



GRATITUDE

L'Arche Winnipeg Newsletter #75



Casera Community Enrichment Award Given to L'Arche Tova Café

by Diane Truderung

*Director of Fund Development
and Communications*

L'Arche Tova Café is the recipient of the 2018 **Casera Credit Union's Community Enrichment Award**, which celebrates non-profit groups who, over time, have made significant contributions to the well-being of the neighbourhoods in which they work. The award was presented at the Credit Union's annual general meeting in April. Individual **Community Leadership** awards were also presented to Peter Martin and Daryl Reid at the annual meeting.

The L'Arche Tova Café opened the doors to this social enterprise in 2012 and celebrated the 6th anniversary in April. The participants with development disabilities receive training in different restaurant positions. They are valued and proudly demonstrate the skills that they have learned.

The Café hosts monthly North-east Business meetings and special entertaining music nights which attract patrons from across Winnipeg. These music nights have been quite popular, with a \$20 ticket giving you 2 hours of live music, plus coffee and dessert.

L'Arche Tova Café will also be selling freshly baked bread and a variety of other baking at the weekly Transcona Biz Market Garden on Thursdays from July 5th until August 30th, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Centennial Square (just 3 doors west of the Café).

The Café is located at 119 Regent Ave. West and the hours are Monday to Saturday from



8 AM to 2 PM. The Café is closed Sundays & holidays - it will be closed on Monday July 2nd for Canada Day. The Café will also be closed August 19th to the 27th for staff holidays, re-opening on Tuesday August 28th.

The Café also provides catering service during regular business hours. For catering or reservations, please call at (204) 421-9388.



(left to right): Robert Riddell, Board Chair Casera Credit Union, and L'Arche members Ross (holding award), Diane Truderung, Carley Molnar, Rob deJonge, Jim Lapp.



The L'Arche Tova Café team **Soup-A-Stars** won top fundraising team honours at our May Walk with L'Arche event, having raised a total of \$7,379.00. More Walk photos on page 2.

14th Annual Walk with L'Arche Another Success

The 14th annual **Vickar Automotive Group's Walk with L'Arche** on May 6th was a great success. The sun was shining, the sky was a beautiful blue, and a gentle breeze made the walk very pleasant.

There were over 300 people in attendance and 70 volunteers who came in support L'Arche. All of these participants who came out to support L'Arche helped to raise a total of \$56,383.00 for L'Arche. One hundred percent of the pledges raised from this event will be used to help maintain and improve the quality of life of L'Arche members with a developmental disability and their volunteer assistants.

The L'Arche Tova Café team **Soup-A-Stars** raised a total of \$7,379.00 and won the plaque and the prize for Top Fundraising Team. Hazel won the Top Individual Fundraiser prize, having raised \$4,805.00, with the help of her friends Kathy, Roger and Clive. Gerard Lecuyer won the 2nd Top Individual Fundraiser prize, having raised \$3,050.00.

Thank you for your support of L'Arche Winnipeg. We hope that you can join us for our 15th Annual Vickar Automotive Group's Walk with L'Arche, which will take place at Oxford Heights Community Club on Sunday, May 5, 2019. - by *Diane Truderung*



Oxford Heights Community Club was filled with people enjoying the party, food and music.



(above) Domino's donated 50 large pizzas for the walk, and Blessed Sacrament Knights of Columbus barbecued the hamburgers & hot dogs and supplied canned drinks (below)



Participants enjoyed a warm 23 degrees for the walk (above); Piroska and Rick take a break on the walk trail (below, left); Vickar employees came in large numbers to help with various tasks and to enjoy their day as well (below, right)



Remembering Pat

by Jim Lapp
Community Leader

Pat Lange was one of the first 3 people welcomed to L'Arche Winnipeg in December, 1973. Pat lived in our community for 10 years, before moving to L'Arche Calgary in order to be closer to his family. Pat passed away on March 24th.

Back in September of 1974 when I arrived at Rosseau Court, L'Arche Winnipeg's first home, Pat Lange greeted me with his amazingly warm smile. He made me feel at home right away. He soon became one of my best teachers about acceptance and forgiveness.

