the other hand.

We engaged in a visioning process to renew and revise our Strategic Plan. That visioning involved staff, family members, community members, and Board. The excellent news is that we were able to assess that many of the objectives of the last Strategic Plan had been accomplished. Our new Plan does not change our direction but elaborates on the transformation to Person-Centred (vs. institution centred) services in new ways. Please see page 6 for an outline of the new Strategic Plan. With respect to risk I can report that the Ministry looks to compliance measures and scrutinizes us carefully to assure that we are meeting Provincial Standards. For the past two years we have done exceedingly well.

Our Management Team and Executive Director, Michele Bell are commended for this excellence.

Secondly, on financial risk, we have good news to report. We finished our 4 unit apartment on Mary Street under budget. We are in the 'black'. The exciting news is that we have sold our inaccessible office building at the corner of Berford and George (we are renting it back now) and have purchased a lot at William and Claude to build a space that will, minimally, house offices and more apartments.

Our challenges as an Agency relate most partially to changing times and money. We welcome scrutiny from the Ministry but that scrutiny requires large amounts of staff time. Like most things in life, a choice in one direction means that you are unable to make a choice in another. Scrutiny and accountability require a great amount of staff and an increasingly specialized expertise. The other challenge related to this is the ever growing need to compete effectively for opportunity to serve. We now live in an environment where many of the people we serve have their service dollars come to them and then, in turn, they have opportunity to spend those dollars elsewhere. Put together, these pressures make us look to both efficiencies in administration costs and to partnerships in service options that will afford the best assistance to people's life plans and needs. To that end we continue to explore the possibility of partnering with others.

So in sum, to give one item for each of the descriptors in my title:

Transformation – People centred program choices and life planning for individuals are firmly in place.

Accomplishment – We have a new building that offers people we serve more independence and more choice about who they want and need to interact with.

Challenge – We need to do more with less and find a way to have more.

Renewal – We have a new Strategic Plan and continue to explore partnerships.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board Members for the excellent work they have done this year. All are thoughtful. Each has ideas, all take their responsibilities seriously, do their homework and make meetings efficient.

Board of Directors 2018-2019

Ross Davidson, President

Dave Waddington, VP

Pat Lenson, Treasurer

Diane Chavarie

Kelly Day

David Diebel

Ed Laksmanis

Judy Larkin

Paul Sutter

A Year in Review

Michele Bell, Executive Director

Well what a year that was with so many achievements to celebrate! I am astounded by the pace of change and by the resilience of people supported, staff teams, family and friends in adapting to all the changes. I am so proud to lead an agency that is so willing to embrace change and to support the vision of improving the lives of people we support in our work each and every day.

We had a very ambitious work plan this year. Finding ourselves at the end of our last Strategic Plan BPACL, with the assistance of Jennifer Kielty-Friesen and Janeen Halliwell of People Minded Business (PMB), we embarked on a comprehensive Strategic Planning process. There were focus groups, surveys, interviews, document reviews and planning days. There were drafts and revisions and in the end with the input from so many stakeholders BPACL has created a comprehensive Strategic Plan with a renewed Mission Statement that will guide our path forward in the upcoming three years, 2019 to 2022. You will find the new Mission Statement and Strategic Plan later in our report. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process.

We are excited about the direction and looking forward to reaching the goals set out in the next few years and working hard to *promote people participating and contributing fully in their community and becoming all they can be.*

We completed the construction of our new development project at 339 Mary Street and welcomed seven people into their new apartments. There had been much trepidation which we all understood. But once completed and with the moves behind us, the feedback has been outstanding. The apartments are beautiful, with all who toured them expressing they would love to live in the units. Very high praise indeed. New relationships have been forming, monthly pot lucks have been happening, and people have been living more independent lives with greater opportunities to make independent choices in their day to day lives and becoming all they can be.

The Wiaraton Willie Self Advocates have been very busy and active this year with several successful fundraising initiatives with the goal of attending an upcoming conference in Port Elgin.

The Employee Social Committee have planned and executed some great events this year, with a spectacular Christmas Dinner celebration at the Walker House in Southampton. Such a wonderful opportunity to see everyone all dressed up, kicking up their heels and to meet a few spouses. A great Agency Christmas Lunch at the Wiaraton Propeller Club, a very successful summer BBQ in Bluewater Park and a fall Fishing Derby with the Sportsmen Association.

