

LEARNING FROM
OUR **PAST**»



BUILDING FOR
THE **FUTURE**»

ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY LIVING
Ontario



CELEBRATING
70
YEARS OF POSSIBILITIES

2022-2023
ANNUAL REPORT



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About Us

Who We Are

Community Living Ontario is a non-profit provincial association that has been advocating for people who have an intellectual disability and their families for **70 years**. We proudly work alongside **115 local associations** and more than **100,000 people** across Ontario. We are an active member of Inclusion Canada and regularly communicate with equivalent provincial and territorial associations. We also have influence at the global level thanks to our affiliation with Inclusion International.

What We Do

Community Living Ontario promotes positive change through public policy and advocacy. We provide expertise and resources to decision-makers, educators, local members, families and self-advocates. We create public awareness and networking opportunities while nurturing community leadership, capacity and innovation.



Our Mission

Community Living Ontario advocates with people who have an intellectual disability, their families, and member organizations to create inclusive communities across Ontario.

Our Vision

We envision an Ontario where everyone **belongs**, is **valued**, and has the **freedom** to live the life they choose.

OUR VALUES



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

We believe in diverse communities where everyone is fully represented and belongs.



Respect

We welcome and encourage input from those with lived experiences, their families, and member organizations in the work we do.



Integrity

We always strive to do the right thing.



Leadership

We lead by example and are seen as leaders in social inclusion.



Innovation

We embrace new ideas and ways of doing our work by investing in learning and continuous improvement.

Opening Remarks

2023 marks **Community Living Ontario's 70th anniversary**. As we reflect on the past seven decades, the one thing that has remained constant is change — and our ability and willingness to adapt to it.

This past year has been no exception. Throughout 2022–2023, we navigated a cautious return to in-person events and the emergence of major developments in our sector. We embarked on the new course we set for ourselves with our 2022–2026 Strategic Plan. And we listened, learned, and embraced the challenge of making our work more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible.

But despite all the change and uncertainty we've faced, this year and the many years preceding, the other constant we've been able to count on is *you*: our board, our staff, member associations, families, and of course, people with lived experience. You have kept us true to our mission of advocating with people who have an intellectual disability, their families, and member organizations to create inclusive communities across Ontario.

On behalf of Community Living Ontario, we'd like to thank you for your continued support and contributions to our movement. Together, we can combine our collective knowledge and experience and build the future we've always dreamed of, where everyone belongs, is valued, and has the freedom to live the life they choose. Here's to another 70 years of inspiring possibilities for authentic inclusion in Ontario.

Sincerely,



C. Beesley
Chris Beesley
Chief Executive Officer
Community Living Ontario



Michael J.
Michael Jacques
President, Board of Directors
Community Living Ontario

Our Impact

Community Living Ontario

Works alongside

115+

local associations and
advocates on behalf of over

100,000
people across Ontario

Inspiring Possibilities Conference & AGM 2022

475

delegates attended

26

contributing sponsors

In 2022-2023, CLO Labour Market Facilitators in Toronto, Ottawa, and Hamilton-Niagara:

Engaged with

114

employers who were open to
hiring **inclusively**.

Shared

266

jobs with **prospective** job
seekers

Supported the
successful hiring of

65 people

Digital Footprint

30,000+
per month

Our Presence

We've connected online
and in-person with

800+

families in the province

Connecting With Youth

Reached

700+

youth across Ontario
through online and
in-person initiatives.

Student Links

Coordinators worked with

212 students

(English & French) while also
supporting students from the
previous fiscal year

Engaged and supported

159 mentor

relationships while supporting
ongoing relationships
established in the previous
fiscal year



Applying Strategy

This year marked the beginning of our new four-year Strategic Plan. Our new priorities reflect our unwavering commitment to supporting the advancement of authentic inclusion in Ontario, while pushing us to expand our vision of what that looks like.

1

Lead the way in advocating with people, families, and member organizations to change policy and remove barriers to inclusion.

