



# Amigo News

Spring/Summer 2013

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## PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:

- Kenner C.VI
- Kenner Intermediate
- Lakefield District S.S
- Thomas A. Stewart S.S.
- East Northumberland S.S.
- Courtice S.S.
- Crestwood S.S.
- Warsaw Public School

Heads Up for Inclusion board members include:

- John McNutt, *Chair*
- Jill Duncan, *Vice Chair*
- Bob Crow, *Treasurer*
- Marshall Elliot
- Catherine McGrath
- Kylie Hainer
- Paul Courneya



**HEADS UP FOR INCLUSION**

## The Amazing Race comes to Peterborough!



**Heads Up For Inclusion featured its very first Amazing Race** on Saturday May 25th. With nine teams of 4-6 people, the race provided an opportunity for our community members to learn about meaningful inclusion, accessibility awareness, and engage in team building exercises. Ten businesses from the downtown core participated as destinations on the race including Wild Rock, Peterborough EATS, Community Living Peterborough, and the New Canadians Center.

Armed with a map, teams navigated through the downtown area to reach all of the destinations within a given time frame. Each location held the clue to the team's next destination,

and many required the team to complete tasks like signing the alphabet using American Sign Language (ASL), using adaptive equipment to move items or themselves from point A to point B, or answer questions that encouraged



*Kylie Hainer (HUI board) and Amazing Racer!*



*East Side Mario and Kenner Amigos' team.*

getting to know their team mates better. All activities were intended to focus on the many ways to create a more inclusive community.

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@headsupamigos  
Facebook.com/  
headsupforinclusion

## Welcome to HUI

### Kylie Hainer

Kylie is currently studying at Fleming College in the Police foundations course., but HUI has known of her talents and passion for inclusion from when she was an Amigo at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School. Kylie is still connected to her Amigos partners from school, and is exploring new ways she can give back to her community through her board involvement with HUI as a **volunteer director**.

### Sharon Hainer

Sharon has a long standing commitment to working with youth with intellectual disabilities through her role as an EA in schools. Through her work she has first hand experience seeing the Amigos program in action and is continually looking for ways to create inclusive opportunities for her students, both in school and in the community. Sharon also has a talent for fund raising, with lots of community connections, and we look forward to her input and experience on the HUI **fund development committee**.

## Message from the Chair



*John McNutt, Chair*

Though our Amigos program was on hiatus for most of the school year, **the past few months have been busy here at Heads Up for Inclusion**. A break in the school program gave us the opportunity to develop new ways of creating inclusive relationships throughout the community.

Under the leadership of our new program co-ordinator Caitlin Dunham, HUI hosted its first Amazing Race. This event allowed students, community members, and local organizations to work together in ways that support and celebrate different abilities. We are inspired by the enthusiasm and generosity

of all participants and donors.

Along with the Council for Persons with Disabilities, HUI was proud to host Peterborough's first Inclusion Conference at Fleming College. This was an opportunity to learn about diversity and accessibility and show appreciation for some of the efforts that people are making to support inclusion.

This conference was just one of the venues at which our staff were able to share ideas about making our community inclusive. Caitlin, along with research and development co-ordinator Anna Lee and workshop facilitator Daniel Lombardi have had several opportunities to speak to community groups about why it's important to create environments where everyone's abilities are respected.

We are also grateful for the support of our new Board members, Kylie Hainer and Paul Courneya, as well as our advisory member Sharon Hainer. Rosanna Haroutounian has also been helpful in promoting our events through social media and the website. Thanks to all staff, board members, and volunteers for your continued support.

## HUI Amigos' Bursary Winners

Congratulations to **Victoria Salem** of Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, and **Jessica Rudkin** of Campbellford District High School for receiving this year's Amigos Bursary. The Amigos Bursary is awarded for a student's dedication to participating in the Amigos School Program and demonstrating excellence and commitment in promoting inclusion in their school and community.

## Blue Sky Event



*Caitlin (HUI) and youth at Blue Sky.*

On May 7th, HUI attended the **Blue Sky Event**. Caitlin Dunham and Rosanna Haroutounian spent the evening engaging with local youth interested in the work of HUI. After sharing our stories of meaningful inclusion youth made buttons to represent HUI in our community. Local youth bands, community agencies, fun games and food provided a fun-filled experience for youth celebrating a diverse Peterborough.

# Amazing Race . . . continued

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The Amazing Race attracted teams from a diverse range of groups. There were teams from East Side Mario's, the Canadian Canoe Museum, Crestwood and Kenner Amigos to name a few. Everyone crossed the finish line as one inclusive group at Nicholls Oval and celebrated their efforts with a barbecue and entertainment from WashBoard Hank. All teams received awards and prizes that reflected outstanding team work, inclusive business practice, and inclusive leadership.



The Amazing Race finish line!



Prizes for everyone! Rosanna Haroutounian presenting CPD Youth Committee with their prize, Sharon Hainer (HUI) in background.

Heads Up For Inclusion would like to thank all participants, donors, businesses and volunteers whose contributions made this day so memorable for the youth of this community.



Thanks to Peterborough Lakefield Community Police and Kawartha FEST for their support of the post-race BBQ!



New Canadians Centre destination - Teams learn how to sign the alphabet using ASL.

## HUI Receives Organizational Leadership & Innovation Grant to Move Meaningful Inclusion Forward



HUI gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough, a public foundation serving the City and County of Peterborough. The Community Foundation builds charitable funds and provides grants to charitable organizations whose projects contribute to the quality of life in the region (for more information visit [www.cfgp.ca](http://www.cfgp.ca)).

Thanks to CFGP, HUI will now begin to move forward with the initial stages of a Collective Impact Initiative, developing the idea of community collaborations and meaningful inclusion in Peterborough. As part of this project we will be collaborating with many community organizations and individuals through focus groups, partnership development and completing a landscape review - you'll be hearing from us!