



Winter  
2020



We would like to welcome Brian Swainson to the Sunbeam team in the role of Executive Director. Prior to joining Sunbeam Brian was the Director of Seniors Services at the municipal level overseeing quality and innovation in care and services. He also served as the Chief Executive Officer of Saint Luke's Place, a charitable non-profit seniors campus of care in Cambridge.

Brian has a Bachelors degree from the University of Winnipeg and a Masters degree from the University of Waterloo. He is a designated accountant (CPA, CGA) and a certified residential care administrator through AdvantAge Ontario. Stay tuned for more about Brian.



**From the desk of the Nancy Plater—Director, Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region.**

Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) has been a part of the Sunbeam Centre since 2011 and is the access point for adult developmental services funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) in Ontario. There are 9 DSOs across the province. DSO Central West Region (DSOCWR) is administered by Sunbeam Centre and represents Waterloo, Wellington, Dufferin, Peel, & Halton Regions. Our Head Office is located at 2749 Kingsway Drive in Kitchener.

Any adult with a developmental disability, or someone acting on their behalf with their consent, can contact the DSO to begin the application process. Application to the DSO can be made as early as 16 however referrals for services/supports are not completed until age 18. Referrals to services include specialized supports (i.e. behavior services and case management), housing supports, community participation supports, caregiver respite and referral to the Passport program.

In addition to the intake and application process, the DSO provides ongoing support through Service Navigation. The Service Navigation role focuses on providing information on developmental services. This includes working both with individuals and families regarding non ministry funded services available as well as with the broader community providing information on developmental disabilities. A recent project at DSOCWR has been providing information regarding developmental disabilities to police services personnel in a combined effort to properly support and keep individuals with developmental disabilities safe in their communities.

The DSO's Housing Navigation role is another specialized resource the DSO is pleased to be able to offer individuals and families. The DSOCWR Housing Navigator is a part of a larger, provincial Housing Navigation team who recently launched a Housing Toolkit to help people with developmental disabilities and their caregivers begin the process of creating a housing plan. The Housing Navigator can provide resources to families such as information on technology to support independent living as well as to connect families to parent networks to share information and resources.

If you have any questions or are interested in general information we can be reached at 1.888.941.1121.

## The Spirit of the Season—thankfulness!

During the months of November and December local organizations often look for ways to make a difference & positively impact their community in a tangible way.

Sunbeam was fortunate in that several community partners chose to support our Day Program. **Thank you** to Equitable Life, Manulife 500 King N. & PeeWee AAA Junior Rangers! You made some people very happy!



Equitable Life—Ind. Underwriting Team purchased a bucket & mop, sensory lights & toys, spa items, games, batteries, & gift cards.

Mary-Ann & Kat stopped by for a tour and posed with the McDonald's gift cards donated by various teams from Manulife at 500 King N. Waterloo. It seems Carrie Mills is to thank for spearheading this initiative.



The Minor Pee-Wee AAA Junior Rangers dropped off this fantastic gift basket with games, puzzles, gift cards, spa items, and more for our Day Program.

## Joining the community to celebrate!

Sunbeam Centre staff, volunteers, & residents joined the Waterloo Region community on Saturday November 16th to celebrate the season by participating in the Santa Claus parade.

Everyone had such a wonderful time that we hope to enter a float in 2020 with more residents participating. Do you know someone with a flatbed we can borrow? Call us!



## First Online Auction a Success

Our first online auction was a success raising \$2,695, exceeding our goal of \$2,500. Thank you to everyone that donated, participated, bid, shared, etc. Stay tuned for our next online auction in May that will be bigger & better. If you would like to donate an item contact Susan Stark at 519.893.6200 x233 or [s.stark@sunbeamcentre.com](mailto:s.stark@sunbeamcentre.com)

Thank you to the Waterloo Region businesses that provided items:

Belgian Nursery	Phidon Pens, Cambridge
Blackshop	Posh Consignment, Cambridge
Borealis	Salon on Water, Cambridge
City of Kitchener	Select Sofas—Cambridge
Cobbs Bakery—Fairway Rd.	Starks Online Auctions
Coca Bella Cake Shop	Tammy Wanklin—Assured Mortgage Services
Drayton Entertainment	Ten Thousand Villages—Uptown Waterloo
The Worx—Uptown Waterloo	Teri Vincent—Howie Schmidt Realty
Ontario Seed Company	Tisket Tasket Baskets—Kris Villemaire
Headshots by Hannah Marie	The Keg
Jake & Humphreys—New Hamburg	The Museum
JR Watch & Jewelry,	Thies Electrical Distributing Co.
Ken Seiling Museum	W.I.G. YWCA Cambridge
Kitchener Rangers	Woodhouse Contracting Inc.
Kitchener Titans	YMCA—Cambridge
MC Nail Salon, Cambridge	



## Lighting of the Green!

On December 4, clients, residents, family, friends, and local dignitaries joined us for an evening of food, song, and festivities for the 4th annual “Lighting of the Green”. Our friends from Deloitte helped set up the display in October before the weather became too cold. Although the night of the event was a bit chilly, the light snow made it perfect! I am not sure if the lights were the highlight or if Santa was. There was a line to see him but everyone was patient and at the end of the evening there were many happy people, young and old!



That smile says it all!

Kitchener Councilor for Ward 3, John Gazzola, Waterloo Councilor for Ward 4, Royce Bodaly & Regional Councilor Tom Galloway joined us for music from the Buddy Choir, food, & to “flip” the switch at 7:15 pm. It was a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season.



Kitchener Ward 3 Councilor  
John Gazzola



Waterloo Ward 4 Councilor Royce Bodaly  
& Laura Thies, Interim ED, Sunbeam Centre



Telling secrets to Santa!

## Hockey is always in season...or does it just seem that way?

Our Day Program participants are always thrilled to have visitors. When it is a local group of young men from the Kitchener Rangers it is even more exciting. We have some very zealous Rangers fans. Thank you to #26 Ville Ottavainen and #18 Graham Dickerson for joining our crew at Sunbeam for floor hockey, pictures and autographs. These young men made a lot of people very happy! Sunbeam is very appreciative of the ongoing support from the Rangers organization.

