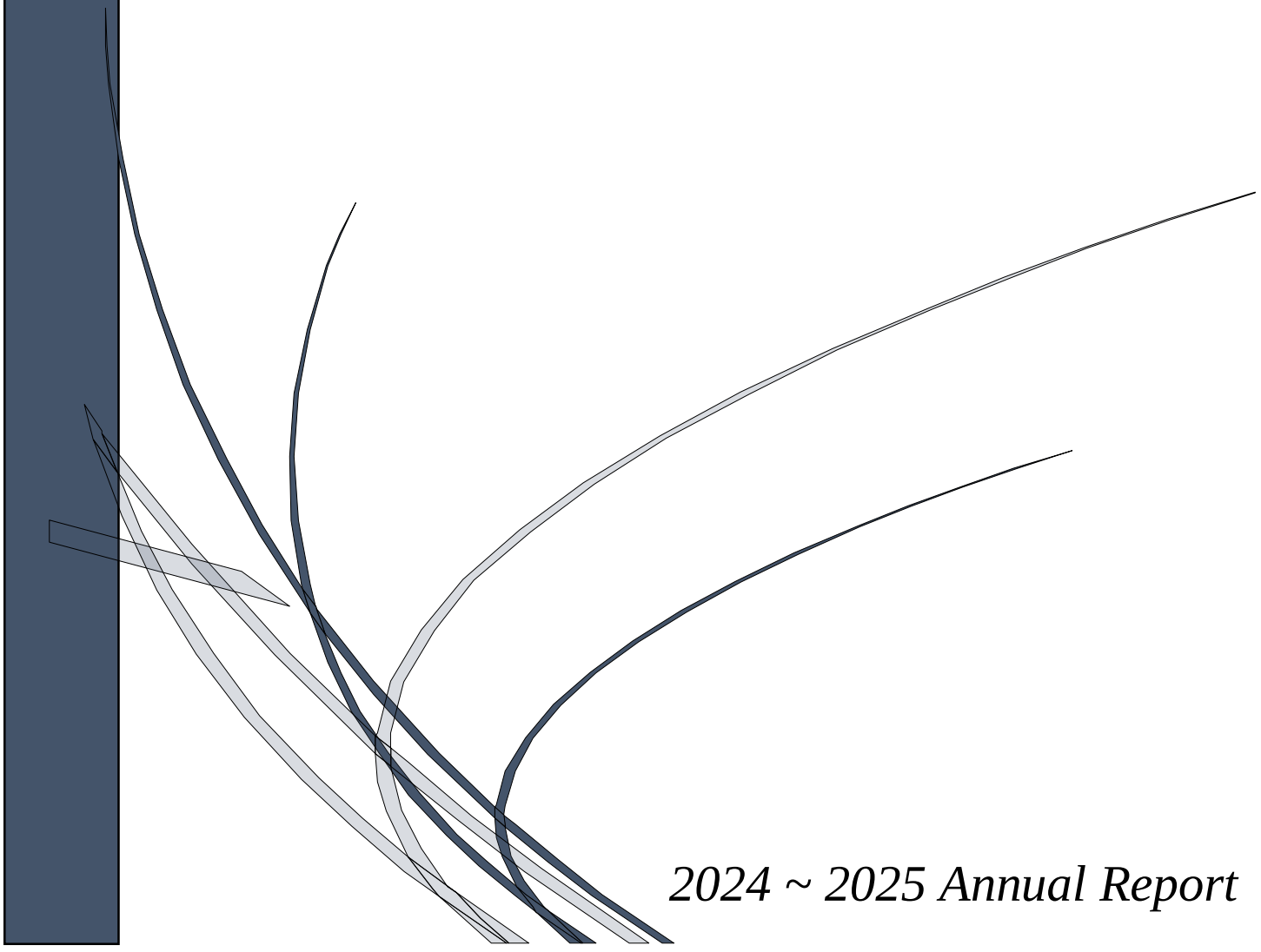
Cosmopolitan Learning Centre



2024 ~ 2025 Annual Report

Agenda

ITEM #1 ~ CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ITEM #2 ~ MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, JUNE 26, 2024

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 ~ SARCAN REPORT

ITEM #9 ~ PROGRAM REPORT

ITEM #10 ~ HUMAN RESOURCE REPORT

ITEM #11 ~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cosmopolitan Learning Centre

