

THE ADVOCATE

5 THINGS TO MAKE DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES BETTER



The People 4 People self advocates have been doing a lot of groundwork with advocacy during Covid. One of the many advocacy groups we have had the opportunity to connect with is called Respecting Rights. They are a team of self advocates, lawyers and social workers who deliver arts-based accessible rights workshops across Ontario for people labeled with intellectual disabilities, their support staff, and their families.

Through a virtual meeting with the advocates, we learned of their campaign titled the 5 Things Campaign. Which is, 5 things to make Developmental Services Better.

When Respecting Rights advocates first heard of the MCSS (Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services) DS (Developmental Services) Reform Plan titled "Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion" (<http://bit.ly/journey2belong>), they knew they had to gather self advocates to ensure their voices were heard.

Some Advocates found the methods in which the ministry collected information

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from people with developmental disabilities were not completely accessible. Some advocates felt upset as they thought “how can they make choices for us without hearing our voices?”

30 advocates from different Developmental Service agencies met over zoom during the holidays last year. They talked about what they would like to say to the Ministry about the reform. This discussion led to more talks about what is “really” important to the advocates. It is important to note that poverty is always on the table as a massive issue, however, their focus at this time was centred around the developmental services reform policies.

From the meetings a theme started to form, and the 5 Things Campaign had begun.

People’s Voices Need to be Heard

The government should learn from self-advocates by having regular accessible meetings with them. Self-advocates must be part of helping to make developmental services better.

Same Rights for Everyone

Everyone who uses developmental services should have

the same rights, which should be written in a law so everyone has to follow them.

Better Staff Training

Developmental services staff need better training about legal rights for people with disabilities.

Making Complaints Accessible

People who use developmental services need a

safe, accessible way to complain when there’s a problem. Complaints should make services better.

Accessible Technology

If the government decides to use technology in developmental services, it must be accessible and in plain language. People must be given supports to use it.

MY VOICE MATTERS, MY LIFE MATTERS, I MATTER!

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The group then sent a letter to the ministry asking to meet. Unfortunately, they did not hear back from the Ministry on their first attempt. The Respecting Rights group decided to reach out to other advocates and send another letter to the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, with some help from the lawyers at Arch Disability Law. The Ministry did open their doors and met with Respecting Rights on May 26th, 2021. “Respecting Rights Advocacy group is feeling very hopeful,” says Sue Hutton Respecting Rights Coordinator. They believe “there will be more meetings to come out of this” and we are excited to share an email with advocate groups informing everyone that the “Ministry wants to consult with us”. Respecting Rights is working on getting advocates together to share their news. People 4 People would love to share this news with others. If you are interested in hearing more about the outcome of these meetings please email us at P4PGuelph@clgw.ca.



CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS AND OTHER THINGS TO CELEBRATE



JACKIE GAUVREAU,
JULY 3RD
(NOT PICTURED!)
(and her cat turned 10
on May 25th!)

MARY ELLEN OTTER,
JUNE 29TH



AND A WARM WELCOME TO BRAD LAMMERT
AND AMY HORBATUIK TO FERGUS!

RECIPE: EASY HOMEMADE ICE CREAM

FROM SPARKPEOPLE.COM

I use this recipe if I'm craving ice cream because it has less than 95 Calories and is quick and easy to make from ingredients that are always in my house. I've also used this recipe as a fun cooking session with pre-schoolers! They love the process and get to eat ice cream in the end. If you are craving strawberry ice cream, they also make strawberry extract and you can substitute that for the vanilla extract.

INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup milk (I use skim)
1 tbsp. (3 tsp.) sugar
1/4 tsp. vanilla extract
(or any flavor extract)

FOR MAKING ICE CREAM:

Ice cubes
6 tbsp. salt

TOOLS NEEDED:

Measuring utensils
(tsp., tbsp., 1/2 cup)
Resealable Ziploc Bags
(1 pint and 1 gallon)

DIRECTIONS:

Place milk, sugar and extract in pint sized bag and seal.

Fill gallon-sized bag halfway with ice cubes.

Add salt to ice.

Place the pint sized sealed bag inside the gallon sized bag on top of ice.

Seal gallon sized bag.

Shake bags vigorously for about 4 min or until mixture inside pint sized bag freezes.

Remove pint sized bag from gallon sized bag.

Discard contents of gallon sized bag.

Place contents of pint sized bag into bowl and ENJOY.

Makes 1 serving.

(Variation: add berries, nuts, or granola if desired)

COMMUNITY MAPPING: ACCESSIBLE GEOCACHING

A GEOCACHE IS A HIDDEN CONTAINER THAT HAS A LOGBOOK AND TRINKETS FOR YOU TO FIND IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

1. Go to the Geocaching website: [geocaching.com/play](https://www.geocaching.com/play)
2. Sign into the website.
3. Select the **Play** tab at the top of the screen and select **View Map**.
4. In the **Search bar**, type your Geocache Code listed in your community or type in the name of your city, province and country.
5. Find your Cache in the list and select it.
6. Select the green arrow to **Open Cache Page**.
7. Scroll down the page for hints.

