



Commencement of Developmental Services in Ontario

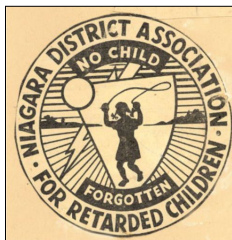
- 1839 MAY** When Ontario built its first institution for people with a developmental disability, attitudes towards people with disabilities were very different from what they are now. People were viewed as patients who needed to be treated, cared for and protected. The Government of Ontario (then known as the Province of Upper Canada) passed "*An Act to Authorise the Erection of an Asylum within this Province for the Reception of Insane and/or Lunatic Persons*". This law authorized the government to establish the first provincial asylum for people with a developmental disability.
- 1876** The Government of Ontario opened its first institution for people with a developmental disability in Orillia. There were many reasons for the institutionalization of people with a developmental disability, such as the overcrowding of jails and other asylums, as well as social and medical attitudes towards people with disabilities in general, including developmental disabilities. Large institutions were built far out in the countryside away from urban areas, because it was felt that cleaner air and open spaces would be good for the residents.
- 1876 to 1960** During these years, the Government of Ontario built more institutions for people with a developmental disability. By 1960, Ontario was increasing its number of directly operated institutions, which were home to more than 6,000 people.
- 1953** On April 27, 1953, the Ontario Association for Retarded Children was organized by a group of concerned parents of *mentally handicapped* children. On April 23, 1954, the Ontario organization was incorporated.
- Nine 'charter units' started during the 1953 formation; Niagara Falls was one of these original 'units', with Brantford, Hamilton, Kirkland Lake, London, Norfolk, Toronto, Welland and Windsor. From 1953 to 1957, schools grew from six to 42, and students from 164 to 1,078.

- 1953 MAY** A handful of concerned parents met and agreed to try to organize "for the cause"; Don Tannahill, George Bedford, Iola Gisborne and their spouses were present. A report of this meeting appeared in the Niagara Falls Review requesting volunteers to donate their time, talent and/or interest in supporting our *cause* of "NO CHILD FORGOTTEN".



Many people responded to our request for volunteers and a meeting was held at the Niagara Falls YMCA. At the conclusion of this meeting, it was decided to use a room at the YMCA for a one-month trial in an attempt to start a school.

- 1953 JUN**



The agency began as the *Niagara District Association for Retarded Children*. First classes started at the local YMCA with nine students and an all-volunteer staff.

1954

Ontario Hydro donated the old post office building from the Sir Adam Beck project in Queenston for \$1.00. The Kinsmen Club of Niagara Falls financed the move of the building to Bellevue Street and the City of Niagara Falls donated the land on which the building came to rest. It would eventually become the agency's first school named Bellehaven School.



1955

The original classroom (at the YMCA) moved to the new Bellehaven School with 26 students. At that time, it was equipped with classrooms, kitchen, dining room and living room. The program included individual social training, personal care, academic achievement at the child's level, recreation, arts and crafts, and music and dancing – always keeping in mind our motto 'NO CHILD FORGOTTEN'. Our school became a showplace for others seeking advice and help in the organization of similar facilities.



1956 JUL

Incorporated by Letters Patent on July 9, 1956, the name was changed to *Greater Niagara Association for Retarded Children*

1960

The commencement of sheltered workshops, which were created to be temporary places where people would learn job skills. Many people worked at them for decades, for most of their lives. [In 2015, the ministry announced that it would stop funding the workshops, and would work with agencies to transition away from them.]

1961

The agency joined the Greater Niagara United Appeal (now known as United Way Niagara). This was not only a financial milestone, but we also gained a great deal of community awareness and support.

1963 SEP

The workshop mandate was well underway and grew into an Adult Occupational Centre named New Haven – a sheltered workshop for adults 18 and over – located at the corner of Park and Zimmerman Streets.

1965 NOV

Kinsmen New Haven Opportunity Centre officially opened at 4337 Fourth Avenue.

1965

The Education Authority [now Ministry of Education] began funding the school program – an auxiliary class from Bellehaven School for three children who did not meet admission criteria at New Haven.

