

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Community Living Chatham-Kent	Kayla Murphy / Steve Stokley
Community Living Wallaceburg	Patricia Peters
Suicide Prevention Committee Sarnia-Lambton	Michelle Parks
Pathways Health Centre for Children	Melanie Coll
Down Syndrome Association of Lambton County	Garth Lepine
Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent	Kristin O'Neill
Community Living Sarnia-Lambton	Kristy Bodkin
Trustees	Jennifer McCann Brenda Rumble
Principal/Vice Principal Representatives	Tiffany Clarke (VP) Jessica Verstraeten
Board Advisors	Jennifer Morrow Stephanie Orrange Katie Papanayotou Chris Preece Lisa Thompson-Power Hollie Sparling
Guests	Pelumi Akinyemi Julie Skillas Melissa Tosh



A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer

2. Adoption of SEAC Agenda - June 16, 2025 (Motion)

Motion by Patricia Peters and seconded by Melanie Coll to adopt the SEAC agenda of June 16, 2025. **Carried.**

3. Review of SEAC Minutes - May 12, 2025 (Motion)

Motion by Melanie Coll and seconded by Michelle Parks to adopt the SEAC minutes of May 12, 2025. **Carried.**

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Graduation Coach for Black Students

Pelumi Akinyemi

- Research shows that Black students face significantly lower outcomes in education and employment compared to their peers.
- There is a lack of representation among school staff.
- This program aims to provide a supportive, inclusive environment for Black students, addressing their unique needs and challenges within the education system.
- A space is provided to support Black students to feel safe, supported, and acknowledged.
- Students are also provided with personalized support such as mentoring, tutoring, and advocacy to enhance student success.
- Academic support is provided by tracking grades, attendance, and course credit accumulation.
- The first step in becoming an equity-driven leader is to engage in honest, critical, self-reflection. We must be willing to confront our own biases, acknowledge our positions of power, and understand how these factors shape our interactions with students, families, and the broader school community.
- Administrators need to unpack their privileges and how they influence our decision-making, our perceptions of students and families, and our overall approach to leadership.
- We must also develop a deep sense of empathy for marginalized students and families.
- Creating an inclusive environment is not just a moral imperative, it is a strategic investment in the success and well-being of our students.

2. Diversity Kits

Julie Skillas & Melissa Tosh

- As part of the Open Doors Removing Barriers Project, our diversity kits are being refreshed.
- Resources were created to promote diversity, equity, and inclusive practices.
- These kits will empower educators and students to bring universal design strategies into their classrooms to support the success of all learners.



- Themes include: Affirming Identity and Belonging, Student Voice and Leadership, Promoting Empathy and Resilience, Building Positive Relationships and Social Skills, and Problem Solving and Conflict Resolution.
- Each kit will include a mentor text and introductory activity.
- Kits are aligned with Mental Health Ontario, Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations, and a Faith Connection.
- Finally, the kits are connected to Social Emotional Learning and curriculum expectations.

C. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

1. Community Living Chatham-Kent

Kayla Murphy / Steve Stokley

Community Relations

- In preparation for the 70th Anniversary Gala, a photo booth sponsorship has been confirmed, with a matching contribution currently pending from another supporter.
- For the upcoming Golf Tournament, several sponsorships have been secured, including support for a cart and two individual holes.
- The Box Lunch event has confirmed both title and silver-level sponsorships, with additional support still pending confirmation.
- The Food Crawl has received strong backing, including both presenting and restaurant sponsorships.
- Lastly, the Bowl-a-Thon event has successfully raised funds to date, with more support anticipated.

Current Opportunities

- Part-time Direct Support Professional
 - <https://www.clc-k.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Part-Time-DSP-April-2024.pdf>
- Children's Respite - Part-time Direct Support Professional
 - <https://www.clc-k.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Part-Time-DSP-April-2024-Childrens-Respite.pdf>

Upcoming Events

Celebrate with us all month long! Visit [CLC-K.ca](https://www.clc-k.ca) for more information:

- **Blue and Green Day – May 1, 2025** - Join us in showing your support by wearing blue and green and lighting up your home or business in these colors.
- **Flag Raising and BBQ – May 2, 2025** - Come to the Civic Centre at 11:30 a.m. for a special flag-raising ceremony, followed by a community BBQ.
- **Box Lunch and Box Lunch for Kids – May 8 and May 9, 2025** - Support the cause by purchasing your lunches through CLC-K.ca. All proceeds help support local initiatives.



