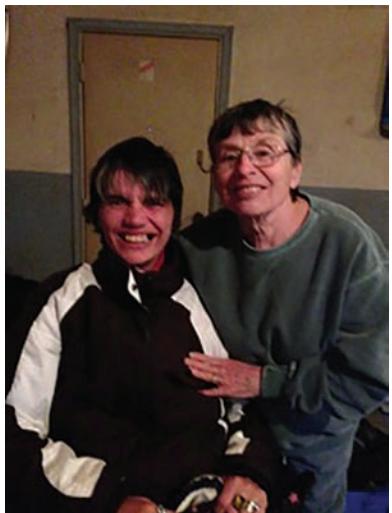




SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES TO LIVE A **MEANINGFUL LIFE...**

AMY BRINSTON'S STORY: COMING TO THE RESCUE



In the moment that Amy's dear "second mom" was in need of help. Amy was there for Joan as Joan always has been there for her. Joan was outside in the backyard when her dog's chain became tangled around her leg, causing her to fall and break her hip. Joan was trapped in the dog's chain and in need of help. Amy came out of the house

running as soon as she realized what was happening. After checking on Joan, Amy ran back into the house

to call 911. Amy also called her mom, Cathy, who came to help as well in addition to the ambulance and police officer that rushed to the scene. Amy's mental health officer was also sent to ensure Amy had everyone with her well taken care of. In the heat of the moment, Amy stayed calm by Joan's side until help arrived. Amy and Joan were grateful to have so many people show up to help because Amy could not get the dog's chain unwrapped from Joan on her own. It broke Amy's heart to see her beloved Joan in so much pain, but she was thankful to have been there to help Joan through this because Joan has helped Amy push through many scary situations of her own. Amy said "You never know when life can change so love the people in your life no matter what is happening". Joan has now made a full recovery and life is back to normal for this dynamic duo. They can now be found out on their shopping adventures or community walks.

STREET CLEANING

All geared and ready to go!

Introducing Petrolia's newest side walk cleaners...
Kevin and Matthew.

They swept away the competition and both are very excited to share that they have landed this job for the 2018 Summer season.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Reporting period – September, 2017 – November 14, 2017

MCSS Updates:

On February 16, 2018 the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) sent correspondence pertaining to Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017 legislation and their commitment to assist with the financial impact this legislation will have on not for profit organizations. Provincially, the Ministry has committed \$14.5 M to direct funding recipients (Special Services At Home & Passport) and \$9.8 M to developmental and community agencies including \$0.8 M for Outside Paid Resources(OPRs). LCDS will receive, for January 01, 2018 – March 31, 2018, \$39,731.00 fiscal funding and \$1000.75 for Nainstay to offset the cost of the minimum wage increase which came into effect on January 01, 2018. At the time of writing there has been no indication from MCSS if and when we will be notified of any annualized funding for the changes under the Employment Standards Act (ESA).

MCSS Budget Submissions for 2018 - 2019

In light of the uncertain financial commitment from MCSS pertaining to the ESA changes agencies are struggling with their budget submissions for 2018 – 2019. To date the Ministry has not provided any clarity on whether we are to submit a balanced budget or do we incorporate in the financial implications of Bill 148 and submit an unbalanced budget. We have been advised that our new ADM Rupert Gordon has confirmed that budgets need to be submitted by March 31 but has not provided any clarity on whether they must be balanced. We are just finalizing our budget submission and to date LCDS has a deficit exposure of over \$600,000.00 with a couple of budgets still to be reviewed. This deficit is not inclusive of our Pay Equity annual obligation of \$100,000.00.

MCSS Transfer Payment Risk Assessment (TPRA) – Mid Cycle Report Back

On Wednesday February 21 the senior team participated in training pertaining to the MCSS Transfer Payment Risk Assessment process. The assessment this year will be the mid cycle reporting which should be quicker and easier than the full assessment that occur every 2 – 3 years dependant on your risk level.