- 1966** JUN Wee Haven Nursery School began – a half-day nursery school program run out of St. John's Anglican Church with four children, 1½ to 6 years of age.
- 1966** OCT Supplementary Letters Patent were issued to change the name to *Greater Niagara Association for the Mentally Retarded*
- 1967** JAN The agency was registered as a charity with the Department of National Revenue [now Canada Revenue Agency].
- 1967** Wee Haven Nursery School moved to Southminster United Church.
- 1968** Funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services began (\$25 per *trainee*). Name changed to Adult Rehabilitation Centre (ARC Industries) – *previously Kinsmen New Haven Opportunity Centre*.
- 1970** Kinsmen built an addition to the ARC building.
- 1972** Wee Haven (for children 2 to 10 years) was licensed and funded 80% by the Government of Ontario.
- 1974** The Developmental Services Act was passed in Ontario to establish a new approach to services for individuals with a developmental disability. The Act also transferred responsibility for developmental services from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Community and Social Services. At that time, approximately 8,000 residents were living in Ontario's institutions (or facilities, as they came to be called). [The Developmental Services Act was repealed on July 1, 2011.]
- 1974** Kinsmen and the Ministry built a large addition to ARC Industries – Ministry funding was now 80%, as opposed to \$25 per trainee.
- 1975** SEP Wee Haven Day Care for Atypical Children located in the renovated Bellehaven School (1½ to 10 years), purchased from the school board by an Act in Council, Queen's Park – 100% funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.
- 1977** MAY Further Supplementary Letters Patent were issued to vary the agency's objectives by eliminating the exclusive phrase *retarded children* and amending them to provide clarity.
- 1978** SEP The first group home opened on Kalar Road for 12 adults, with a view to providing life skills training, emotional support, and community integration.
- 1979** MAY The first children's residence opened on Beaverdams Road (known as the Children's Core Residence) for eight children with severe/profound learning disabilities.



1979 Wee Haven Day Care became two children's day programs – Memorial Learning Centre and Harmony Developmental Centre.

1979 Memorial became a half-day preschool program for children two to five years of age, and moved to Memorial School. Harmony (on Bellevue Street) remained for children six to 18 years of age.



Harmony Developmental Centre

1980 MAR The first Administration Office opened at 4625 Ontario Avenue with three full-time staff, including the Agency's first Executive Director, Mr. Robert L. (Bob) Agar.

1980 DEC McRae Street Group Home opened for eight individuals, with a view to preparing them for independent living.

1982 A supervised apartment program for two individuals initiated the beginning of the Supported Independent Living program.

A group of individuals and one instructor moved from ARC Industries to P.F. (Pathfinders) Enterprises on Buttrey Street.

1983 MAR



ARC Industries expanded to The Print Shop and P.F. (Pathfinders) Enterprises in a separate location on Victoria Avenue.

1983 JUL First In-Home Aide program began (now known as Special Services at Home or SSAH.)

1984 NOV Big Gramma's bakery opened on Victoria Avenue with 10 individuals and one instructor.



1985 Bill 82 came into effect, which required school boards to provide special education programs to all school-aged children from six to 21 years. (It is now known as the Education Amendment Act and is part of the Education Act, which governs all education in Ontario.)

1986		Fourth Avenue Group Home opened for four individuals. Supported Employment became the focus of Vocational Services (day programs).
1986	SEP	Memorial Learning Centre moved back to the Harmony building on Bellevue Street.
1986	OCT	Adult Developmental Services program started at ARC Industries on Fourth Avenue.
1987		ARC Industries on Fourth Avenue became Pre-Vocational Services. Memorial Integrated Preschool Services began marking the end of segregated preschools (replacing Memorial Learning Centre).
1987		The Ontario Government committed to closing all remaining provincially operated facilities (institutions) within 25 years.
1988	JAN	Adult Developmental Services moved to the Bellevue Street building.
1988	FEB	Heart's Desire Gifts opened on Victoria Avenue with 12 individuals and two staff.
1988	APR	Reorganization – the Administration Office moves to a more spacious location at 4609 Crysler Avenue in Niagara Falls.
1988	NOV	Supplementary Letters Patent are issued to change the name to <i>Community Living Niagara Falls</i> .
1989	JAN	Heart's Desire Gifts returned to the building on Fourth Avenue.
1989		Supported Independent Living (SIL) expanded (without additional funds) allowing for some from the waiting list to receive support from either SIL or group homes.
1990		Ellis Street group home opened for four adults coming from an institution (Oxford Regional Centre.)
1991		Due to the success of Supported Employment Services, Big Gramma's moved into the Pre-Vocational Services building on Fourth Avenue. The Print Shop is downsized and social skills training and leisure skills become the emphasis.
1991	APR	The agency begins its own Community and Family Support Services program, which included Special Services at Home, Respite, Associate Family, Parent Group, and Service Coordination programs. (Previously this program was operated regionally in Fort Erie.)
1991	NOV	One individual came from a nursing home with additional funding, which allowed another wheelchair accessible home to open on Chelsea Crescent.