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday June 26, 2024

Minutes

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

Present

Karen Shepherd	*John Krysak*	*Sharla Schofield*	*Tracy Brassard*
Kinjal Patel	*Stephanie Palmer*	*Verna Howie*	*Perry Kirton*
Shirley Bugg	*Rick Hack*	*Marcia Watson*	*Dennis Friesen*
Lorna Passmore	*Bonnie Goodwill*	*Lorne Wirth*	*Jeannette Skibicki*
Marlene Mebbs	*Cheryl Cameron*	*Dennis Nestegard*	*Fay Langelier*
Max Schaffer	*Margaret Schaffer*	*Catherine Duczek*	*Greg Jelinski*
Corrina Ward	*Randy Ward*	*Ryan Cavin*	*Wei Xiao*
Mindy Strom	*Shaun Hove*	*Lorraine Addison*	*Ebaad Kamran*
Shaista Kamran	*Keith Shepherd*		

Virtual			
Abieyuwa Adanlawo	*Ashlie Antonovich*	*Eric Laroque*	*Phoenix Ramage*
Francois Kabahizi	*Nafisa Chalchal*		

Regrets: *Rick Watson* *Jerry Grywacheski* *Duncan Louttit*

Supporters of the Centre 2024 ~ 2025

Ryan Mathieson
Bob and Gayle Evans
United Way of Regina
Catherine Duczek
Wascana Cosmopolitan Club
Regina Cosmopolitan Club
Jan Ryba
Maggie Rankin
Werner Family
Ernest & Ruth Geisbauer
Jim Storey
Brian & Edna Reynard
Brian & Marilyn Bien
Lisa Graff
Valerie and John Grandy
Monica Milas
Carrie Wallace
Tom and Tonya Pearson
Darcy Turton
Andrea Ceulemans
J.R. Lane
Spring Free from Racism
Mary Donald
Virginia Pettapiece
William Wutzke Trust
Janice Stefan
Tom Mercer
Judy and David Wallace
Sallie Volk
Cheryl Wall
Dennis and Tammy Gervais
Moira Bloom

Thank you for your continuing support!

Minutes from June 26, 2024 AGM

Item #1: Call Meeting to Order

Rick Hack thanked everyone for attending, introduced himself as the president of the board of directors and called the June 26, 2024, Annual General Meeting to order.

Item #2: Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting from June 28, 2023

Rick said that the minutes of the last AGM dated June 28, 2023, are within the program booklet for review. Rick asked for a motion to accept the June 28, 2023, AGM meeting minutes.
Perry Kirton made a motion to accept the June 28, 2023, AGM meeting minutes as circulated. Second: Greg Jelinski. Carried.

Item #3: Business Arising out of the Minutes

No new business arising from the minutes.

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Item #4: New Business and Resolutions

No new business arising.

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Item #5: Elections

Perry Kirton introduced himself as a long serving member of the board of directors and was called upon as the nomination's chairperson. Perry introduced the current board members to include:

Perry Kirton	*Greg Jelinski*	*Richard Hack*	*Karen Shepherd*
Catherine Duczek	*Jerry Grywacheski*	*Lorne Wirth*	*Duncan Louttit*
Rick Watson	*Dennis Friesen*	*John Krysak*	

Perry opened the floor for nominations for the board of directors. Perry asked three times if there are any nominations from the floor. No nominations were received from the floor. Perry asked for a motion to close the nominations to the board.
Lorne Wirth made a motion to close the nominations to the board of directors. Second: John Krysak. Carried

Rick Hack thanked the board of directors for their hard work and dedication this past year. Rick commented that board member, Dan Stinnen cannot return to serve on the board due to family commitments. Rick thanked Dan for his commitment in service on the board of directors.

Item #6: Chairman's Report

Rick Hack, chairman of the board, reviewed his report as per the report booklet. Rick is pleased to report that the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre has paid the remainder of their mortgage and is now debt free. Cosmo has received a $50,000 donation from the Cosmopolitan Clubs. Thank you very much to the clubs for their dedication and support of the organization. We had a Basic Standards Review this past year with Community Living and Service Delivery. Cosmo has met the standards as set by the funder. Thank you to all of the staff for their efforts. In addition, the AGM booklet contains reports on the various areas, so feel free to review those in the booklet. On behalf of the board of directors, we look forward to another wonderful year.