Provincial Organizations Submissions to the Standing Committee on Finance - 2018 Budget

Both the OASIS and Community Living Ontario pre-budget submissions were forwarded to the Board of Directors in February for review and comment. As a reminder I will outline what both Oasis and Community Living Ontario are requesting from the Ministry:

- 1) Immediate investment of \$300M on an annualized basis to stabilize the foundation of existing services.
- 2) Commit to funding Pay Equity adjustments to completion
- 3) Annualized funding on a long term basis to address the ever increasing wait list
- 4) Individuals and families want a choice between managing their own funds or having an agency assist them where individuals have support dollars allocated to them to meet their needs
- 5) A mechanism to monitor and adjust funding levels annually is urgently required
- 6) Funding to address the impact of Bill 148

Renovation Plans for Ann Street Forest and Alhambra Letter of Support

Our Ann Street location in Forest is home to our day services and SIL programs. This location had extensive renovations done, through a donation from Alhambra, to the original building when it was acquired through a lease to own agreement from the municipality of Lambton Shores in 2008. The building has reached capacity and is now requiring additional washroom facilities and an expanded kitchen area to better serve the increase number of individuals accessing their services out of this site. To assist with accessing funding to do the needed renovation the Alhambra members were once again asked if they could assist. A meeting was held on February 21 to discuss with members of Alhambra our renovation plans and the funding required. As a result of our conversation we asked that the Alhambra group provide us with a letter endorsing our renovation plans and support for our ongoing services. On February 23 the Alhambra Board endorsed our proposal and has provided a letter of support as requested.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Reporting period – April 18, 2018

MCSS Updates

On March 05, 2018 the Provincial Government has presented their Ontario 2018 Budget. The Government of Ontario in their budget announcement made a commitment to developmental services by announcing an additional \$1.8 Billion investment over the next three (3) years in the sector. The budget provided additional funding for 4 critical issues facing developmental services specifically focused on chronic underfunding for people served within the Developmental Services Sector.

Expansion of Direct Funding to the Passport Program

Following the announcement in February 2018 by MCYS/ MCSS to invest \$14.5 Million into the Passport and Special Services at Home Program the Provincial budget expanded the Passport program by providing the 40,000 eligible people currently on the waitlist a minimum of \$5000.00 annual funding. Going forward people deemed eligible will receive this funding upon their 18th birthday. This will start the move away from a crisis driven model towards a proactive system approach. Funding will flow by May 07/18

Reform of Income Support

There was a commitment in the budget to simplify the social assistance programs, reduce punitive rules and remove barriers. ODSP and OW (Ontario Works) recipients will receive a 3% increase per year for the next three years. In addition, other benefits and allowances, including personal needs and comfort allowances will increase by 2% annually for the next 3 years starting in the fall of 2018. And finally the amount of employment income that can be earned without impacting social assistance benefits increased to \$400 per month from the current \$200 starting in the fall of 2018. This will further increase in 2019 – 20 to \$6000.00 per year.

Investment to stabilize Community Based Agencies

To help stabilize community agencies there was a commitment in the budget to provide \$200 million over 3 years. The funding will flow in the following manner – Year 1 – over \$50 million starting on May 7; Year 2 - \$86 million and in Year 3 - \$103 million. These funds are specifically for agency stabilization and are not inclusive of funds to cover the costs associated with legislative requirements or wages.

Resources for Case Management

Although identified as a priority in the budget there was no identified amount earmarked to assist youth to access relevant services to transition to adulthood.

Addressing Inappropriate Placements

Similar to Case Management , even though recognized as a priority, there was no identified funding allocated to the 800 plus individuals who are inappropriately housed in hospitals, long term care, shelters or correction facilities to assist them to move into homes within their communities.

Innovative Housing Solutions

Although increased residential capacity and improved in – home supports, including respite for caregivers to alleviate challenges associated with full time care and allow people to live at home longer was acknowledged, there was no identified funding allocation to assist with these needs.

Pay Equity

Not addressed within this budget but discussions continue with MCSS and the OASIS Pay Equity Committee.

Bill 148

The \$24 million funding announcement applied in the fourth quarter of our 2017 – 18 fiscal budget will continue in our first and second quarter of our 2018 – 19 budget year to a cumulative value of \$55 million. No further commitment after the \$55 million is depleted.