SPOTLIGHT

Inspiring Possibilities AGM & Conference 2022

From September 14–16, 2022, Community Living Ontario held its **69th Inspiring Possibilities AGM & Conference**. It was our first-ever “hybrid” event, giving attendees the option to join virtually or meet in-person for the first time since 2019.

Attendees heard from and engaged with a diverse array of stakeholders, including self-advocates, family members, direct support professionals, and organizational leaders. The Conference featured dozens of thought-provoking sessions covering a wide range of topics in the developmental services sector, highlighted by an update from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services on Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion, the government’s plan for developmental services reform.

2

Strengthen our members’ efforts to realize the shared vision of inclusive communities across Ontario.

SPOTLIGHT

Day at the Legislature

For the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Community Living Ontario collaborated with Community Living Toronto (CLTO) on our annual **Day at the Legislature** event on May 10th, 2023. This event presented an opportunity for CLO and our member organizations to meet with elected officials at the Legislative Assembly in the spirit of connection and collaboration.

We were hosted by the Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, who met with representatives from CLO and CLTO. CLO and many of its member organizations were also recognized and honoured by MPPs in the Legislature.



3

Be a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leader in the Community Living movement.

SPOTLIGHT**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Community of Practice**

Community Living Ontario's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, Alison Mclean, was appointed as the new Co-Chair of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Community of Practice (EDI-CoP). The EDI-CoP brings together committed representatives of Ontario's Developmental Services Sector who wish to collaborate on building knowledge and resources in equity, diversity, and inclusion. Its members believe that disrupting the status quo and dismantling current systems comes from sharing information and challenging current practices to drive change.

Alison's appointment was made in recognition of her expertise in anti-racism and diversity, equity, and inclusion. It demonstrates CLO's commitment to supporting leaders in the field, and dedication to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in the DS sector.

4

Connect, support, and empower families.

SPOTLIGHT**Family Leadership Weekend Series**

After a three-year hiatus, Community Living Ontario hosted three Family Leadership weekend sessions in September and November 2022 and February 2023 for families to come together, connect, learn from each other's lived experience, and build meaningful relationships with other parents to support good lives in the community for their loved ones. All the sessions were facilitated with the help of our six Family Steering Committee members along with 10 youth supporters and four CLO staff members. The sessions were hosted at Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario.

All the families who attended these sessions were grateful for the opportunity to learn together and build connections. Overall, the feedback from families was extremely positive, and we received an average rating of 4.5 out of 5 for the Family Leadership series.

Our Work

Advocacy, Education and Awareness

Community Living Ontario develops policy solutions and advocates for changes that increase the community participation, inclusion and belonging of people who have an intellectual disability. We work alongside people who have intellectual disabilities, their families, local associations, and governments to shape public policy that is practical and progressive. We bring a collective voice to the developmental services sector and advocate for the full inclusion of people who have intellectual disabilities in all communities.

Key Achievements

- » ***Innovations in Housing for People Who Have an Intellectual Disability:*** This report provides brief snapshots of nine examples of housing that supports independence and choice among people who have an intellectual disability. It is our hope that the document will contribute to greater awareness of what is possible, and to growth in people's ability to live a life of their choosing.
- » ***Increasing the Supply of Small-Scale, Individualized, Community-Based Housing for People Who Have Intellectual Disabilities:*** We released this strategy and advocacy guide for self-advocates, family members, developmental service organizations, and other supporters. The guide offers many suggestions about what advocates can do to fill the huge gap in our communities, by increasing the supply of housing that supports health and quality of life.
- » Successfully advocated for changes to the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) so that siblings of people who have an intellectual disability can become RDSP plan holders — which means that more people will have access to federal RDSP grants and bonds, and increased income security as they age.
- » Successfully advocated for changes to the Family Managed Home Care program, influencing the government to remove requirements that adults be under guardianship to qualify for the program. This means that more people will be able to access direct funding for home care.
- » Created and shepherded the Alliance on Aging and Disability, which is becoming a powerful advocate against institutional approaches to support and care.
- » Worked with the Ontario Disability Employment Network and a number of our members to understand and influence changes to employment services for people with disabilities.
- » Partnered with the Provincial Network on Developmental Services and OASIS to successfully advocate for a permanent \$3 wage increase for workers in the DS sector.

