

Esprit Newsletter

Spring/Summer Edition 2009

Ottawa-Carleton Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OCAPDD)

Association d'Ottawa-Carleton pour personnes ayant une déficience intellectuelle (AOCPDI)



Ways to Give

In the midst of the world's economic downturn, OCAPDD remains focused on the support and personal well being of people with developmental disabilities. We have set-up new ways to give directly to OCAPDD from our website.

To learn more about our giving options and how you can make a difference, please visit our website at www.ocapdd.on.ca.

OCAPDD needs your support to continue our important mission.

United Way Campaign

Again this past year, the committees from different OCAPDD programs actively participated in the United Way campaign.



We ate well at head office with our weekly soup days; won \$'s from our very own Bingo Lottery (which will be held again due to popular demand); and, had great participation from our clients in the "Christmas Wreath Decoration contest". We then held a silent auction and sold all the wreaths at OCAPDD's Wine and Cheese Reception. The winner of the contest was the "CSS Drop-In Group". Great Job!

CUPE Local 1521 again was a huge supporter with a \$500 donation. Archives has always had big success with their draws, which this year totalled over \$750.

With payroll deduction, we raised over \$6,745.

If you have any suggestions for the United Way Campaign please forward them to the United Way Team at head office. We are always looking for new ways to get more people involved.

United Way Ottawa supports our Coordinator of Volunteers position, as well as our Transportation Services. These services are crucial to OCAPDD clients.

Please donate and/or participate in our 2009 Campaign!

Jocelyne Parent Lewis, Director of Community Resources

Many Thanks to Mews Chevrolet Limited!

The Quinlan Centre was the recipient of a fundraising event held at Mews Chevrolet Ltd. in Orleans. Each year Mews employee, Eric, organizes a fundraiser barbeque, donating all monies raised to a local charity. The barbeque is held every second Friday and has become a popular lunch time event with employees and patrons at Mews and neighbouring businesses.

On Friday May 1st, Mews held the first barbeque of the season, and raised over \$260 for the Quinlan Centre.

Tina Tietz, a former employee with OCAPDD, has an inside connection at Mews and recommended that the Quinlan Centre be added to the list of recipients. Thank you Tina!

On behalf of everyone at the Quinlan Centre, I say thank you to Eric and Mews Chevrolet Limited.

Ann-Marie Engelberts-Cousineau, Supervisor Quinlan Centre

2008 Christmas Gift Wrap Project

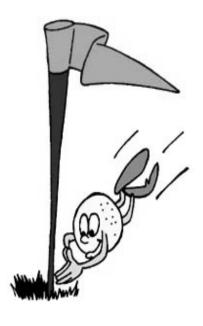
The past Christmas Gift Wrap Project was a bit of a challenge due to the OC bus strike. Overall it was again a success even if our sales were down from previous years. Thanks to all those who volunteered their time and helped profile OCAPDD. We generated approximately \$12,500 between the St-Laurent Shopping Centre and Carlingwood Mall.

Members from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and many other volunteers assisted us in this great annual event. We would like to convey our special thanks to Simon Arsenault, who coordinated all the volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

People come back each year to get their gifts wrapped while supporting OCAPDD.

All of your continued time and efforts contributed greatly toward the success of this special event.

Jocelyne Parent Lewis, Director of Community Resources



THE GREENS ARE READY!

The sun is shining and the snow is finally gone! Come join us for our 9th Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 15th, 2009 at the Hautes Plaines Golf Club.

Our MC once again is the one and only "Bill Parker" from MAJIC 100. Again this year we will be hosting a silent and live auction, as well as door prizes and our famous card game.

This is a great day to spend time with a few friends, cousins, Mom, Dad or even your boss! Registration in the tournament has become a well received Father's Day gift too.

Remember, a bad day on a sunny golf course is better than a good day in the office.

Please see the inserts for more details.

Jocelyne Parent Lewis, Director of Community Resources

Hooray! The Garlic made it through the winter!

We're pleased to report that almost all of the over 40,000 garlic cloves which 100+ volunteers planted on Thanksgiving Saturday made it through our long and cold winter -- thanks to a good covering of straw and a (very) ample snowfall. In mid-April the straw was lifted, and we're now in the process of placing the irrigation hoses and then replacing the straw between garlic shoots in order to help control the growth of weeds.



