Cosmopolitan Learning Centre



2022 ~ 2023 Annual Report

Agenda

ITEM #1 ~ CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ITEM #2 ~ MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, JUNE 22, 2021

ITEM #3 ~ BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

ITEM #4 ~ NEW BUSINESS & RESOLUTIONS

ITEM #5 ~ ELECTIONS

ITEM #6 ~ CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ITEM #7 ~ AUDITOR'S REPORT

ITEM #8 ~ PROGRAM REPORT

ITEM #9 ~ ADMISSIONS & TRANSITION COMMITTEE REPORT

ITEM #10 ~ SARCAN REPORT

ITEM #11 ~ HUMAN RESOURCE REPORT

ITEM #12 ~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cosmopolitan Learning Centre
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday June 22, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present

Sharla Schofield	*Connie Lang*	*Marcia Watson*	*Bart Dixon*
Shirley Bugg	*Dennis Friesen*	*Catherine Duczek*	*Lorne Wirth*
Rick Hack	*Ryan Cavan*	*Wei Xiao*	*Perry Kirton*
Sharon Ash	*Karen Shepherd*	*Rick Watson*	*Rosalind Sinclair*
Jerry Grywacheski	*Verna Howie*	*Jeannette Skibicki*	*Tracy Brassard*

Virtual Attendees

Bev Bartok	*Sarah Magnus*	*Kim Putland*
Tricia Cormier	*Wanita Carswell*	

Regrets:

Duncan Louttit	*Dan Stinnen*

Supporters of the Centre 2022 ~ 2023

Regina Cosmopolitan Club

Wascana Cosmo Couples Club

Able Busing

Valley View Wreckers Ltd.

Derek Krahn

Terry & Cheryl Wall

J.R. Lane

Olivia Langley

Werner Family

Suds Car Wash

Patricia Doughty

Kyla Sarty

Marlen & Twila Hagen

Linda Knoblauch

Arla & Phillip Robinson

Mary Martens

The Pin People Laurie Artiss

Dawn Sykes

Lorna Sandberg

Irene & Norman Jones

Keltie Brigham

Jason Pylatiuk

Karen Turnball

Sarah Weber

Jillian Eberts

Jenarae Mulder

Jennifer Fortin

Andrea Ceulemans

.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Minutes from June 22, 2022 AGM

(*Virtual AGM via ZOOM)*

Item #1: Call Meeting to Order

Rick Hack introduced himself as the chairman of the board of directors and called the 2021-2022 Annual General Meeting to order and thanked those who could attend the meeting virtually.

Item #2 – Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting Dated June 24th, 2021

Perry Kirton made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 24th, 2021 Annual General Meeting as circulated. Seconded: Dennis Friesen. Carried.

Item #3 – Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising from the meeting minutes.

Item #4 – New Business & Resolutions

Motion made by Karen Shepherd to appoint Berger Cavan Group LLP as the auditor for the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Seconded: Catherine Duczek. Carried.

Item #5 – Elections

Perry Kirton introduced himself and stated that he was called upon to be the nomination chairman. Perry Kirton presented the members who will stand on the board for the 2022 – 2023 year. All current board members will remain on the board. The board members continuing to serve for the 2022 – 2023 year are as follows:

Perry Kirton	*Dan Stinnen*	*Lorne Wirth*
Richard Hack	*Karen Shepherd*	*Dennis Friesen*
Catherine Duczek	*Jerry Grywacheski*	*Duncan Louttit*
Rick Watson		

Perry Kirton asked a total of three times if there are any further nominations for the board of directors. No further nominations were brought forward.

Rick Hack thanked the board for continuing to serve for another year.

Rick Hack made a motion to cease the call for nominations and to accept the 2022-2023 list of the members of the board of directors. Seconded: Dennis Friesen: Carried.

Item #6 – Chairman's Report

Rick Hack stated that the pandemic created many obstacles for the centre, but that the participants, staff, leadership team and Board of Directors worked together to get us here today and back to normal operations. Rick stated that the 50th anniversary that we were able to celebrate in August was a wonderful event, and really shown how far we have come in the 50 years. Rick wants to congratulate and thank Connie Lang on her 30 years of service with the organization in 2022. Rick said that her leadership as the Executive Director has shown her ongoing commitment to the agency and most of all to the participants who attend the centre by ensuring that the participants are provided the supports that they need and the opportunities that the participants desire. Rick would like to give his congratulations to all the individuals receiving service awards. Rick wants to thank everyone at the centre and is looking forward to the next year.

