

Continuity News

Spring 2023

The Mike Keane Celebrity Hockey Classic

We are elated that the Mike Keane hockey fundraiser was held on March 22nd & 23rd at the hockey for all centre (formerly the Iceplex). The 10th year has been delayed for 3 years due to Covid and it was a smaller event with 12 teams participating rather than the usual 16 teams. Although smaller in size, the amount of fun and team camaraderie was not lacking and offered a more intimate atmosphere for the players and pros. As usual this event could not be a reality for us without our VOLUNTEERS.

I cannot express in words how appreciated our volunteers are. They take time from their busy lives and donate it to make this event happen. They may even get the chance to talk to or have a picture taken with an NHL alumni who they have cheered on for many years during their NHL hockey career.



The volunteer job starts with the registration table and coat check positions on the Wednesday evening draft night. This is where teams select their NHL alumni player to their team. I have the best registration team that have volunteered for many years and I know I can count on. The coat check position is fun, chatting with the players and depending on the weather – busy with coats!

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Early the next day is the business of playing hockey. The 1st group of hardy volunteers wakes to be at the rink early. The job of standing at the checkpoints is not glamorous and can be quiet at times, ensuring that no one passes the change room hallways except players, room attendants and hockey for all centre staff. But it is an important position to ensure no delays and that there are no external interruptions for the players.

Another important position is our greeting information table. This table provides scheduled game information as well as the opportunity for the volunteers to talk about Continuity Care and to maybe share their experience. This table represents Continuity Care and what we do!



As the volunteer coordinator, I ensure volunteers are where they are supposed to be and have what they need. I could not do this without my small team of helpers who are stand-ins for washroom breaks, delayed volunteers, or fill last minute shifts. I think of them as an extension of me.

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Spring is a season I look forward to, as it is a time for hope, renewal and growth. As an organization, we also go through seasons and cycles and Spring aligns with the end of our fiscal year end the beginning of a new year.

March was a busy month getting ready for the 10th Annual Mike Keane Classic and we are so excited and grateful that this event was back on for this year.

Patti and our Finance Committee members have been busy working on our year end finances and the budget for 2023-2024. Thanks to Nick Paulley, our new Treasurer, for leading us through this process this year.

We have been working with Justin and the team at Dynamite Design on improvements to our website and are excited to launch the changes this month. Read more about this in our newsletter and be sure to visit our website to check it out.

Jayda and I have been planning our slate of workshops and groups for this next quarter and are looking forward to seeing folks at these upcoming events.

The Board has decided that our AGM will be scheduled for September, instead of June. Please stay tuned for the Save the Date for that event.

We also want to express our appreciation to Jane Schledewitz for her many years of service (22 to be specific) to the Board, the Family Advisory and Human Resource Committees. Jane also helped out with our BINGO, Family Fun Nights, hockey tournaments and our AGM's. We are sad to see Jane leave and miss her smiling face and valuable contributions; but take comfort in knowing that she will continue to stay involved as one of our lifetime members. Thank you, Jane, for ALL you have given to Continuity Care over the years.

Happy Spring!

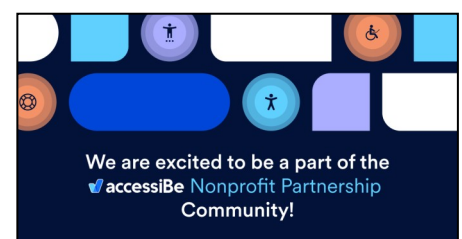
Suzanne Swanton
Executive Director



Accessible Website Improvement

We are pleased to announce that our website is now more accessible, thanks to a partnership with accessiBe, a company devoted to educating the world about the importance of inclusivity and web accessibility. Visitors to our site can customize their experience by clicking the green icon at the bottom right of our home page.

