

Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor – Essex County

Annual Report

2010 – 2011



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 incorporated as part of the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario. Application for incorporation as the Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor – Essex County was made during this fiscal year, and approval was received in the following fiscal year.

Mission Statement:

The mission of LDAWE 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.

Statistics:

- 53 members as of June 30, 2011
- 3952 total contacts during the 2010-2011 fiscal year

Services Provided:

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

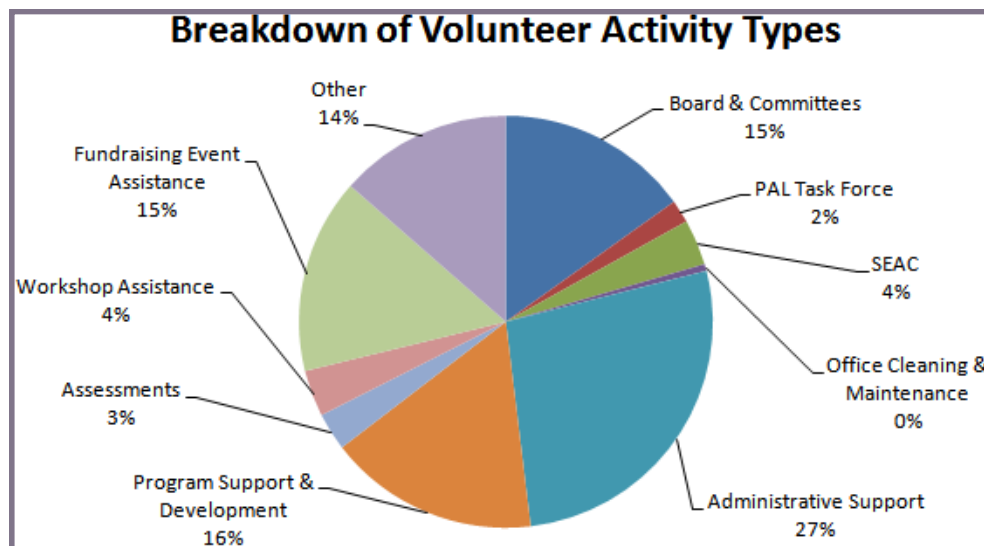
Fundraising Events:

LDAWE hosts a variety of events to raise funds to assist LDAWE in maintaining LDAWE's resource and support centre, on-going programs, and public education. The following fundraising events were held during this fiscal year:

- 5th Annual Walk-a-Thon and Family Picnic on July 17, 2010
- Yard Sale on August 7, 2010
- Car Wash & Hot Dog Sale on August 28, 2010
- Fundraising Dinner at the Place Concorde on March 29, 2011

Volunteer Involvement:

Over 52 volunteers contributed 1,117 hours to LDAWE during the 2010-2011 fiscal year. This has a value of over \$13,404 to the organization. Volunteers helped with administrative tasks, workshop preparation, facilitating programs, fundraising events preparation, sitting on the Board of Directors or sitting on 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.



A special thank you to our Board Members who are leaving the Board of Directors this year:

- Rebecca Reid (6 years)
- Chris Dean (1 year)

Your dedication to individuals and families affected by learning disabilities and ADHD in Windsor-Essex County is greatly appreciated.

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 **Green Shield Canada Foundation** provided a one-time grant to defray the start-up costs of the one-to-one summer tutoring program. Funding was also provided to upgrade the adaptive technology available on the organization's laptops for use in on-going programs.

The **May Court Club of Windsor** continued to provide funding for program subsidies for the child and youth social skills programs, computer enrichment camp, numeracy tutoring, and transition planning programs.

New Beginnings provided funding through the **Summer Jobs for Youth Program** to provide a summer employment opportunity for a disadvantaged youth in Windsor-Essex.

The **Pepsi Refresh Everything Project** provided a one-time grant to purchase resources for LDAWE's community lending library and the one-to-one summer tutoring program.

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 contribution to the child literacy program by sponsoring program subsidies. Funding is also used to purchase new books and materials for LDAWE's community lending library.

