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2nd Chance
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musagetes

Heart & Stroke - Spark Foodland Ontario

WDG Public Health

The Corporation of the County of Wellington Hitachi Construction

Upper Grand District School Board Canadian Mental Health Association WWD

Special thanks to all all of our amazing volunteers and donors who make this work possible!



with gratitude...

Message from the Executive Director,

When I began my job on January 1st, 2013 I knew there was a huge story behind the coalition and the history of the Neighbourhood Groups. Over the past two years I have been lucky enough to hear many stories and even meet some of the amazing people who were there when the Onward Willow Neighbourhood Group got everything started. We all owe a debt of gratitude to those community heroes and every single person since then who has contributed to a meeting, an event or a program in their neighbourhood.

In the first two years of the Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition a lot has changed. We are now our own charity, we have attracted new Neighbourhood Groups and Partners, brought new funding and supports to the work, and been part of some new and exciting projects (The Seed, Brant Hub, North End Harvest Market). We have been supported by, and collaborated with, some wonderful and dedicated new friends such as Lakeside HOPE House and Chalmers Community Services Centre.

What hasn't changed is the passionate and committed people that make the Neighbourhood Groups such amazing places. They are the heart and soul of the coalition. They are the places where neighbours connect over food, coffee, parenthood, programs and celebrations, and where great ideas are born. What the GNSC has done is start to knit the supportive fabric together to help the Neighbourhood Groups realize their dreams. We have done this by building new resources and partnerships, connecting Neighbourhood Groups to share their skills, resources and expertise, and through the tremendous support of our Partner organizations.

After two years in this role, I am filled with joy, hope and gratitude: gratitude for being able to be a part of this profound work, gratitude for being able to spend time with so many amazing and caring people, gratitude for all of the people and organizations that support and partner in our work, gratitude for all of the fun and laughter that is shared, and gratitude for the incredible people who came before me who had a dream and made this work possible.

Two years into this journey, we are just starting to realize the potential of the GNSC. I look forward to ten years from now, looking back on these first years and sharing how much further we have come together.

with gratitude, Brendan Johnson

Message from the Co-Chairs

What an amazing year it has been for the GNSC. Our second full year as an incorporated not-for-profit organization has seen continued growth in all areas. The amazing staff team of the GNSC have supported new neighbourhoods, welcomed new partner organizations, secured increased funding from various sources, and most importantly, worked in partnership with citizens to imagine what is possible and bring those possibilities to life. This hard work has resulted in continued (amazing) neighbourhood after school and summer programs, new efforts to reduce barriers and reach out to new Canadians, more initiatives that have increased food security, increased outreach to families facing challenges - helping to connect them to needed supports and inviting them to belong to this wonderful thing called community. The planning and dreaming of a Brant hub continues in earnest with a committee of strong neighbourhood leaders, the city, and the school board. In all of these efforts, we are achieving our vision of creating a healthy, safe, community where everyone feels at home. We feel so proud to be a part of such an incredible organization full of life. We want to thank everyone who has been part of this great organization and applaud your efforts to move us forward. We are looking foward to another great year, with all of you involved.

Debbie Gorman and Erin Harvey