



Amigo News

Winter 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Amigos at Camp Kawartha.....1
 From the Chair.....2
 Board Update.....2
 Community Program2
 What's New?.....3
 Speak Out!.....3
 Back Page Contest.....4

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:

- Crestwood S.S
- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
- Keith Wightman Public School
- Kenner C.V.I
- Kenner Intermediate
- Queen Elizabeth Public School

Heads Up for Inclusion Board members include:

- John McNutt, Chair
- Fenna Green, Vice Chair
- Jill Duncan, Secretary
- Lori Wilson, Treasurer
- Shawna McCurdy
- Catherine McGrath
- Marshall Elliott
- Breanne Mackenzie
- Jewel Green
- Emily Storey
- Adrienne Sharp
- Tanya Duncan
- Carrie Wright, CLP Advisory Member
- Heather Cunningham, Resource KPRDSB



Amigos Take Over Camp Kawartha!



The high school Amigos group was treated to a high-flying team building day again this year on October 30th. This is a fantastic inclusive event hosted by Camp Kawartha yearly. Amigos were treated to team building activities such as group drawing, tower building, and some fun outdoor activities like the Flying Squirrel and Accessible Climbing Wall. Everyone had a terrific time!

Our Community Amigos group also had the opportunity to visit Camp Kawartha this year on December 8th. Camp



Kawartha has been actively working to improve its accessibility so that campers of all abilities can attend. The Community Amigos group were the special guests of the day, and helped to open the camp's new accessible pathway. The group was treated to a delicious and nutritious lunch, and had a fun afternoon that included board games and the Flying Squirrel!

For many of our Amigos in both groups, this was their first time at Camp Kawartha, and what a fantastic experience it was! Outings like these are made possible for Amigos participants through generous donations received by Heads Up for Inclusion throughout the year. We would like to send out a huge "Thank You" to Camp Kawartha for continuing to provide this amazing experience to our Amigos!



Amigo Tyler helps with the ribbon cutting ceremony!

**Follow us on
Twitter and
Facebook!**



@HeadsUpAmigos
Facebook.com/headsupforinclusion

Please consider donating to HUI

Your generosity keeps our programs running.

Visit www.headsupforinclusion.ca or contact

christa_mccorquodale@headsupforinclusion.ca for more information.

Heads Up for Inclusion

270 George St. N, Garden Court Box I, Peterborough ON, K9J 3H1 P: 705-876-0383
www.headsupforinclusion.ca

Board Update

Heads Up for Inclusion's Board of Directors has been hard at work helping to plan awareness and fundraising events in conjunction with HUI staff. In light of the positive feedback and community support that we received from Amigos Day and our Celebrity Serving evening at East side Mario's, we are looking to continue with these events later this year and next. In addition, we are pleased to welcome many new enthusiastic members to our already dynamic Board of Directors! Emily Storey-Hurtubise is a Psychology student at Trent University. She has volunteered with the Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre, and helped implement the equine horse project. Tanya Duncan comes to us from Peterborough Communication Support Systems (PCSS), where she works with clients in the Supported Employment Program. We welcome both Emily and Tanya to the Board of Directors, and look forward to their contributions!

Looking forward to the next few months, the Board will be working closely with the Fund Development Committee and HUI staff to implement a family-oriented talent show in celebration of International Screen Free Week. This talent show will feature people of all abilities showing off their talents to the Peterborough community. We will also be looking forward to September and our annual Amigos Day fundraising event. Stay tuned for more information!

NOW RECRUITING! Fund Development Committee

Heads Up for Inclusion is seeking persons with disabilities, students, parents and supporters of people with disabilities to help us with fund development. The Committee meets once per month at the HUI office. No experience is needed!

Contact

christa_mccorquodale@headsupforinclusion.ca
for more information.

Thanks for your interest!

Message from the Chair



Welcome to a New Year! 2017 brought many exciting opportunities and changes to Heads Up for Inclusion, and we look forward to continuing this trend in 2018.

I would like to take this time to say "Welcome Back" to our Keith Wightman Amigos group! They began their Amigos program again when the students returned from their holiday break. This is a delightful group of young students in Grades 2 – 4, who are eager to spread the message of inclusion throughout their school. Our other elementary Amigos programs at Queen Elizabeth Public School, and Kenner Intermediate continue to have strong programs with many inclusive-minded students working to create strong friendships and bonds. As our high school Amigos proceed into exams this week, we wish them luck!