Service Contracts:

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 **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 SEA Claim equipment.

The **Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board**, with funds received from the **Ontario Focus Intervention Partnership (OFIP)**, entered into a service contract with the organization to provide an after-school literacy tutoring program for children who are not achieving curriculum standards in reading or writing from grades 3–8. Additionally, a service contract was also entered into to provide March Break, summer, and adaptive technology camps to youth in grades 3–8.

The **City of Windsor** entered into a service contract with the organization to provide client intervention services and psychological assessment services to adults currently receiving Ontario Works benefits, who are experiencing difficulty meeting program requirements.

Community Workshops, Conferences and Presentations:

As the primary role of LDAWE is to provide information and 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.

The **Greater Essex County District School Board, Shire BioChem, Janssen-Ortho, Eli-Lilly, Caesars Windsor, the Windsor Volunteers for Literacy Foundation, and the University of Windsor's Student Disability Office** advanced funds under unrestricted educational grants to sponsor the "ADD & Loving It?!" event.

Workshops and Presentations:

Date	Venue and Topic	Attendees
July 12, 2010	University of Windsor, Faculty of Education—Panel Discussion	18
August 31, 2010	ADD & Loving It?! Event featuring Rick Green and Dr. Umesh Jain	400
September 1, 2010	University of Windsor, Student Disability Services—BUILD	16
January 4, 2011	St. Jules Elementary School—Sensitivity Training	25
March 4, 2011	University of Windsor, Psychology—LD and Local Resources	12
March 24, 2011	St. Clair College, Educational Assistants—Adaptive Technology	35
May 25, 2011	WE Care for Youth Committee—LD and Local Resources	10
June 24, 2011	Laubach Literacy Ontario Conference—LD and Employment	19
Total		535

Display Fairs:

In addition to the presentations and workshops listed above, LDAWE also participated in the following community events by having a display booth:

- ADD & Loving It?! on August 31, 2010
- Opening Doors and Minds Accessibility Workshop on October 28, 2010
- Transition Planning Information Fair at Catholic Central Secondary School on November 25, 2010
- Distress Centre Information Fair on March 30, 2011
- Diversity Information Fair at TD Canada Trust on June 10, 2011
- End-of-Year Family Fun Day at Immaculate Conception Elementary School on June 15, 2011

Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County
Annual General Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2010

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks – Tammy Wilcox

Tammy Wilcox welcomed all in attendance to the Association's Annual General Meeting and appointed Bev Clarke the Secretary of the meeting Danielle Gignac the Parliamentarian of the meeting.

It was explained that only those with voting cards (individuals, families, and organizations who have paid their annual membership fee) are able to vote throughout the business portion of the meeting. Members were asked to state his/her name when moving or seconding a motion so that it can be recorded in the minutes.

2. Approval of the Agenda – Tammy Wilcox

Motion: To approve the agenda.

Moved: Rebecca Reid

Seconded: Anne Marie St. Amand

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes – Tammy Wilcox

Motion: To approve the minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Rebecca Reid

Seconded: Micheal Gignac

Carried.

4. Treasurer's Report – Joshua Higgins

The audited statements were reviewed and it was explained that some of the profits were kept in reserve and a portion was used to purchase new office equipment (i.e. filing cabinets, desks, chairs, phone system).

Motion: To accept the financial statements, as presented.

Moved: Tammy Wilcox

Seconded: Anne Marie St. Amand

Carried.

Motion: To appoint Gordon B. Lee, C.A., to complete the 2010–2011 audit.

Moved: Janice Spinner

Seconded: Jonathan Sinasac

Carried.

5. Annual Report – Bev Clarke and Danielle Gignac

Contacts for the year, volunteer hours, programs and services, changes and accomplishments were reviewed. Recognition was given to the five retiring board members: Rand Hodgkinson, Pierre Monette, Anne Marie St. Amand, Nicolette Roy, and Diane Fotopoulos.

6. Nominations Report – Rebecca Reid

The Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County has seats for 9 directors and 1 non-voting student representative. Nine individuals are standing for election. The slate of officers was reviewed.