Again this year, we are most appreciative that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is, for the 13th straight year, committed to providing many hundreds of volunteer hours to ensure the success of this major project. We are pleased to recognize the years of strong support which Simon and Cindy Arsenault have provided to the Farm and Gift Wrap projects and we wish them well in their move to Southwestern Ontario.

We warmly welcome Rob and Jennifer Potter as their replacements and look forward to working with them. We are delighted to hear that all of our other wonderful volunteers plan to be back at the Farm again this year, along with some first time volunteers.

Depending, of course, on the weather we expect that those delicious garlic scapes will be ready to pick in late July. We can never estimate with any accuracy when the garlic will be ready to be harvested -- it's been as early as July 9th and as late as August 19th. Just call the Silver Spring Farm Garlic Hotline at 613-569-8993 extension 409 for the latest up-dates.

See you at the Farm !! Ed Haines and Jack Fraser

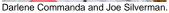
Volunteer Recognition Evening

On Tuesday, April 21, 2009 over 90 people participated in an evening of friendship at the Volunteer Appreciation Evening held at the Loeb Centre. Volunteers enjoyed West Indian "Irie" Eats prepared by Sixth Sense Catering. Special thanks to Trevor Clost and Bank of America/MBNA for helping to sponsor the evening.

Five year awards went out to Andrea Tye-Campbell, Darlene Commanda, Sarah McClure and Dan Moore. Ten year awards went to Robert Blasutti and Angela Blasutti.

Debbie Blasutti, Coordinator of Volunteers







Sarah McClure and Kelly Wilson.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APRIL 19 – APRIL 24, 2009

"Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale and it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds, it changes the odds."

Bill Clinton

Article about the Horticultural Plant Maintenance Program

Author: Sonja Dussault, National Research Council (NRC) Created: April 3, 2009

Title: Who's Maintaining Your Office Plants? From: The Source

Teaser: Learn about the people who care for the plants at the Booth St. Complex in Ottawa.

Ottawa—A variety of plants brighten several of the office buildings in the Booth St. Complex. If you work in these buildings, you've probably noticed the people that take care of these plants without knowing much about them. Here's your chance to learn more!

"I really like taking care of plants," says Ryan Smith. "I'm also very good at it, since I got to do a lot of this in high school." Ryan has been working for the Horticultural Plant Maintenance Program for the past nine years, which brings him to NRCan weekly.

The program has been in place for over 28 years, and it is one of the several offered by the Ottawa-Carleton Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OCAPDD). The goal of this association is to allow persons with developmental disabilities to participate more actively in their communities.

The Horticultural Plant Maintenance Program serves more than just Booth St. With a total of 40 workers, the program offers tropical plant maintenance services to many offices throughout Ottawa. This means watering, trimming and soiling plants, as well as replacing old and unhealthy ones.

About OCAPDD:

- Founded in 1956
- Created by a group of parents who wanted to give their children access to education.
- Is the largest and longest-serving association of its kind in Ottawa.
- Supports hundreds of persons with developmental disabilities.
- Assists in finding work opportunities, living arrangements and dealing with daily activities.

The workers must have good social skills, be able to access public transportation and work independently as well as in a team, but most of all, this job is based on their interests.

But these workers do more than just maintain plants — they also bring a cheerful energy to the office. During their visits, you'll always be sure to find them joking and chatting with employees. "I get to meet a lot of people in the buildings we visit, and they are always lots of fun," says Ryan.

"This is a great program because it offers semi-competitive employment options for individuals who might not be able to be employed in the competitive workplace," says Jim Rudkoski, supervisor of the program. "It can also be a stepping stone for future employment."

Do you know of similar stories in your region? We'd love to hear them. Contact us at <u>The Source</u>.

Kudo's to...

Henschel Business Services for providing free Income Taxes service for a dozen of OCAPDD individuals.

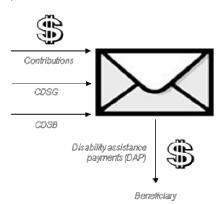
Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)

What is it?

It is intended to help parents and others to save for the long-term financial security of a child with a disability." (Canada Revenue Agency)

The basic structure of the RDSP is made up of four main elements:

- 1. Contributions to the plan made by friends and relatives;
- 2. Government grants (Canada Disability Savings Grant)
- 3. Government bonds (Canada Disability Savings Bonds)
- 4. Tax-deferred growth
 - Contributions are not tax-deductible, but all growth in the account (capital gains, interest and/or dividends) occurs tax free.
 The withdrawals are taxed (everything except the actual contributions to the plan) at the marginal tax rate of the beneficiary.