GUELPH

1. In the alley near the Guelph Theatre

Code: GC8MZH8

Location: between Morris Street, Harris Street and York Road

2. Grove Street Grab

Code: GC59j40

Location: on the corner of Clara Street and Grove Street

3. River Lookout

Code: GC7YDQB

Location: Woolwich Street and Heffernan Street Trail

4. Route 325 Drew Park

Code: GC88CX8

Location: Alma Street North and Drew Street

ERIN/HILLSBURG

1. Erin Water Tower Trail #1

Code: GC7WDYY

Location: William Street, Water Tower Trail (Erin)

2. Lions Park – Park and Grab

Code: GC7WDYQ

Location: Water Street and Hillview Street Erin Lion's Park (Erin)

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FERGUS/ELORA

1. Grand River Trolls – Unlocked

Code: GCX95V

Location: St. David Street South,
Riverfront Trail (Fergus)

2. CitWW Elora United

Code: GC5M2B1

Location: Geddes Street and Church
Street (Elora)

3. Danger Dam

Code: GC7M72T

Location: Union Street, Bissel Park
Bridge (Elora)

MT FOREST/HARRISTON

1. High Happy Healthy

Code: GC2644P

Location: Lovers Lane and Queen
Street West (Mt. Forest)

2. A Rock in a Metal World

Code: GC89323

























Location: Queen Street and Arthur
Street East (Harriston)

3. Humanity in Harriston

Code: GC8WB3Z

Location: Mill Street and Elora Street
South (Harriston)

UPCOMING EVENTS

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
JUNE			1	2	3	4	5	GUELPH/ERIN	
		6	7	8	9	10	11	A DAY AT THE FARM EXPERIENCE - ALL SUMMER! bit.ly/farmexp	
		 7	8	9	10	 11	 12	 FLAG RAISING CEREMONY bit.ly/seniorflag	
	 13	14	15	16	17	18	 19	 MULTICULTURAL FEST bit.ly/multicultfest	
	20	21	22	23	 24	25	26	 JON BON JOVI bit.ly/jbjshow	
	27	28	 29	30	 1	2	3	 JUNETEETH CELEBRATION bit.ly/june19guelph	
	JULY	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	 SPIRIT WITH ALPACAS bit.ly/alpacaspirit
11		12	13	14	 15	16	17	 CANADA DAY villageoferin.com/events/canada-day/	
18		19	20	21	22	 23	 24	 AN EVENING WITH CECIL FOSTER bit.ly/cecilfoster	
 25		26	27	28	29	30	31	 HILLSIDE FESTIVAL bit.ly/hillhomeside	
AUGUST		 1	 2	3	4	5	6	7	 WALKING TOUR bit.ly/gactour
		8	9	10	 11	 12	13	 14	 SONIC SPRINGS FEST bit.ly/sonicsprings
		 15	 16	 17	18	19	20	21	 ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE bit.ly/a1lycomm
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	 VIRTUAL CANADA DAY PARTY bit.ly/virtualcanada	
	29	30	31					 GRAND RIVER RACING INDUSTRY DAY bit.ly/civicindustry	
								 CANADA DECORATING CONTEST bit.ly/canadamyhome	

SUMMER WORD SEARCH

W	L	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	K
A	A	B	E	A	C	H	B	A	L	L
L	N	T	E	N	N	I	S	E	A	L
K	T	E	E	F	D	H	F	L	S	A
I	E	N	H	R	U	C	R	C	W	B
N	R	T	B	F	M	A	S	I	I	E
G	N	I	K	I	B	E	T	C	M	S
L	E	G	I	S	R	B	L	P	M	A
I	A	J	C	H	E	B	L	O	I	B
A	X	Z	Y	I	L	A	E	P	N	J
R	V	E	W	N	L	C	H	F	G	I
T	T	O	U	G	A	D	S	E	G	H
S	U	N	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	K
S	C	A	M	P	F	I	R	E	O	L
S	O	C	C	E	R	R	Q	P	N	M

TENT
BIKING
WATERMELON
TENNIS
WALKING
TRAIL
CANOE

SHELL
BEACHBALL
SOCCER
LANTERN
BASEBALL
CAMPFIRE
POPSICLE

UMBRELLA
BEACH
SWIMMING
ICE CREAM
SUNGLASSES
FISHING

THE P4P MISSION

IT IS THE GOAL OF PEOPLE 4 PEOPLE TO LEARN THE SKILLS THAT WILL ENABLE US TO KNOW OUR RIGHTS, UNDERSTAND OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND LIVE WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

Fergus Chapter:	p4pfergus@clgw.ca
Guelph Chapter:	p4pguelph@clgw.ca
Harriston Chapter:	p4pharriston@clgw.ca
Mount Forest Chapter:	p4pmtforest@clgw.ca



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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT THROUGH THIS NEWSLETTER, CONTACT THE ADMIN. OFFICE AT 519-824-2480 OR 226-314-0829.

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