Item #7 – Auditor's Report

Ryan Cavan from Berger Cavan Group LLP introduced himself and reviewed his role in the completion of the audit. Ryan said that the included financial statements present the audited results for the year. Ryan said that the statements have been fairly reflected in accordance with accounting standards and financial principles and it has been a smooth audit operation. Ryan said that the controls in place are sufficient to ensure operations run smoothly. Ryan stated that there was a large recovery of funds from the Ministry of Social Services due to the reduction of services throughout the pandemic. Ryan said that the centre had healthy reserves in place to cover the funds recovery. Ryan presented the auditor's report and is pleased to report that the results of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre's audit show a clean audit report.

Rick Hack made a motion to approve the auditor's report. Seconded: Catherine Duczek. Carried.

Item #8 – Admissions & Transition Committee Report

As per report book.

Item #9 – Program Report

As per report book.

Item #10 – Sarcan Report

As per report book.

Item #11 – Human Resource Report

As per report book.

Item #12 – Executive Director's Report

Connie Lang presented the Executive Director's report as per booklet. Connie said that this past year has been time of challenges in supporting people safely through the pandemic and was also a time of success as we celebrated our 50th anniversary. The centre experienced a temporary service interruption due to the pandemic, however we are now fully operational and it is great seeing everyone return to the normal activities. Connie thanked the participants and staff for their diligence in implementing the many safety protocols that were put in place. Connie said that the Ministry of Social Services implemented a recovery of funds due to the temporary interruption in services. Moving forward we are looking to welcome new participants and expand our outreach services. Connie said that the 50th anniversary was celebrated on August 9, 2021 and we were lucky to be able to celebrate all together (with masking protocols). The celebration included a carnival, a food truck, and a DJ dance party. The organization prides itself in supporting individuals in the sector who have specialized needs and we were able to provide a temporary rental of our house to an individual to support her transition to her new home.

Connie thanked the Board of Directions, the employees, and all of the participants for their patience and resilience in this past year.

Mr. Duncan Louttit made a motion to approve the AGM reports 8 through 12, as per AGM report booklet. Seconded: Mrs. Catherine Duczek. Carried.

Mr. Rick Hack made a motion to adjourn the Annual General Meeting. Seconded: Mr. Perry Kirton. Carried.

Board Chairman Report

The past year has been another busy year for the Organization. The Organization continues to provide supports to 230 Individuals. We have recently increased the 2nd Avenue location by leasing the business space next to the location. This doubles the program space and will provide opportunities for increased services and supports for new and existing Individuals. This additional space will be of great value, given that pre-pandemic planning for an additional building space will not move forward at this time.

On behalf of the current Board of Directors, we wish to express our condolences to the family of Mr. Joe Kazeil, who has passed away. Joe was a dedicated member of the Board for many years; the success of Cosmo and its people was important to him. He will be missed.

Congratulations to those listed in the AGM program booklet for their dedicated service with the Organization. Your commitment contributes to the success of the Individuals.

Special acknowledgement on the 75th Anniversary of the Cosmopolitan Clubs. This extraordinary club has been supporting the Organization since its inception in 1971. We congratulate the Cosmo Club members on this milestone and thank them for their ongoing support for Cosmo and the community.

Thank you to the Board of Directors, Employees and Participants for another great year!

Rick Hack ~ Board President

Board Members 2022 ~ 2023

Rick Hack ~ President
Dennis Friesen ~ Director
Lorne Wirth ~ Treasurer
Connie Lang ~ Secretary
Karen Shepherd ~ Director
Catherine Duczek ~ Director
Duncan Louttit ~ Director
Perry Kirton ~ Director
Jerry Grywacheski ~ Director
Rick Watson ~ Director
Dan Stinnen ~ Director

Board Members Resigning

New Business & Resolutions

The updated bylaws are circulated via the insert in the AGM booklet. Updates are as a result of changes to the Non-profit Act and are highlighted in red. We will require a motion to accept the proposed bylaw changes as circulated.