Item #7: Auditor's Report

Ryan Cavan presented the financial statements. Ryan reported that the financial statements represent a clean audit opinion for this year, and fairly represent the audit completed for the year. Ryan commented that it was a recovery year for the organization pre-covid and post-covid, Cosmo has recovered well.

Rick Hack thanked Ryan Cavan for his work in preparing the audit for this year. Rick asked for a motion to approve the audit report for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Dennis Friesen made a motion to approve the audit report at this June 26, 2024, annual general meeting.

Second: Perry Kirton Carried

Rick Hack asked for a motion to approve Berger Cavan Group to remain as auditor for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Second: Catherine Duczek Carried

Item #8: Program Report

As per report book.

Item #9 Sarcan Report

As per report book.

Item #10: Human Resource Report

Report as per report book.

Item #11: Executive Director Report

Connie Lang reviewed her report by first welcoming all guests to this year's AGM. Connie commented that the participants continue to take part in a variety of program options, being part of their community and enjoying fun activities. This past fiscal year has brought twelve new individuals to join the Cosmo group, and since the end of this fiscal year, we have brought in another ten individuals. It has been great to meet these wonderful people. Unfortunately, we have also had many losses in our participant group. We miss you all, you can see the memoriums in the AGM booklet.

Cosmo has entered into some new partnerships with a few new community employment businesses such as Shoppers Drug Mart Northgate mall and the Wholesale Club to mention a few.

Thank you very much to the generous donations this past year. Thank you to Dave Wellings for a $9,000 donation. The Cosmopolitan Clubs donated $50,000 from the Charity Fair and Auction event. We are extremely grateful for the dedication to fundraising for the organization. Thank you to all of the staff as well for their work in fundraisers throughout the year as well.

We have had the opportunity to celebrate the retirements of two employees on our Leadership team, three employees on the program team. With a lot of growth and change this past year, we are pleased to have welcomed three new leaders to Cosmo. Thank you to Shirley Bugg for the program booklet this year, thank you to the board for their support as well, thank you to all staff and the people we support. Thank you for coming this evening.

Rick Hack adjourned the 2024 Cosmopolitan Learning Centre AGM. Thank you for coming and enjoy the lunch

Board Chairman Report

Thank you for attending this year's Annual General Meeting of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre.

The Centre has been extremely fortunate to have received many generous monetary donations this year from fundraiser events as well as donations in memory of Individuals who attended the Centre. This generosity speaks to the impact the Centre has had in the lives of the Individuals supported. We are profoundly grateful for the fundraisers and donations, as they serve to enhance the opportunities for individuals in the pursuit of inclusion and participation in the community, and personal growth.

Thank you to Berger Cavan for their work preparing the audit for this year. We appreciate the work you do.

Congratulations to those listed in the AGM program booklet for their dedicated service with the Organization. Your commitment contributes to the success of the Individual's goals and dreams.

I do want to extend a big thank you to the staff for the job they do. I really enjoy walking into the Centre and experiencing all the smiling faces of participants and staff. Making this happen every day is certainly no small accomplishment. It takes dedication from management and staff to ensure the well being and personal development of the participants happens each and every day.

Serving as Chairperson of the Board has been a wonderful experience, and I hope to continue to serve on the board as a director in the future. However, we are considering shifting the Chairperson role to another Board member in the future. Thank you to the Board of Directors this past year for their service. We look forward to another fantastic year!

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

Rich Hack ~ Board President

Board Members 2024 ~ 2025

Rick Hack ~ President
Lorne Wirth ~ Treasurer
Duncan Louttit ~ Director
Perry Kirton ~ Director
Karen Shepherd ~ Director
Catherine Duczek ~ Director
Greg Jelinski ~ Director
John Krysak ~ Director
Jerry Grywacheski ~ Director
Rick Watson ~ Director
Dennis Friesen ~ Director

Board Members Resigning

Sarcan Report

Well it's been another great year at the Victoria Ave East Sarcan! For the 2024-2025 fiscal year we recycled 31 million containers. Which still keeps us within the top 3 busiest depots in the province, considering there are 73 depots in total I would say that is pretty darn good! We are so busy that we acquired a second till, the ONLY depot to have such a thing! The Drop N Go program is going extremely well and we love to hear all the customers say how much they love it. Never thought that they could be in and out of a Sarcan depot in less than 5 minutes!

