

Peterborough's First Inclusion Conference



Diane Dupuy, founder of Famous PEOPLE Players delivering keynote speech.

On April 26 and 27, Heads Up for Inclusion teamed up with the Council for Persons with Disabilities (CPD) at Fleming College to host Inclusion Conference 2013: Growing Accessible and Caring Communities. Over 100 people attended to learn about accessibility and celebrate achievements in making Peterborough an inclusive community.

The conference started with a keynote speech by Diane Dupuy, founder of the Famous PEOPLE Players. Determined to prove that her imagination is a gift to share, Diane became a puppeteer and recruited others to create the world-re-

nowned theatre company employing the talents of individuals with developmental challenges.

Conference workshop sessions included a painting lesson by Art de Triomphe, tour of the accessible car from MV-I Canada, and a digital storytelling presentation on women and disabilities by the YWCA. HUI staff Daniel Lombardi and Anna Lee also presented a workshop on Meaningful Inclusion.

During the Appreciation Luncheon, sponsored by the City of Peterborough, awards were presented to employers and service providers who have shown a commitment to inclusion in Peterborough. This year's award winners included SGS Canada Inc., Breken Technologies Group, Morrello's and Kawartha Nordic Ski Club. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Bob's Watch Repair and the Young Entrepreneur Award to Twisted Mounty Athletic Apparel. HUI Chair, John McNutt, also announced that construction is underway for Peterborough's first Centre for Independent Living run by CPD.

The success of this first Inclusion Conference ensures there will be more to come. A big thank-you to the Harry E. Foster Charitable Foundation which supported Heads Up for Inclusion's participation as co-host of this conference with the Council for Persons with Disabilities.

Inclusion Conference 2013
Growing Caring & Accessible Communities

Welcome Caitlin Dunham



Bill and Caitlin

Since January, **Caitlin Dunham has been working as HUI's new program co-ordinator**, developing new programs and partnerships that promote inclusion in schools and the community.

Caitlin studied Fashion Arts at Humber College in Toronto before returning to her family's farm in Bethany. She worked for a Native literacy group and was a personal support worker at Community Living Durham North before joining HUI.

"I got a lot out of working as a personal support worker," says Caitlin. "I gained this passion for social justice and wanting to see things change."

Caitlin recently graduated with a degree in Psychology and Women's Studies at Trent University. Away from school and work, Caitlin likes to ride her horse, Bill.

Follow Us On Twitter

In January, HUI enlisted the services of **freelance writer Rosanna Haroutounian** to improve social media engagement and help promote special events.

Rosanna graduated from Carleton University with a degree in Journalism and Political Science in 2012. She has worked in HR at the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board and interned at CBC and Metro News in Ottawa.

She has created a twitter account for HUI full of interesting comments, links and information about inclusion. Rosanna also regularly updates our website and Facebook page.

Look for her at special events, taking photos and keeping the community informed of all the great things HUI is doing to promote inclusion!

Follow us on twitter
@headsupamigos and Facebook!
facebook.com/headsuforinclusion



People First Conference - Giving Back!



Nicole and Kate Hewitt (Kenner CVI) & Daniel Lombardi (HUI staff and People First Peterborough President)

Heads Up for Inclusion was a proud participant in the fifth annual People First Peterborough Annual Conference on April 11. Comedian Alan Shain taught us that it's OK to laugh at ourselves and inspired us to appreciate our different abilities.

In the workshops, groups made Thank-You cards, learned about volunteering, and shared the gift of laughter. This was a great opportunity to meet people and share knowledge.

After lunch, People First President and HUI Workshop Facilitator Daniel Lombardi, along with Nicole and Katlynn Hewitt from the Amigos Program at Kenner CVI presented the afternoon keynote speech about the importance of inclusion and how to give back to the community.

"Being a friend might seem like a small thing, but it can make a huge difference," Katlynn told the audience.

Everyone was excited to share their own examples of how to give back, like baking cookies for someone, picking up garbage outside, or volunteering at a soup kitchen.

We all left feeling encouraged and inspired to make our communities more inclusive. Thanks to People First Peterborough for inviting Heads Up for Inclusion to be a part of your Annual Conference!

Amigos Cook Up a Storm at Peterborough EATS!



Front left to right: Jaime (Lakefield SS), Cody (Kenner CVI). Back left to right: Brandon (ENSS), Chef Miguel, Victoria (TASSS).

What happens when you mix youth, pizza dough, homemade tomato sauce, a generous sprinkle of inclusion, and some grated Empire cheese? When the youth happen to be Amigos, and the cooking is instructed by Chef Miguel Hernandez, from Peterborough EATS, you get something beautiful and delicious!

The Amigos' Youth committee is made up of students with a passion for promoting inclusion in their schools and communities. Their role is to help guide Heads Up for Inclusion in its job of creating inclusive opportunities for youth with and without intellectual disabilities in our community. The

Youth Committee meet approximately three times a year, and to prove that all meetings have the potential to be fun, interactive and a little unusual, January's meeting was held in Peterborough EATS new commercial kitchen, located in the Peterborough Public library. This past January 8th, Peterborough EATS' Chef Hernandez provided students with a special cooking class on making homemade pizza. After learning and working together, the Amigos' Youth committee was able to enjoy their pizza while conducting their regular meeting!

Peterborough EATS is a non-profit social enterprise of COIN, and is located in the Peterborough Public library. The café and commercial kitchen are used as hands-on training facilities for people who experience barriers to employment.



The Amigos' gang with Peterborough EATS' Chef Miguel, Lucinda Hage (HUI founder) and Joëlle Favreau (YWCA)

Rotary Club of Peterborough - Kawartha



Janice (Rotary P-K) and Anna (exchange student) building a marshmallow tower during the Amazing Race.

The Rotary Club of Peterborough-Kawartha invited Heads Up For Inclusion to provide an informative presentation on meaningful inclusion. Caitlin Dunham and Daniel Lombardi were welcomed by a responsive group of active Rotary members throughout the morning. Daniel was able to bring a much needed point of view into the discussion of living with a disability in Peterborough which allowed the Rotary members to think about the ways we perceive disability within our community. Janice Vervaeke President of Rotary Peterborough-Kawartha, and a Rotary exchange student represented the Rotary Club in HUI's Amazing Race Towards Inclusion on May 25th. Their involvement and support shows a true dedication to breaking down the barriers to inclusion in our community. Way to go Rotary Club of Peterborough-Kawarthas!

Thank you! To our 2012-13 funders & partners.

- City of Peterborough
- COMART Foundation
- Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough
- Community Living Campbellford/Brighton
- Community Living Peterborough
- East Side Mario's - Peterborough
- Harry E. Foster Charitable Foundation
- Kawartha FEST
- KRG Children's Charitable Foundation
- Pilkington-Henninger Charitable Trust
- Peterborough and the Kawartha's Association of Realtors
- Peterborough EATS
- Rotary Club of Peterborough - Kawartha
- The Peterborough Foundation
- Ontario Trillium Foundation



Please consider making a donation to HUI.

Your generosity keeps our programs running.

We are a non-profit, charitable organization and rely on your support to continue promoting connections and relationships within our community (# 84547 3255 RR0001).

Tax receipts provided for donations of \$20 or more. To donate please contact 705-745-1700, email amigos@headsupforinclusion.ca or mail a cheque to the address below.

Heads Up for Inclusion

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Heads Up for Inclusion promotes **connections** within our community leading to the development of **relationships**, so young people with intellectual disabilities can lead **meaningful lives**.

www.headsupforinclusion.ca