

Annual Report 2016-2017

LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION
OF WINDSOR – ESSEX COUNTY



Idawe • Learning Disabilities
Association of Windsor-Essex County

The right to learn, the power to achieve

The Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor – Essex County (LDAWE) received its registered charitable status from the Government of Canada on February 11, 2004. Since the opening of the Centre, the Association has been using the incorporation number of the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario. Application for incorporation as the Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor – Essex County and charitable status for the newly incorporated organization was received during 2011/2012, and the formal transfer of operations to the incorporated organization took place on October 31, 2012.

Mission Statement:

LDAWE's mission is to assist children, youth, and adults with learning disabilities, and those who support them, through information sharing, support, and relevant programs.

Vision Statement:

LDAWE is an established organization clearly recognized as a leader in the provision of innovative services to address the wide range of needs of those living with the challenges of a learning disability.

Vital Statistics:

- 56 members as of November 1, 2017
- 1973 total contacts during the 2016-2017 fiscal year

Services Provided:

- Information and referral services
- Community lending library
- Public meetings, workshops, presentations
- Social skills training for children
- Basic literacy and numeracy tutoring for children
- After-school programs, PA Day camps, and summer camps for at-risk children
- Transition planning program for youth
- Computer enrichment and adaptive technology training for youth
- Recreation program for youth and adults
- Advocacy training for parents
- Scholarship for post-secondary students
- Employment supports for adults
- Client intervention services for adults
- Psychological assessments for adults who meet the eligibility criteria

Volunteer Involvement:

Many volunteers contributed hours to LDAWE during the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The value of these hours are not reflected in the financial statements. Volunteers helped with administrative tasks, workshop preparations, facilitating programs, hosting an LDAWE Gala, fundraising events preparation, and sitting on the Board of Directors or other committees. Without the support of our many volunteers, LDAWE would not be able to offer all of the services and programs that are currently offered to the community.

Program and Service Development:

The following proposals were submitted to potential funders and funding was received during this fiscal year. These proposals were submitted in response to the needs identified by LDA members and the community.

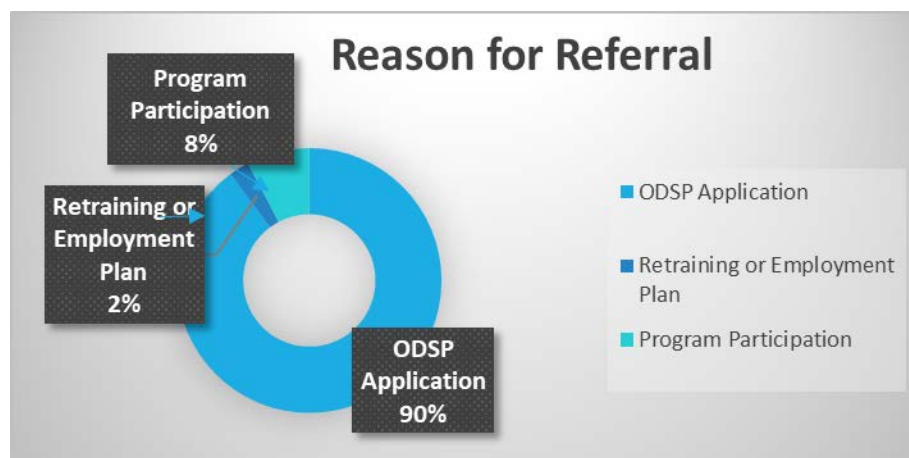
Grants:

- The **May Court Club of Windsor** continued to provide funding for program subsidies for the child social skills programs, computer enrichment camp, and transition planning programs.
- **Service Canada** provided funding through the **Canada Summer Jobs Program** to provide summer employment opportunities for five students in Windsor-Essex.
- The **Windsor Sertoma Club** continued to sponsor the youth and adult recreation programs. Activities include swimming, mini golf, bowling, laser tag, movie nights, and game nights.
- The **Windsor Star**, through the **Raise-a-Reader** program, continued to provide a financial contributions to the child tutoring program and summer enrichment camp by sponsoring program subsidies. Funding is also used to purchase new books and materials for LDAWE's community lending library.

Service Contracts:

- The **City of Windsor** continued a service contract with the organization to provide client intervention services and psychological assessment services for adults currently receiving Ontario Works benefits, who are experiencing difficulty meeting program requirements.
- The **Ministry of Community and Social Services** renewed its service contract with the organization to provide employment supports to adults with learning disabilities or ADHD through the Ontario Disability Support Program – Employment Supports (ODSP-ES) program.