We have new items that we can now recycle! Back in December 2024 Sarcan teamed up with Sask Recycles and we now collect foam, flexible plastic and household glass on their behalf. They are all non-payable but it keeps more items out of our landfill, which is beneficial to everyone. Please check out our website www.sarcan.ca for a complete list of items that we can now recycle (there is lots!)

Lots of new faces around our depot this year. We would like to welcome Zack Jackson, Abdun Noor Dastagir, Desmond Black, Divine Daniel, Afsana Meta, Kazi Islam and Julius Sendze. Now, with our most recent hires, we have a total of 44 staff!

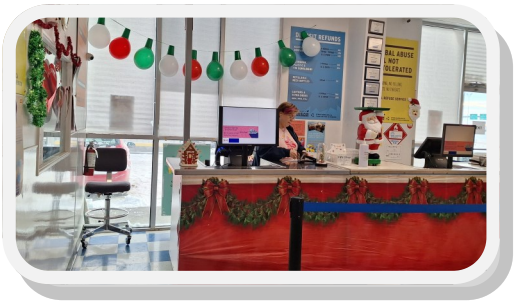
This fall some of our employees will be receiving recognition for their years of service. Celebrating their 5 years will be Mahmuda Akter, Hirsi Mohamed, Bernardo Caneda and Xavier Senga. Sharon Jestin and Wayne Main are celebrating their 15 years with Sarcan! Congratulations you guys!!

And of course I can't forget about the parties! Every year we have a huge get together during the summer with all of our families, big bbq with tons of food and fun! Last year we went to Evraz but they had to shut down the pool which upset the children. So this year they want to try a new park. Guess I have to put my thinking cap on! We had our Christmas party at Cosmo again. Love having it there (thank you to everyone there for allowing us to do that). We had supper catered by Valley Girls and Spices of Punjab. It was really amazing as always and we had so much fun with the gift exchange!

That's all for now. Have a safe and fun summer, I know we will! Bye for now



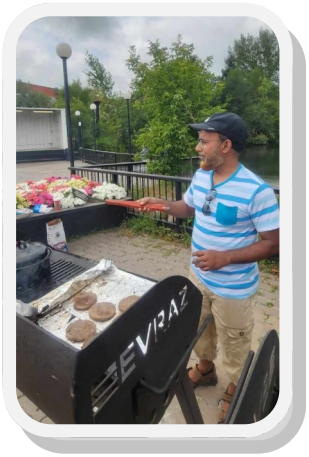
15 Years of Service



All Decked out for Christmas



2024 ~ 2025 Crew



Fun Day

Program Report

Yet another year has flown by! The Centre continues to thrive in this wonderful time of growth. The individuals we support set the pace and lead our staff and Program Coordinators in developing new programs and fine tuning the tried and true. This person centered approach continues to serve our community well.

The Edgar Location is home to several program areas – Lifeskills, Community, Connections and Supported Career Initiatives. This year saw the opening of a 5th Lifeskills area. Centre-wide groups continue to grow in popularity. Individuals have shown us that getting together with people who have similar interests is important to them. Sparkle club keeps our ladies in fine style, science club is always interesting and new, outdoor club has us enjoying our neighborhood, art club allows us to explore our creativity, peer group gives us a chance to use our strengths to help others, seniors club is a mystery – what happens in seniors stays in seniors, and entertainment club holds events such as carnivals, dances, karaoke and Cosmosaic to name a few. They also ensure that every holiday and milestone receives the recognition it deserves. Individuals attending Cosmo can always find a reason to throw a party!

Music therapy continues with 9 sessions, allowing everyone who is interested a chance to take part and benefit from this experience. St John's Ambulance therapy dog "Jett" is always a popular visitor. The atrium is overflowing with drumming every week. Cosmo individuals also enjoy wonderful guest speakers and amazing entertainers throughout the year - Rider Pep band, Indigenous Story Tellers, Comedians, Musicians and choirs, and magic shows are just a few examples. We are currently waiting for the installation of raised gardens in our yard. It will complement the gazebo, greenhouse, and fire pit and give everyone another opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors! Another highlight this year was a VIP tour of Mosaic Stadium. Thanks to our partnership with SGI, individuals were able to meet Craig Reynolds, Coach Mace and even ran into some players! They toured the entire stadium, right down to the locker room!