Stakeholder Relations

Community Living Ontario works closely alongside its member organizations to support their advocacy, provide resources, and create opportunities for collaboration.

Key Achievements

- » Hosted an ED/CEO Orientation on October 26, 2022.
- » Provided an orientation resource and webinar for Board members.
- » Welcomed 10 new members associations.
- » Continued hosting monthly Communications Network meetings for member association staff interested in communications practices. These meetings facilitate the sharing of tips, tutorials, guidelines/best practices, and knowledge exchange, as well as help spread the word about ongoing activities throughout the sector.
- » Provided Strategic Plan Quarterly Reports.
- » Reviewed terms of reference and restructuring of the Provincial Executive Directors Coordinating Committee.
- » Updated the workplan for the Inspired by Our Grassroots Committee.



Employment

Ready, Willing & Able (RWA) is a national partnership of Inclusion Canada, Autism Alliance of Canada, and their member organizations. Funded by the Government of Canada, RWA is designed to increase the labour force participation of autistic people and people who have an intellectual disability. We could not do this work without our amazing community partners, which include CLO members as well as a broad range of organizations in the employment services sector.

Key Achievements

- » Across Canada, RWA has supported the employment of 3,744 autistic people and people who have an intellectual disability since 2014.
- » In 2022-2023, CLO Labour Market Facilitators in Toronto, Ottawa, and Hamilton-Niagara:
 - Engaged with 114 employers who were open to hiring inclusively
 - Shared 266 jobs with prospective job seekers
 - Supported the successful hiring of 65 people

Youth Engagement

Community Living Ontario's Re:Action4Inclusion initiative is a province-wide youth-focused social justice movement that aims to ensure that youth who have an intellectual disability aren't left behind and are authentically included. The movement continues to reach an estimated 300 youth with and without a disability annually, to support them to find their voice and create change within their high school and community.

Key Achievements

- » **DISRUPT! Series:** This series of online and in-person workshops focused on five topics which prioritize elevating the voices of youth. The topics were mental health, inclusive education, Indigenous art and culture, the truths of institutionalization, and environmental barriers to employment. Through this series, we hosted in-person workshops for students in 28 classrooms at 14 schools across Ontario and collaborated with four community organizations.
- » **Leading for Inclusion Youth Speaker Series:** This monthly campaign showcases our Youth Advisory Committee members, who have shared the reason they joined and their goals for creating a more inclusive Canada. We have shared 14 of the Youth Advisory Committee members since starting the series in October 2021. Posts can be found on all Re:Action4Inclusion social media accounts, including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- » **Siblings: Citizens with a Cause:** This is a group of youth who came together because of their shared lived experience of having a sibling with a disability. This group worked together to facilitate conversations about supporting each other and advocating for their siblings who have a disability. This year, they hosted three successful sessions.

Family Engagement

Recognizing the essential role families played in sparking the Community Living movement, Community Living Ontario continues to create opportunities for them to connect. Family Engagement offers a variety of ways regionally and provincially to empower families to build a better future for their loved ones.

Key Achievements

- » In addition to the return of our in-person Family Leadership sessions highlighted on page 7, we also stayed in touch with families virtually. On January 18th, 2023, we connected with families to check in about their learnings from the Family Leadership sessions and how they see themselves integrating those learnings in their/their loved one's life.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Over the past year, our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Officer, Alison Mclean, has been actively engaged in several impactful activities aimed at promoting a more inclusive and equitable environment in the DS sector in Ontario. Moving forward, Alison remains committed in her role as DEI Officer to advancing DEI practices in the DS sector.