The approximate number of adult individuals referred to the Association by Ontario Works clients that received services in 2016 is 402. Individuals are referred for client intervention services and psychological assessments if they are suspected of having a learning disability (LD), or mental health problems and they have not been able to comply with requirements of securing consistent income maintenance.



- The **Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board**, with targeted funds received from the Ministry of Education, entered into a service contract with the organization to provide an after-school tutoring program and summer camps for children who are not achieving curriculum standings in reading or writing from grades 3-8.
- The **Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board** renewed its service contract with the organization to provide adaptive technology training to students with disabilities who have recently received Special Equipment Amount equipment.
- The **Greater Essex County District School Board** renewed its service contract with the organization to provide adaptive technology training to students with disabilities who have recently received Special Equipment Amount equipment.

Annual General Meeting Minutes
Saturday, November 26, 2016
9:30am

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Opening Remarks – Tammy Wilcox-Groulx

Ms. Wilcox welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Ms. Wilcox provided welcoming remarks. Lucie Lombardo was appointed the Secretary of the Meeting and Mary-Ann Fuduric was the Parliamentarian of the Meeting. Ms. Wilcox explained that only those with voting cards (individuals, families, organizations who have paid their annual membership fee) were able to vote throughout the business portion of the meeting. When moving or seconding a motion, they must state their name so that it can be recorded in the minutes.

2. Motion: To approve the agenda. – Tammy Wilcox

Mover: Eva Pacitti

Secunder: Debbie Gignac

Carried.

3. Motion: To approve the minutes of the 2015 annual general meeting. – Debbie Gignac

Mover: Shelley Lavoie

Secunder: Tammy Wilcox

Carried.

4. Treasurer's Report – Lucie Lombardo

Lucie Lombardo provided brief overview of report. She acknowledged the funders (a listing is found on page 11 of the annual report).

Motion: To accept the financial statements, as presented. – Mike Wilcox

Mover: Tammy Wilcox

Secunder: Shelley Lavoie

Carried.

Motion: To appoint Gordon B. Lee, CA to complete 2016-2017 audit. – Mike Wilcox

Mover: Shelley Lavoie

Secunder: Debbie Gignac

Carried.

5. Annual Report

Lucie Lombardo provided an overview of the report.

Motion: To accept the Annual Report. – Ms. Wilcox

Mover: Shelley Lavoie

Secunder: Debbie Gignac

Carried.

6. Nominations Report

Ms. Wilcox acknowledged the work of the board members throughout the year. A special thank you was given to Joshua Higgins for his work on the Board of Directors over the past 11 years. LDAWE has seats for 8 directors and 1 non-voting student representative.

Ms. Wilcox read the biography of each board of director standing for election.

Motion: To accept the slate of directors for 2015/2016. – Shelley Lavoie

Mover: Debbie Gignac

Secunder: Lucie Lombardo

Carried.

7. New Business

An update regarding the continuing negotiations of a lease for the Ouellette site was provided at the meeting.

8. Date of next AGM

The date for the next AGM was set as Saturday, November 25, 2017.

9. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn. – Eva Pacitti

Mover: Debbie Gignac

Secunder: Mike Wilcox

Carried.

LL/mg.

Community Workshops, Conferences and Presentations:

One of the roles of LDAWE is to provide information referral services and to educate the public about learning disabilities, several workshops and presentations were made about learning disabilities and ADHD in this fiscal year.

Workshops and Presentations:

Date	Venue and Topic
November 15, 2016	GECD SB PD for Math LDCC teachers- Serbian Center
December 22, 2016	GECD SB PD for Science LDCC Teachers - GECD SB Board Office
January 20, 2017	WECD SB PD - Support Staff- Caboto Club
February 13, 2017	GECD SB PD for English and History LDCC Teachers- Serbian Centre
February 17, 2017	GECD SB PD for Support Staff- Ciociaro Club
February 21-22, 2017	GECD SB PD – SERR Teachers – GECD SB Board Office

Slate of Directors 2017

Tammy Wilcox-Groulx

Tammy is a Special Education Coordinator for the Greater Essex County District School Board. She has received her Bachelor of Arts in Behavioural and Cognitive Neuropsychology and her Bachelor of Education from the University of Windsor and her Special Education Specialist from Queen's University. Specializing in children with Dyslexia, she has completed the qualifications as a tutor in the Orton Gillingham method, and is a registered Parent Advocate. Tammy is on the SEA Coordinator Council and is working on her Math Specialist. After a short hiatus, Tammy returned as a member of the Board in September 2014 and is currently the President.

