Youville Centre *News*

SUMMER 2015

Premier Kathleen Wynne Visits Youville Centre

On Thursday, April 30, 2015, Premier of Ontario Kathleen Wynne made a special visit to Youville Centre. After receiving a personal tour from Executive Director Cindy Simpson, Premier Wynne met with Youville Centre's young mothers in our Collective Kitchen space. When speaking with our young moms, Premier Wynne offered practical and inspirational words of guidance, reminding our students to not let barriers or obstacles prevent them from achieving their dreams and being the best parents they can be to their children.

Premier Wynne enjoyed interacting with our 55 infants and toddlers while touring the child development centre. Our Early Childhood Educators were proud to show her the programs they deliver in action, particularly those that focus on infant mental health promotion, and the "How Does Learning Happen" framework.

We were honoured to host Premier Wynne at Youville Centre to show her first hand the hard work our courageous young moms are putting forth daily to create brighter futures for themselves and their children. Special thanks to The Famous 5 Ottawa for making this visit possible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Youville Centre AGM

Tuesday, September 22, 2015, 5:30 PM

Kinsella Hall, Youville Centre,
150 Mann Avenue

Join us for our Annual General Meeting and enjoy a special presentation about our Mentorship Program. Light refreshments will be served.

Shepherd's Fashion FUNraiser in Support of Youville Centre

Tuesday, October 20, 2015,
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Shepherd's Train Yards,
145 TrainYards Drive, Unit 4

Tickets are on sale now!

Please call (613) 231-5150 Ext. 128 or visit our website at **www.youvillecentre.org/event/fashionshow**

Photo by Sun Media

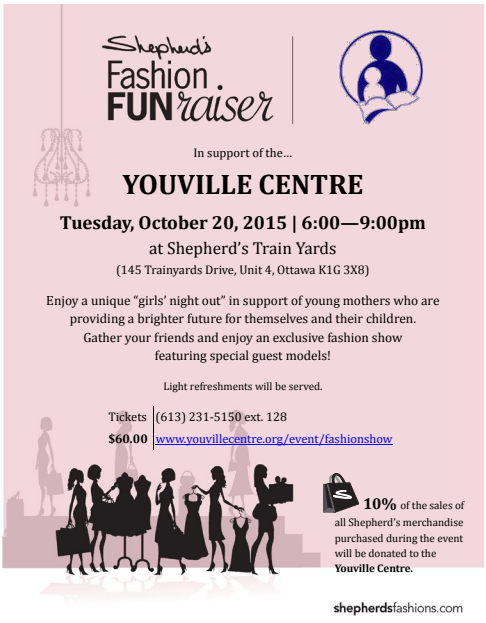
Premier Kathleen Wynne with Youville Centre infant Cloe.

L to R: Nancy MacNider, Executive Director, St. Mary's Home, and Cindy Simpson, Executive Director, Youville Centre. Photo Credit: The loveOttawa Project (Dwayne Brown and Anita Ruivo)

Youville Centre and St. Mary's Home Executive Directors Honoured by United Way Ottawa

It is with much excitement that we announce that our Executive Director, Cindy Simpson was selected as a co-recipient of this year's United Way Community Builder of the Year Award in the Growing up Great category. Awarded with her esteemed colleague, Nancy MacNider, Executive Director of St. Mary's Home, Cindy was honoured to receive this award.

The award was presented at the annual United Way Community Builder of the Year Awards Gala at the Shaw Centre on Thursday, May 28, 2015 by award sponsor Doug Feasby, Vice President & Manager of TD Commercial Banking in the National Capital Region. Many thanks to United Way Ottawa for recognizing Cindy and Nancy for their collective impact on young mothers and their children through their collaborative work.



Remembering Mike Lundy

Michael Lundy at Youville Centre's 25th Anniversary Celebration.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce that Michael (Mike) Lundy, longtime former board member and dedicated supporter of Youville Centre has passed away. It was an honour and a pleasure for us to know Mike, and to witness his compassion for the young mothers and children of Youville Centre.

A personal friend of Youville Centre's founder, Sister Betty Ann Kinsella, Mike was a friend to Youville since its inception. He served on the bursary committee before officially joining Youville Centre's Board of Directors. Leading up to the move to our current location, Mike was instrumental in garnering support for the Capital Campaign, which raised over $2M to enable us to purchase and retrofit the building at 150 Mann Avenue. Mike's company Lundy Construction was involved in the construction and renovation of the building to customize it to our programming needs. Lundy Construction's contributions to this project were generous and exceeded expectations.

Over the years Mike supported Youville in numerous ways, including serving on the volunteer Board of Directors, providing sponsorship at fundraising events, offering sound advice regarding building improvements and renovations, and advocating for Youville to anyone who would listen. He also worked closely with the Kiwanis Club of Ottawa, who have been loyal supporters of Youville Centre's moms and children.

Leading up to our 25th Anniversary Celebration in 2012, Mike personally called friends and former Youville Centre supporters and invited them to attend this very special event. It was because of Mike that many people who were involved with Youville since the beginning were able to celebrate 25 years of Youville Centre with us, including our Founder, Sister Betty Ann Kinsella, who was also in attendance.

Mike was always there for us, on the other end of the phone, dropping by to show his friends and colleagues the work we are doing, attending graduation ceremonies and annual general meetings, and reaching out to help with fundraising initiatives and events. Mike's wife Carol has also supported Youville Centre over the years through her own volunteer work and by attending our fashion show fundraisers with Shepherd's Fashions.

