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THE Independent Living

Sudbury Manitoulin Newsletter

Direct Funding Expands Further

The Direct Funding program has received an astounding \$5 million boost in funding for 2017, which officially marks the third major expansion the program has seen in the last few years. This provincially funded program has consistently provided individuals with physical disabilities the opportunity to self-manage their own attendants through an allocated budget, allowing them to continue living in their own homes while receiving the care they require. With the increase in funds, Direct Funding is now able to recruit more participants than ever before.

Recognizing that the majority of attendant service programs are provided through agencies that make decisions on behalf of the individual, Direct Funding ensures that candidates are placed at the forefront of the operation as self-managers and employers of their own services. The choice and flexibility to hire and schedule attendants to fit individual needs is an incredible way to keep control and independence in one's own life.

**CHOICE,
CONTROL,
FLEXIBILITY.**

Please contact Jennifer Grooms, your local Direct Funding Coordinator, for further information about the program and how you can apply. She can be reached by email at jgrooms@ilsm.ca or by telephone at (705) 675-2121, ext. 202.

AccessNow

AccessNow is a Canadian website (and smartphone app) that is available across 30 countries around the world. The goal is to have people mark locations on a world map as accessible (with a green pin), partially accessible (with a yellow pin), not accessible (with a red pin), or patio access only (with an orange pin) so that individuals are made aware before showing up to these locations.

As noted in the project's mission statement, "AccessNow is all about sharing accessibility information around the world. Our goal is to map as many places as we possibly can, and we invite you to help us! [...] As we pinpoint the accessibility status of locations, we can start looking at how to turn all the red pins (not accessible) to green pins (accessible). We want to find ways to create access where there currently is none. If you are someone working to remove barriers...we want to hear from you!"

We strongly encourage you to help make Sudbury's mark on the AccessNow map by visiting www.accessnow.me or by downloading the smartphone app to start dropping pins throughout our community!

Valentine's Day Dinner Announcement

There will be a dinner at the centre on February 14th between 4:30 pm and 7 pm. Please let someone at reception know before February 10th if you would like to join us. The dinner will cost \$12 per person.



Seeking Volunteers

The centre is always looking for new volunteers to join the team and help out at the centre. If you are looking to volunteer, or know of someone who may be interested in volunteering, please drop by the centre to speak with Jennifer Barclay, Volunteer Coordinator.

We look forward to hearing from you!

2017 GTR Coming Soon...

We are currently in the early stages of preparation for our 2017 Growing Together Raffle. Our goal as of right now is to begin selling tickets within the next couple of months so please make sure you stay tuned for more information! You can follow us on Facebook @ilsudbury for immediate updates regarding the raffle.



February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Computer Basics with Jean at 10 am / Bingo with Sandra at 2 pm	2 Internet Safety with Jean at 10 am / Board Games at 2 pm	3 Member Meeting at 10:30 am / Movie at 1 pm	4
5	6 Email Workshop with Jean at 10 am / Internet Safety with Jean at 2 pm	7 Microsoft Word Workshop with Jean at 10 am / Valentine's Day Arts and Crafts at 2 pm	8 Computer Basics with Jean at 10 am / Bingo with Sandra at 2 pm	9 Using Google with Jean at 10 am / Valentine's Day Arts and Crafts at 2 pm	10 Valentine's Day Arts and Crafts at 10:30 am / Movie at 1 pm	11
12	13 Computer Basics with Jean at 10 am / Email Workshop with Jean at 2 pm	14 Valentine's Day Dinner Club from 4:30 pm — 7 pm	15 Internet Safety with Jean at 10 am / Bingo with Sandra at 2 pm	16 Computer Basics with Jean at 10 am / Board Games at 2 pm	17 Member Meeting at 10:30 am / Movie at 1 pm	18
19	20 Family Day / The centre is closed today	21 Microsoft Word Workshop with Jean at 10 am / Arts and Crafts at 2 pm	22 Internet Safety with Jean at 10 am / Bingo with Sandra at 2 pm	23 Computer Basics with Jean at 10 am / Card Games at 2 pm	24 Computer Hardware Workshop with Josh at 10 am / Movie at 1 pm	25
26	27 Facebook Workshop with Brandon at 10 am / Computer Basics with Jean at 2 pm	28 Twitter Workshop with Brandon at 10 am / Arts and Crafts at 2 pm				