Nominations

John Krysack
Greg Jelinski

Program Report

The Cosmopolitan Learning Centre headed into 2022 full steam ahead. Programs at the centre were going strong with a few new additions and the return of all the favourite ones that the participants love attending. Music Therapy has expanded with the introduction of a new Music Therapist, Morgan Mueller, who will be providing two sessions on alternating Fridays. We have some new community partnerships with the YWCA clothing store, Orange Tree Living and the Wholesale Club. We thank these new partners and extend our gratitude to all our existing partners in the community for providing the participants with the opportunity to be part of their community. We have also had the City of Regina Police present to us on topics such as internet safety, strangers, and provided us with a tour of the police station.

The Community Connections Program at 2nd Ave. also expanded with some added space providing a second kitchen, computer room, laundry room, reading room, games room and more washrooms.

The purchase of a green house and gazebo have enhanced our programs with yard parties that just kept getting bigger and better. One of the yard parties had a band perform for all participants in attendance. These additions are only possible due to the ongoing fundraising efforts of the staff, participants, and the Cosmopolitan Clubs. The Charity Fair and Auction was a sold-out event for the first time ever. We look forward to the year ahead and the new memories and experiences we will provide to the participants of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre.



Green House



Party at the Gazebo



Visit with the Police Chef

Admissions & Transition Committee Report

The Admissions and Review Committee is comprised of members from Community Living Service Delivery, Cosmopolitan Learning Centre Board of Directors, the Executive Director of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre, and the Program Manager of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre.

The Committee reviews existing participant's statuses with the centre and new applications for service. New applications are being placed on a waitlist for service, which has over 55 applications.

Currently 225 participants are being supported by the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre.

We look forward to serving more participants in the future.

Sarcan Report

Greeting from the Victoria Ave East Sarcan!

Things are busy as usual around here. We are holding steady at 31 million containers being recycled annually, which puts us as the second busiest depot in the entire province. Drop N Go is increasing daily and bulk orders are arriving now that summer is coming. Sometimes it feels as we are bursting at the seams! I hope that soon we will have a bigger, better depot! I will keep you updated on that.

School tours are back! Due to COVID, we were unable to accommodate students, but not this year. So far, our depot has welcomed two kindergarten classes from Emerald Ridge Elementary School. In June we will be welcoming two classes from Pilot Butte School and three classes from Stoughton. We love it when the little ones are here! All of their bright little faces and so many questions!!

We have hired a lot of new staff this year, which now brings the total to 42 employees. We want to welcome Sara Armstrong, Sairin Rahman, Anik Chowdhury, MD Motiur Rahman, Sherry Nechvatal, Doris Chigbu and Nicole Asimole. We also got two new full time allocations; those positions were filled with current employees, Mahmuda Akter and Mohamed Rahman. Welcome and congratulations.

Another congratulation goes to Harry (Doc) Redwood for receiving his 5-year recognition from Sarcan this year. Hard to believe it has been 5 years since he came to us from Greenall High School for work experience. Another congratulations goes to Bobbie Poitras for receiving her 25-year recognition from Cosmo this year.

Last summer the entire staff enjoyed a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon at Evraz Park. We had a BBQ with lots of delicious food, swimming and some fun games. Oh we cannot forget about the ice cream! We will definitely be doing it again this summer. For our Christmas staff party we went to Vic Square Mini Golf. We rented out the entire place just for us and our families, had more great food (food is apparently a big thing for us), we had a blast! Can't wait to see what we plan for this year.

From all of us here at Victoria Ave East Sarcan, have a safe and happy summer!!



Drop & Go



Well deserved break



Busy cashiers

Cosmo at work and at play!



Ringing the bells



Library visit



Cooking up a storm



Off to the Park



Painting fun



Cleaning job well done

Human Resource Report

The Organization takes pride in the variety of professional development opportunities provided to its Employees and actively promotes and invests in the skills and knowledge development of every employee to ensure services of the highest quality. The staffing team has continued to actively participate in their professional development this past year by taking courses remotely, and online. Thank you to all the employees for your commitment to learning, so that the Program Individuals receive professional, person-centred support.