Key Achievements

- » **Presentations at conferences:** Alison took the lead in delivering presentations at our 2022 Inspiring Possibilities Conference, including giving a land acknowledgement to honour the Indigenous lands on which the event took place, as well as a keynote panel presentation on equity considerations for the DS sector alongside other members of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Community of Practice. She also presented at the HR Forum in October 2022 as part of a panel discussion on a similar topic. Additionally, Alison has been invited to several webinars, lunch-and-learns, communities of practice, and partner events to share insights and expertise on DEI considerations for the DS sector.
- » **Provincial Network:** Alison, along with two other members of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Community of Practice were invited to provide consultation on the development of the Provincial Network's terms of reference, ensuring that DEI considerations were embedded in the framework. Subsequently, Alison was invited to join the Recruitment and Retention sub-committee, contributing to providing DEI considerations for international recruitment and retention strategies at the provincial level.

Council

The Council of Community Living Ontario consists of 12 self-advocates from across the province who work together with Community Living Ontario's Board of Directors to find solutions and share information, opinions, knowledge, and experience on important issues such as poverty, safe and affordable housing, human rights, and barriers to quality health care.

Key Achievements

- » Hosted several webinars and in-person events on a variety of topics, including what it means to be a Council member and ensuring people stay out of institutions as they age.
- » Prepared three position statements, on Long-term Care Institutions, Poverty, and Housing.
- » Hosted meetings with seven member organizations regarding their self-advocacy groups.
- » Provided feedback on the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' education and awareness social media campaign.
- » Met with Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Honourable Michael Parsa, at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to discuss poverty, housing, and aging in place.
- » Advocated for Bill C-22: An Act to Reduce Poverty by sending letters to MPs and Senators and submitting briefs to House of Commons Committees.



Community Living Ontario Foundation:

This year, the Foundation saw growth and exposure in all areas. We welcomed new organizations to our Strategic Partnership Program, increasing the range of our corporate donorship, and continued to raise funds through our holiday appeal and events including Community Living Day at the Argos and the TCS Waterfront Marathon Charity Challenge. In addition, we are thankful to all individual and corporate donors for your contributions, which fuel initiatives that serve our community.

Community Living Ontario and the Community Living Ontario Foundation would like to recognize the following major gifts secured throughout this past fiscal year:

Our Supporters

- » **ECNO — \$13,000**
- » **Brian and Susan Thomas Foundation — \$7,645**
- » **ComVida Corporation — \$4,500**
- » **Community Services Benefits Trust — \$2,000**
- » **MJ Books Inc. — \$1,000**
- » **Ali Hassan — \$1,000**
- » **Pattison Outdoor Advertising in-kind donation — \$225,000**





CELEBRATING

70

YEARS OF POSSIBILITIES

2023 marks **70 years** of **Community Living Ontario** inspiring possibilities for people who have an intellectual disability and their families. Throughout the year, we've been recognizing this milestone with celebratory events and retrospective resources that illuminate more about our roots and how far we've come:

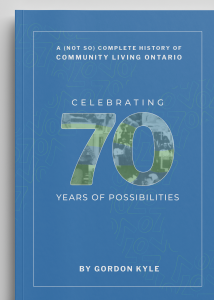
70th Anniversary Video

Earlier this year, we debuted our 70th anniversary celebration video, featuring messages from Community Living Ontario CEO Chris Beesley and a host of well-wishers from across our movement. We are grateful to everyone who has helped us get this far, and will push us even further as we continue to move forward.