- **Bill's Bowl-a-Thon – May 10, 2025** - Join us on Saturday, May 10 from 12–7 p.m. at Chatham Bowlerama as Bill Labadie bowls for seven straight hours in support of Community Living Chatham-Kent. This is Bill's 4th Bowl-a-Thon, raising funds for inclusive opportunities for children with diverse abilities. Come cheer him on or donate! To contribute, contact Doreen at (519) 359-9798.
- **The 28th Annual Golf Tournament – June 14, 2025** - Presented by Waste Connections of Canada, this event is returning to Willow Ridge Golf & Country Club on Saturday, June 14, 2025. Participants will enjoy a full day on the green, a delicious burger buffet, and a chance to win a brand-new car. It's a great way to kick off Father's Day weekend! Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$125 per player or \$500 per team, which includes 18 holes of golf, a power cart, refreshments, dinner, games, skill challenges, and prizes. To register your foursome, visit clc-k.ca/events.
- **70th Anniversary Gala – May 24, 2025** - Celebrate 70 years with us at this special gala event. Tickets are available now at CLC-K.ca.

Newsletter

- 2025 Community Connections- #1 - **April 2025 edition** is available
- Subscribe here: <https://www.clc-k.ca/news-media/newsletter/>

2. Community Living Wallaceburg

Patricia Peters

- 3Rivers Roll returns
- Introduced in 2017, 3Rivers Roll is a bike party through Wallaceburg that thrives off community support and inclusion. The event brings people of all ages, abilities and bikes to have fun, socialize and discover our town.
- Throughout past years, a combined total of over 2,000 people from across Chatham-Kent and Lambton County have participated in this slow-roll event, venturing throughout various **neighbourhoods in Wallaceburg**.
- [**3Rivers Roll - Get Into Community Living | Community Living Wallaceburg**](#)

3. Suicide Prevention Committee Sarnia-Lambton

Michelle Parks

- World Suicide Prevention Day Sept 10, 2025 - more information to come.

4. Pathways Health Centre for Children

Melanie Coll

- AGM is next Tuesday evening
- Will continue with the 50th Celebrations at the meeting.

5. Down Syndrome Association of Lambton County

Garth Lepine

- Big Show at the Sarnia Library. Friday is sold out, but tickets are still available on Saturday.
- Speech camp will start at the end of the month.



- Our DSALC association is sponsoring the Stars 21+ 'Confidence is Cool.' Shows are June 20, 2025 at 7 p.m. and June 21, 2025 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each.

6. Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent

Kristin O'Neill

- Still accepting applications for summer programs.

7. Community Living Sarnia-Lambton

Kristy Bodkin

- Two summer programs are underway.
- We have over 80 kids registered for the summer camp.
- Summer Employment Takeover- Register by June 30, 2025.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

E. NEW BUSINESS (Motion)

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Mental Health and Wellbeing Updates

Chris Preece

- Grade 6 programs will be introduced by School Mental Health Ontario.
- A new Indigenous Social Worker has been hired by the SCCDSB. She will be working with Cortnee Goure.
- The portal for School Climate Surveys has just been closed. Results will be shared with the board in September.
- Working with "Kids are Not Alright" in Sarnia-Lambton and Chatham-Kent.
- Continuing with Family Mental Health and Literacy.
- Our board is required to complete a new Strategic Plan for 2025-2028.

2. Open Doors Inclusive Sports PD

Hollie Sparling

- Inclusive Sport Day Held May 22, 2025.
- Facilitated by Ambassadors from the Rick Hansen Foundation.
- 17 elementary and secondary schools, PRT's and PE teachers participated.
- This was all part of the Open Doors Project.
- Inclusive Sport and Recreation Kits are being ordered and created to be loaned to schools.
- Inclusive Play Kits are also being created to be shared with schools to have inclusive playdays.

3. "Teacher Please Listen"

Jen Morrow

- Video created by Heather Hagan and Robert Walikki
- Represents newcomer high school students and the messages that they would like to share with their teachers to provide them with the necessary supports.



G. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

- Puppet shows were done at our last board meeting. It was very entertaining.

H. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I. PRESENTATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

J. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Proposed SEAC meeting dates for 2025-2026:

Monday, September 15, 2025

Monday, October 20, 2025

Monday, November 17, 2025

Monday, December 15, 2025

Monday, January 19, 2026

Monday, February 9, 2026

Monday, March 23, 2026

Monday, April 13, 2026

Monday, May 11, 2026

Monday, June 15, 2026

K. CLOSING PRAYER

L. ADJOURNMENT (Motion)

Motion by Patricia Peeters and seconded by Melanie Coll to adjourn the SEAC meeting of Monday, June 16, 2025 at 6:33 pm. **Carried.**