Some of the professional development opportunities this past year have included the Mandt System training, which supports employees' knowledge in building positive, trusting relationships with the people we support, how to enhance our communication supports with individuals and support people in managing stress. Supporting Individuals' physical care needs, and safe lifting techniques are offered through Transfers, Lifts and Repositioning Training (TLR). Two team members are currently completing a course offered through the Ministry of Social Services called Advanced Principles of Program Design, an extensive course offering information about comprehensive support strategies from a wholistic support perspective.

Engagement and connection with educational institutions this past year have included welcoming Nursing students from Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Continuing Care Aid (CCA) students and Kinesiology students from the University of Regina. Thank you to Mary Grace T, a kinesiology student who completed a 4-month student placement with Cosmo! Thank you for your work with the Individuals, and congratulations on earning your degree! We have been fortunate to have some great partnerships and plan to continue hosting students within the Organization.

May 23, 2023 to May 27, 2023, was celebrated as Disability Support Worker Week. The Centre planned a pizza lunch and ice cream day to celebrate the dedicated work of our Employees. Also, thank you to the Sarcan team for your support of recycling in the community.

Cosmopolitan Learning Centre Service Awards 2022

We would like to extend congratulations to the following:

5 Years of Service: *Brenden Baldock, Brandon Bellisle, Christian Cappo, Marshall Eashappie, Casey Hoornick, Emily Louison, Tyler Schneider, Hannah Kimery, Nicole Cornelson, Jennifer Rauw,*

10 Years of Service: *Gina Ali, Jolena Bellegard, Ashley Bohay, Nicole Dumonceau, Adam Eisbrenner, Sarah Wolfram, Kristy Yoc, Dorothy Wilchynski, David McStravick, Michelle Gleim*

15 Years of Service: *Gavin Coulombe, Monica Death, Ray Kahnapace, Christopher McQueen, Randall Moreau, Travis Schiller, William Thrasher, Jaymie Wilson, Bonnie Tworkowski, James Poitras*

20 Years of Service: *Anna Marie Gaetz, Angie Hurst, Loretta Moran, Marjorie Reaney*

25 Years of Service: *Dawn Deegan, Kelly Huziak, Ryan Kaytor, Pat Watt*

30 Years of Service: *Alex Bonderoff, Eugene Buffalo, Carla Gropp, Peter Romanshenko, Connie Lang*

35 Years of Service: *Danny Dudek, David Hesse, Ryan Munro, Bessie Richenberger, Mykle Samuelson, Herman Vilcu, Darren Vogt, Brenda Taylor*

40 Years of Service: *Calvin Donald, Lori Dupmeier*

45 Years of Service: *Ruth Fisher, Shelly Marcia*



40 Years



40 Years



35 Years



5 Years



35 Years



15 Years



25 Years

Executive Director Report

We continue to provide supports to over 230 wonderful Individuals. Thankfully, post-pandemic, people have remained well, and most Individuals have returned for support services.

The people we support are truly the heart of this Organization. This past year has been a year of maintaining connection with community (post-pandemic), supporting growth, and celebration of accomplishments.

Supporting Individuals to maintain their connections with their community is central to providing inclusive supports. New community employment at the Wholesale Club and partnerships with the University of Regina are a couple of the connections the Individuals have made in their community. The Learning Centre is in the process of hiring two Individuals from our SCI group to take on the Cosmo Cleaning contract.

In support of Organizational growth, and in lieu of building a new space, we have been able to lease additional space at the 2nd Avenue location, creating double the size of the current area. This new space will allow us to expand our services to individuals awaiting service. The space has required some adjustments, but overall will be a fantastic space to facilitate expanded day program supports. In addition, the Organization has welcomed nine new Individuals within the last year (22-23). Welcome to Cosmo, and we wish each of you the very best in your future goals.

In celebration of Individual accomplishments, congratulations to Aisha Chalchal for graduating from the University of Regina with a Certificate in Inclusive Post-Secondary Education. Well done, Aisha; it takes courage and drive to attend university and handle the challenges that come with being a student.

The house next to the Edgar location is in full swing, being used for activities throughout the day. We look forward to using the yard and garden area this spring. We are excited about getting the new greenhouse up and running this year, full of plants and flowers as well as our vegetable gardens!

This year marks the 10th anniversary of our therapy pool and work out area; It has been a wonderful addition, and the Individuals love getting in the pools.