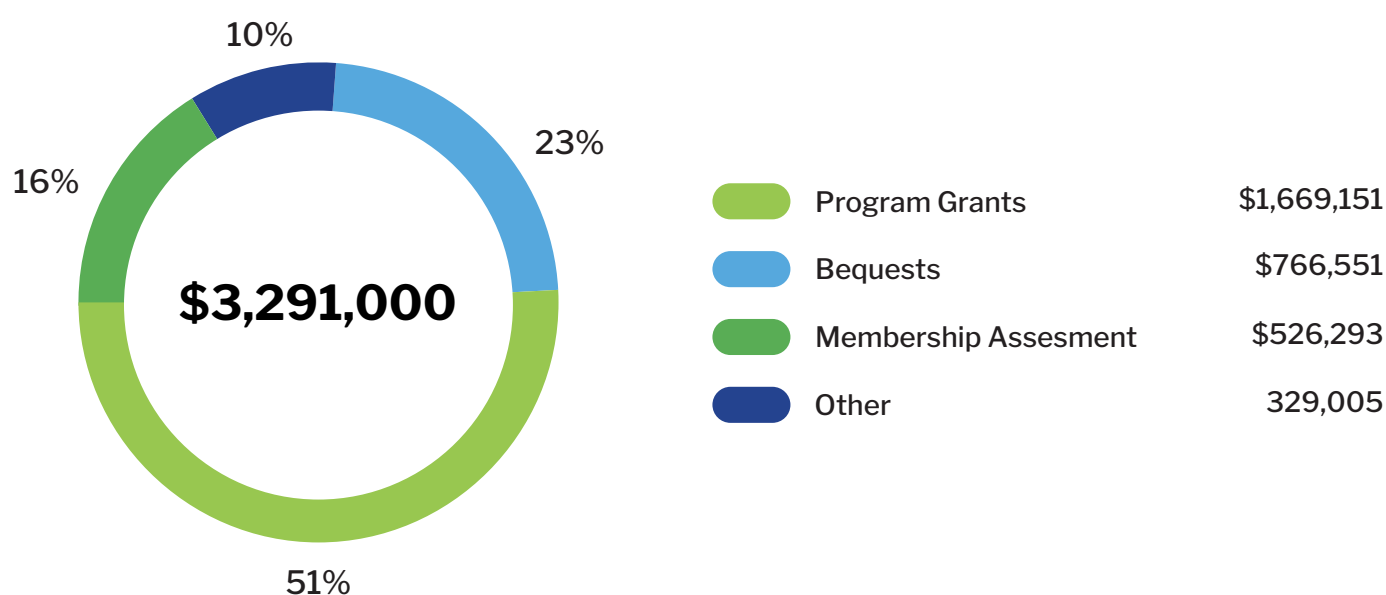
Celebrating 70 Years of Community Living: Historical Articles

As part of our efforts to educate our audience more on our history, we have been publishing a series of special articles throughout the year from our former Policy Director, Gord Kyle, who holds a wealth of knowledge about the history of our organization. These articles have been revised and compiled into a book entitled *A (Not So) Complete History of Community Living Ontario: Celebrating 70 Years of Possibilities*.

