



Down Syndrome
Association of Peterborough

DECEMBER 2014 NEWSFLASH

You're invited to our annual

Christmas Party

Date: Sunday, December 7th
Place: Sports and Wellness Centre
775 Brealey Drive
Time: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Swimming - 2 pm to 3 pm
Entertainment – 3 pm

Please bring a salad or dessert for the potluck
The agency will provide pizza and drinks.



Please R.S.V.P. by November 28th
to the office at 749-6695
(Don't forget your child's wrapped present)

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2015 MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ❖ Improv Comedy Night – Saturday, January 10th (more info to follow)
- ❖ Valentine's Dance and Potluck – Saturday, February 7th (more info to follow)
- ❖ Peterborough Petes Drop (rescheduled from November) – Thursday, March 19th
- ❖ World Down Syndrome Day Spaghetti Dinner & Cake Auction – Saturday, March 21st
- ❖ Dream Gala – Friday, April 17th
- ❖ Mom's Night Out Bingo – Tuesday, May 12th
- ❖ Family Picnic – Sunday, June 7th

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Kathy Ross
The Nolan Family
Elaine Scharfe
Don Frew & Sons
Flora McDougall
Rachel and George Vaughan
Dave and Leah Frew

Greetings fellow DSAP members!

I hope this message finds everyone to be well and looking forward to the holiday season. As members of your new board of directors, we feel it is important to stay in touch with you and provide you with updates whenever we can. So, here it is!

Since assuming our positions on the board, we have been very busy reviewing DSAP by-laws, policies, procedures and objectives. Although it isn't thrilling work, it is a job we have undertaken due to its importance. Some of these items have not been reviewed since the inception of the DSAP and, to our credit, we are a much bigger organization than we were then. It is important to us as your board that these materials reflect the strong, forward-moving and insightful agency that the DSAP is, and that they are relevant to our current times.

Another small project we have taken on is to secure more member feedback. Going forward, DSAP will be looking for your input on all programming to ensure that we are delivering what is optimal for our members. When you find yourself being asked to complete one of these surveys, please take the time to go through it, give us your perspective, so that we can move forward confident that our agency is meeting your needs to the best of its ability.

Please remember though, the opportunity for your input is not limited to surveys. If at any time you have suggestions you would like to provide, please do not hesitate to contact us and share your ideas.

Speaking on behalf of the Board, I wish you all the best for the holidays and hope to see you at our annual Christmas party.

Best wishes,
Cindy Wilson

Buddies Bowl-A-Thon

In recognition of Down Syndrome Awareness Week, families took to the lanes to bowl, win prizes, enjoy pizza and delicious cupcakes prepared by Fraser Mallory; all in support of Respite House. **The event raised over \$3,500! Up more than 15% over last year!**

We are excited to announce that the Reeves Family raised the most per family of **\$800**. We would also like to recognize the following for their generous pledges and to thank all the bowlers for making our event a success:

The *Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough* would like to thank our sponsors for their generous donations:

Baagwating Community Association, Crayola Canada (Lindsay), Riley's Restaurant, Sullivan's Pharmacy, Lakeview Bowl, Chapter's, Ben vanVeen, Don Frew & Sons, Marlin Travel, Port Perry, Little Caesars, Joanne Mallory, Anne Kennedy, Frank and Colombe Hammond, Morello's YIG and Peterborough Chiropractic.

A very special thank you to Aimee who volunteered for the afternoon to help make the event a huge success!

MEET A NEW BOARD MEMBER VIRGINIA FREW



I am so very fortunate to be part of a large family. Anyone who comes from a large family knows that although they often drive you crazy, they ALWAYS support you.

DSAP is a family too.

Manny was a month old and just out of the hospital when I packed him up and took him to our first “WEE UPS & DOWNS” gathering. I had no clue what to expect. Deb Reid greeted everyone with a huge reassuring hug. I sat down beside another mother who was cuddling a baby boy in her arms. “Hi, I’m Cindy” she said.

For over 11 years now, we have attended functions and participated fully in a variety of programs. The support our agency provides to our 65 member families is an incredible comfort. Quite frankly, I believe we have the

best agency in the province.

The range of programs offered for all age groups is impressive but like any organization we need to continue to try new ideas and grow. I recently joined the board of directors because I believe in DSAP wholeheartedly. DSAP is my son’s second family. He will continue to grow through the programs and has formed lifelong true friends. My expectations of my son differ little from those I have for his older sister...to be a valued independent member of society.

I challenge every member to take five minutes to brainstorm and offer suggestions for new programs (skill building AND social) or fundraising ideas so we can continue to provide our kids with every opportunity they deserve.

GIVING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 2014

Imagine a day dedicated to giving back ... around the world, across Canada and in your own community and our agency! Just as Black Friday and Cyber Monday kicks off the holiday shopping season, Giving Tuesday is the opening day of the giving season. It is a time to celebrate and encourage a financial donation to support our agency into 2015!

Maybe you have a relative or special friend that you wondering what to buy them for Christmas...or just the giving spirit...think of our agency and make your giving donation on December 2nd. Cheques may be mailed to 65 Brock Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9H 2P2 or drop one into our mail slot at the front door. A tax receipt will be issued for donations over \$10.00!

DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS BUS ADS

These ads ran on the buses for a month to bring awareness to the community so they could witness their beauty and potential every day! A very, very special thank you to the wonderful Rebekah Littlejohn in Lakefield, who continues to capture and design these beautiful faces every year!



BEN SCHARFE AND LEAH STENNER



JAKE MATHER AND RYAN CROWE



MAY HALE