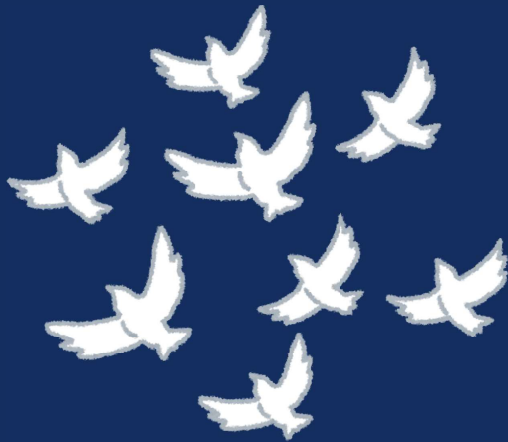


## Inside The Patchwork:

- Message from Cheryl Peterson & Kelly Meissner
- Charity Auction recap
- Recreation events
- Thank You to 2025 supporters
- Upcoming events



## Volunteers Needed!

Story Sharer – Got a favourite book or a knack for reading aloud? Pop in and bring a story to life.

Walking Friend – Stretch your legs and enjoy some fresh air while making a new connection.

Conversation Companion – Sometimes the best gift is a good chat over coffee or tea.

There are many opportunities for you to get involved.

[www.elmiradcl.com/careers/volunteer-opportunities](http://www.elmiradcl.com/careers/volunteer-opportunities)

# THE PATCHWORK

## *Remembering Those Who Passed*



# WELCOME TO THE PATCHWORK! 2025 RECAP



**Kelly Meissner,  
Board President**

**Cheryl Peterson,  
Executive Director**

In April, we celebrated Volunteer Appreciation Week. Our volunteers provide both direct and indirect support across the organization. This includes our Board and Committee members who give their time and leadership to help guide the organization forward. We are very grateful for the commitment they bring to our work.

May was another busy and successful month. We were thankful once again for the support of Tim Hortons through the annual Smile Cookie campaign. The generosity of the community continues to make this fundraiser a success.

May also marked the opening of our new Day Program, Avenues. We were pleased to host a well-attended Open House to welcome the community into the new space.

The past year has been one of transition as staff and participants settled into the building and new programming, and it has been exciting to see the program develop. In October, we held another successful Charity Auction and Beef Brisket Dinner. This event continues to be one of our largest fundraisers. A huge thank you goes to the Auction Sale Committee, the many businesses and individuals who donated items, and the volunteers who work behind the scenes to make the event possible.

In December, we gathered for our Staff Christmas and Recognition Evening. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many dedicated staff who have given years of service to the organization. A special congratulations to Jeanette Kraal who was recognized for an incredible 45 years of service!

Looking ahead, we are excited for another busy year. Annual events such as the Maple Syrup Festival, Volunteer Recognition, the Smile Cookie campaign, and our Charity Auction Sale will once again bring our community together.

We are grateful for the continued support of families, members, donors, and community partners who help keep our organization strong and vibrant. We will be rolling out our Strategic Plan in April, which will guide the organization over the next five years. As always, our focus remains on continuing to grow and strengthen the programs and opportunities that support the people we serve.

Cheryl and Kelly

# A RECORD-BREAKING CHARITY AUCTION FUNDRAISER

## 52ND ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION: A RECORD-BREAKING FUNDRAISER IN ELMIRA

The crisp autumn air buzzed with excitement as the 52nd Annual Charity Auction unfolded in Elmira on October 24th and 25th, drawing crowds from near and far to support Elmira District Community Living, a cherished organization dedicated to supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities.

This year's event shattered expectations, raising an astounding \$139,400—the highest total in its history. The community's generosity was on full display, especially during the quilt auction, where three handcrafted beauties each sold for over \$1,000, and one stunning piece fetched more than \$3,000. Joy echoed around the cotton candy and ice cream stands, where sweet treats brought smiles to kids and adults alike. The candy table proved irresistible, raising an impressive \$1,100, while the treasures table dazzled with its eclectic offerings, bringing in a remarkable \$5,000.

But beyond the numbers, the heart of the evening lay in the people. New faces mingled with longtime supporters, and over 100 attendees joined the mailing list, eager to stay connected and contribute to our mission.

As the final bids closed and the lights dimmed, one thing was clear: Elmira's spirit of inclusion and generosity had never shone brighter.

We thank all donors, bakers, and supporters for being part of this community event. There's much anticipation for the 2026 event!



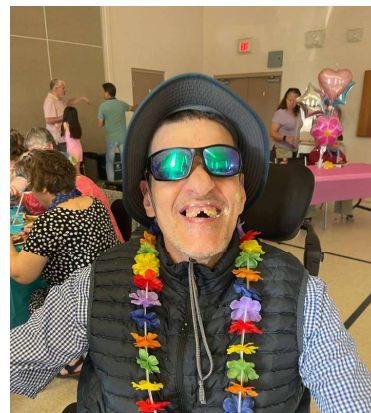
# EDCL Dances



EDCL proudly hosted two events this past year: a Spring Fling concert and dance and a Halloween Dance. Both events were enjoyed by many and are filled with snacks, decorations, laughter, music, and plenty of dancing!

The Spring Fling was held in May and featured music by the Menno Valley Sound group. Our Halloween Dance brought spooky decorations, scary treats, and lots of festive fun.

We had planned for a Christmas concert and dance with a desert café but had to cancel due to weather. We hope to try again for this next year.



**HAPPY RETIREMENT TO YOU MICHELLE! THANK YOU FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE!**



# Adventures of EDCL



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**ELMIRA DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY LIVING  
ANNUAL MEETING  
JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>  
POTLUCK DINNER AT  
6PM  
MEETING AT 7PM**

**smile cookie™ season  
is coming.**

**April 27th - May 3rd**

100% of proceeds from  
every Smile Cookie  
sold at Elmira Tim  
Hortons will go directly  
to Elmira District  
Community Living



**62nd Annual**

## **Elmira Maple Syrup Festival**

Saturday, April 11, 2026  
7 am - 4 pm  
Downtown Elmira, Ontario

thanks  
for your  
support

Thank you to Elmira  
Tim Hortons



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO  
DONATED TO EDCL



CHARITY QUILT  
AUCTION



COMMITTEE, DONORS,  
VOLUNTEERS AND ATTENDEES

Elmira  
Maple &  
Syrup  
Festival

RANDY MARTIN, CRAIG MCLENNAN, KEITH METZGER, RYAN BRUBACHER  
EDCL MAINTENANCE GROUP



## VOLUNTEER GARDENER WANTED!

Do you love getting your hands in the soil and watching things grow? We're looking for a passionate Volunteer Gardener to help care for and maintain our green space at our Admin office!

Please contact Karole McDonnell  
[kmcdonnell@elmiracl.com](mailto:kmcdonnell@elmiracl.com)

519-669-3205

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