I would also like to report some exciting changes to our Board of Directors. Fenna Green has now taken on the role Vice Chair,

and is becoming very proficient in the role. Fenna has been on our Board of Directors in the role of Director and Secretary for 4 years. Fenna has also taken on the role of Chair of the Fund Development Committee. We look forward to idea-sharing with Fenna for many years to come! Long-time Board member Jill Duncan moves into the position of secretary. Her organization and precision will be greatly appreciated in this position!

As we look forward past winter to spring, we begin to plan for our Accessible Garden at the Mount on Monaghan Road. Much progress was made on the garden in the fall. To date the paved pad and multiple raised garden beds have been completed and are ready for planting. This means that people of all abilities will have access to our beautiful vegetable gardens including those with mobility challenges. The garden will be open later in May, and we encourage all who would like to participate in the planting, maintenance and harvesting of the garden, to contact our staff at 705-876-0383. We envision the garden as a hub where people of mixed ability gather to enjoy some time outside in a natural setting that is accessible to all. We hope to see you all there!

Community Program Report

The Community Program held a holiday social event on December 14th. Attendees enjoyed board games, pizza, and small gifts.



Holiday Social!

In November, eight participants attended a self-defence and intro to martial arts seminar at Dohjo Muay Thai. Thank you to Mike Doherty for organizing this event and welcoming our group!

Also in November, a team of six Amigos and Connectors had the opportunity to participate in a test run of John Howard Society's pop-up Escape Maze. Our team was the second fastest of the evening!

On January 23rd, the Peterborough Community Legal Centre presented a 'Know Your Rights' workshop for the Community Amigos, focusing on workers' rights around disabilities and the new legislation.

Our Amigo pairs have recently enjoyed activities such as going to the NHL Alumni game, visiting Retro's eSports for some video games, playing pool, bowling, and swimming. Look forward to more exciting news in 2018!



Escape Maze!

Heads Up for Inclusion

270 George St. N, Garden Court Box I, Peterborough ON, K9J 3H1 P: 705-876-0383
www.headsupforinclusion.ca

What's New?

Amigos School programs will be participating in kindness activities and creating crafts over the next couple of weeks, in celebration of Valentine's Day.

In late February, Heads Up for Inclusion will be collaborating with Junior Achievement to deliver a financial literacy workshop for the Community Program. Topics will include banking, borrowing, and budgeting.

On April 3rd, 2018 the elementary Amigos program will be heading to Camp Kawartha for their Team Building day. Amigos will participate in fun outdoor and indoor activities.

Our new Inclusive Talent Showcase, "Conquer the Mic!" will be held on Saturday, April 21st – stay tuned for details!

HUI's annual Volunteer Recognition event is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 4th, 2018.

Congratulations to our Polar Plunge team "The Chilly Amigos" for raising \$485 for HUI and \$485 for BEL Rotary!



Speak Out!

"I am proud to say that I am a Connector in the Amigos program and have personally seen the difference the program makes in people's lives. Heads up for Inclusion is an organization that does not only help individuals, but challenges expectations on what is possible for people with barriers. The experience of being involved with HUI is a constant reminder that a barrier is not a limitation, only a challenge to overcome."



Matt and his Amigo Kevin at Musicfest!

Despite the amazing work Heads Up for Inclusion does for the Peterborough community it does not receive any core funding, meaning that it is run through private grants and donations and they do not receive yearly funding from the government to continue their programs. Donating to a small local charity such as Heads Up for Inclusion supports your community directly and you gain the benefit of knowing that your money will go to serve the cause you are supporting and keep their programs running for years to come."

— Excerpted from "Making Magic" by Matt Barlow

Thank you to our 2017-2018 funders and partners!

- Canada 150 Fund
- City of Peterborough
- Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough
- Community Living Peterborough
- East Side Mario's—Peterborough
- Fleming College
- Harry E. Foster Charitable Foundation
- Kawartha FEST
- Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board
- PVNC Catholic District School Board
- K.M. Winter Jewellery Studio Inc.
- Mackenzie Investments
- Ontario Trillium Fund
- Pilkington—Henniger Charitable Trust
- Realtors Care Foundation
- Sadleir House



Heads Up for Inclusion

270 George St. N, Garden Court Box I, Peterborough ON, K9J 3H1 P: 705-876-0383

www.headsupforinclusion.ca



Thank you Mackenzie Investments for believing in inclusion! Your continued support has helped to make our Amigos programs possible!



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



www.headsupforinclusion.ca