We sold our Administration building on George Street in record time and purchased land at the corner of William Street and Claude Street and have begun the planning process for our next capital project to relocate our Administrative and Community Support Services in the hopes of additional housing units as part of the project. Stay tuned for further information in the coming months.

We can all look forward together with the Strategic Plan as our guide to all the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.



BPACL Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022

Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living has worked towards developing a Strategic Plan that will set the Agency on a clearly articulated path to guide decision making and development.

After gathering input from 73 stakeholders via e-surveys, interviews, and focus groups the following Strategic Plan was generated.

<p>Empower People Who Use Supports</p> 	<p>Collaborate With Families and Friends</p> 	<p>Build Community and Partnerships</p> 	<p>Strengthen through Learning, Innovation & Flexibility</p> 
<p>a. Develop strategies that enable people to live their best lives, achieve their goals and be valued as contributing community members.</p>	<p>a. Develop opportunities to connect and collaborate with families and friends to build stronger communities</p>	<p>a. Explore ways to create or expand partnerships with other human service organizations to better serve the community</p>	<p>a. Develop communication and marketing strategies to enhance awareness and understanding of BPACL and its services</p>
<p>b. Further embed person-centred practices in supports and services</p>	<p>b. Expand opportunities and offerings for people with Passport or individualized funding</p>	<p>b. Identify and work with community partners to make more entrepreneurship, volunteer and employment options available</p>	<p>b. Increase the uptake and use of technology throughout the organization</p>
<p>c. Integrate technology into people's supports to promote safety, inclusion, independence and interdependence</p>	<p>c. Facilitate connections between families who may be isolated or needing assistance, and community supports and services</p>	<p>c. Collaborate and partner with others in the community to address common community priorities</p>	<p>c. Develop and implement creative recruitment and retention strategies to strengthen our labour force and enhance supports to people</p>

2018-2019 By The Numbers

71 Families Supported

29 School Planning Meetings

19 Assessments

26 Referrals

14 Applications

9 New Files Opened

11 CSCN Admin Support

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

76 Medical appointments

12 People supported purchased YMCA Memberships

15 Supports with income reporting

19 Skill Development plans

5 People secured a family doctor

46 Individual support plans completed

SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

121 Different Programs/Year

782 People Participated/Year

39 Individuals Attended

4.6 Average Programs/Day

4 Seasonal Program Calendars

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

52 ODESP participants

216 Total of Months Worked

21 Found Employment

16 Completed Program & Continue in Competitive Employment

Residential Support Services



Joseph S., Vicki E., Mary-Beth G., Angela S., Blair J.
Missing: Brandon L., Brandon M., Susan T.

Over this past year BPACL completed the construction of an apartment building at 339 Mary Street. The building consists of four self contained two bedroom apartments with additional common space. This building, now home to eight people, provides an alternative to group home living. With four 2 bedroom apartments people supported live independently while still being afforded the opportunity to receive supports 24 hours a day if needed.

On October 22nd the new tenants moved into their new apartments and began to make a home for themselves. This day was filled with such joy and excitement from not just the residents but from their families and BPACL staff support. The family of one tenant exclaimed that it was the first time that she had dinner with her daughter in her daughter's own home.

This has been a wonderful new chapter for all of the residents as they gain more independence and are able to further live the lives they want to live with greater independence.



Susan T. has been enjoying living in her new apartment or if you ask her “her mansion on Mary Street”. She planned and hosted a dinner party for her sister-in-law’s birthday. Susan was thrilled to plan the menu and prepare the meal which she accomplished with very little assistance. Susan was very proud of her accomplishment and her family was very impressed.



Sandra S. is a dedicated fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs. She started watching the games with her father when she was a child and continues to watch them to this date. She had the lifelong dream of attending a game in Toronto; with the added help of her passport funding her dream became reality.

Sandra was so excited while at the game, she could not stop smiling and as luck would have it the Leafs won which called for a celebration after the game.

She had such a fantastic time there and she is looking forward to going again.

Supported Independent Living



Derek M. participated in the 2019 Special Olympic Ontario Winter Games that was held from January 31-February 3rd in Sault Ste. Marie. If you recall, that was during the huge storm when everyone in town was storm stayed. Derek and the team braved the weather to make their way to the Sault. And the effort really paid off, Derek won 4 medals in Nordic Skiing while at the games. He received three gold medals for the 100-metre, 500-metre, and the relay race along with a silver medal in the 1-kilometre classic.

