

## APRIL 2015 NEWSFLASH

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Ellen Murphy did a wonderful job representing our agency to drop the puck at the Peterborough Petes game on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Thirty people attended the game to encourage and celebrate World Down Syndrome Day! Great job Ellen!

During the Petes first home playoff game, we had the opportunity to participate in the chuck-a-puck following the second period. Thanks to the following who helped sell pucks: Mark and Rebecca Westlake, Cindy and Pete Weiss, Melissa Jegeris and McKenna King. The winner was Lorne Turk who won an autographed Kadri jersey and the Effer family who won 4 passes to the Hockey Hall of Fame! The agency raised \$401 during this fun competition .... they won too so it was a great night for everyone!

### ***DINE AND DANCE PROGRAM!!***

***April 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>, May 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015***

***Time - 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm***

***Cost - \$60.00***

**You must pre-register by calling the office at 705-749-6695.**

***NEW MOMS NEWS!***

The Wee Ups and Downs group meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 10 am – 12 pm at the office. Dates will be: April 14<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup>!

If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please call the office at 705-749-6695.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION**

*Dr. Doug McDougall  
Flora McDougall  
Kathy Ross  
Peterborough Utilities Group  
Laura Sciore  
Kerri and Jeff Mather  
Walmart*

**MEET A NEW BOARD MEMBER  
ELAINE SCHARFE**

I am so thrilled to be a new member of the DSAP board and hope to give back to an organization that has supported my family for almost 12 years -- starting just a few months after my son, Benjamin, was born. We have enjoyed everything from the annual picnic to Wee Ups and Downs. The last few years, Ben has had lots of fun and made life long friends at summer school and Saturday music, but his all time favourite thing to do is playing the piano for his friends at the Glebe House. I came to Peterborough in 1997, when I started to work at Trent, and my participation in DSAP has cemented my commitment to this community. One of the reasons why we have a Down syndrome agency that is the envy of many across the province is because of our fantastic members and I hope to serve you well over the next few months. I know that I speak for all members of the board when I say that if you have any suggestions or concerns, please let us know. I look forward to working with you to strengthen DSAP for our children.



Elaine and Ben playing pirates in Cuba!



### THREE CHEERS FOR BOSTON PIZZA!!!!

Peterborough BOSTON PIZZA has generously agreed to partner with our agency in the first of many fundraising initiatives.

First. Effective immediately, ANYONE dining at either of the two BP locations in Peterborough, simply write "DSAP" (or..."Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough") on the back of their bill and Boston Pizza will donate 10% of the bill back to our agency. How easy is that!

Second. Social opportunity. The second Sunday of each month (starting 12April). Everyone is invited to Boston Pizza (north end location on Chemong Road) to eat as a group from 4-6pm. Anyone who attends and is SEATED by 5pm, will have their name entered into a draw for a \$25 BP gift certificate. No reservations required. Just say you are with the Down syndrome group and they will attempt to seat us all in the same area.

PLEASE SHARE this information with everyone you know so we can make this new partnership a success!

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Spring! It is finally here! Hooray! For many of us it means no longer having to struggle with getting others (young or not so young) outside and breathing fresh air again! Spring is also a time of new beginnings and no one can appreciate that more than your Board members, who are embracing the idea of fresh outlooks at every turn.

All members of the Board have committed themselves to working on specific elements of our freshly drafted strategic plan to examine and develop new ideas around programming, member involvement, and fundraising. Some great ideas are already percolating!

All things old are new again as we look forward to another season of amazing events too! In February, despite the challenging weather, many families enjoyed an evening of crafts, dancing, yummy food and great company for Valentine's. It was a fun night!

Most recently, the celebration of World Down Syndrome Awareness Day went off beautifully with the D.S.A.P. Spaghetti Dinner and Cake Auction. This event was amazing and broke our previous years' fund-raising records!

Looking ahead, we hope to see many of you at the Gala in April and the Girl's Night Out Bingo in May. All in all it's been a great start to 2015!

In appreciating all the good things that have taken place so far in 2015, as well as all that is yet to come, it is essential that a moment is taken to recognize our Association's growth and all that has been poured into making that happen... a moment to think about Deb Reid. As all of you know, Deb is the Executive Director of the D.S.A.P. and this year marks 12 years since the beginning of our relationship with her. It also marks 12 years of dedication, giving, and tireless effort. Although Deb is always the first to shrug off any acknowledgement for her contributions to the growth of our Association, it is important that a huge thank you be extended to her. So, Deb, thank you from all of the families and individuals that have benefitted from all you do. For that, we are truly grateful.

In closing, on behalf of the Board I extend the happiest of spring wishes to everyone! It's been a long, hard winter; spring is such a wonderful time of year to look back on all that has been accomplished as well as to revel in the fresh starts that wait for us!

Sincerely, Cindy Wilson.

**7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPAGETTI DINNER AND CAKE AUCTION  
TO  
CELEBRATE WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY  
ANOTHER SUCCESS!**

A full house celebrated World Down Syndrome Day on Saturday, March 21st at Westdale Church!

While guests enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by Kelly Nolan, Irene Pyle, Devon Knowlton, Emily Fitzgerald, Rachel Jehu, Carley Warren and Josh Knoll, patrons had an opportunity to bid on some yummy cakes which raised over \$1,000 !!!!

Many thanks to the following who donated beautiful cakes:

Melissa Hofbauer, Sobey's – Towerhill, Sondra Fitzgerald, Kathy Traynor, Irene Pyle, Stickling's, Betty's Pies and Tarts, Allyson DeNoble, Colombe Hammond, Nicole Budd, Black Honey Desserts, Ella Clarke, Desautel Family, Reeves Family, Norma Christensen, Dairy Queen – Chemong Road, Laura Geffert, Lois Ross, Amber Sanders and Jenna Ross's Aunt!

It is always a fun night to share a meal, conversation and raise some much needed funds for the agency!