- 1992** The Ministry of Housing provided funding to build new semidetached homes on Windgate Drive, which opened in December 1992.
- 1992** OCT The Print Shop building closed and the remaining individuals moved to 4337 Fourth Avenue (old ARC building), largely as a result of funding constraints, but also because of placement of several individuals into employment situations.
- 1992** NOV Fourth Avenue group home closed; individuals moved to a home on Arthur Street.
Children's Core Residence was phased out; from October to December 1992, individuals moved to Windgate, Arthur and Chelsea.
- 1993** APR Children's Core Residence building (Beaverdams Road) was renovated to house agency Administration Office, including Community and Family Support Services and Memorial Integrated Preschool Services programs. The move occurred on April 1, 1993; this building was sold circa 1996.
- 1993** JUN
- L - Bernice Mowat
R - Beverley Allan
(NSS President)
- The Bellevue Street property, housing Adult Developmental Services (day program) is renamed *The Bernice Mowat Centre for Developmental Services*, in honour of retiring, long-term employee and then Director of Operations, Bernice Mowat.
- 1993** SEP Community Living Niagara Falls commits to Person Centred Planning.
- 1993** NOV Big Gramma's closes on November 1, 1993 as the individuals who worked there are now integrated in the community through Supported Employment Services.
- 1994** FEB Supported Independent Living has a name change to Supported Living to encompass the enhanced services being provided.
- 1994** APR Vocational Services was transferred to the Developmental Services Act.
- 1994** JUN The Print Shop closed to allow the persons we support more opportunity for inclusion in the community.
- 1994** JUL A satellite apartment program on Margaret Street was developed according to Essential Lifestyle Planning - hours of support based on needs, desires and community supports.
- 1994** OCT The second satellite apartment program [beginning of Enhanced Supported Living (ESL)] was developed based on Essential Lifestyle Planning with two apartments on McLeod Road.

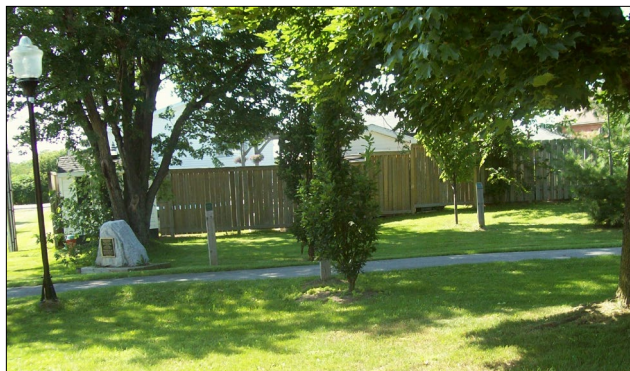
1994	OCT	McRae Street group home closes.
1995	JUN	The Board of Directors hires outside consultants to undertake a review of the organization to ensure that the Corporation is being managed and directed in the most effective way possible. As a result, a major administration reorganization occurs in late fall 1995.
1996	APR	The Board hires an Interim Executive Director, Ms. Heather S. Hunter, to reorganize and bring the agency out of debt and into effective service, and to change the way of conducting business.
1996	NOV	The Administration Office moves to the M.L. Townsend Centre (owned by the District School Board of Niagara) at 3470 Sinnicks Avenue.
1997		<p>The Interim Executive Director plans for a successor.</p> <p>The development of an Alliance begins with Niagara Training & Employment Agency (NTEC). The NTEC Executive Director, Garry Laws, assumes a dual leadership role between both organizations.</p> <p>Arthur Street group home closes.</p>
1997		The Government of Ontario passed the Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997 to provide a separate income and employment support program for eligible persons with disabilities.
1997	NOV	The Agency discontinues its membership with the Ontario Association for Community Living (now known as Community Living Ontario).
1998	JAN	The Agency becomes a member of OASIS (Ontario Agencies Supporting Individuals with Special Needs). OASIS provides leadership through sharing ideas, information and knowledge, and interacts with government and other organizations on issues affecting its members.
1998	MAR	<p>On March 9, 1998, Supplementary Letters Patent were issued to change the Agency's name to Niagara Support Services.</p> <p>Open House and Rededication Ceremony held for our recently renovated facility on Bellevue Street, "The Bernice Mowat Centre for Developmental Services".</p> <p>Ellis Street group home closed.</p> <p>Satellite apartment program on McLeod closed; the Enhanced Supported Living (ESL) program moves to Heritage Drive so that the program can expand to accommodate more people from the waitlist.</p>
1998	SEP	The commencement of shared board members between Niagara Support Services (NSS) and Niagara Training & Employment Agency (NTEC).