Who can contribute / Who qualifies?

Who can establish the plan?

• Any person eligible for the disability tax credit and resident in Canada, their parent or legal representative (SIN number is required for beneficiary and person establishing the plan).

Who can contribute?

• Anyone! There are no restrictions here: parents, other family, friends, or even the beneficiary.

Who qualifies to be a beneficiary? DTC: T2201.

• "Individuals who have an impairment in physical or mental functions that is severe and prolonged"

How does it work?

- Contributions can be made to the fund at any time, in any amount, up to a lifetime maximum of \$200,000, so long as the beneficiary is under 60 years of age.
- When withdrawals commence, there is a maximum annual limit imposed based on the life expectancy of the beneficiary and the funds invested.
- Payments can only be directed to the beneficiary (or his estate), a contributor cannot see his or her contribution refunded.
- Grants and bonds depend on « family income » until 18 years old, then it is the family income of the beneficiary: their own income and their spouse's income.

Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG):

- By family income
 - Up to \$74,357: 300% on first \$500 and 200% on next \$1,000
 - Over \$74,357: 100% on first \$1,000
- Maximum lifetime limit of \$70,000
- Beneficiary must be under 50 years old
- Vests after 10 years

Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB):

- By family income
 - Up to \$20,883: \$1,000
 - Over \$20,883: phased out gradually (\$0 at income of \$37,178)
- Maximum lifetime limit of \$20,000
- Beneficiary must be under 50 years old
- Not contingent on contributions
- Vests after 10 years

Withdrawals (Disability Assistance Payments):

- Withdrawals must commence by age 60;
- Regular / fixed withdrawal amounts are based on:
 - value of funds in the plan
 - age of the beneficiary
 - life expectancy of the beneficiary
- How is life expectancy determined?
 - Greater of the beneficiary's age in the year of withdrawal OR the beneficiary's life expectancy as determined by StatsCan (year of birth, sex, province of birth).
 - Director of the plan provides the issuer of the plan with written certification by a medical doctor.

Withdrawals (Disability Assistance Payments):

- Included in beneficiary's income upon withdrawal: CDSBs, CDSGs, all investment income on a **pro-rata basis**.
- For example:
 - If the plan holds \$600,000 (contributions, grants, bonds, and growth) and the directors have contributed \$200,000, 2/3 of every DAP with be taxable income to the beneficiary.
- It *seems* that non "Annual DAP" withdrawals could be permitted (lump-sum) if specified in the set-up of the plan (this will become clear as the plans are introduced)

In the case of the death of the beneficiary:

- Value of the plan is paid out to the beneficiary's estate, minus any CDSBs and CDSGs granted in the 10 years previous to the date of withdrawal.
- The same rules apply to any withdrawals as well as sudden non-qualification for the DTC unless the minister intervenes in the case where DTC status is uncertain or in dispute.

Transfers between accounts:

- One beneficiary per plan (unlike RESP family plan);
- It is possible to transfer to a new plan, contingent on the closure of the old one;
- Any one beneficiary can have only one plan at a time;
- Not compatible with registered retirement plans (RRSP / RRIF).

Excerpts taken from Workshop on the RDSP written by

Brian V. Wilson, BMO Nesbitt Burns Capital Centre 269 Laurier Ave. West, Suite 201 Ottawa Ontario K1P 5J9 Tel: (613) 567-6244 - Fax: (613) 237-7801

& In Memoriam &

André (Andy) de Breyne (April 19, 1951 – December 5, 2008)

It was with shock and sadness that we heard of Andy's sudden passing.

Andy was an energetic, fun-loving person who loved to travel, meet new people and see and learn new things. He was a committed community volunteer with the Ottawa Humane Society and often spoke with affection of the dogs he was responsible for at the time. Because of his size and patience, Andy was put in charge of the bigger dogs - a task that he excelled in.

The first time I met Andy, we watched WWE wrestling with a couple of other clients that he had just met at Respite Expansion. Andy provided the play by play - in Spanish! - we all laughed so hard we were in tears.

Andy's good humour, love of life and eagerness to go out and experience the world, was an inspiration to all of us. He will be dearly missed, his passing is a loss for our community and the community at large.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Andy's family, especially his sister, Louise.

