

## FEBRUARY 2012 NEWSFLASH

### *"World of Potential"*

Down Syndrome Association of Ontario Conference at the  
Great Wolf Lodge in Niagara Falls, Ontario

**In order to receive the group rate guests must quote the following:**

Group Name: Down Syndrome Association of Ontario

Arrival Date: October 19 – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012

OR

Online at [www.greatwolf.com](http://www.greatwolf.com)

- 1) Select the Niagara Falls Location
- 2) At the top of the home page please enter in the arrival and departure date and click "check availability".
- 3) Under "Offer Code" enter in your group code **1210DOWN\_001** and click "check"
- 4) Book your room as they are going quickly!



### *Valentine's Family Dance & Potluck*

**Date:** Saturday, February 11th, 2012

**Place:** St. John's Anglican Church (beside our office)

**Time:** 4:00 pm—7:00 pm.

Bring Your Favourite Food Dish! Bring Your Dancing Shoes! Bring Your Family!  
**WEAR RED!**

The agency will provide drinks!

Please call the office to let us know if you will be attending at  
749-6695 by February 3rd, 2012!

### *Condolences to the Christensen Family!*

*It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of a valued member of our agency –*

*Bill Christensen, Age 60*

*Bill was the husband of Norma (secretary on the Board of the Directors), father of Julien of Germany, Derek age 20 and Kayla age 10. Bill loved his family, his home, his hobbies and stories. The family has asked that anyone wanting to make a donation in Bill's memory, that they make them to our agency. Service will be held on Friday, February 3rd, 2012 at 2 pm. at the Wallis Funeral Home in Warkworth.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
DONATIONS**

Mary Sinclair  
Calvin and Kelly Sinclair  
Mary Lou Eastwood  
Elaine Scharfe

***SEAC REPS!***

**Many members have school age children and struggle with educating themselves regarding the rights of their children to an education and the proper supports in the school system. We encourage all our members to reach out to our SEAC reps, Kathy Traynor for the Public Board and Debra Beauchamp of the Catholic Board, with any questions or concerns you may have. Many times they have already researched or dealt with issues or questions you may have. Knowledge is power and our children rely on us to advocate for them.**

**You can always call the office as well for information.**

**Kathy – 705-740-9533**

**Debra – 705-742-0054**

**AGENCY AWARDS**

Nominations are now open for this year's entries to the awards initiated during our Anniversary year. Awards will be presented at the "Field of Dreams" Spring Gala at the Holiday Inn on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The criteria and nomination process is listed below. We welcome all entries from our membership.

1. Employer of the Year Award - This award may be presented annually to recognize a local employer who has shown ongoing support of an employee with Down syndrome and/or shown excellence in supporting the Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough.
2. Inclusive Education Award - This award may be presented annually to recognize a local teacher, support worker or school who has shown outstanding support for full inclusion of students with Down syndrome.
3. Volunteer Award - This award may be presented annually to recognize a volunteer who has made a significant donation of time and/or expertise to promote awareness of the Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough.
4. Business Award – This award may be presented annually to recognize a local business who has shown ongoing support of an employee with Down syndrome and/or shown excellence in supporting the Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough.

Nomination Process:

- Submit the full name, address, and phone number of the individual or organization that you believe meets the award criteria as well as the award.
- Provide a brief description as to why you feel the individual or organization is a worthy recipient of this award.
- All nominations will be considered by the Awards committee.

Deadline for Submissions: Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

***Wee Ups and Downs Is Up And Running Again!***

After three years, this fabulous program will be starting again at our office. There have been a number of new babies born in the past year and we are excited to welcome them to our agency! The first meeting will be Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 12 pm.

This program was started last month in Brighton to accommodate families in the Port Hope/Cobourg/Brighton area with five new families.

Parents share experiences and advice over coffee and snacks and their siblings have time to play and interact. This program is open to all families who are not in school yet. Marion will be attending from the Peterborough County Health Unit as well.

***Come out and join the fun and meet some new babies!***