



DASC

NEWSLETTER



LIFE ENHANCEMENT TEA PARTY

An afternoon filled with tea, treats, and meaningful moments shared together. This special event brought participants, staff, and guests together in a welcoming and relaxed setting to connect, laugh, and enjoy each other's company. Events like this highlight the importance of community, inclusion, and taking time to celebrate the simple joys of being together.



FAREWELL TO PAUL

Our incredible Production Manager, and happy retirement!

Paul's genuine care and love for all participants and staff at DASC has made a lasting impact on so many. He brought dedication, wit, and kindness to everything he did, and it truly showed in the connections he built each day.

He will be deeply missed by all of us. Wishing you all the best in this next chapter, Paul!



HAPPY RETIREMENT, MYRNA!

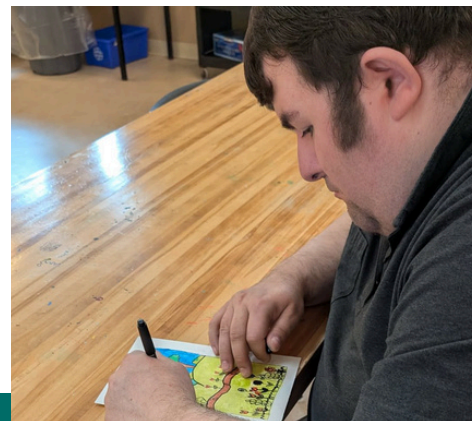
Thank you for the care, support, and dedication you've brought to your role as a Job Coach. You've made a lasting impact on so many lives at DASC.

Wishing you all the best in this next chapter—you will be missed!



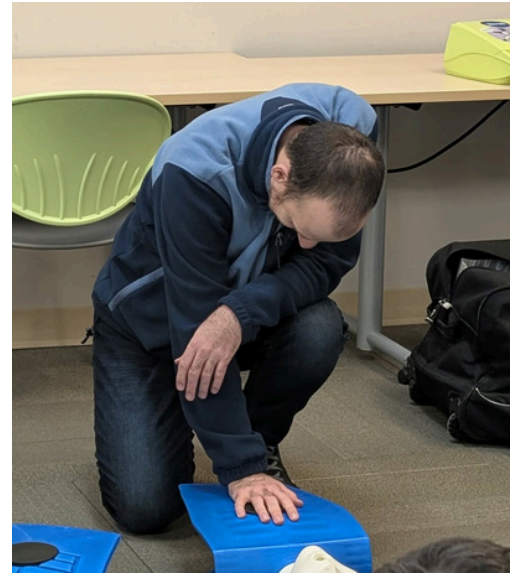
CREATING ART AT DASC

Our Art Hive remains a vibrant space for creativity, connection, and self-expression. Participants enjoy exploring different materials, sharing ideas, and creating in a supportive and welcoming environment.



PRE-EMPLOYMENT CLASSES

Our Pre-Employment class has successfully completed their First Aid and CPR training. This is an important step in building valuable skills, boosting confidence, and preparing participants for the workplace.



FIRE STATION FUN



Our off-site clubs stopped by the local fire station, where they had the chance to meet firefighters and learn more about their important work. They explored the gear and trucks, saw the lights in action, and even experienced what it sounds like when a call comes in. A highlight of the visit was getting to see the fire station pole up close!

COOKING IN COMMUNITY

The Recreation and Leisure Club was excited to be back at one of their favourite spots, North Grove, where they spent the day cooking together. From preparing ingredients to sharing the final meal, it was a great opportunity to build skills, connect, and enjoy time as a group.



NEW CONTRACT: PET ON VACATION



Our new Pet on Vacation contract is off to a great start, with multiple orders already completed. Participants have enjoyed putting the kits together and take pride in being part of this project. It's been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and teamwork on the production floor! Keep up the great work!



HALIFAX AV SHOW COMMUNITY OUTING

A DASC group headed out to the AV Show! Participants had the chance to explore different exhibits, enjoy the sights and sounds, and try out new experiences along the way. It was a great opportunity to get out in the community, connect, and take in something a little different together.



HAPPY RETIREMENT SANDRA

Sandra retired this month, and we celebrated with a small party at her favourite spot, McDonald's. She always enjoyed a good coffee and sharing cookies with her club mates. We wish Sandra all the best in this next chapter and hope it's filled with lots of coffee dates and sweet treats!



PROVINCIAL BUDGET AND DASC

In early March the Province of Nova Scotia introduced its budget for 2026-27, and as part of its plan, announced funding cuts to disability support organizations like DASC.

After several days of advocacy from first voices, community friends, and the sector, the Premier apologized and announced the Province would reverse its planned funding cuts. The annual funding we receive from government will remain intact for 2026-27.

We appreciate the Premier and the Government of Nova Scotia listening to our concerns about how a reduction in funding would translate into a reduction of services for people with intellectual disabilities.

DASC remains committed to supporting the Province in realizing the aims of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Remedy, and growing choice and community inclusion.

I want to thank each individual who reached out to, wrote, called, emailed, or got in touch with their elected official and advocated on behalf of DASC and our programs. I have spoken with many of you in the past several weeks, and I know how stressful the uncertainty of continued service delivery can be.

Your voices mattered. Thank you for sharing your words. Advocacy takes time, energy, commitment, and capacity, and thank you for being generous with yours.

Much work remains as we all navigate the impact and potential of the Remedy, but knowing that our funding is secure to continue our mission in 2026-27 is welcome news indeed.

Sincerely,
Henk van Leeuwen,
Executive Director, DASC

Expressions

Therapeutic Art Group



Friday, April 24th 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: DASC (59 Dorey Ave, Dartmouth)

Spend the evening exploring your creativity and discovering new ways to express yourself. Together we'll make art, try new things, share conversation, and most importantly – have fun. No art experience is needed, just curiosity and an openness to the process.

Space is limited - preregistration required.

To register please contact:

Amanda Gee

clientsupport@dasc-ns.ca

902-468-6606 ex 256

\$10.00/class