Bernard Gaudet, Respite Care

Wayne Walker (March 19, 1946 - December 19, 2008)

Wayne moved to Ottawa from the Rideau Regional Centre (Smith Falls) in 1974 with the support of OCAPDD. He resided at First Avenue and Aylmer Avenue homes.

He also shared many apartments with his peers. He worked at the Loeb Centre, Public Archives and the Roger Lovatt Centre. I had the pleasure of knowing and supporting Wayne through the Community Support Services Program.

Wayne was one of the good guys. He was easy-going, he never complained and he always had a big smile. Wayne loved country and rock n'roll music and movies. He owned the largest collection of cassettes, CDs and DVDs of anyone that I know. Wayne loved life. He was always active and he lived a full life. He was KING of his own castle. His life was full of good people and strong, lasting relationships.

Wayne will be missed by many people.

Debbie Rowan, CSS Case Manager

Denise Lepage (19 juin 1945 – 22 février 2009)

Denise a commencé à l'Atelier Arc en avril 1987. Elle sortait du Centre Régional Rideau pour venir vivre à Ottawa.

Elle était très bonne pour accomplir les différents contrats de travail dans l'atelier protégé mais elle a vraiment commencé à rayonner quand l'Atelier Arc est devenu le Centre de transition communautaire. Elle nous a fait connaître ses talents pour le bricolage, la cuisine et les artisanats comme le tricot. Elle aimait aussi se faire gâter en se faisant faire les cheveux, les ongles et autres.

Denise, tu seras manqué par tous tes amis que ton sourire a touchés.

Roxanne Gilbert, Centre de transition communautaire

Margaret (Maggie Mae) Clapperton (May 15, 1946 - March 12, 2009)

Maggie passed away on March 12th 2009 after a very brief illness; with her family, her stuffed leopard and her books by her side. Just the way Maggie would have liked it.

Maggie was a long time client of OCAPDD dating back to the late 70's when she started at ARC at the Roger Lovatt Centre and then remained there as a part of the Breezehill gang. After a period of retirement Maggie attended Rosenthal with Jennifer and her group. Maggie entered our residences in the mid 80's where she resided at First Avenue and 695 Richmond Road. Group home life wasn't for her so she moved to Watford House and Parklane Residence and was supported by Community Support Services.

Since 2005 Maggie lived with her sister Ruth, her nephew Kyle and his family Christina, Kale and Connor and the family cat Knox in Bells Corners. She enjoyed life there and enjoyed getting to spend lots of time with her sister and her family and get to go on train trips to the relatives and to the library to get new books.

One of my more favourite moments was when Maggie was still in bed when I got there. I went in and she was lying down. I asked her if she was sick! She said "no, she was mad". She was mad because the Sanford and Son reruns were taken off the air. I told her that I thought we could fix that problem and eventually we made it to Chapters and ordered the DVD set of Sandford and Son. Only did I find out after that Maggie didn't have a DVD player.

For the past year and a half Maggie had been going to the Rosenthal Centre where she enjoyed getting to cook and socialize with her peers. Although one day she was upset with another peer, she told her counsellor Jennifer that she should take the girl outside and tie her to a tree. Then to Jenn's surprise - Maggie told her that she wouldn't tell. It was funny and it was just so Maggie.

Maggie liked the simple things in life; coffee, her crumpets, a trip to Tim Horton's & a good book and the pleasure of a faithful TV program. God help you if the program time changed. One time, Maggie gave me a letter she wrote to a TV station and wanted me to mail it to complain that they had changed the time of a show.

If all these things were done then Maggie was happy and in her words they were A1 - just like her.

Judy Vance, CSS Case Manager

Robert Kielly (January 30, 1966 - April 17, 2009)

Robert started with OCAPDD in May of 2000 with the support of the CSS program. He took part in the CSS Aquafitness program at Jack Purcell Pool. He enjoyed his soaps. When he would meet someone new he would always compare them to someone from his favourite soaps. It was his ice breaker. Robert also enjoyed taking walks, talking hockey, doing activities in his building and of course wrestling.

Robert had a very big heart; when he had extra money he would buy fruit for people in his building that couldn't afford it.

I would like to thank Jamie Hicks his volunteer and friend from Citizen Advocacy for all his help over the years. I would also like to thank his cousin Nathalie Bourassa and family for the beautiful service that was held in Robert's honour. He will be sadly missed.