Beyond the Centre wide activities, each area focuses on the wants and needs of the individuals they support. The therapy pools and sensory room are always popular. This year we were happy to welcome individuals from Sask Abilities to share our beautiful therapy pools. Activities like laughter yoga, wheelchair yoga, and adaptive dance have individuals moving their bodies and reaping the many benefits of the mind/body connection. Community inclusion, meaningful work, volunteering, sensory development, education, personal growth, recreation, and personal choice remain the focus, and our enthusiastic and creative staff are always on the lookout for new and improved ways to engage with individuals and assist them in achieving their goals.

Along with all the above mentioned programs, Community Connections Edgar has been busy with gardening, cooking classes, community volunteer work, and boat rides at Wascana Lake to name a few, the opportunities are endless! We kicked off spring with our annual Plant and Bake sale which was a huge success. Thank you to everyone for all the donations – your support is greatly appreciated!

Connections 2nd Avenue continues to be on the go all over the city. Working, volunteering, touring the airport and fire stations, and taking full advantage of everything our City has to offer, is our top priority. In addition to the activities we join at the main Centre, preforming arts, baking for the weekly cookie sale and our Friday lunch program are a few of the things that keep us busy.

It has been another exciting year at Cosmopolitan Supported Career Initiatives in the world of supportive employment! We are proud to report at present; Cosmopolitan Supported Career Initiatives provides service to forty-six business partnerships. Our individuals continue to achieve feelings of self-worth and a sense of pride for a job well done! Each individual takes pride in their everyday work, and it shows by the exceptional feedback we receive from their contract employers. Thank you to each of you for your hard work and dedication.

In closing we want to express our sincere gratitude to all the staff, business partners, community partners, parents and caregivers for their ongoing support. We would like to acknowledge the students from our partnerships with the U of R Kinesiology Program, the Paramedic Program, and the Sask Polytech Direct Support Worker Program. By taking the opportunity to meet individuals and learn about their support needs, students enter their chosen field with a better understanding of the needs of all individuals.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to all the new team members who have joined us this year. We look forward to new and exciting opportunities in the coming year! To all the individuals who attend the Centre, we thank you for choosing our agency as your service provider. It is an honor and a privilege.



Curling Club



St. John's Ambulance



Science Club



Cosmosaic

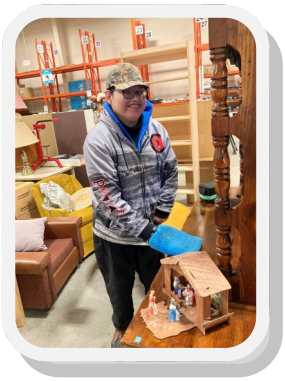


Outdoor Club



VIP Tour of Mosaic Stadium

Enjoying our Community Activities!