1998	NOV	The NSS and NTEC Joint Board Alliance Committee has its first meeting.
1999	JAN	The NSS Board of Directors and NTEC Board of Trustees agree to a Joint Alliance Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Principles and Values – signed by NSS President, Mr. K. Andrew Stinson, and NTEC Chair, Mr. Donald L. Reilly.
2000	JUL	Central Administration moves to Port Robinson, sharing administrative facilities with Niagara Training & Employment Agency; operations, services, and supports remain at 3470 Sinnicks Avenue.
2000	AUG	Niagara Support Services began leasing the 3470 Sinnicks Avenue property from Niagara Training & Employment Agency, who purchased the property from the District School Board of Niagara.
2000	NOV	The property at 3470 Sinnicks Avenue is dedicated in memory of NTEC Board Member, Mr. Donald L. Reilly, who passed away on November 1, 2000.
2001	APR	Announcement of a new respite program to be funded through Niagara Training & Employment Agency at the Donald L. Reilly Centre. There are plans to retrofit to accommodate the new program.
2001	MAY	Enhanced Supported Living program moves to Barker Street.
2002	MAY	Hosted the official opening of the NTEC Regional Respite Program – an out-of-home respite program for children with disabilities.
2002		NTEC opened a new group home in Port Robinson on Canby Street (neighbouring the Administration Office) for NSS individuals who required specialized staff support.
2002	SEP	The Children’s Autism Program (CAP) commenced at the Donald L. Reilly Centre on Sinnicks Avenue. In collaboration with Niagara Support Services and the District School Board of Niagara, teachers work with children on a one-on-one basis to help to transition children back into the regular school system.
2003	FEB	At the request of the Ministry of Community and Social services, from February 19, 2003 to October 31, 2003, Niagara Support Services assumed responsibility for the services provided by Community Living St. Catharines.
2003	MAY	On May 2, 2003, the Children’s Residential Program commenced at the Donald L. Reilly Centre (now known as the Sinnicks Residential Program.)
2003	NOV	The Administration Office moved to 610 Welland Avenue in St. Catharines.
2004	MAR	Our proposal submitted for the ‘New Places to Live Initiative’ was selected by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

2004 JUL Hosted the official opening of the new St. David's residence, under the auspices of the 'New Places to Live Initiative', located in St. David's, Ontario.

The individuals who lived at the Canby Street residence in Port Robinson moved to this new home.

2004 SEP On September 15, 2004, we held the official ribbon cutting ceremony of the NSS Memorial Arboretum at the Kalar Road site, in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting. This arboretum stands as a strong reminder of what was, what can be, and of the many memories, traditions and stories that we will hold dear for years to come.



2004 NOV Effective November 1, 2004, the Children's Residential Program expanded to include an Outside Paid Resource (OPR) home at the Canby Street home in Port Robinson.

2005 SEP On September 16, 2005, the Administration Office moved back to Port Robinson, sharing administrative facilities with Niagara Training & Employment Agency.

2006 JUN CEO Garry Laws resigns; the NSS Board appoints HR Director Andrew Lewis as Acting Chief Executive Officer.

2006 NOV Andrew Lewis is appointed Chief Executive Officer of Niagara Support Services and Niagara Training & Employment Agency.

2007 JAN The Agency purchases the Stamford Centre Volunteer Firemen's Association building on Longhurst Avenue in Niagara Falls. This site had been home to our Community Skills day program for over ten years, primarily due to the benevolence of the Stamford Centre Volunteer Firemen's Association.

