

June 2023

Durham Family Resources

FAMILYfocus

SO THAT ALL PEOPLE ENJOY A FULL AND MEANINGFUL LIFE
WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

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THE CANADA DISABILITY
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Join us at our AGM & See the Strategic Directions
we are Working Towards!

Mark your calendars! Our much-anticipated Annual General Meeting is just around the corner and we hope you can join us on Monday, June 26, 2023. We couldn't be more thrilled to once again hold this meeting in-person, safely coming together to engage in those much needed face-to-face chats and catching up.

We have chosen the charming Hartrick House venue to host our event once again this year, conveniently situated at 120 Roberson Drive in Ajax (near Church St N and Rossland Rd W). While the more formal business meeting proceedings will take place within the welcoming walls of Hartrick House, we have something special in store for the post-meeting activities. Get ready for a delightful picnic-style get-together on the surrounding grounds of the venue - catching up with staff, Board Members, and other families with a specially prepared picnic box in hand. We've partnered again with beloved local eatery, Butchie's, for a tasty light supper, and will have a live band supplying tunes for the evening.

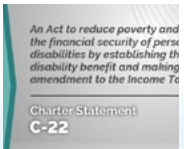
This year, our AGM will revolve around our new 5-year Strategic Plan, and its central theme - **changing the hearts and minds of our community: one story, one relationship at a time**. Join us and hear what's coming up for DFR!

Space is limited for this event, so register early to secure your spot. Also, if you are unable to attend after registering, we ask that you let us know so we can open the wait-list. Like last year, we will be offering a picnic-style meal for after the business meeting, but we will *not* be taking specific orders - we will have a variety of meals available, with a limited number of dietary options available (so please plan ahead if you have dietary limitations).

The AGM provides an opportunity for families and community members alike to show their support for Durham Family Resources by attending this event. It is also a great opportunity to meet other like-minded families, and celebrate the significance of families coming together.

2023 Annual General Meeting
Monday, June 26th, 2023
Registration at 5:30pm,
AGM begins at 6:00pm

Register for the AGM here!



Update on Bill C-22: Canada Disability Benefit

The Canada Disability Benefit Act has passed Third Reading and has been adopted by the Senate. It was passed with six amendments, which is a positive step forward; however, we find ourselves at a crucial juncture as the bill now sits with the House of Commons for further deliberation of these amendments.

Time is of the essence, and we must ensure that Members of Parliament prioritize Bill C-22 during the current House proceedings and swiftly address the amendments so that the bill can go back to the Senate for final consideration and Royal Assent.

While the exact date of the House debate on Bill C-22 remains unknown, we do know that Parliament will break for its summer recess on June 23rd.

At this stage, we must continue our impactful efforts to reach out to our Members of Parliament and emphasize the urgency of passing Bill C-22. This bill presents a historic opportunity to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families. Let us amplify our collective voices on this critical issue - it is time to pass this bill without delay!

[Inclusion Canada](#) continues to organize and advocate for the passing of Bill C-22 and has once again created a draft template letter to make things easier - please feel free to adopt it as you see fit, personalize it, or create your own.

How you can continue to help:

[Find your MP's contact information here.](#)


Phone or [email them this NEW letter](#) and tell them why we need the Canada Disability Benefit.


Summer Sips and Planning at June's BioMedical Approaches Study group

Our meeting is back to the first Friday of this month, join us on June 9th! We will gather in-person at the Gathering Place - bring your favourite tea, coffee, non-caffeinated summer beverage of choice, or just share the recipe! We'll regroup and plan for our next topic, guest, or field trip!

Last month the group was joined by Ryan Cullen - and everyone enjoyed the conversations around horticulture, food and farming! The group also heard about Ryan's small scale regenerative farm and homestead - City of Greens - in Bowmanville, and his varied projects throughout Durham Region.

Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in the Bio-Medical Approaches Study Group when we meet on the second Friday morning of each month. We usually engage with anything "Bio - Medical" and so families talk about all of the approaches, alternatives, strategies that we have found, are being pushed into, have discovered online and more! We have a wide circle of families who are ready to share their vast experience and together we sometimes are able to help each member make better sense of the options and choices that surround them.

The group meets monthly and is open and welcoming to new and past participants! We usually meet on the second Friday of each month at 10am for about an hour to an hour and a half. Reach out to Janet  if you'd like more information or to RSVP to the next meeting!