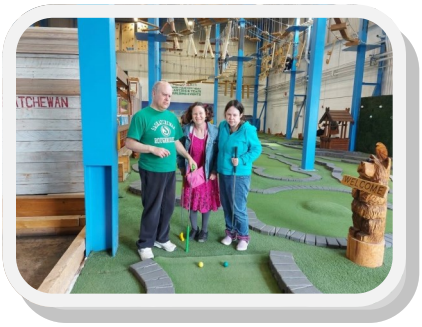
Habitat ReStore



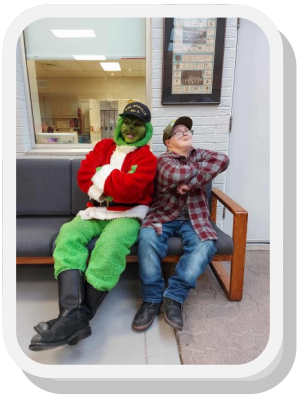
Orange Shirt Day



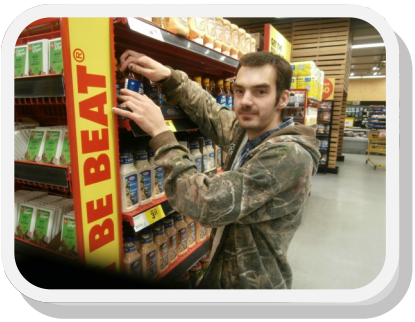
Halloween



A Visit to Sky Park



Grinch Visit



Crawford's No Frills



St. Patrick's Day



Gray Jay Leather



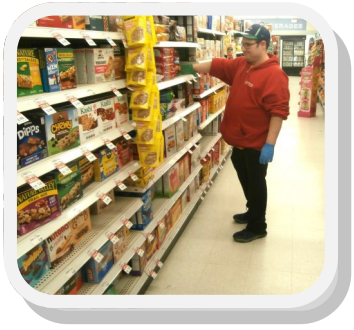
Enjoying the Science Centre



Remembering



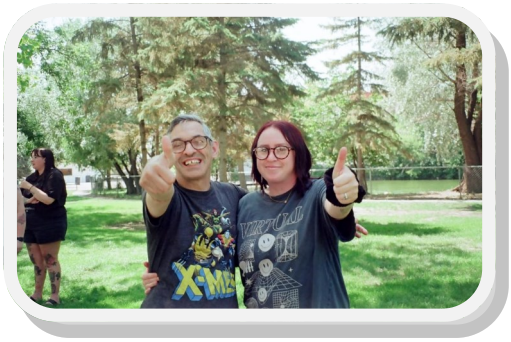
Carnival Day



Shoppers Drug Mart



Joshua Tree Learning Centre



Hanging out at the Park



Pet Valu



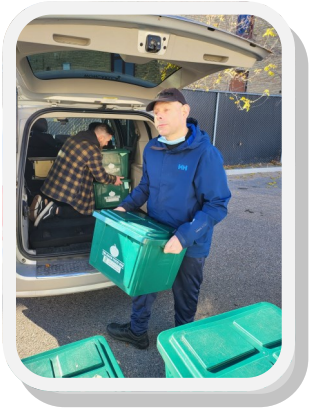
Santa and his Elves



Tim Horton's Camp Day



Ringing the Bells



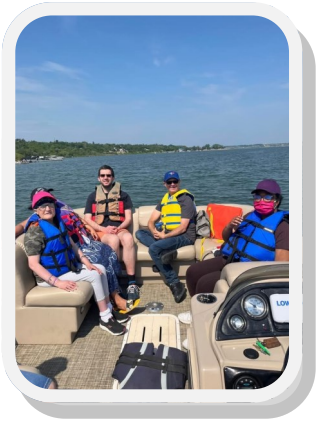
The Good Food Box



Game Day



Enjoying the Cat Cafe



Cruising on the Lake



Mental Health Day



Riding in Style

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.

We have completed the transition from Mandt to PART (Professional Assault Response Training), which is a well-known crisis prevention and intervention training that supports employees' knowledge in building positive, trusting relationships with the people we support, how to enhance our communication with individuals and supporting people in managing difficult times. Other education for team members includes Transfers, Lifts and Repositioning (TLR), Comprehensive Personal Planning and Support (CPP&SP). This past year has included two presentations on Person-Centered Essentials, as well as the online course, Med Assist, also offered through SARC. Two team members also worked hard to complete the Stride online course. Thank you to Employees who are committed to their learning, so that the Program Individuals receive professional, person-centered support.

This spring, two additional team members will be taking a course offered through the Ministry of Social Services called Advanced Principles of Program Design: The course is an in-depth education regarding comprehensive support strategies, program design, and case study research. Good luck to those team members on the course.

Hosting students provides opportunity for the Organization to mentor these students, provide practical work experience in the field to develop their skills, and allows the Organization to partner with these learning institutions to contribute to the future professionals in field(s). Engagement with educational institutions this past year have included the University of Regina Faculty of Kinesiology, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Disability Support Worker program and the Paramedic Faculty. Whether it be through practicum placements or as part of their coursework, we thank the students for choosing Cosmo as part of their educational journey. We look forward to future partnerships.

The week of May 13, 2025, to May 17, 2025, was declared as Disability Service Professionals Week across our province. The Centre planned a BBQ and ice cream day to celebrate the team.

Cosmopolitan Learning Centre Service Awards 2024

We would like to extend our congratulations to the following:

5 Years of Service: *Gurwinder Kaur (2023), Parveen Kaur, Jennifer Schmalenberg, Rico Tombalo, Donovan Dixon, Pavel Mahmood, Moriam Binte Rashid, Kelcy Travis, Randelle Belliveau, Annastazia Blundell, Adam Selimanovic, Chris Hebb, Ashley Heslop, Raelyn Simpart*

10 Years of Service: *Angela Dobranski, Stephanie Palmer, Joelle Simon, Megan Anderson, Tasha Davey, Amanda Foster, Tim Fourhorns, Derek Krahn, Lisa Mohr, Aaron Okeeweehow, Sherae Pelletier, Page Rorbeck, Taylor Rorbeck, Tylson Allary, Symone McCorkill*

