

# Annual Report 2017-2018

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:**

- 67 members as of November 1, 2018
- 776 total contacts during the 2017-2018 fiscal year

### **Services Provided:**

- Information and referral services
- LDAO member lending library
- Public meetings, workshops, presentations
- Social skills training for children
- Basic literacy and numeracy tutoring for children
- After-school programs and summer camps for at-risk children
- Transition planning program for youth
- Computer enrichment and assistive technology training for youth
- Recreation program for youth
- Advocacy training for parents
- Scholarship for post-secondary students
- Employment supports for individuals 16+
- Client intervention services for adults
- Psychological assessments for adults who meet the eligibility criteria

## **Volunteer Involvement:**

Many volunteers contributed hours to LDAWE during the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The value of these hours are not reflected in the financial statements. Volunteers helped with administrative tasks, workshop preparations, facilitating programs, 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 six (6) students in Windsor-Essex.
- The **Windsor Star**, through the **Raise-a-Reader** program, continued to provide financial contributions to the child tutoring program and summer enrichment camp by sponsoring program subsidies.

## **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 **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 for children who are not achieving curriculum standards in reading or writing from grades 3-6.
- The **Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board** renewed its service contract with the organization to provide assistive 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 assistive technology training to students with disabilities who have recently received Special Equipment Amount equipment.



## 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 17, 2017	GECD SB PD for Support Staff – Fogolar Furlan
April 25, 2018	GECD SB Strive – Technology Workshops for Students – WFCU
April 27, 2018	WECD SB PD for Support Staff – St. Anne’s High School



## **Slate of Directors 2018**

### **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, Bachelor of Education, Special Education Specialist, Math Specialist as well as obtaining her Principal Qualifications. As a parent of children with Learning Disabilities, Tammy became very invested into learning about and volunteering for the cause. She has worked with the Scottish Rite Learning Centre as both a Tutor and as the Centre Director in the past. She is also a trained and registered Parent Advocate. Tammy is on the SEA Coordinator Council for Southwestern Ontario as well as being a representative in Assistive Technology for the GECDSEB. Tammy has been a member of the board for the LDAWE for ten years.

### **Lucie Lombardo**

Lucie Lombardo is a municipal retiree from the Corporation of the City of Windsor with over 35 years of experience in Health, Social Services, Human Resources and Recreation. Her final post was the Executive Director of the Municipal Long Term Care Home. Ms. Lombardo holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Administration. She maintains professional membership with the Municipal Managers Association and the Canadian College of Health Leaders. She continues to be an active volunteer in her community and is presently a board member with Life After Fifty; Hotel Dieu Health Care; The Learning Center; and the Ontario Trillium Foundation - grant review team for the Essex, Kent and Lambton region.

### **Gabrielle McMillan**

Gabrielle 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 (President and Treasurer); Life After Fifty (President and Treasurer); Downtown Mission (Treasurer); House of Sophrysne (Board Member); Victim Services (Volunteer).

### **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 two years and has been the consumer representative on the Board of Directors for the past year. In 2015, Nick graduated from the St. Clair College Developmental Service Worker program and is currently in his final semester 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 and schools supporting individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

### **Christine Stanley**

Christine is the ESL Program Lead in the Adult and Alternative Continuing Education Department of the Greater Essex County District School Board. She is also the Centre Director for the Scottish Rite Learning Centre, and a certified Orton-Gillingham Tutor. 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.

### **Alicea Fleming**

Alicea is the Manager of Community Development and Investments with United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County. 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 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.

### **Shannon Bacik**

Shannon Bacik, CPA, CGA was born and raised in Windsor, Ontario and currently is the Controller for Maryvale. She obtained her accounting designation in 2001. She has spent a number of years in both private and public industries and brings a wealth of knowledge around business administration, operational strategies, finance and accounting. Over the last few years Shannon has volunteered with a number of fundraising events held directly for Maryvale. In her spare time, she is passionate about helping her kids and community as co-manager for her daughter's basketball team the Tecumseh Saints.

### **Christian Janisse**

Christian is an Articling Student-at-Law at Willis Business Law, a boutique business law firm servicing private and public sector clients across Windsor-Essex County. He is a recent graduate of Western University's Faculty of Law, as well as a graduate of the University of Windsor's Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) program. In addition to legal experience, Christian also has a background in finance, consulting, marketing, and operations management. He is passionate about supporting his community, having previously been involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters "Game On!" program and provided *pro bono* consulting services to local start-ups through the University of Windsor's EPICentre.

## Government

City of Windsor      Ministry of Community and Social Services      Service Canada

## Corporate

Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board  
Greater Essex County District School Board  
Post Media (Raise-a-Reader)

## Service Clubs, Organizations, Groups, etc...

May Court Club of Windsor	Rotary Club of Windsor - Roseland
McGregorette's Ladies Auxiliary	Knights of Columbus Council 2775
Royal Canadian Legion	Knights of Columbus Council 9865
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 12	Knights of Columbus Council 4386
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 255	St. John the Evangelist Council, #4555
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 261	Riverside Minor Baseball
Royal Canadian Legion – Fort Malden	Help Link
Knights of Columbus – St. Vincent De Paul	Sunshine Drugs
Knights of Columbus – St. Jerome	

## 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!