6.1 Elections – Rebecca Reid

Motion: To accept the slate of directors for 2010–2011.

Moved: Joshua Higgins

Seconded: Anne Marie St. Amand

Carried.

7. New Business – Bev Clarke and Danielle Gignac

New proposals and plans for the next year were discussed. As 2011 is the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Resource and Support Centre, so several events, celebrity speakers, and proposals are being organized.

Cory Clarke, Treats and Sweets Vending, explained that he has taken over the business from Rick Medd and will continue to give donations to the Association. Those arranging candy machine placements will receive \$50 for each placement.

8. Date of Next Annual General – Tammy Wilcox

To be determined.

9. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

Moved: Jonathan Sinasac

Seconded: Janice Spinner

Prepared by:

Bev Clarke

Executive Director/Meeting Secretary

BC/mg.

Tammy Wilcox

Tammy works as a Learning Support Teacher and Special Education Resource Room Teacher with the Greater Essex County District School Board. She has received her Honours Bachelor of Arts in Behavioural and Cognitive Neuropsychology and her Bachelor of Education from the University of Windsor. Tammy has also received her Special Education Honours Specialist from Queen's University. Specializing in children with Dyslexia, she has completed the qualifications as a certified tutor in the Orton-Gillingham method, and is a registered Parent Advocate. Before becoming a teacher, she taught Community Living Skills at St. Clair College, and worked as both a DSW and a PSW for the APPD. Tammy has been a member of the board since November 2006, and she currently holds the position of President.

Elaine Richardson

Elaine is currently a Special Education Resource Room Teacher with the Greater Essex County District School Board. Prior to this position Elaine was a Developmental Disabilities teacher for 5 years with the same Board. Elaine received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto and her Bachelor of Education from McGill University and has also completed her Special Education Specialist. Prior to moving to Windsor, Elaine taught on a First Nations Reserve and worked as a Rehabilitation Case Manager for a company that specialized in treating clients who had suffered traumatic brain injury. Elaine has been a member of the board since November 2009, and she currently holds the position of Vice-President.

Joshua Higgins

Josh is a Financial Planning Administrator at the City of Windsor. Josh completed his Bachelor of Commerce Degree (concentration in Accounting) from the University of Windsor in 2004 and is currently in the process of obtaining his Certified General Accountant (CGA) designation. Josh has been the Association's Treasurer since February 2005.

Jonathan Sinasac

Jonathan is an Engineer with the Centre for Teaching and Learning at the University of Windsor. Jonathan received his Bachelor of Science, E.Eng from Queen's University and his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Windsor. Jonathan was diagnosed with severe dyslexia and mild ADHD at the age of seven. Throughout the course of his academic career, Jonathan developed skills to cope with his learning disability and is familiar with various support services available. Jonathan has been a member of the board since October 2010.

Mary-Anne Mouawad

Mary-Anne is a Learning Support Teacher with the Greater Essex County District School Board. Mary-Anne represents the Association on the Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), and is currently the Chair of this committee. Mary-Anne has been a board member since September 2010.

Trudy Richards

Trudy graduated from the University of Windsor with a Bachelor of Art in Psychology. Trudy is a Caseworker for the City of Windsor's Ontario Works Department. She is also a member of Autism Ontario – Windsor Essex's Leadership Council. Trudy has been a member of the board since November 2010.

Brianne Thompson

Brianne is currently employed with the Hospice of Windsor and Essex County as a Clinical Social Worker. Brianne has her Masters of Social Work and Bachelors in Family and Social Relations from the University of Windsor. She has volunteered with several agencies working with children and teens with intellectual disabilities, and has been a respite provider for a child with Autism since 2003. Brianne has also done advocacy work within the community including a railway safety initiative and being a member of the Pay Attention and Learn Task Force. Prior to working at Hospice, Brianne worked for the Windsor Essex Children's Aid Society as a Family Service Worker, and she has also been a Program Facilitator in the Association's SOAR program. Brianne has been a board member since November 2010.

