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## Celebrating 25 Years of Awesome

2019 marks 25 years since Marie Perrotta began Pegasus

Community Project. What began as a mother's desire to have her son build on the skills he learned in school and develop relationships and connections in the community has developed into a well-respected organization that has stayed true to the original intent.

We have a lot planned for our 25th year.

We are giving our store a big makeover. You may have noticed some changes in the store over the past few weeks and you will continue to see changes as we transform it into an even better shopping experience for customers and retail experience for staff and volunteers. We will stay open during the changes until a 2 week stretch in September where we will shut down to put the finishing touches on the space. For the period of June 1—mid September we will not be accepting donations in order to be able to complete our facelift. After our grand re-opening in September we will return to gladly accepting all your gently used items.

Our annual picnic in June will be an event to be at. We have partnered with Jays Care Foundation and will be having a huge celebration. We hope you will join us.

In the fall, not only will we host the 3rd annual PIFF, we also will be having a fund raising event. Details to follow.

It is an extremely exciting time to be at Pegasus as we look forward to celebrating all year long and moving into the future.

## Matty Eckler

Matty has had an amazing start to 2019! We've enjoyed making new activities with the new monthly Sensory Snapshots. We decorate our room according to the theme each month and have helped clean up the park for Earth Day, tried new recipes for Black History month and more. We've also made tons of new friends through the Sutherland Chan massage students that have been providing massage therapy weekly. Everyone gets to have a relaxing afternoon of massages (usually followed by a group dance party).

Lastly, Matty has gone on multiple exciting outings this year. For our New Beginnings month, we spent the day at Canada Blooms in the Enercare Centre admiring the plants and flowers. We took the streetcar and explored downtown. We're happy to be back at the library program each month too. We also saw two documentaries at the Hot Docs Festival. For this year's Fashion Show we had each participant dress up in formal wear from another country and it was a huge success. We're looking forward to more adventures this summer.



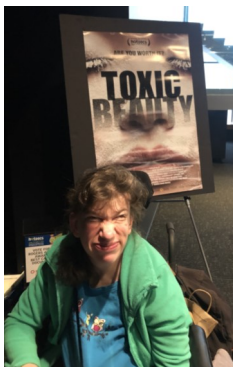
## Phoenix

Jessica and Jen saw a documentary at the Hot Docs film festival called Toxic Beauty. Jessica got to meet the director after the movie and thanked her for the informative message. Jessica now is researching beauty products and trying to find more items with fewer chemicals.

Former staff member Emily joined Phoenix for lunch a few times. Phoenix was so excited to meet Emily's son Desmond. What a cutie!

Fire fighter Mike came to our program to discuss fire safety. We showed him our fire evacuation drill and he was very impressed with our group. Way to go Phoenix.

Phoenix took a tour of the Humane Society. They got to pet some cute animals. Phoenix also donated 4 bags of goods to the Humane Society.





## Beaches



Among the many things Beaches group has done this year was a focus on health and aging. Beaches group invited friends from Life Labs to come and complete a presentation. Participants and staff were able to interact not only with the Life Labs staff but also some of the equipment needed to complete tests. This helped make visiting the doctor a little less scary. A link to Life Labs home visits can be found on their website.

[www.lifelabs.com](http://www.lifelabs.com)



## SH Armstrong

Matthew has been a dedicated volunteer at the Kingston Road United Church Interfaith Lunch Program for 7 years where he prepares the lunch room on Fridays by cleaning tables, setting out salt and pepper shakers, and making the cutlery rolls. He is very passionate about this work and always completes his duties with lots of care. In addition, Matthew is extremely popular with the guests of these lunches. He is often the first person to greet a new guest as they walk in the room, and he makes sure that no one leaves without getting a compliment about their outfit! This year, Matthew won a raffle held by Beach community member Gene, and won a gift card to Tim Hortons! In line with his generous spirit, Matthew immediately went and bought Timbits to bring back to his friends at the S.H. program for a Friday afternoon treat. To top of the year, Matthew was awarded a beautiful certificate thanking him for all of his hard work and dedication to his community. The program is on summer break, but Matthew is already excited to start volunteering again in October.



## Save the Dates!

### Closures

Canada Day—Monday July 1st

Summer Break—Monday July 29—Friday August 9, 2019

Labour Day—Monday, September 2nd

Staff training Day—Friday, October 11th

Thanksgiving—Monday, October 14th

### Events

Annual Picnic—Tuesday, June 18th

Store Grand Re-Opening—Saturday September 21st

PIFF—Pegasus Inspirational Film Festival—Saturday October 5th

25th Anniversary Fund Raising Event—TBD

### Strategic Planning

At our 2018 Annual General Meeting in November the Board of Directors presented our 5-year Strategic Plan. Developed over the course of a year with input from all stakeholders, this plan will shape our work and our goals until 2023. Four strategic objectives were developed:

- Enhancing program options and flexibility;
- Improving/acquiring new facilities and equipment;
- Enhancing supports to staffing and administration;
- Organizational sustainability.

Each objective has expected actions attached to it and an annual operational plan will be developed in order to achieve the goals set out. For more information please contact Paula Murphy.



Pegasus had a fun opportunity to enjoy a skybox at Rogers Center as we cheered on the Toronto Blue Jays vs. Minnesota twins. The Pegasus group got an extra special visit from Ace. He posed for pictures and gave everyone in attendance a hat. It was a great night despite the loss. Pegasus sends a special thank you to Jays Care Foundation for the tickets and for spoiling us!



Say it ain't so....

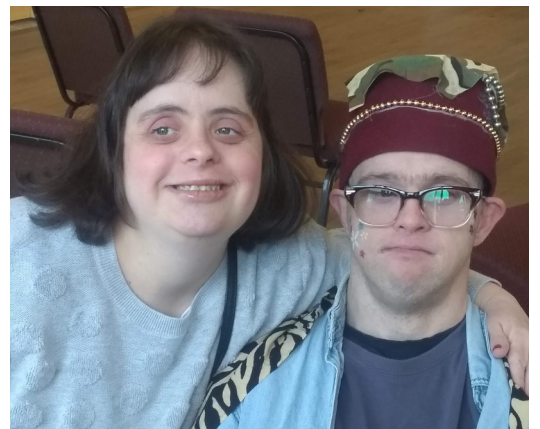
Marla McGrath, our wonderful store manager has decided it is time to enjoy the good life and retire. Everyone at Pegasus wishes her nothing but good health and lots of happiness in this new chapter. Don't forget to visit from time to time.

Marla is pictured here on a visit with Paula and Andre





# Pegasus Pics







# PEGASUS .....looking beyond disability

Pegasus Community Project is a registered Canadian charity that provides community based day services for adults with developmental disabilities.

Pegasus offers its services within the context of its core belief that:

- All people benefit from opportunities to learn and to grow and to have rich experiences.
- All people can contribute to the common good.
- The health and vitality of a community are enhanced when its members know each other and appreciate each other's differences.



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and Instagram (@pegasusthriftstore)  
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Visit our website

[www.pegasutoronto.ca](http://www.pegasutoronto.ca)



**DOLPHIN**  
GAMING

Thank you to Dolphin Gaming and our wonderful bingo volunteers for their financial support of Pegasus. We are able to pay for much needed supplies, services and staffing because of our involvement with Dolphin Gaming. Our team of dedicated volunteers complete shifts at bingo in order for this to occur.

Thank you to everyone who contributed articles and pictures for this newsletter!