2007 NOV Niagara Support Services became the third agency in Ontario to receive FOCUS Accreditation Services' three-year accreditation distinction.


2008 FEB The Agency acquires a home on Maitland Street in Niagara Falls. This purchase was made possible through the Ministry of Community and Social Services' Facilities Initiative, which was related to the depopulation of the province's three remaining institutions. [Plans for this home were undetermined at the time of purchase.]

2008 MAY NSS and NTEC hosted 235 delegates at the 11th Annual OASIS Conference at the Doubletree Resort in Niagara Falls, Ontario from May 7-9, 2008. The conference theme was *Experience the Wonder of Niagara*.

2008 OCT Bill 77 passes to replace the Developmental Services Act with the new Act, *Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008*. This Act recognizes that individuals with a developmental disability can live independently with the appropriate supports and that they and their families want more choice and control over the services and supports that they receive. [The new Act would not come into effect for some time while all the regulations were written.]

2009 MAR Ontario's last remaining government-operated facility for adults with a developmental disability closes. [The first Ontario institution opened in 1876; by 1976, Ontario operated 16 institutions, which were home to more than 10,000 people.]

2009 JUN The Ministry releases the first draft regulation of the *Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008*.

2010 MAY  The Circle of Friends self-advocates group has their first meeting on May 29, 2010, with approximately 30 members.

2010 JUN NTEC purchased the Barker Street property, thus becoming NSS's landlord.

2011 JAN NSS was granted its second three-year accreditation for 2010-2013 through FOCUS Accreditation Services.

2011 JUL The *Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act (SIPDDA), 2008*, replaces the Developmental Services Act. SIPDDA was created to give people with a developmental disability more independence and choice, and includes the Regulation on Quality Assurance Measures.


2011 NOV Maitland residence opens as a Transitional Aged Youth/Enhanced Supported Living home to support four youths with high needs requiring permanent, structured support and high-level staffing. Two spaces were also available for youths requiring a lower level of support and who could eventually transition to an independent supported living environment.

2011 DEC On December 19, 2011, the Canby Children's Outside Paid Resource home closed and remained vacant until August 2014.

2012 FEB The Agency adopts the Safety-Care™ Crisis Management System, which offers a less intrusive, more person-centred approach to crisis intervention for staff who work with individuals who have the potential for aggressive behaviour.

2013 DEC On Monday December 9, 2013, Premier Kathleen Wynne delivered the [Ontario Government's apology](#) to former residents of Regional Centres (institutions), taking responsibility for the suffering endured by people with developmental disabilities and their families.

2014 JAN NSS launches AIMS® – Alliance Information Management System – an all-in-one software tool designed to help staff measure the support provided to persons requiring a wide range of services and supports.

- 2014** AUG With additional funding, NSS was able to welcome four new individuals with high needs to the Mowat residence.
- The Canby home was re-opened to accommodate internal residential moves.
- 2015** JAN NSS was successfully re-accredited for a four-year term (2014-2018) through FOCUS Accreditation Services. NSS was the second agency in Ontario to achieve this distinction for a third time.
- 2015** JUN The Circle of Friends self advocates group (with 48 active members) hosts a five-year celebration event commemorating five years of learning, growing, and taking pride in themselves and their accomplishments.
- 2015** NOV Ontario begins the move to end provincially funded, segregated sheltered workshops where people with disabilities are “employed” and paid minimal “training wages”. The Ministry’s plan is to help each individual find a new active life in the community with ongoing supports. That could mean a mix of employment, volunteering, and other activities, with a focus on a life spent in the mainstream community.
- 2016** NOV NSS opted out of the FOCUS Accreditation process due to the Ministry’s focus on the Regulation on Quality Assurance Measures under the Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act (SIPDDA). As our funder conducts a rigorous annual compliance inspection of its own, accreditation is not a Ministry requirement.
- 2016** NOV The Government of Ontario expanded ReportON, a new service for reporting suspected or witnessed abuse of adults with developmental disabilities. The 24/7 phone line and email service is the latest step taken by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to further improve the safety of adults with developmental disabilities.
- 2017** NOV Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017 was passed on November 22, 2017, making extensive changes to Ontario’s Employment Standards Act, 2000; Labour Relations Act, 1995; and Occupational Health and Safety Act. OASIS submits on behalf of their member agencies, that the developmental services sector will be impacted in a significantly negative manner by Bill 148 because of the unique needs of the people supported, the funding contracts, and direct funding arrangements.
- 2018** APR CEO Andrew Lewis resigned; the Board appoints CFO John Fast as Interim CEO/CFO.
- 2018** SEP  Niagara Support Services celebrates 65 years of serving our community at the Annual General Meeting on September 18, 2018, with special guest [Michael Jacques](#), author of “Can’t Read, Can’t Write, Here’s My Book”.
- 2018** SEP The Board of Directors adopts a policy governance model of functioning, with a focus on high-level, strategic oversight and careful monitoring of the organization’s progress and advancement.

