

*“The Best of What
Community Used to
Be and Can
Become” WECCC*



WINDSOR-ESSEX
**Compassion
Care Community**

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Volunteers

Volunteerism is at The Heart of Our Community

Developing the WECCC program has required the commitment of a core group of people who are working to ensure our elderly, those living with life-long disabilities or those living in isolation receive the services they need. Behind the scenes and on the front line, this support includes employees, students and volunteers. Together, they are working to ensure that all considerations reflect the diversity and desires of our community as we age. One of our loyal volunteers is Ann Wong. Wong has been volunteering for the Hospice of Windsor & Essex County Inc. for the past 25 years as a fundraiser. She started supporting the WECCC nine months ago during its early development, tasked with providing input as someone who is not in the medical field, as an average citizen and from a volunteer perspective. She has provided feedback on videos and training packages, and has mentored students as a Public Engagement Consultant. As we approach the Leamington Launch, Ann Wong continues to be attentive and supportive of the program. When asked to describe her predictions as this program moves into the community, her response is optimistic and may be representative of the expectations of the group overall.



Q: What are the challenges you see or predict the project will face?

A: As I have gone through this process, I don't really see any challenges that cannot be overcome.

We are going to be testing WECCC in the Leamington area soon, and from all initial conversations with various community groups, I've seen nothing but positive enthusiasm for this initiative. I see WECCC as an ongoing, ever-changing green initiative. As we face challenges, we will adapt and improve. Our goal is to constantly improve. As with anything, improvements and new developments are always ongoing, and I believe that WECCC will grow and change as well to accommodate the needs of any community. With the training that is being developed and the establishment of various coaches to help people start their own Compassion Care, I only foresee this initiative continuing to grow and develop to the point that each community will have a Compassion Care centre – one that will be known to everyone and will be easily accessible to help them on their journey through life.

Q: How can the WECCC transition into the community smoothly?

A: I believe that the Citizens Table meetings we have been holding for the past year and a half have helped to make people aware of WECCC and its purpose. Regular updates and meetings have been held with important community groups so everyone is on board and is kept apprised of our developments.

Training for Volunteer Coaches is going to be implemented in Leamington very shortly, and making this training accessible and available to any community group and their volunteers will make WECCC easily adaptable to any community. I believe that, going forward, WECCC will continue to grow and develop.

I am happy that the response from all community and faith-based groups has been nothing but positive. Their continued participation and their willingness to be a part of this process will make WECCC an easy transition.

Testing the Tools and Processes

Early adopter partners are engaged in the WECCC as the first group to test the tools and processes that the WECCC will use to support the community. This process is one that requires citizens to get involved to ensure that everyone is well represented. If you know of someone in

our community who would like to volunteer to be part of the testing of our tools and processes, please contact us at the email and/or telephone number at the top of this newsletter.

Logo Re-Launch



WINDSOR-ESSEX
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The Windsor-Essex Compassion Care Community has improved its logo to be more reflective of unity and community with respect to people from all walks of life. This redesign of the logo is the result of commissioned work by the Douglas Marketing Group.

Leamington Pilot Launch Announcement

The first volunteer coach training sessions for *Sharing My Journey* will begin in Leamington on Monday November 14th. For more information about the program or to become a volunteer please contact our office.

Recent & Upcoming Events

Citizen Table and Sponsor Table Meeting – September 14, 2016



Our partners and other citizens of the community joined us for an update on the WECCC and its progress. Leaders and citizens offered feedback on the initiative, deepening our understanding of the needs and wants of this community.

The Douglas Marketing Group presented our new logo as well as a proposed marketing and communication strategy for implementation going forward. They especially emphasized the importance of a consistent look and tools for common messaging. The ability to track personnel

and volunteer time to provide information about our community return on investment is an added bonus with the proposed model.

Communication updates were provided by Christie Nelson including our website refresh, social media report, newsletters, contests, and status of our first two training videos. Christie did a phenomenal job directing both videos, utilizing the talents of our summer placement students, internal staff members and one of our test Clients who graciously opened up her home to our team to complete the filming.

Doug Sartori provided an update about the work being done for quality of life response data, aggregation and website integration, reiterating the plan for readiness end November 2016. Deborah Sattler provided an update about the project and also led the group activity, feedback from which we have compiled for ongoing enhancements.

Revised Website

Our website has been revised to allow for better navigation and information. Please visit our website at <http://www.weccc.ca> and provide us with your feedback.

Compassion Choir

We are currently in the process of organizing a compassion choir that crosses all generations and abilities. Any person or group that would like to join others in song can contact the office at the number at the top of this newsletter.

Video Contest

Our video contest is ongoing and we are still looking for submissions. The video contest should feature at least one of our four arms (*Neighbours Helping Neighbours; Outreach; Community; or Care*). If interested, please contact the WECCC for more details or visit our website for information about our organization and the contest <http://www.weccc.ca>.