ORGANIZATIONAL DESIGN UPDATE

Design Process Update

It has been 6 months since we have initiated our new management structure and we are still very much in the early learning stages of this new model. This structure is not only new to LCDS but new to our sector and therefore we do not have any comparators to gage our success during implementation. It is fair to say that we are experiencing some anxiety and growing pains as we all adjust to this new way of doing business. Coupled with our internal change process we are also involved in the change process MCSS is moving through – moving from a segmented system delivery model to an integrated system approach through

collaboration and coordination to ensure an efficient and effective cross – sectoral service system that supports developmental disabilities and mental health needs and /or challenging behaviours.

As we continue to learn and develop our new model we must begin to assess how our current support models match up with the Ministry system model of services. When many organizations began some 60 plus years ago we assumed that we were building models of support that would be in place forever. We believed, as did the families, that we would be able to support individuals for life. This is no longer the case – we are now part of a province wide systemic approach in the provisions of supports. We are just one part of the new system delivery model and as such we need to operate with a different mindset. This will be very difficult for many of us; we grew up in a model of support focused on individuals and not on the vacancy management.

The Ministry is developing a comprehensive long term person centered Developmental Services Funding Framework. The implementation plan for allocating DS Funding to individuals is based on the results of their standardized support needs assessments which must be completed prior to accessing any Ministry funded services. The Guiding Principles to support the implementation are a person centered approach which reinforces service integration and promotes collaborative relationships between agencies and other services systems including but not limited to health, justice and youth services with the goal of minimal disruption for all people receiving services.

LCDS's one person at a time approach embraces and supports the uniqueness of each person. LCDS is a leader

in the provision of individual support services and with our new Vision of Inclusive Communities/Innovative Leaders we will continue to provide very high quality services to all individuals we have the honor to support.

Search for a new Executive Director for LCDS

When I came to work with LCDS 2.5 years ago one of the tasks given to me by the Board of Directors was to determine if your next Executive Director could come from within your current management ranks. As a result of a recent internal posting for the Executive Director position I am pleased to report that a number of qualified candidates have come forward. The Board Task group are currently reviewing the applicants and will be conducting interviews very soon.



Tom McCallum
Executive Director

JAMES IS HELPING OUT IN HIS COMMUNITY....

By collecting items for the humane society... May - July 2018

- Canned & dry cat/kitten/dog/ puppy food
- Large rawhide bones/dog & cat treats
- Cat & dog toys
- Martingale collars (medium, large)
- Rabbit bedding material
- Canadian Tire money
- Extra strong garbage bags
- Non-clumping kitty litter
- Medium surgical gloves
- Dish soap
- Toilet paper
- Bleach
- Blankets/ towels
- Paper towels



Please contact Zone St. by July 24/18 so we can make arrangements to have the items picked up!!!

519-845-0461 | 519-845-0605 | Email: zone@lcds.on.ca

LCDS SERVICE AWARDS



10 YEARS

Present: Elizabeth Shea, Kerrie Jacklin, Ashley Jeffery,

Cassandra Amyotte, Colette McNairney

Missing: Ashleigh Miller, Kristi Jacklin, Tina Dalgety,

Melissa Ingram, Meagan Donald, Rebecca Shea



25 YEARS

Present: Jennifer Salaris, Shona Lockhart, Christine Poupart



15 YEARS

Present: Morgan Loosemore, Susan Joosten, Brian Gilmore



30 YEARS

Present: Kim Lynch, Karen McClintock



20 YEARS

Present: Sharon Silk, Jennifer Stephenson

Missing: Karen Pehlke, Susan Armstrong, and Susan Steiginga



35 YEARS

Present: Duane Chapman & Ruth Gallant

“DARKNESS AND HOPE: DEPRESSION, SPORTS AND ME” with Michael Landsberg



LCDS understands the significant importance that mental health has in a person's life. We fully support breaking the stigma around mental health so that everyone can voice their struggles and receive the support they need without fear of discrimination.

