

## FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSFLASH

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### Christmas Party Highlights

Always a fun time! - Members enjoyed a swim at the Sports and Wellness Centre, wonderful Christmas music by the talented Melissa Payne, a present from Santa and pizza, with lots and lots of desserts!! There was lots of opportunity to meet new families and catch up with old friends while the kids travelled around the room! Thanks so much to all those who attended...we really appreciate your support and hope you have a terrific 2015!



May's redecorating the tree!



Melissa, Breanna and Hannah making music!

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

***January 30<sup>TH</sup>, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>TH</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>***

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

***Cost - \$60.00***

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

**Breakdancing will resume after March Break!**

***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.

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

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION***

Frank and Colombe Hammond  
Dan Hale & Anita Arnold  
Mary Sinclair  
Ingredion Canada Inc.  
Sarah Dunlop  
Nicholas Ragaz



**MEET A NEW BOARD MEMBER  
DAN MOLONEY, VICE-CHAIR**

I have been with Sun Life Financial as a Financial Advisor for the last 8 years. I was born and raised in Peterborough and enjoy spending time with my wife Amy and son Mack in the west end of Peterborough. I enjoy spending time with friends and family as well as travelling with my family. I have been involved in several local agencies and boards and am thrilled to be back on the Board of Directors and excited for what the future holds for the agency!

**SPRING GALA COMMITTEE IS LOOKING  
FOR DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS**

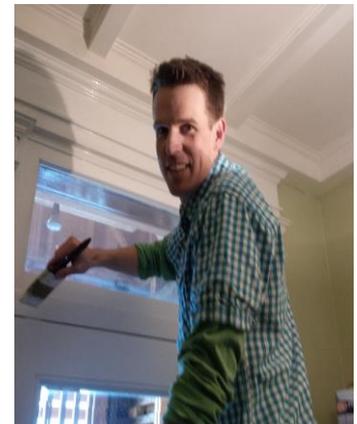
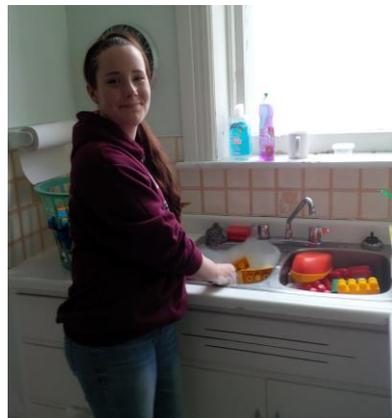
Do you have some free time to assist with the organizing of the Gala this year?

The committee meets monthly and needs your assistance in the solicitation of donations for our silent and live auctions!

Call the office at 705-749-6695 if you are interested and can help out!

**Glebe House Benefits from Support from Trinity College Students**

In early December, four students and a staff visited our office for three afternoons to do some painting and toy cleanup. Their Service Learning Project included touching up the trim on the entire main floor and washing all the toys. The students did a great job and the place looks brand new! Thanks to Steve Patterson, dad of Sarah, who coordinated this work bee for the agency! It was a learning experience for everyone!



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Happy New Year Greetings!

I hope this edition of the Newsflash finds everyone to be well and that you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season. Although we can all find it difficult to get back to routine after time away, rest assured that your board has begun 2015 on the right foot! One of the jobs we have decided to tackle this year is to revise our strategic plan. The first meeting to get us started on this important task has already been held and it provided us with some insight, as we begin about where the future will take us.

Some of our discussions during this planning meeting centered around fund-raising and programming. Although we received some great news recently from the United Way (they have granted us transition money, which will give us full funding for 3 additional months, beyond the original cut-off date) this is clearly just a temporary measure, which provides us with some additional time. The issue of finding alternate sources of funds remains. As an agency we will have to consider new sources of money as well as what types of programming we can continue on with, in order to continue to be viable. Some of this has already begun with our recent fun event with Linda Kash.

I share this to impress upon all of us that this is a time when our Association needs the support of its members. Your feedback, your involvement, your attendance, your time, these are all important factors for the D.S.A.P. going forward. In the past many of us have been afforded the luxury of thinking the D.S.A.P. would always be there for us. I know personally I took for granted that the Association would always be around to support my son and our family, that my efforts (and sometimes my attendance) were not really required. How could the future of an organization which has the only Down Syndrome Association office in the entire country, a vital organization which supports so many and operates such important programs and connections be in any jeopardy?? Well, recent events have been jarring; suddenly the threat to this incredible organization feels very real.

I invite us all to look towards 2015 by considering the future of our Association, which we all hold so dear, and give some thought to how our individual contributions can help to give it strength, as we move ahead.

All the best to you and yours in the New Year.

Cindy Wilson

### ***A Fun Night with Linda Kash & Friends***

On Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> the lounge at Showplace was packed for an evening of laughter and improv comedy with Linda, Mike Davidson, Dan Fewings, Danny Bronson, Dan Smith, Quinn Shearer and Tom! Virginia Frew took home \$248 from the 50/50 draw and total proceeds amounted to \$820.00! Thanks Linda & Friends for your time and energy...we all need to laugh!!!