We are so proud of Derek and all his achievements at the games. We wish him all the best with his training for the next Special Olympic Winter Games.



Cody B. has experienced several changes this year of which he is so proud. In October, Cody moved from the Hillside apartments to the Berford St. apartments. With the move Cody began the process of living life with greater independence and utilizing support to be the best that he can be. "I am learning how to cook on my own, and I enjoy the quiet space and the comfort I feel in my new home."

Cody has enjoyed participating in the Community Participation activities that have been offered. Floor hockey is his favourite. He looks forward to it every Thursday.

Throughout the year Cody has embraced change and he is looking forward to being a part of all the exciting opportunities that are offered in our community.

Intensive Support Residence



Caitlin J. has such a love for all animals so it was a natural fit for her to begin taking riding lessons. Caitlin enjoys spending time weekly at Windsong Ranch where she not only enjoys weekly lessons but has also began volunteering her time to complete chores in the barn and grooming the horses.

Caitlin and Missy B (photo to the left) have a great connection. Caitlin has developed confidence while riding and enjoys the time they spend on the trails together.

Recently, Caitlin led the trail ride at Windsong Ranch which was a fantastic experience for everyone on the ride.

Community Participation

This year we have experienced an increased number of participants in the programs offered by Community Participation.

We have added several new programs this year to encourage interest and to add diversity to the programs offered. Some of the new activities were Camping Skills, Horticultural Therapy, Zumba, Simple Cooking and a Gentle Fit Exercise class.



The participants in the Canoeing/Kayaking class have increased their level of confidence while on the water. Early in the season, when ice was still on the lakes, the group studied paddle strokes, emergency techniques, canoe route planning, and portaging while watching videos and completing on land simulations. The group was eager to begin putting their training to use on the water. With practice and coaching the group's skills slowly improved and confidence grew that allowed excursions to become further out on the water.

When Dan D. began this class he had no canoeing/kayaking experience, but with encouragement he was soon getting into the canoes and kayaks without any hesitation. At first he struggled with proper handling of the paddle and how to keep the canoe straight and avoid going in circles. He never gave up, he kept trying and eventually he was able to paddle off along the shore with the rest of the group.

He was so proud of his accomplishment and he has now developed the confidence and skills to be able to further expand his experience on the water.

Floor Hockey has been a great success this year with between 7-12 participants each week. The pick up games are held every Thursday from 6:00-7:30 pm at Peninsula Shores District School's gymnasium. This is a time for people to come together with varying levels of experience and have fun being active and meeting new people. We often have people from the community join the games. There is a young couple that wishes not to play but rather have taken it upon themselves to be the coach and referee. They have done an excellent job at fulfilling these roles.



Our hiking group visited Harrison Park and while there they noted the size of the hill that people were tobogganing down. Joseph S. and Angela S. wanted to walk up the hill but were unsure since it was so steep. After some discussion they decided to give it a try. They both walked up at their own pace and eventually made it to the top. They were both so excited by their accomplishment and couldn't wait to tell their families about how far they had hiked.

It is truly amazing to see how much people are enjoying the programs that are offered. It is wonderful to see people try new things, reach goals, and develop new skills.

Self Advocates

The Warton Willie Self Advocates have been very busy this year developing an abuse training presentation that will be delivered to the people supported by BPACL. The training module is called "Think, Decide, Act" and was developed by two Self Advocate members; Cheryl C. and Diane C. with the assistance of Sher Brown.

The training is a two part presentation. The first is a comprehensive look at what abuse is, the various forms of abuse, what to do if you see or experience abuse, and how to report it. The second part of the presentation is a video that demonstrates the different types of abuse and gives the participants a chance to form groups and role play scenarios of abuse to allow them to apply the principles of the video. With the help of Will Hardman-Hingston, a student at Peninsula Shores District School, Cheryl and Diane were able to create the video that is being used in the training sessions.

The next step for the training presentation is to make it more accessible to those that don't use traditional modes of communication. Also, at some point the group would like to expand the delivery of their presentation to people in the community.

Employee Service Awards

Tammy Siegfried	10 Years of Service
Alison Gibson	15 Years of Service
Kevin Couch	15 Years of Service

Thank You to Our Donors

Thank you to our donors who believe in Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living's mission and contribute to the success of the Agency each year by making a donation. We could not provide the supports and services that we do without the generous support received through your donations.

With your assistance we are able to continue to provide support to people in the community that have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thank you for helping to inspire possibilities.