- 2018** NOV Bill 47, Making Ontario Open for Business Act, 2018, was passed on November 21, 2018, repealing or amending much of Bill 148, Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017.
- 2019** MAR John Fast is appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Niagara Support Services and Niagara Training & Employment Agency.
- 2019** JUN Bill 124, *Protecting a Sustainable Public Sector for Future Generations Act*, was introduced in the Ontario legislature on June 5, 2019. It came into force in November 2021.
- 2020** MAR On March 17, 2020, the Government of Ontario declared a provincial state of emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus. This Act ended on July 24, 2020, and was replaced with the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*. [The World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International concern on January 30, 2020, and a pandemic on March 11, 2020.]
- 2020** SEP On September 28, Premier Doug Ford announced that the province was officially in the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic, and on October 2, announced a province-wide mask policy. On December 7, a three-part vaccine rollout plan was laid out.
- 2020** NOV On November 5, 2020, the Government of Ontario released its 2020 Budget, [*Ontario's Action Plan: Protect, Support, Recover*](#), which included substantial new investments in the Developmental services (DS) Sector. This represented a major reversal of the \$1.23B reduction in funding for MCCSS (Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services) that was announced in the 2019 Provincial Budget.
- To date, we had not had any positive COVID-19 cases among the residential people we support or our staff.
- 2021** JAN On January 12, 2021, our first staff was confirmed positive at our Kalar home; in quick succession, additional staff and people we support tested positive as well. Throughout the pandemic we were in regular contact and consultation with Niagara Region Public Health and our assigned outbreak manager. Also on January 12, the government declared a second state of emergency and announced a number of new public health measures. A stay-at-home order was issued effective January 14, 2021.
- 2021** MAR Vaccinations begin rolling out and on March 24, Niagara Public Health set aside an entire day to vaccinate regional residents of developmental services congregate care settings. Sixty of our residents were vaccinated on that day.
- Also on March 24, the Provincial Budget [*Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy*](#) was released. It included significant spending, and announced some new programs and funding to help combat COVID-19 and support the economy and people's health, which have been negatively affected by the pandemic.

- 2021** APR The COVID-19 pandemic was unrelenting and on April 7, 2021, the Ontario government declared the province's third state of emergency and issued a province wide stay-at-home order. Eventually, variants of the virus surfaced, e.g., Delta and Omicron, which impacted the agency's staff, families and people supported. Sadly, two of the people we support lost their lives due to COVID complications in early 2021.
- 2021** MAY The Ministry of Children, Community and Social services released its long-term vision for Developmental Services Reform entitled [Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion](#). **Vision:** People with developmental disabilities are supported by their communities, support networks and government to belong and live inclusive lives. People are empowered to make choices and live as independently as possible through supports that are person-directed, equitable and sustainable.
- 2021** NOV Bill 124, the *Protecting a Sustainable Public Sector for Future Generations Act*, came into force on November 8, 2021. This limits salary increases for the Broader Public Sector, including not for profits, to one percent for any twelve-month period for a three-year term. It applies to all employees, regardless of position or union affiliation.
- 2021** NOV The President began reading a Land Acknowledgement at the opening of Board of Directors' meetings to recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land, and as an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory we reside on. *"We begin this meeting by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee (hoe-den-o-show-nee) and Anishinaabe (anish-naw-bay) peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis (may-tea), and Inuit (in-you-eat) peoples and acknowledging them reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous People."*
- 2021** DEC A recent wave of COVID-19 infections began impacting NSS on December 24, 2021, and became all-consuming. Summary: four homes were in outbreak, 18 residents tested positive for COVID, and 37 staff tested positive.
- 2022** FEB All residential outbreaks in December 2021 officially ended as of February 5, 2022. Happily, everyone recovered.