Back then there was so little money at L'Arche Winnipeg that I had to work as a supervisor at ARC Industries where Pat and the others worked. We had to take two buses from Transcona in the east end of the city to go near the airport on the



west side of Winnipeg. If we missed the bus, we would all be late for work. Pat was very slow and methodical at getting ready and it seemed that every day, when I would try to hurry him up, he would scowl at

me. No one I have ever met could express their anger better than Pat with his scowl. Looking back, as a young very inexperienced 23 year old, I did not handle the situation very well. That scowl of anger would often last until we got to the bus stop. I would smile and say something such as we made it and he would again smile at me as if nothing had happened. Looking back it seems to me that almost every day I upset him and every day he forgave me.

About 15 years ago, as the Board President of L'Arche Winnipeg, I attended a Regional General Assembly in Calgary. We had a fiesta on Saturday night and Pat and the rest of L'Arche Calgary's members joined us. I sat with Pat and was greeted over and over again by his warm smile. I sat there grateful to God for having known Pat and been a recipient of that smile so many times.

Jim Lapp Receives the Paul Harris Fellow Recognition



Larry Vickar (left) congratulates Jim on his reception of the Recognition.

On May 31, 2018, Jim Lapp received the Paul Harris Fellow recognition. This award was created in memory of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, to show appreciation for contributions to the foundation's charitable and educational programs.

When Jim was sixteen years old and living in Toronto he became friends with David. David was born with developmental disabilities, and thus began Jim's journey in his career and in his life.

While attending University, Jim worked with children with developmental disabilities. He applied to become a live in assistant in Trosly, France, however the French Government would not give him a work permit, so Jim applied and became an assistant at L'Arche Winnipeg. He truly felt that he belonged here and was accepted.

Jim also worked at L'Arche Stratford for one year and then returned to Winnipeg to complete his University education. He completed his Master's Degree at the University of Oregon. Jim taught in the school system for 27 years both as a regular teacher and in the special education area. Jim has been on the L'Arche board for 16 years, 5 of which he was President. He retired as a teacher in 2010 and then became Community Leader/Executive Director of L'Arche Winnipeg. Jim has been mandated to lead L'Arche Winnipeg for four more years. He says that he has learned so much from those with developmental disabilities, as these individuals are very caring, forgiving and accepting.

Jim has been a proud member of Transcona Rotary since 2012, and every day he displays "service above self".

- by Diane Truderung



Hazel's Art on Display

Hazel has been painting for about three years. She likes to paint on Sunday afternoons with her friend Kathy. Her medium is acrylics on canvas. Hazel has been a member of l'Arche since 1974. She lives independently in her own apartment and enjoys volunteering at l'Arche Tova Café, where some of her art is also displayed.

On June 12, Hazel was happy to attend the opening session of a 4-day international symposium at Université de Saint-Boniface, which included an exhibition of paintings where some of Hazel's work was displayed (top photo) along with other Manitoba artists, and Manon Vichy from France. Symposium speakers shared different points of view on living with disabilities in a francophone context. Cultural events, including art, music and theatre, were also part of the 4-day symposium.



Mary Gottfried and Liz Gauthier

Long-Term Volunteers Appreciated

At our monthly L'Arche Night on June 13, we celebrated some of our **long-term volunteers** who support L'Arche in various ways: as Board of Directors members, as assistant accompaniers, at L'Arche Tova Café, and as special friends to individuals with developmental disabilities.

Liz Gauthier, Volunteer Coordinator for L'Arche Winnipeg, drew a name for a special volunteer prize and the winner was Mary Gottfried. Mary has volunteered one day per week at L'Arche Tova Café, ever since the Café opened six years ago!

For more information about volunteering at L'Arche, see our website or contact our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@larchewinnipeg.org



Shanley Redekopp (centre) of **Funding Innovation's Easel Program** presents a cheque of \$3,772.16 to Jim Lapp (L'Arche Community Leader) and Diane Truderung (Director of Fund Development and Communications at L'Arche). Funding Innovation is a program that displays works of art or collectibles which are for sale, with a percentage of the proceeds given to l'Arche. The art is set up on an easel at L'Arche Tova Café, with a sealed bid auction in place. The artwork is displayed for about two weeks, before being rotated to other locations.

The cheque amount represents the total earned by L'Arche over the twelve months of 2017.

GRATITUDE FROM WINNIPEG

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