Eva Pacitti

Eva is currently employed by the Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board as a Learning Support Services Teacher (LSST). She is a graduate of the University of Windsor, where she received her Honours Bachelor of Commerce and her Bachelor of Education. She has been an employee of the Catholic Board since 1992, where she has been a French as a Second Language Teacher, Literacy Support Teacher, and Board Literacy Teacher in addition to an LSST. She is a Special Education Specialist. Eva has been a board member since October 2012.

Christine Stanley

Christine is an English as a Second Language and Literacy instructor in the Adult and Continuing Education department of the GECDSB. She is also the Centre Director for the Scottish Rite Learning Centre, and trained in the Orton-Gillingham method. She received her Honours B.A. in Psychology from The University of Waterloo, B.Ed. from Queen's University, and M.Ed. from the University of Windsor. She is also TESL certified through the University of Saskatchewan. She joined the board last year and is currently the SEAC representative for the WECDSB.

Michael Wilcox

Michael Wilcox is in his second year as the Principal of Special Education/Programs and Services with the Greater Essex County District School Board (GECDSB). He received his Bachelor of Arts (Communications), Honours Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor and Master of Education from the University of Windsor. Michael has been with the GECDSB since 1998 where has served in the role of Primary/Junior/Intermediate Teacher as well as Vice-Principal and Principal of various community schools. His last administrative assignment, before his current position, was as Principal of the Agency Schools (Maryvale, Regional Children's Centre and New Beginnings) working with students with mental health needs. Michael has previous Board of Directors involvement with the AIDS Committee of Windsor and the Paediatric Read Program and is very excited to be involved with the LDAWE.

Gay McMillan

Gay McMillan has progressive municipal and school board management experience with a background in human resources management, finance, marketing, facility management, and administration. Since 2009, she is the General Manager at Student Transportation, Windsor-Essex. She has her Honours Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Windsor and a Human Resources in Action Certificate from Queen's University. Some of her volunteer experience include the Leone Residence and Alternate Treasurer at the Life After Fifty (Centre For Seniors).

Alicea Fleming

Alicea is a Program Coordinator with United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County's On Track to Success program. She is a graduate of the University of Windsor, where she obtained an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a Master of Social Work degree. She is a Registered Social Worker in good standing with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. She held multiple volunteer and employment roles with the Association from 2008 - 2014. She is passionate about supporting individuals who learn differently, cultivating impactful community partnerships, and working to reduce poverty in our local community.

Nick Simonitto

Nick is a former client of the LDAWE who has benefited from the LDAWE's many programs including the AT training program, which assisted him to better understand his own learning disability and master the use of assistive technology. Nick has worked and volunteered for the Association for the past four years in several roles, including summer camp counselor, after-school tutor and in the ABC 123 program. Nick, has also served on the association's Joint Health and Safety Committee for the past two years. In 2015, Nick graduated from the St. Clair College Developmental Service Worker program and is currently in his fourth year of the Bachelor of Professional Arts in Human Services program through Athabasca University. He has also worked for a number of not-for-profit community-based organizations, supporting individuals with Developmental Disabilities within their communities.

Government

City of Windsor Ministry of Community and Social Services Service Canada

Corporate

Bell Media Radio Windsor Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board
Greater Essex County District School Board Windsor Star (Raise-a-Reader)
WFCU

Service Clubs, Organizations, Groups, etc...

May Court Club of Windsor Rotary Club of Windsor - Roseland
Royal Canadian Legion Sertoma Club of Windsor
Knights of Columbus – St. Jerome Fort Malden Branch 157
Knights of Columbus Council 2775 Knights of Columbus Council 9865
Knights of Columbus Council 4386 Women of the Moose
Windsor Essex County Health Unit RCL Ambassador Br. 153
Knights of Columbus 9671 Riverside Minor Baseball
Knights of Columbus 9528 Kiwanis Club of Leamington
Help Link

In Kind

Games on The Move

Individual and Family Donations

Thank you to the many individuals and families, who made individual donations, or made memorial donations!