Alain Perreault, CSS Case Manager

&Staff In Memoriam &

Chipo Machinga (December 12, 1978 – February 25, 2009)

Chipo was hired as a relief staff with OCAPPD for the Oakdean residence in May 2008. She became a permanent counsellor-aide at Oakdean in August 2008 and went on maternity leave at the end of September 2008. Chipo worked as often as possible with energy and enthusiasm until her maternity leave started. Chipo always brought a very big smile to work and thoroughly enjoyed the people that are supported at Oakdean. We were all so looking forward to her return and to once again be captured by her caring and enjoyment of being with the people we care for. Chipo leaves behind her sevenmonth old daughter, her two and a half year old son and her husband. "No farewell words were spoken, no time to say goodbye, you were gone before we knew it, and only God knows why".

Tom Gillespie, Oakdean

John McRae (January 21, 1958 – February 28, 2009)

John McRae, a 25 year employee of OCAPDD passed away on February 28, 2009. At the time John was a member of the staff team at Roger Lovatt Centre (Breezehill).

All of our memories of John stem from working together at Rosenthal Centre for many years, There was John with the long hair, John with the wedge cut and Johnny gone Short.

John was the cheerleader of the underdog and he was a very determined advocate for all things just. His many clients and their families could attest to that. We also sat through many a staff meeting attempting to understand where Johnny was going with his idea once again. It was a Johnny light bulb moment.



John was a lover of his garden and his koi fish, of plaster paris flowers and fruit, diet coke, his cat Finnan, his shorts, his bike, his old Toyota Tercel with a broken radio and most recently his new condo. He could be serious, he was a joker and he could find a laugh in nearly any situation and help you through it along the way. He was a great co-worker and an amazing friend.

John was an organizer of many outside activities like snow sculpture building at Winterlude using all utensils out of the kitchen at Rosenthal, to a weekend in Wasaga Beach to visit Zina, to dinner at the Prescott on the patio of course. Fun times!

John will be missed by the clients he served at both Rosenthal and Breezehill over the years and by the many colleagues/friends he had along the way in his career at OCAPDD. In honor of you John, we will forever pass on the quarter to the person with the best idea at the table. Miss you!

Judy Vance, CSS and Jennifer Rogers, Rosenthal

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As noted in the last edition of Esprit, the Government passed Bill 77 – The Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act. While the Act has not yet been proclaimed into effect, the Ministry recently released a Plain Languages Guide to explain the details of the legislation. This guide was developed by the Ministry, with input from a focus group representing the sector. The guide is available in both official languages, and can be accessed from either OCAPDD's or the Ministry's website.

One of the changes set out in the legislation, is the creation of both an 'application entity' and a 'funding entity'. The roles of both of these entities are outlined in the guide noted above. While an announcement concerning where or what the application entity will be in this region has not been made yet, it is anticipated in the near future. Apparently, such announcements have already been made in other parts of the province. Based on previous messages from the Ministry, and the announcements made to date, it can be predicted with some certainty that the application entity will have a regional mandate, and not just for the City of Ottawa.

As also noted in the previous edition of Esprit, the second round of The Silver Spring Farm Scholarship Award has been completed. Due to a winter storm in December on the scheduled Board meeting date, the recipients were not announced until the January Board meeting. We pleased to inform you that Laura Holton and Rebecca McLaughlin were successful candidates this round. I would like to again thank both Susan Farrell and Mike Ladouceur for their involvement on the selection committee.



David A. Ferguson, Laura Holton, Rebecca McLaughlin and Stephen Arbuckle.

As you are no doubt aware, March 31, 2009 noted the final closure of the three remaining facilities in the Province of Ontario. Although the Southwestern Regional Centre in fact closed in the fall of 2008, both the Rideau Regional and Huronia Centres closed their doors at the end of March. More details on this provincial initiative can be obtained through the most recent edition of 'Spotlight on Transformation', the Ministry's newsletter. This can also be viewed on either the Ministry's or OCAPDD's website.

As many of you are aware, we have been developing a new Day Service that will be based at the Silver Spring Farm site. The 'Annex' has gone through an extensive renovation process to become ready to open in the next few weeks. It will include the second Snoezelen Room at OCAPDD, which was funded with the support of the HOPE Volleyball Tournament last summer. A number of the individuals that will be participating in this new program will move from the ARC program located at the Roger Lovatt Centre.

In fact, all participants at the ARC program will be involved in a move in the near future, as OCAPDD's lease with the new owner of the facility on Breezehill will be ending in October. Look forward to the details of the new location in the next edition of Esprit.