We continue to operate the Victoria Avenue East Sarcan Recycling Depot. Sarcan Head office have provided member operated depots with a monetary donation in the amount of 75,000.00 for the member organization to use at their discretion.

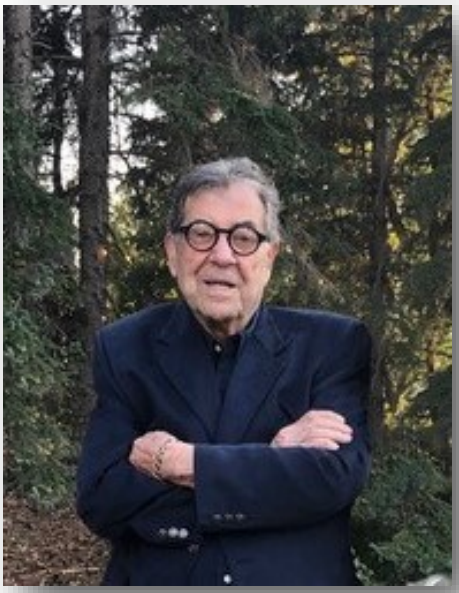
We have had a few fundraisers this past year which have included a plant and bake sale, Christmas craft and bake sale and gift card sales. In addition, we have received generous donations from the Cosmo Clubs through their Trip a Year fundraiser and the Charity Fair and Auction. The Charity Fair was the first since the pandemic and was sold out and a very successful event! Thank you to all those involved in fundraising for Cosmo. We recognize the commitment and work to fundraise in support of the Centre! We thank you so much!

Congratulations to Verna Howie, as she celebrates 40 years with the Organization. It is quite an accomplishment to be employed for that many dedicated years. You are a dedicated employee, who has made some wonderful connections with the people we support, past and present. We appreciate the humor that you bring every day and look forward to your continued work with the Centre.

Special thanks to the Board of Directors for their ongoing support this past year, and we welcome our two new members to the Board (John Krysack and Greg Jelinski). We would like to thank all Employees for their dedicated work in providing person-centred supports. We would also like to give a very special thanks to the Individuals who attend the Centre for your hard work and participation; It is truly a privilege to be able to support you and help you meet your goals, dreams and aspirations for your life.

In Memory of Joe Kazeil

We are saddened to hear of Joe's passing. Deepest condolences to his family. Joe was an important part of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre with over 30 years of service on the Board. He was incredibly supportive of the Centre and its people. He was a fantastic mentor and teacher, who taught us what leadership and strength was all about. We are truly thankful for the support he has provided us over the past years. He treated the Cosmo Centre as if it were his own business and always showed great pride in his support of the Centre. He provided exceptional business advice and was always available and supportive when we needed his expertise, opinions, and problem-solving ability. He showed great compassion for the men and women attending Cosmo, referring fondly to them as needing to do the best job for "those kids." Joe's support always encompassed his support for the Individuals, and he truly wanted the best for them as was reflected in his service on the Board. He asked tough questions, challenged the status quo, and pushed for the Organization to be the best it could be. We could call him any time and he was there for us, which we will always be thankful to Joe. We enjoyed his great sense of humor, he was very funny, and, in that humor, came wisdom, advice and support. That is what we will remember about Joe.



I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways.
Of happy times ad laughing times ad bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun.
Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

