



COMMUNITY NEWS

Summer / Fall 2024

Empowering people with disabilities since 1973

A Message from All of us at Bonny Lea Farm

Dear Friends and Family,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. As we say good bye to summer and enter the fall season, we are thankful for your generosity and support of our mission. By partnering with us as volunteers, supporters, family and friends, you make a significant difference in the lives of those who live and work at Bonny Lea Farm.

There is a lot happening at Bonny Lea Farm these days. We had a summer full of fun and fundraising with the Chester Cut n Run, Picnic in the Park, Annual Lobster Fundraiser and Annual Benefit Golf Tournament. Construction of our two new homes is moving swiftly, our crews have been busy cutting kindling, shredding confidential documents, making wipers, tending plants, and working in The Shop on Central, and our retirees are learning about leisure time.

Our staff have been exceptional in meeting the many and diverse interests of participants, helping to ensure that each person has opportunities to pursue their favourite activities, while we strive to grow our team.

We have been happy to begin welcoming a small number of volunteers back to make art, play games, sing songs, and build friendships. Thank you for sharing your time with us. We hope to be able to expand these wonderful opportunities.

With the transition to a more person directed and inclusive experience for participants, we are working on how we can better support them in acting on their choices of where and how to live, making changes to our social enterprises to enable us to pay fair wages, and offering a wider range of activities available to the broader community.

We believe that people with disabilities should have equal opportunities to learn, grow and succeed. We all need to work together to make our communities more inclusive to ensure their voices are heard and their contributions celebrated.

Sincerely,

Your Friends at Bonny Lea Farm



Personal Dignity & Worth through Productive Living

www.bonnyleafarm.ca



Transformation in Disability Supports

Through the largest transformation in Nova Scotia's history, the province is introducing changes to how supports are provided to people with disabilities. Bonny Lea Farm is actively engaged in the process, with many management, staff and participants involved in sector-wide consultations and planning meetings.

Growing Independence at Home

In Bonny Lea Farm's nine, and soon to be eleven, supported living homes, participants live as independently as they are able.

This looks different for each participant and each home, with some needing more or less support from staff for daily activities, getting ready for work, medical appointments and social engagements.

For those who live at Bonny Lea Farm, we will continue to support them in achieving their goals and work to ensure that each person lives with choice and dignity.



A New Way of Working

For most participants, going to work in one of our social enterprises and participating in activities at day program has been a Monday to Friday routine for years.

The proceeds from the products we make go right back into paying participants. While the sense of productivity is invaluable, the proceeds of sales together with fundraised dollars, has never been enough to pay them a fair wage. Currently, only those who work at The Shop on Central are paid minimum wage.

Over the coming months, we will be exploring ways to ensure that other participants are paid for their work. This will mean that some of our crews will see changes in what they do.

To learn more about the transformation visit:
dsp-transformation.ca



Together we make a difference 

www.bonnyleafarm.ca

Summer Camp Fun with a Smile!

This summer 14 participants excitedly packed their bags for Camp Tidnish.

Getting away for a week of making new friends, lots of activities, enjoying campfires, boating and wagon rides is a highlight that many look forward to and plan for by saving up all year long. The Smile Fund provides some financial assistance to those who go.

“I made lots of friends at camp and had fun doing crafts and karaoke too.” - Ronnie



Building A More Inclusive Community Together

If you shop at Chester Foodland, Jason's Your Independent Grocer, Great Canadian Dollar Store, or Chester Pharmasave, chances are you have met participants doing their shopping. Or maybe you too are a fan of Picnic in the Park or have made The Shop on Central by Bonny Lea Farm, one of your regular spots to drop by.

As a community we've come a long way from 1973, when the sight of the Bonny Lea Farm van would draw stares and whispers. Now, there is an exchange of genuine smiles, waves and greetings by name. This familiarity and friendship has grown and deepened over time.

With changes being introduced by the Government of Nova Scotia, there will be even greater integration in our community for homes and work opportunities. We are excited to continue on this journey with you as our partners.

Together we are building more inclusive and supportive communities.



Sponsorship Spotlight - Dexter Construction

Dexter has been a supporter of Bonny Lea Farm for over 30 years, as a donor, sponsor of our popular Lobster Fundraiser, and sponsor and golfer in our Annual Benefit Golf Tournament. More recently, they also contributed \$125,000 in support of our Home to Stay Capital Campaign, to build a new home for those who need a higher level of care or mobility supports.

We are grateful to have such amazing community support!

“Dexter Construction and the Municipal Group of Companies take great pride in giving back to the communities in which we live and work.

Bonny Lea Farm makes such a positive difference in our community with amazing programs and support for people with disabilities, which we are proud to support.”

YES, I want to support Bonny Lea Farm in creating a community where everyone belongs!

Name _____

Address _____

Community _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Here is my gift of: \$ _____

◇ By cheque made out to **Bonny Lea Farm**

◇ By credit card

Card # _____ Expiry date ___/___/___

◇ I would like to give a gift of shares. Call me.

◇ I have included Bonny Lea Farm in my will

◇ I am interested in learning more about leaving a gift in my will

◇ Please send me my receipt and information by email

CRA Charitable #11915 8459 RR0001

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Together we make a difference

bonnyleafarm.ca

BONNY LEA FARM | 5 COLLICUTT ROAD | PO BOX 560 | CHESTER, NS, B0J 1J0 | 902-275-5622

Monthly giving





COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

Contact us to learn more.
Call 902-275-5622 or check Indeed.com .
Remember to search for:
"South Shore Community Service Association
(Bonny Lea Farm)"



YES, I want to become a MONTHLY donor to Bonny Lea Farm!

Monthly giving is a great way to make your giving affordable for you, while having a big impact for us.

You can support Bonny Lea Farm's programs and operations all year long by becoming a monthly donor at a level that works for you.

You'll feel good knowing that you are helping to build a more inclusive community.

For more visit bonnyleafarm.ca/ways-to-give/
CRA Charitable #11915 8459 RR0001

To begin your monthly or one-time gift call us or click on the QR code below



THANK YOU !



Together we make a difference

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