A faithful friend to Youville Centre, Mike Lundy will be deeply missed.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to each and every individual and corporation who donated to Youville Centre in Mike's memory.

Heather Heagney of Youville Centre (L) joined participants to enjoy a spring pasta cooking class at The Urban Element in support of the Mother's Day Campaign.

Jenny Strange (L), Youville Centre's Mental Health and Addiction Counsellor joined Ottawa Fit for a charity spinning class in support of Youville Centre during the Mother's Day Campaign.

We Couldn't Have Done it Without YOU

The generous support of our community makes a variety of programs and services possible at Youville Centre. Thank you to the following individuals, third party events, and organizations for making a significant contribution to our work with two generations:

The Henry and Amanda Beauregard Fund

Bon Appetit Ottawa

Congregation de Notre Dame Visitation Province

Good Shepherd Parish CWL

Mrs. Audrey Kenny

Knights of Columbus, Good Shepherd Council

Mercedes Norman

Scotiabank

TELUS

Mr. and Mrs. Paris Vachon

Weston – Seeding Stronger Communities

William J. Spence ICD Memorial Foundation

Mother's Day Campaign Results

This May marked the fourth consecutive year for our annual Mother's Day Campaign. This year we decided to make some changes to the campaign in an effort to reach out to donors online and work with some local businesses and organizations. Our goal this year was to raise $7,000 and we are happy to say that we surpassed this, raising $7,209!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every donor who contributed to our campaign, whether it was through individual donations online, through the mail, over the phone, or by attending one of the events or initiatives we held with our community partners! Your contribution will go directly to our programs and services that serve our young moms and their children.

We are so grateful to the following organizations and businesses who participated in our campaign:

Flowers Talk Tivoli

loveOttawa – Dwayne Brown and Anita Ruivo

Ottawa Fit

Shepherd's Fashions

The Urban Element

Whole Foods Market Lansdowne Park

Whole Foods Market Lansdowne held a promotion on their Alaffia Good Soap in support of Youville Centre's Mother's Day Campaign.

TELUS Gives the Gift of We Day to Youville Moms

Free the Children's youth event National We Day came to Ottawa again this year, on Wednesday, April 1st at the Canadian Tire Centre. Our valued friends at TELUS were very generous and provided 20 tickets for our students and staff to attend this event, which combines music, dance, keynote speeches and fun for youth ages 12 and up. This year students and staff made special "Youville Centre" t-shirts to wear to the event.

It was an inspiring and thought-provoking day. Our students enjoyed the musical acts and inspiring guest speakers such as Jonathan Pitre and Marlee Matlin. Youville's favourite speaker of the day was Calgary-based author, journalist, and philanthropist who was a victim of kidnapping, Amanda Lindhout. "She took her experience and made good out of it. Even though people caused her that great pain, she's helping others. That's some major resiliency", said Youville student and young mom Sherry.

TELUS said it best when they created a hashtag for the day, #changeisinyourhands. Every day at Youville Centre we live this philosophy that change is possible and it is in our hands. Our young moms are courageous and they come to school each day to make change in their lives, and for their children. Many thanks to TELUS for making it possible for our students to attend We Day again this year.

Youville staff and students make the "We Day" sign. Our young moms were inspired by speakers such as Jonathan Pitre and Amanda Lindhout.

Visit our blog to read more: www.youvillecentre.org/blog

Youville Celebrates Summer

Each year as summer school comes to a close, we hold a BBQ Fun Day and Showcase for our summer school students and their children. Work from the two summer courses, Visual Arts and Dramatic Arts is displayed and showcased prior to heading outside for a BBQ and some fun outdoor activities. This is a wonderful opportunity for our summer school students to celebrate their achievements, and to enjoy a special event with their children.

The BBQ Fun Day included children's games, pony rides, visits from fire fighters and police officers and their vehicles, a fun photo booth, and a delicious buffet of burgers, salads, watermelon, ice cream cones and refreshing beverages.

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations whose donations helped to make our Summer BBQ Fun Day such a success:

Papa Jack Popcorn

MBNA, a division of The Toronto-Dominion Bank

GMSPC

PEPSI Beverages Canada

Whole Foods Market Lansdowne

TELUS Ottawa Community Ambassadors

Ottawa Police Service

Ottawa Fire Services

The Smith Family

Youville Centre Volunteers and Board Members

Youville Centre

150 MANN AVE OTTAWA ON K1N 8P4

HOURS: Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm

TEL/FAX: (613) 231–5150

EMAIL: info@youvillecentre.org

WEBSITE: www.youvillecentre.org

FACEBOOK: Youville Centre -- Ottawa

TWITTER: @YouvilleCentre

BLOG: www.youvillecentre.org/blog

Charitable Registration #11884 8456 RR0001

An innovative centre that motivates, educates and nurtures young mothers and their children to become self–sufficient, contributing members of society.

To Donate: Yes, I/We wish to support The Youville Centre, an innovative centre that motivates, educates and nurtures young mothers and their children. We also accept donations online at www.youvillecentre.org

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

I/We wish to contribute $ _____

Payment to be made by:

____Cheque ____Visa ____MC ____Amex

Card# _____

Expiry (mm/yy) _____

Signature _____