Sack**Ahilitie**

Let's continue our homegrown movement for inclusion, together.

RENEW YO SASKABILIT MEMBERSH **OR JOIN TODA**

Dear

Long before there were trending hashtags and social media campaigns dedicated to diversity and inclusion, there was SaskAbilities. Since 1950, the motivation to provide better services to enhance the lives of those experiencing disability across Saskatchewan has led to expansive programs like the Quality of Life (QoL) Day Program. It is with the support of the community and members like YOU that SaskAbilities continues to provide essential programs and services, even through a global pandemic.

Over the next few letters, we are going to take you on a mini tour of SaskAbilities' Quality of Life Centres, starting in Saskatoon, moving along to Swift Current, and then wrapping up our journey in Regina. We will introduce you to passionate coordinators, staff members and volunteers who embody the vision, mission, and values of SaskAbilities. Of course, we'll be highlighting client stories and sharing their unique experiences of growth, friendship, and connection.

"Being client focused isn't a catch phrase." Charlene Currie, QoL Coordinator

With the paint dried and doors just open, Charlene Currie is more than ready to welcome participants and begin her new journey as QoL coordinator. Having previously worked at the SaskAbilities Saskatoon Branch, it wasn't just her experience and understanding of the new role that piqued her interest. "Getting to work for an organization that supports people experiencing disability is not just rewarding professionally

but also spoke to me personally. My son is most likely going to need those supports at different stages of his life. To be connected to SaskAbilities has just opened my eyes in so many ways and taught me so much," says a smiling, teary-eyed Currie.

Moving from program administrator to executive assistant and now QoL coordinator provided Currie with an opportunity to see the person-centred philosophy at SaskAbilities mobilized in so many ways. "Being client focused isn't a catch phrase. Working here has really reinforced what that means, not only to me but also for clients. It impacts our relationship and how they trust me and staff members. We are here for them, working alongside their caregivers and other supports as part of a team, "explains Currie who is very passionate about her new role.

Opening a new location with smaller numbers due to COVID-19, Currie has bonded quickly with clients including 25-year-old Andrew Lutz. "Andrew is great. He's the first one to greet you in the morning and really loves to know what the game plan is for the week. If there's someone new or something happening, Andrew likes to be in the mix. One of the things I admire most about him is that he's not afraid to ask for help. I think that's a compliment to his character as well and it makes me feel good knowing that he feels safe to ask."

"All of us working together can create a full life with and for Andrew." – Theresa Lutz

Quality of Life Day Programs are rooted in a client-centred approach designed to enhance 'Being, Belonging and Becoming' through community connection, personal development, and recreational activities.

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SaskAbilities

nipts will be issued for donations of \$10 ole Registration # 107955221 RR0001 newan Abilities Council Inc.

Your membership matters and changes lives. Your contribution makes accessing services like the Quality of Life Day Program possible. Being a SaskAbilities member mobilizes your support in affirming that people experiencing disability across Saskatchewan belong and are valued.

"I like going out, especially to sporting events. I've been to a Hilltops game and hope to go to some Blades games as well."

– Andrew Lutz

Having moved back to Saskatchewan with his family over the summer well into the pandemic, it didn't take much convincing to get Andrew back into day programming after being without it in Ontario for so long. "I think he was sick of being home with mom so much," joked Theresa Lutz, noting that the transition has been made easier knowing she has the supports in place for her son. "I honestly don't think people here know how good they have it. We connected with SaskAbilities before we moved and within a few weeks of being here we were touring centres. No wait lists or major paperwork. And it isn't just Andrew who benefits - can't stress that enough! SaskAbilities provides much-needed support to the caregivers. Andrew requires help with all his personal care, from bathing to shaving. So often, the day slips by and we don't have the energy for things like going out into the community or trying something new. This is where I feel day programs are so important. They play a crucial role in helping

to make Andrew's life full and well rounded," explains Theresa.

Despite being non-verbal, Andrew is outgoing and very communicative. He uses social media apps and custom tools on his iPad to chat and express himself. Even in the newness everyone is experiencing and adjusting to, Andrew is ready for more adventure, "I'm most looking forward to going to more SaskAbilities locations and getting to meet more people, do more activities and, hopefully when COVID is over, go out into the city and do more stuff." We want that for you too, Andrew!

Sincerely,

Ian Wilkinson,

Executive Director

Your contribution as a member enriches the lives of over 60,000 people across the province who are supported by SaskAbilities. Your generosity is not lost on the many family members, friends, and caregivers whose loved ones have continued to access programs and services during the COVID-19 pandemic. More than ever, we need your support.

Join or renew your membership and help us continue creating opportunities for children, youth and adults experiencing disability in Saskatchewan. Your membership includes voting privileges at our annual general meeting, our newsletters, and the comfort of knowing you are improving the lives of families impacted by disabilities.

With a gift of \$25, \$50, \$75, or a leadership gift of \$150, you will make a meaningful difference today. In recognition of your generosity, Member Leaders, those who give \$150 or more, will be highlighted in our annual report, a provincial publication illustrating our progress and achievements. You can also choose to support SaskAbilities through automated monthly donations. You can become a leader in your community for as little as \$12.50 per month, about the same as a weekly coffee! Please donate. Your support brings positive change for individuals experiencing disability in our community – people just like Andrew!

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The Monthly Giving Program is a simple way to make pre-authorized contributions to help SaskAbilities fulfill its mission of supporting people experiencing disability with programs and services to enhance their lives.

As a monthly donor, you can give as little as \$10 a month and make a positive impact on our ability to plan ahead and invest further in programs and services that serve thousands of individuals experiencing disability in Saskatchewan every year.

SaskAbilities 2310 Louise Avenue Saskatoon, SK S7J 2C7 www.saskabilities.ca Charitable Registration #107955221 RR0001 YES! I'd like to join the Companion Club Monthly Giving Program.

I would like to make a monthly gift of: □ \$30 □ \$20 □ \$15 □ \$10 or \$ _____ per month (minimum \$10)

□ I will donate from my bank account. Henceforth, SaskAbilities and its agent bank may automatically debit my account on the first day of each month for the amount above. I authorize my bank to pay this amount from my chequing account. I have enclosed a voided cheque for this purpose.

This donation is made on behalf of: \Box an individual \Box a business

□ I authorize SaskAbilities to automatically deduct the amount indicated above each month until I state otherwise. I understand that I can cancel at any time.

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I have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. To obtain more information on my recourse right, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.