15 Years of Service: *Bev Bartok, Melissa Longman, Mindy Strom, Marcia Watson, Bethany Armstrong-Dacey, Wanita Carswell, Kiara James, Lorna Passmore, June Ronnie, Haris Nadim, Charles Wilde*

20 Years of Service: *Sherry Matusko, Dawn Loewen, Brendan Toto*

25 Years of Service: *Shannon Lacey, Corey Jackson, Noella deBruin, Karleen Dreher, David O'Fee, Kristin Wychreschuk, David Gordon*

30 Years of Service: *Tracy Brassard, Racquel Bodnaryk, Shaun Hove, Shawn Seib, Karrie Poag, Sherry Halldorson*

35 Years of Service: *Andy Haynes, Joni Omoth*

40 Years of Service: *Susan Meckling, Brenda Giles*

45 Years of Service: *Renato Paulo*

50 Years of Service: *Cheryl Cameron, Betty Ann Kozar, Louis Toth*



25 Years



30 Years



35 Years



40 Years



50 Years

Executive Director Report

This has been another busy year for the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre. We are excited to welcome several new individuals to the Centre. With the new Individuals joining, we have been able to enhance supports to some of our existing individuals in other program areas. Cosmo has always prided itself in adapting to the changing needs, interests and goals of the individuals that attend the program; that is at the heart of person-centred support. With more options for services in the community, individuals can explore organizations to determine which best suits their needs and goals. There are many individuals looking for support from Cosmo. We continue to work with the Ministry of Social Services to be a part of the plan to support additional individuals seeking services within the sector.

Sobeys grocery stores have been one of the first employers from SCI in supporting individuals in pursuit of independent employment. The employers have retired and have passed the stores to a new management team. We thank the Sobeys management for their commitment to the Centre. We are hopeful that a Sobeys partnership will continue. We have also connected with the Regina Food Bank for a food delivery service, as a volunteer opportunity. Giving back to the community is beneficial for all. We have made our back yard at the house with accessible gardens for everyone to maintain and enjoy.

Through the Admissions Transitions and Review committee we have welcomed many new faces this year! It is nice to have you spending your days with us.

Thank you to the many supporters of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre who have donated generously this past year. Notably, thank you to the Cosmopolitan Clubs (Regina and Wascana) through the Charity Fair and Auction and other significant fundraisers we have been able to buy two new vans replacing two that had to be retired due to age. Thank you to our staffing group who work hard to plan other fundraisers including a pasta night, craft and bake sale, fund script gift cards and plant and bake sale. The enriched opportunities for the men and women attending are directly impacted by your support. We have had a couple of generous donations in memory of participants who had attended the program. Thank you for those amazing donations. From these donations, we are planning to purchase two much needed accessible Vans.

We have a new board member. Welcome to Brent Wihlidal for joining our board of directors. Special thank you to Rick Hack who has served as our chairman for many years. Thank you to Rosalind Sinclair one of our long term Coordinators who retired this year.

Thank you to our Board of Directors this past year, your support is appreciated. Thank you to the Staff and Leadership teams.

I would like to give a special message to all the Participants and that is to thank you for bringing all of your joy and hard work each day. We see you striving to do the things that are important to you and our hope is that we can continue to play a small part in supporting you in achieving your dreams. We look forward to celebrating 55 years next year!



Cheque presentation

In Memorium

Jaymie Wilson ~ February 23, 1985 ~ July 5, 2024

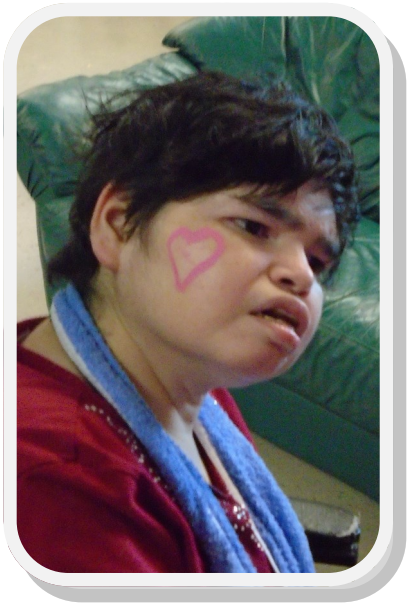
Jaymie attended Lifeskills 4 for 17 years. She was truly a social butterfly, and she had friends in every area of the Centre. She was kind, thoughtful and inquisitive. She monitored reception and met every person who entered the building. She made a point of going room to room to office to office checking in with all her people as she made her rounds every day.