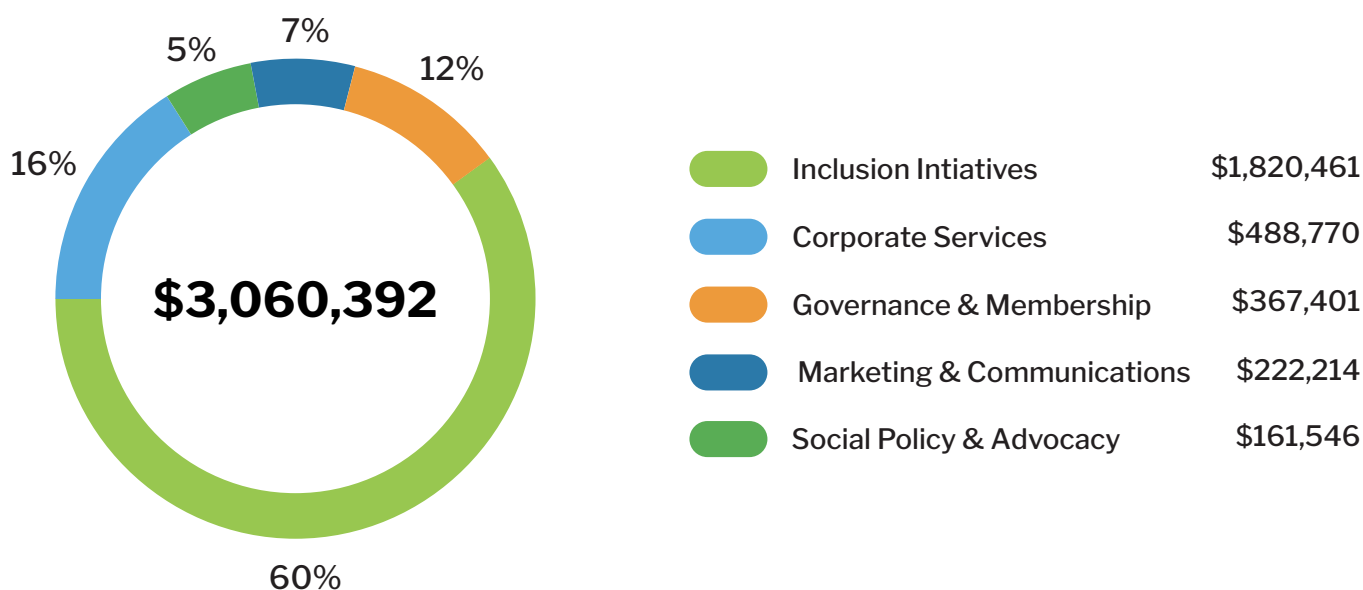


Financial Summary

Where The Money Came From



How We Put the Money To Work



Statement Of

Financial Position

MARCH 31

ASSETS	2023	2022
Current		
Cash	\$1,428,167	\$1,117,924
Short-term investments	\$914,726	\$1,264,808
Accounts receivable	\$36,254	\$69,148
Prepaid expenses	\$22,256	\$28,902
Due from related party	\$40,853	-
	\$2,442,256	\$2,480,782
Investments	\$412,012	\$27,575
Due from related party	-	\$77,162
Capital assets	\$76,762	\$105,287
	\$2,931,030	\$2,690,806

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSET	2023	2022
Current		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$184,058	\$342,338
Deferred Revenue	\$539,112	\$371,216
	\$723,170	\$713,554
Net Asset		
General Fund		
Operating	\$1,989,237	\$1,730,104
Invested in Capital Assets	\$76,762	\$105,287
Designated Funds	\$141,861	\$141,861
	\$2,207,860	\$1,977,252
	\$2,931,030	2,690,806

Statement Of Operations

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31

REVENUE	2023	2022
Ministry of Children, Community & Social Services	\$1,070,876	\$982,948
Federal Grants	\$598,275	\$ 548,044
Membership Fees	\$526,293	\$516,160
Registration Fees	\$166,610	\$32,381
Donations	\$766,551	\$704,251
Investment Income	\$34,514	\$56,358
Other Revenue	\$127,881	\$10,000
	\$ 3,291,000	\$ 2,850,142
EXPENSES	2023	2022
Amortization	\$41,984	\$36,375
Bank Charges	\$2,596	\$2,443
Conference, Events and Meetings	\$273,535	\$55,218
Disbursements for external	\$97,922	\$97,922
Employee benefits	\$ 240,553	\$245,880
Insurance	\$13,073	\$8,837
Office and general	\$ 152,049	\$143,998
Professional fees	\$179,020	\$58,050
Project expenses	\$216,982	\$189,209
Purchased services	\$160,849	\$186,754
Rent	\$101,183	\$91,642
Staff Training	\$23,900	\$20,625
Telephone	\$25,773	\$40,038
Travel	\$66,512	\$12,378
Wages	\$1,464,461	\$1,394,881
	\$ 3,060,392	\$ 2,584,180
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ 230,608	\$ 265,962

Acknowledgements.