Georgette Broadfoot

Georgette has been employed as an Attendant Worker with APPD since 1994. She has her Health Care Aide and Personal Support Worker certifications. She has also worked in a nursing home. Georgette has a son who has a high order information processing disorder who has attended the Association's programs. Georgette will be joining the board as of November 2011.

Shelley Lavoie

Shelley is currently employed as an Adult Literacy Instructor with The Windsor Public Library. Shelley received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of Windsor as well as a Developmental Services Worker Diploma from St. Clair College. She has been the Lead Facilitator in the Association's literacy tutoring program in the past. She has also provided residential services and employment services to people with intellectual disabilities at Community Living Essex. Shelley has volunteered in literacy programs at local elementary and secondary schools. Shelley's involvement with learning disabilities has taken on a more personal meaning as her son has recently been diagnosed with a learning disability. Shelley will be joining the board as of November 2011.

Rachel Baker

(Student Representative – Non-Voting Member)

Rachel attends Vincent Massey Secondary School. She is involved with her school's Gay Straight Alliance, History Club, swim team, and World Affairs Club. Rachel uses adaptive technology to help her overcome the challenges she faces with her learning disability. Once she completes her OSSD, Rachel plans on continuing her education in the field of theoretical mathematics. Rachel has volunteered in the Association's SOAR program and has been a positive role model for younger students with learning disabilities. Rachel has been the Student Representative since 2009.

Government

City of Windsor

Ministry of Community and Social Services

Corporate

AM800 CKLW

Bridges Canada: A Southbridge Company

Candyman Vending

Caesars Windsor

Eli-Lilly

Greater Essex County District School Board

Green Shield Canada

Janssen-Ortho

Microcomputer Science Centre

New Beginnings

Pepsi Refresh Everything Project

Place Concorde

Premier Assistive Canada

Shire BioChem

Strategic Transitions

Treats and Sweets Vending

University of Windsor's Student Disability Office

Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board

Windsor Star (Raise-a-Reader)

Service Clubs, Groups, etc...

Chevaliers de Colomb St. Jerome #8682

May Court Club of Windsor

Knights of Columbus Belle River #2775

Knights of Columbus Father Nolan #9865

Knights of Columbus Holy Family #4386

Knights of Columbus St. Mary's #9226

Knights of Columbus St. Vincent de Paul #9528

Knights of Columbus Windsor #1453

Knights of Columbus Woodslee #4555

Odette School of Business Students

Optimist Club of Belle River

Rotary Club of Windsor (1918)

Royal Canadian Legion #143

Sertoma Club of Windsor

Windsor Volunteers for Literacy Foundation

In-Kind Donations

Art Gallery of Windsor

Best Buy

Boston Pizza (Windsor)

Bowlero Bowl

Campers Cove Campground

Canada South Science City

Canadian Tire (South Windsor)

Chuck E Cheese

Colasanti Farms Ltd

Elias Deli

Holiday Inn Select (Windsor)

Jamieson Laboratories

Jellystone Park

Jiffy Lube

Keg Restaurants

Kelsey's Restaurant (Tecumseh)

LaSalle Vipers

Laser Art Engravers

Latasia

Lowe's Home Improvement

Maple Leaf Sports

Palace Cinemas

Pizza Hut (West Windsor)

Point Pelee National Park

Price Chopper (LaSalle)

Rogues Comics Gallery

Rose Bowl Lanes

Scholar's Choice

Schwab's Meats and Deli (LaSalle)

Silver Tee Golf Centre

Tecumseh Golf

Treats and Sweets Vending

United Communities Credit Union

Vinnie's Bakery and Deli

WalMart (South Windsor)

WFCU Centre

Windsor Family Credit Union

Windsor Spitfires

Windsor Star

Xanadu Health Club

Individual and Family Donations

Thank you to the many individuals and families, who made individual donations, made memorial donations, bought tickets to the Fundraising Dinner, donated or purchased items to our yard sale, got your car washed, or sponsored walkers in our 5th Annual Walk-a-Thon.