With this in mind LCDS proudly sponsored “Darkness and Hope: Depression, Sports and Me” with Michael Landsberg in March. The Petrolia Minor Hockey Association, St Clair Child and Youth Services and Central-Lambton Family Health Team partnered with the Town of Petrolia to organize the event to get people talking about mental health.

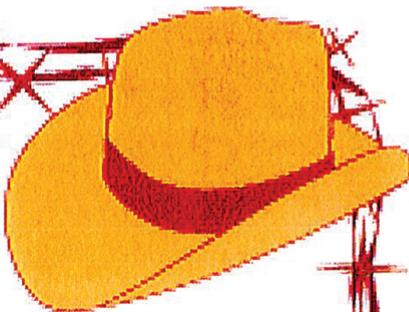
Michael Landsberg is a Canadian sports journalist, former host of Off the Record for TSN, mental health speaker and founder of the not-for-profit corporation called #SickNotWeak (www.sicknotweak.com). He shared his personal story of struggling with depression and anxiety to an almost sold out crowd at Victoria Playhouse, Petrolia. Michael was honest, funny and personable, asking audience members for their thoughts and stories. Perhaps most importantly, he listened to the comments and tried to connect personally with the

audience members. He reassured them that when they are in the lowest depths of their depression, they are not alone. There are people who understand, just reach out. He was very generous with his time afterwards too, signing autographs and speaking one-on-one with many people. His message helped those without mental illness better understand what their loved ones go through.

The Sarnia Lambton Workplace Wellness Steering Committee's #ConvoPlate was also there. "#ConvoPlates" from the Paul Hansell Foundation are meant to be shared to inspire conversations about mental health. If mental health can become part of our everyday conversation, we can break the stigma and increase the number of youth who access mental health services. Each #ConvoPlate is hand painted by community members at the Art Therapy program at the Art Gallery of Burlington. There are many of them — each is different and carries their maker's own special message and meaning.

Pictured is Michael Landsberg with the #ConvoPlate and members of LCDS' Wellness Committee Brian Gilmore (left) and Greg With (right).

4th Annual Ride into Summer *In memory of Wayne McCormick*



Event sponsored by: **ENBRIDGE**

- ♦ *The McCormick Family*
- ♦ *The Brigden Fair Grounds*
- ♦ *Beaver Meadow Stables*

Lambton County Developmental Services
Friends & Family

Please join us in a fun day where we will :

Enjoy a Free BBQ lunch

Free horse drawn wagon rides

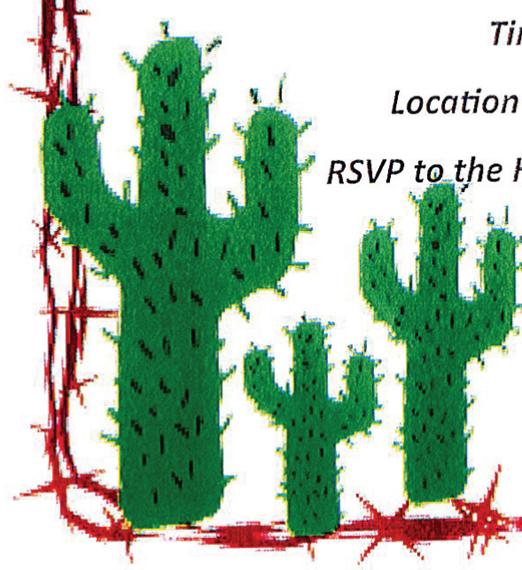
Live music

Date: June 9, 2018

Time: 10 am -2 pm

Location : Brigden Fair Grounds

RSVP to the Host Family team @ (519) 882-1150



MILK BAG MATS - FEBRUARY 22, 2018



The St. Christopher's parish has partnered with Forest Community Connections to make milk bag mats. Starting February 1st, ladies from St. Christopher's parish have been teaching participants how to join and weave the mats every Thursday morning. Once the mats are complete, they are sent to people in El Salvador

to use to sleep on. A shipping container goes once a week filled with useful items such as clothes and plastic buckets with lids. We have also arranged to start sending our empty plastic buckets left from making muffins for the Kinnwood snack program.