Board of Directors 2022/2023

Michael Jacques, President
Jennie Chanda, Vice-President
Jill Teeple, Past President
Keira Lum, Treasurer
Chris Beesley, Secretary
Mark Anderson, Director-at-Large
Tim Berry, Director-at-Large
Nicole Canzoneri, Director-at-Large
David Hill, Director-at-Large
Marcel St-Jean, Director-at-Large
Stinder Lyall, Director-at-Large
Joseph Ralph Savage, Director-at-Large
Yvonne Spicer, Director-at-Large
Cathy Turner, PEDG Appointed
Director-at-Large
Donna Marcaccio, Family Engagement
Steering Committee Appointed
Director-at-Large
Theresa Somerton, Council Appointed
Director-at-Large

Council of Community Living Ontario 2022/2023

Nicole Flynn, President
Niko Pupella, Vice-President
Robert Smith, Treasurer
Judy Noonan, Secretary
Julianne Allen
Stella Curtis
Dzidra Hallar
Jem Moeller
Farrah Sattaur
Amber Taylor
Meghan Wheatstone
Theresa Somerton, Council Appointed
Board Member
Badar Paracha, Council Engagement
Coordinator
Keith Dee, Council Advisor

Community Living Ontario Foundation Board of Directors 2022/2023

Leela D'Cruz, Chair
Doug Cooper, Vice Chair
Kevin Spafford, Treasurer
Eon Sinclair, Secretary
Chris Beesley, Director-at-large
Louis Kan, Director-at-large
Laxmi Navkar, Director-at-large
Neerajah Ravirag, Director-at-large
Jill Teeple, Director-at-large
Jennifer Wilikie, Director-at-large
Ramon Yarde, Director-at-large

⌵ Anne Stafford Bursary Recipients 2023

Clair Adams — Brighton
Iglal Al-Aizari — Nepean
Franklin Carwardine — Campbellford
Cynthia Cortese — Whitby
Nikolas Craggs — Barrie
Irene Diamantorous — Toronto
David Ethier — Newmarket
Crystal Fluker — Manitouwadge
Thomas Fraboni — Hamilton
Adam Frandsen — Welland
Sara Grant — Toronto
Tyler Guibao — Stratford

Brooke-Lyn Hogel — Oshawa
Brenda Kiss — Dundas
Justin Lam — Scarborough
Joseph MacLeod — Ajax
Natasha Martin — Hamilton
Tyler Meyer — Amherstburg
Damien Miotto — Windsor
Davide Morando — Markham
Lillian Murphy — Marysville
Abigail Obukuru — Queensville
Kayla Oliver — Kingston
Ava Parent — Tiny

Parisa Pezeshki — Richmond Hill
Liam Pickells — Brampton
Dimitri Schaaf — Cambridge
Darrio Schauer — Toronto
Steven Smith — Waterloo
Rebecca Strickland — Kingston
Patrick Szamra — Hamilton
Corbin Szymczak — Windsor
Joshua Thompson — Hamilton
Maude Turner — Guelph
Janice Wu — Toronto
Brianna Yates — Brampton
Sela Yazejian — Ajax

Strategic Partners

Asurtec Solutions Inc.

Information Technology
& Data Solutions

AwakeLabs

Wearable Technology

ComVida Software Solutions

Employee Management
Software Solutions

Community Services Benefits Trust

Health Insurance/Benefits

Economical Insurance

Home & Auto Insurance

Humberview Mobility

Accessible Vehicles

Quest Automotive Leasing Inc.

Commercial & Family
Vehicle Leasing

NucleusLabs Information Technologies (Canada) Ltd.

Person-Centred Case Management
& Outcomes Software Solution

MedPro Direct

Supplies for Personal Needs

PooranLaw

Law Firm

SafeGuards Training

Professional Development Training

Sigma Promotions

Promotional Products &
Brands

The Health Depot Pharmacy

Pharmacy

BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY LIVING MOVEMENT

COMMUNITY LIVING
Ontario



CELEBRATING
70
YEARS OF POSSIBILITIES

You can help Community Living Ontario change the lives of people who have an intellectual disability and their families. Donate online through our website, or call Lisa Tabachnick, Director of Marketing, Communications and Foundation at 416-447-4348 ext. 229 to discuss potential opportunities.

Charitable Registered Number: 81172 4756 RR0001

STAY CONNECTED WITH US



www.communitylivingontario.ca



info@communitylivingontario.ca

Sign-up for our e-newsletter Update Friday

Telephone: 416-447-4348 or toll free (Ontario) – 1-800-278-8025



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