Jaymie had many interests. Hair day, community outings, treat day, music, and laughter yoga were top of the list, but she liked having fun and being busy, and she participated in lots of activities in Centre and in the Community.

Jaymie's passing leaves an enormous void in our Cosmo community. Jaymie's humor and compassion was felt in so many ways – she is thought of and missed every single day. It was an honour and a privilege to work with Jaymie, and we were all blessed to have known her.



Angie (Nora Ann) Hurst ~ February 19, 1980 ~ November 30, 2024

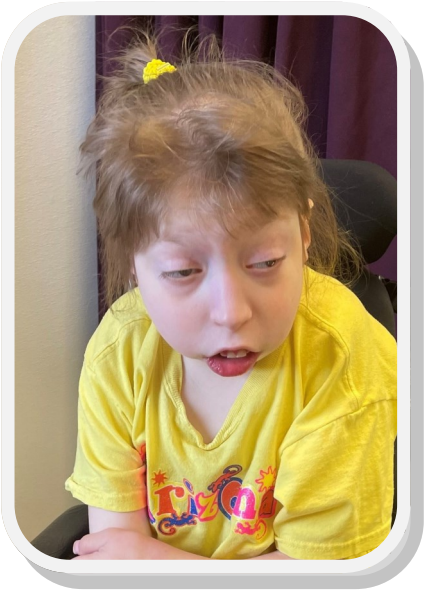


For 22 years Angie brought a wonderful gentle, calming presence to Lifeskills 3. She was not a fan of hands-on participation or having people in her personal space, but she kept a close eye on everything that was going on. She was especially attentive when people were laughing, dancing or having fun. Angie enjoyed all kinds of music. In the swim spa, she loved floating around in total relaxation mode. She loved to sit with the weighted blanket and watch the lights and projections while listening to the sound machine in the sensory room. She also enjoyed being out on the deck or going to the park to listen to stories on a beautiful summer day.

Angie's quiet, gentle nature will be greatly missed. We consider ourselves lucky to have been a part of her life for so many years and we will remember her always.

In Memorium

Caitlin Baily ~ August 7, 1996 ~ December 3, 2024



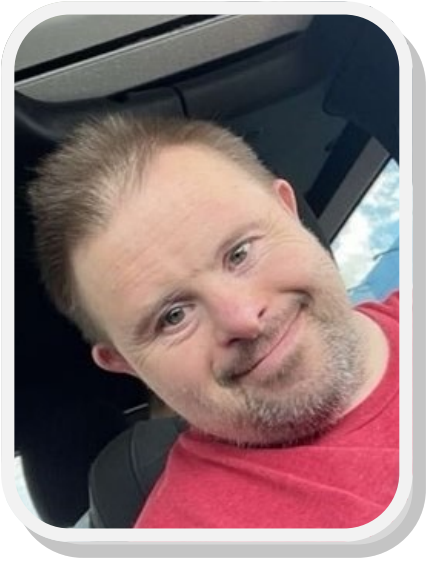
Caitlin attended Cosmo for 6 years. She joined us right out of high school, and she quickly taught us about Caitlin time. When it was time for the next thing, you better have your ducks in a row – Caitlin had no time to wait for anything! She was a girly girl and like any princess, she loved being the center of attention, having her hair and nails done, and wearing a crown on her head. She loved music, Shrek, balloons, tattoos, and especially coloring herself with markers.

Caitlin was a tiny lady who left a huge void in LS3. We will remember Caitlin as a little spitfire with a sweet nature and giggle that brought joy to all who heard it. We are grateful for the time we had with her, and she will never be forgotten.

David Psiurski ~ July 4 1974 ~ December 5, 2024

We sadly lost David on December 5th 2024 from kidney cancer. David joined the Cosmo family in November 1995 and would have celebrated 30 years of service in the upcoming year. He was well known by everyone at Cosmo and there wasn't a program he didn't try in his time with us. David was the life of every party and one of the hardest workers Cosmo has ever seen.

David always had a plan up his sleeve or in his back pocket and was well known for his pranks. Sadly he was never able to perform his final act, whether it was an inside joke he never told or a prank he never pulled we can't be sure but just like David it would have not been easily forgotten.



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