Just prior to publication of the edition of Esprit, at the OASIS Annual Conference in Windsor, Minister Meilleur announced confirmation of the funding increases for the DS sector that the Government had announced two years ago. Many provincial organizations such as OASIS, and unions such as CUPE had been attempting to obtain confirmation of the expected funding increases over the past several months, however until May 13th, the Minister and Government had been silent on this matter. Obviously the economic circumstances of the Provincial Government have changed dramatically in the subsequent two years from the original announcement, raising concerns for many that the Government would not follow through on these increases. The specific details for OCAPDD and Open Hands are not known yet, but clearly this was a positive announcement.

Both the OCAPDD and Open Hands Boards of Directors passed the final approval of the planned amalgamation at their meetings in March. The next step in the process is to seek approval from the Public Guardian & Trustee's office, given the charitable status of both organizations.

As always at this time of year, I would again like to encourage you to join us at this year's golf tournament on June 15th. It is always an enjoyable event.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

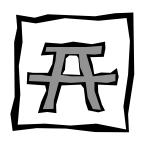
David A. Ferguson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Board has been very engaged with a number of activities this year. Both OCAPDD and the Open Hands Boards have finalized and signed an agreement to proceed with the amalgamation of Open Hands with OCAPDD. OCAPDD staff and management acted with energy and innovation so as to mitigate the impact of the Ottawa bus strike on clients. This however resulted in a substantial financial cost to OCAPDD. I am pleased to announce that the Ministry of Community and Social Services, after being made aware of the financial impact, were able to cover those expenses. It should be noted that OCAPDD was the only organization in Ottawa that received such assistance. Dave Ferguson and I also attended a meeting in February with the other sector Executive Directors and Presidents, and Susan Bihun, Regional Director of the MCSS Eastern Office and her staff to discuss relevant issues of mutual concern. This was an opportunity to have an open dialogue and to understand how we can move forward together. There has been ongoing discussions with MCSS to increase funding allocations but to date there has been no announcement of what the sector will receive this year.

I am also pleased to announce that Jim Smith has joined the Board in April. At the Board meeting on May 5, 2009, the Board passed a motion to begin the process to set up a separate OCAPDD foundation whose purpose will be to raise funds to continue the work of OCAPDD. It is not expected that this will have immediate results as it will take up to a year to complete the formal application process to create a foundation. It is anticipated that once in place it will develop a long term plan to raise funds on behalf of OCAPDD. Much appreciation goes out to Rob Kirwan, Frank Arecchi and Bob Morey for all the work they have put in to get this underway.

Stephen Arbuckle



Annual Picnic

OCAPDD's Annual Picnic and BBQ will be held on Sunday June 28th, 2009 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Vincent Massey Park, Sections M, N, O and P. The band Crossroads will be featured.

Come join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter.

Annual General Meeting

OCAPDD's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. The AGM will again be held at the RA Center, beginning at 7:00 pm. The AGM's main purpose is for the Board of Directors to report on the last year's activities and propose a course for the future.

The Nomination Committee is eagerly looking for Board Members. The 12 members of the Board of Directors are comprised of: at least three members who represent families / parents with a disabled relative and two from the francophone community. The remainder are from the public, private and non-profit sectors with every effort to ensure visible minority representation from the community, as appropriate. To be eligible to stand for election, you must be 18 years of older, and a member of OCAPDD for not less than thirty (30) days prior to the AGM.

If you would like to speak to the Nomination Chair, about the nominations process, please call 613-569-8993 extension 225.

Annex to welcome participants May 25!

The makeover of the old agricultural program building at Silver Spring Farm is complete and the "Annex" is born. Designed to support 20 participants on a daily basis, the Annex will provide a leisure alternative for OCAPDD's senior clients.

Bob Graziano, Supervisor ARC Industries & Annex

Bird Houses for Sale

Bird houses are available at ARC Industries – Breezehill. These unique birdhouses are made by the clients at ARC. They are made from locally harvested pine and the copper roof from the center block of the Parliament buildings.

There are four distinct styles designed for the smaller birds such as finches, wrens, chickadees and phoebes, which are all possible tenants. The bird house will provide a safe nesting home for the smaller species of bird common to our area as they are subject to many predators.

Prices range from \$25 - \$45 each and are sold boxed with mounting hardware. Instructions for placement, use and cleaning are also available. They make a great gift.

Please contact 613-725-1023 extension 28.

John Lonergan, ARC Industries