**STUDY GROUP
INFO
FRIDAY,
JUNE 9
10 AM**

An Act to reduce poverty and to support the financial security of persons with disabilities by establishing the Canada disability benefit and making a consequential amendment to the Income Tax Act

Charter Statement
C-22

JUSTICE.BC.CA

Canada

Karen's Journey to Home Ownership and a Financial Q&A at this month's Imagining Home Meeting

In the spirit of the season with its warmer days and calls to be in each other's company more and more, we're inviting families to come together for an **in-person** June Imagining Home meeting.

This month we are thrilled to have Karen Inwood joining us to share about her experiences as a homeowner, a neighbour and community member, and a roommate for over three years. Karen brings with her the many small stories of vision, planning, experimenting, shifting directions, and the rich discovery and growth that have come from being anchored in Home.

Also, from time-to-time families have questions around some of the financial aspects of housing – for example what are the tax implications of claiming rental income from a family member as a parent/landlord? Our Director of Finance, Sue Talmey, will be on hand to answer all of your financial questions related to home and housing. To help us prepare, please try to forward your questions ahead of time by email to Erin at eoreilly@dafrs.com

If you are a family who does not live within the Region or may have trouble traveling to our Oshawa office, please let Erin know and alternate arrangements can be made.

We're looking forward to gathering together once again!

Come join the conversation! Long time and new families alike, everyone has something to gain and something to offer. Each month at Imagining Home, we engage with anything “housing, home and community” and enjoy critical discussion, sharing stories, learning and often having a good laugh among respectful and supportive people! Families bring a wealth of experience and knowledge and are ready to share and support others along their journey. All are welcome to attend and participate in Imagining Home when we meet on the second Wednesday of each month. If you are new to the group and would like to attend Imagining Home for the first time, we'd ask that you first contact Erin at (905) 436-2500 ext. 2511 or eoreilly@dafrs.com to arrange an introductory call.

IMAGINING HOME MEETING • NEXT MEETING • JUNE 14, 2023 • 6:30PM

IN PERSON AT THE GATHERING PLACE!

CONTACT ERIN FOR DETAILS ([EOREILLY@DAFRS.COM](mailto:eoreilly@dafrs.com))



Summer Fun for Young Ones - Let's Think it Through Together!



Excited for the summer? Join us for an online virtual event called “Thinking it Through” on **June 27th from 6:30pm to 7:30pm**.

We will explore a world of outdoor adventures waiting to be discovered in Durham Region. From nature exploration to creative activities and water play, we'll uncover the best experiences for an unforgettable summer. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to connect with other parents as well. Register now to secure your spot!

Register Here to Receive the Zoom Link Details!

Have You Attended Making the Most Family Series? Come Together to Discuss and Continue Learning!

The Making the Most Study Group is a fantastic opportunity for those who have completed the series to continue their learning and take some next steps in developing valued roles and relationships with a loved one.

Each month graduates of past Making the Most learning series are invited to come together and think more deeply about crafting and sharing a vision, designing and planning days full of contributions and possibilities, focusing on roles rather than activities, seeking and developing good support, making positive introductions, and finding strength, comfort, and energy through building circles of support, and connecting with other families.

The meeting is open to anyone who has attended the 6-part Making The Most learning series or a MTM Weekend Retreat and wishes to join the conversation. Contact Laura lpowell@dafrs.com for more information.

As our regular June meeting falls the same day as our AGM, we would like to encourage all MTM Graduates to attend the AGM instead this month. We are looking forward to catching up with everyone in person and celebrating another year partnering together!



MAKING THE MOST STUDY GROUP

JULY 2023
6:30PM TO 7:30PM

respiteservices.com



RespiteServices.com continues connecting families to supporters! Contact Sandy for details!

Respiteservices.com is continuing to operate remotely to connect families and support workers. We know people continue to need good support during this time and are working diligently to continue to provide this service to residents of Durham Region.

To be matched with support workers, you must be registered with respiteservices.com/durham. Contact Sandy at (905)436-3404 or sciarlariello@dafrs.com. New supporters are continuing to be added. Contact Sandy for more information!

Important Dates At-A-Glance!

Bio Medical Study Group
June 9@10am

Imagining Home
June 14@6:30pm

2023 Annual General Meeting
June 26

Thinking it Through
June 27@6:30pm

Making the Most Study Group
July 2023

For more information,
please visit our website at
www.dafrs.com

For more information, please visit our website, www.dafrs.com, and see the "Upcoming Events" tab.

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