DEL'S 63RD BIRTHDAY

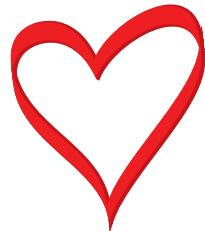


ANGELINE'S APARTMENT



Del celebrated his 63rd birthday April 11th he had a full week of celebration with lunch out with his sister "Rosemary" & with his special friend "Lois" also lunch out with his friends. He spent the evening at the Brigden Friendship where they sang to him after having his cake at home!!! He was full of smiles

In April 2018 Angeline was delighted to have her whole apartment painted and new blinds hung. Her place looks great and is light and cheery. She is enjoying the new soft colors and can relax in her newly painted space..



LCDS Pembina Valentine Charity Auction

Twenty years and counting...



What a celebration! The LCDS Valentine Charity Auction was held on February 10, 2018 and was a huge success raising over \$58,000!! Over 300 people attended despite the snowy weather. Hundreds of items were on display in both the live and silent auction. So many choices to bid on...from a gorgeous outdoor garden shed made by Lambton Home Hardware, to beautiful prints and home decor, pamper packages to homemade baked goods. We would like to thank the dedicated and hardworking Auction Committee, all our volunteers, our generous donors both individuals and businesses! You are appreciated! A special thank you to the community for all your support. Thank you to Kim Shelley and her catering crew for the delicious food, John Stephens, our Auctioneer and to our amazing

committee chair, Janet Smith. We would like to celebrate four dedicated volunteers who have been with us since the beginning (20 years ago!); Nick Salaris, Steve Bruton, Brian Bruton and Dale Druiett!

Truly without the help of these amazing people, the success of events like this would not be possible.

A special thank you to our major sponsors, Pembina, Shelley Machine & Marine, Integra Technologies, McCallum Build & Renovate, Hodges Home Renovations, Straitline Contracting Inc., McKellar Inspections, Armstrong Construction, Invenergy and Lambton Home Building Centre. We appreciate your support! If you get the chance, stop by and tell them thank you!

Olde Post Catering & Tea Room



Located in the lower level of the Olde Post Office building.

Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 2pm

~

Olde Post Office Gift Shoppe



**Tis the Season!...
Ice Cream has arrived!**

4189 Petrolia Line

519 882 0747

Extended
summer

LCDS/Pembina Valentine Charity Auction

February 10, 2018

Brigden Fair Grounds, Brigden

LCDS Annual Meeting & Volunteer & Donor BBQ

June 18, 2018

339 Centre Street, Petrolia

Annual Meeting 5pm

BBQ 6pm

LCDS/Petrolia Lions Chicken Wing Dinner

September 13, 2018

Lions Hall, Petrolia

More details coming soon

LCDS/MPW Annual Charity Golf Tournament

July 19, 2018

Widder Station, Thedford

For more details or to register a team call
Elaina at 519-882-0933 ext: 50

Annual Banquet - Hoedown

Friday, October 19, 2018

Wyoming Fair Building

\$17 - Adults

\$10 - Children

Tickets on sale at the end of August

FUSION: A Discovery of Local Food, Wine and Craft Beer

Friday, November 9th and

Saturday November 10th, 5-10pm

Degroots Nurseries

Staff Appreciation

November 2018

Venue to be Determined

More details and tickets coming soon

Meat Raffles

Every Wednesday, 6-8pm

Streets Eatery & Pub, Petrolia

Wellness BBQ's:

Wednesday, July 25th

Wednesday, August 22nd



In an effort to be more environmentally responsible, we would like to send you future newsletters electronically.

Please send an email to mstinson@lcds.on.ca with "newsletter" in the subject line. In the body of your email, please provide your name. You will receive a verification email and your next FOCUS Newsletter will come to you by email.

Do you
wish
to make a
donation
to LCDS?



LCDS DONATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

I wish to make a donation to the LCDS Foundation in the amount of...

A charitable tax receipt for the full amount of your donation will be issued

Total _____

Cheque enclosed

Please charge my credit card

Credit Card Information:

Visa

Card Number: _____

Mastercard

Expiry: _____

Signature: _____