This feature is made possible through accessiBe's Nonprofit Partnership Program that provides it free to non-profits that serve people with disabilities. Check out their work at [accessibe.com](https://www.accessibe.com)



The Launch of the new Intellectual Disability Issues Advisory (IDIA)

The Department of Families announced the launch of the inaugural Intellectual Disability Issues Advisory (IDIA) Council on February 15, 2023. The IDIA Council will serve as an advisory council to the Minister of Families on matters relating to programs and services for adults living with an intellectual disability in Manitoba as well as overseeing the implementation of the Vulnerable Task Force recommendations. The creation of an advisory council was the first recommendation of the task force. Members of the IDIA Council are:

- Maria Arentsen
- Jacqueline Leach
- Scott Smith
- Suzanne Swanton
- Joni Wilson
- Heidi Wurmman
- Valerie Wolbert
- Evelyn Yelinek

The members have been appointed for a two-year term and consist of representatives from service delivery organizations, disability advocacy organizations, families of people with an intellectual disability, Indigenous partners, and self-advocates. The council is chaired by Heidi Wurmman, Assistant Deputy Minister of Families for Corporate Services Division.

Here is a link for the Bios for the Councill members: https://news.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/newslinks/2023/01/BG-IDIA_Council_Members-FAM.pdf

The Money Smart Blog

In December Continuity Care had the opportunity to write a blog entry for Money Smart Manitoba. Money Smart Manitoba is a website hosted by the Manitoba government where Manitobans can grow their financial knowledge and plan their financial futures. The goal of Money Smart Manitoba is to protect people from potential financial harm. Check out our blog entry here



<https://www.moneysmartmanitoba.ca/what-will-happen-to-my-child-after-im-gone/>

120 Maryland Group News

The official launch of the Community Based Assisted Decision Making pilot project was held on the morning of March 13th. The event was attended by 21 in person and 17 by Zoom. Special guests included representatives from the Department of Families, the Office of the Vulnerable Persons Commissioner, the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee and members of the Vulnerable Persons Act Task Force. There were brief presentations made by each of the partnering organizations who make up the 120 Maryland Group

The website for the pilot project was also launched at this event. For more information about the project and upcoming events, please visit <https://120marylandgroup.org/>



Baby Boomer Café

On Sat. Feb. 4, 2023, we had a fun, warm, and exciting Baby Boomer Winter Cafe inside the beautiful Kildonan Community Church. We enjoyed singing and clapping to our favourite songs under the direction of our renown music conductor, Sir Bob Hanley. The turnout was great, with 40 people joining us for the festivities, both very young and seniors alike, including 6 new folks!

Thank you to everyone who brought all the scrumptious food, salads, cakes, and desserts for the amazing potluck supper! The lasagna was one of my favourites! Some lucky people also went home with door prizes.

We had a special candle lighting ceremony welcoming our new members and also remembering all our past members, who contributed so very much to the success and sustainability of our unique Baby Boomer Cafe community over the past 2 decades!

Please mark on your calendar our next special Baby Boomer Cafe event at St. Vital Park on Sunday, June 11th from 12:30-4:30. Stay tuned for more info. coming to you soon.

Happy Chilly Spring!

Albert Yanofsky, on behalf of the Baby Boomer Cafe

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Lastly our drivers (a really tough job). These are the volunteers who drive the Pros to and from the airport, hotel and hockey for all centre and anything can happen between those points of call. They always have great stories to tell.

Suzanne, the board of directors and myself truly send a heart-felt THANK YOU to all our volunteers. We appreciate everything you do for Continuity Care.

Thanks a bunch, Patti Makinson



Save the Date

Camp Manitou Caregiver Retreat

November 3rd & 4th, 2023

We are hoping you will join us for an event for parents/caregivers of persons with an intellectual disability or autism to come together to learn some useful information and a much needed break. For more information visit [Camp Manitou Retreat](#)



We invite you to become a Continuity Care member

One-year family membership \$25

One-year agency membership \$50

Lifetime family membership \$250

Leave a Legacy

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