



# IN THE NEWS

January 2018

## In Praise of Partnerships

This month we celebrate Bonny Lea Farm’s partnerships with the Nova Scotia Community College.

We regularly host student placements. Whether the students volunteer, work toward a high school credit, or are placed as part of an NSCC program, it has been a positive experience. With the NSCC we have typically hosted Human Services students. Recently, we hosted two Occupational Therapy students. Hosting students is a benefit to all involved.

Students receive valuable hands on experience working with people with disabilities, understanding each one’s specific needs and potential.

*“The more people we have come through our doors who gain knowledge and understanding of the uniqueness of what we do and how we do it, the better.”*

– David Outhouse, Managing Director

Learning sign language from one of our participants, attending off-site activities and job shadowing Vocational Instructors are just a few highlights students identified.

These placements provide our participants and staff with opportunities as well.

Staff have set up one on one activities for participants and students within their area, which has a direct positive impact on the participants.

Some of these students have come back as summer students and later as employees.

*“I am proud to be a part of an organization that believes in seeing individuals achieve their goals, has an experienced staff base to support them, and invests time and effort in cultivating future human service professionals by hosting students.”*

– Stacey MacDonald, Day Program Coordinator

In 2017, we also had an opportunity to partner with the NSCC Ivany Campus Graphic & Print Production program for their service learning project. Each year the program partners with a not for profit, printing products that may not otherwise be within their budget. Thanks to Bonny Lea Farm parent, Otto van Barneveld, we were matched with Doug Lewis the program instructor.

*“Reaching out to community groups like Bonny Lea Farm is an integral part of our learning at the Nova Scotia Community College. The Graphic & Print Production students at Ivany Campus love the “real life” print experience of these projects!”*

– Doug Lewis, Instructor

For us, this partnership was a huge win-win. The students gain practical experience and we gained thousands of dollars worth of professional quality products, above and beyond those that we budget for – promotional event banners, pop-up banners for use at markets or events showcasing the participants and our products, thank you cards, brochures, rack cards, an Employee Handbook, a Participant Handbook, and so much more.

We are grateful for this partnership. Thank you NSCC!!



NSCC Students Cortney & Shannon with Tom and Larry.

A few of the products printed by the NSCC Graphic & Print Production program.

### Introducing...

Last month we welcomed two new staff here at Bonny Lea Farm, Vanessa Smith, our new Association Support Coordinator and Dan Relic, Health Care Consultant.

After completing graduate studies in psychology, Vanessa worked with the Canadian Mental Health Association and Nova Scotia Health Authority. She believes in a person-centred approach to support and looks forward to the Individual Program Plan portion of her role. She embraces the challenge of seeking grants to fund equipment, programs and improvements, which will enhance our services. Finally, she will be the event coordinator for the Lobster Lovers' Feast and our Annual Benefit Golf Tournament. The planning for both is already underway. In her spare time she volunteers with her therapy dog, Portia.

Dan, a registered nurse, has an extensive background in health care management. As our Health Care Consultant he is reviewing records and building personal wellness plans for each participant, which will not only benchmark their current health but also be the basis for making decisions regarding future supports, as well as, day to day health care needs. Dan's office is located in the Residential Services administration building.

Creating the role of Health Care Consultant within Bonny Lea Farm was a strategic priority identified by the Board of Directors and Management to improve our support for our participants, particularly as they age in place.

Please join us in extending a warm Bonny Lea welcome to Vanessa and Dan.



### Achievements & Accolades!

We believe in recognizing achievements by participants and staff. At our Christmas dinner we took time to reflect and appreciate their contributions.

Bonnie Baker received the Powers Trophy for demonstrating significant personal achievement during the past year.

Jan Elliott was presented with the McClung Trophy recognizing personal achievement in the workplace.

Sonya Joudrey received the Hughie Barkhouse Award recognizing her spirit, humour and contribution to life at Bonny Lea Farm.

Service Awards were presented to the following staff:

30 years:

George Chalmers

20 years:

Pat Bates

Kathy Harnish

Kathy Jacques

Ronda Venoit

Retirements:

Jane Rafuse & Doug Spafford

Congratulations to each and all  
for these achievements & milestones!

TOP to BOTTOM: Floyd, Dan Relic & Tom; Vanessa Smith with therapy dog Portia; Stacey presenting Bonnie with the Powers Trophy; Stacey presenting the McClung Trophy to Jan; previous recipients of the Hughie Barkhouse Award presenting the award to Sonya.