Enjoying our Cosmo Community



A visit to the Fire Hall



St. Patrick's Day



Chilling



Hanging out at the Tiki Bar



Day Camp



Just relaxing



But sometimes danger lurks



A visit to the Museum



Taking a rest from Christmas shopping



Frost



Music Therapy



Visit from a furry friend



Someone loves shopping



SCI Fun day



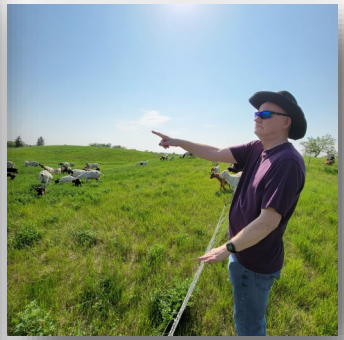
A visit to Angela's house



Butterfly release



Here comes Santa



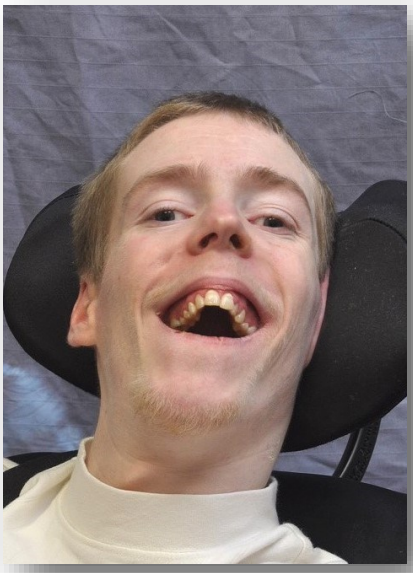
Checking out the goats



Hanging with the Grinch

In Memoriam

Alex Brock ~ February 19, 1990 ~ April 9, 2022



Alex was a stylish man, always dressed in the latest sports or holiday clothing. He had a great memory and would always remember his old friends, funny stories or memories from his time in Lifeskills 2.

He enjoyed being kept up on the news, watching the daily forecast and listening to music.

Alex was a very social guy with a great sense of humor. Joking and teasing were the way to Alex's heart. His favorite thing was having a good sarcastic argument especially if there were a few curse words involved.

We will always miss the antics Alex brought to the room.

Virlea Franklin ~ December 30, 1964 ~ April 25, 2022



Virlea participated in the entire Cosmo experience during her 35 years at the Centre. She started in Production doing tabletop contracts like candy bags, labeling, stuffing envelopes, and putting together cardboard fillers for bridges. From there she went to the paper plant, SCI, Connections, LS4, Seniors and finally enjoyed semi-retirement in LS3. We will remember Virlea as a hard worker who got a kick out of pushing buttons and getting in trouble! She had a real spark, and her name will forever bring a smile to the face of everyone who knew her.

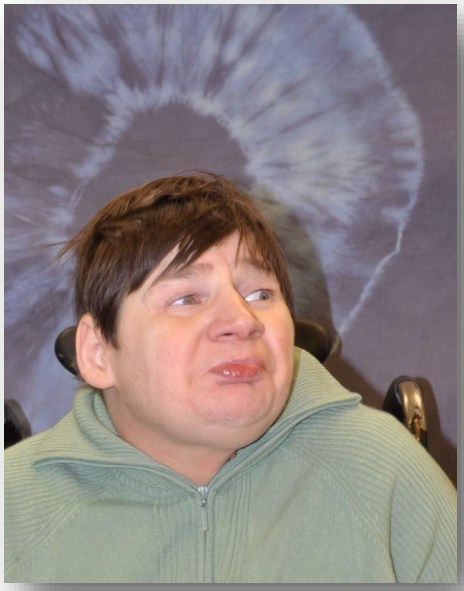
RIP Virlea.

In Memoriam

Laura Lee Alzomal ~ August 2, 1964 ~ June 5, 2022

Laura Lee attended Cosmo for 33 years. She spent her time in LS2 and LS3 where she enjoyed swimming, shopping, games, music, baking and arts and crafts. She also loved community outings and spending time at the parks or watering the flower beds with her best buddy "Dan". Laura Lee will be remembered for her enthusiasm and joyful presence – We will miss hearing "boo, boo" and her beautiful laugh, and seeing that beaming smile light up the room.

Laura Lee will be forever in our hearts!



Carol Vickers ~ October 13, 1947 ~ November 24, 2022



It was with heavy hearts that we received news that a participant who attended the centre in the past, Carol Vickers, passed away on November 24th, 2022. Carol retired from Cosmo in December of 2021 and she will be missed.

In Memoriam

Emma-Leigh Randall ~ December 27, 1997 ~ December 6, 2022



Emma-Leigh Randall joined the Connections Edgar program in August of 2019. She is remembered for her loving and feisty personality. Emma-Leigh enjoyed music, dancing, and the therapy swims while she attended the Learning Centre. Emma-Leigh is greatly missed and will be forever in our hearts.

Rest in Peace Sweet Emma, it was a great privilege knowing you.

When you see the sunrise, think of me.

When the cool breeze touches you, know I am free

When you feel the sorrow of us being apart,

Know I am not lost: I am a part of your heart.

Cosmopolitan
Learning
Centre