



www.epicsmile.ca

THE SCOOP

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - MAY 2021

“A social enterprise is a cause-driven business whose primary reason for being is to improve social objectives and serve the common good.”

47 years of service to the St. Malo community & Eastman Region!

Make a wish - enjoy your day!

May Birthdays!

Participants

- Robert Lussier, May 6
- Esther Berg, May 11
- William Dovidija, May 22
- Colin Craye, May 22
- Charlene Bulloch, May 28
- Richard Stoesz, May 29

Charlene, Lisa, Nettie, Murielle



Wishing you all a great year!

May Birthdays!

Staff

- Cheyenne Lahaie, May 9
- Carol Linford, May 18
- Marilyn Sanderson, May 20
- Olga Derksen, May 25
- Wanda Sawatzky, May 26
- Anita Giss, May 31

Why we do what we do!

Because we care ... participants are invaluable and indispensable and they often teach US a great deal about how to live. The courage, encouraging outlook on life, creativity, smiles, and resilience of so many people with disabilities are exemplary and we can all learn from them.

Epic-Smile has been engaged in assisting persons with intellectual disabilities since 1974 and we are continuing to grow. Our social enterprise (Day Program) is busy with various woodworking, packaging, sewing, recycling programs ... and since November 2020, a NEW meal mentorship program has been added to the list.

Mission Statement

EPIC de St. Malo Inc. – SMILE of St. Malo Inc. is a non profit organization that is committed to advocate and promote inclusion in the community and surrounding areas for Individuals with intellectual disabilities. We provide support, opportunities and resources to develop independence so that they may each live their unique lives as they so choose.



Meal Program and Mentorship

The meal program is going extremely well - participants are having a great time learning! Natalie, our cook, takes on 3 different participants a week to teach them culinary skills in the kitchen ... and of course, a little fun at the same time! :-)

It is important for participants to learn how to handle themselves in the kitchen. They are chopping, cutting, sorting, stirring, baking, and cleaning and washing to assist with lunch preparations for the Day Program participants and staff.

Meals prepared ahead of time for residences (supper) allow staff to spend more quality time with participants at Epic-Smile group homes. Since Covid-19 things have become more challenging and grants have helped to lift spirits to a different level. Sincere thanks to our donors.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF CANADA

FONDATIONS COMMUNAUTAIRES DU CANADA

Natalie and Trevor



"Why do you like the mentorship meal program?"

"It is different from working in the recycling program. I like to learn, I get to taste the food, and I do not have to make a lunch!" - Andrej

James



Natalie and Lori



Louise



Eating healthy matters!



Residents are now connected to the Internet

With the generous donation from the Kinsmen Club of Winnipeg and Caisse Financial Group/Caisse Groupe Financier, we were able to connect all 4 houses with WIFI! Residences now have more programming choices on TV, can view and take advantage of learning opportunities, and can access their families on their tablets through Facetime and other similar programs or APPS. This is a very huge learning curve for participants and we hope to better assist them with these tools during the summer months with the help of our summer students. Families are reminded and encouraged to set up their family member's tablet - please call the office to make an appointment at (204) 347.5418.



Kin Canada
winnipegkinsmen



Caisse proudly supports: **SMILE of St. Malo Inc.**

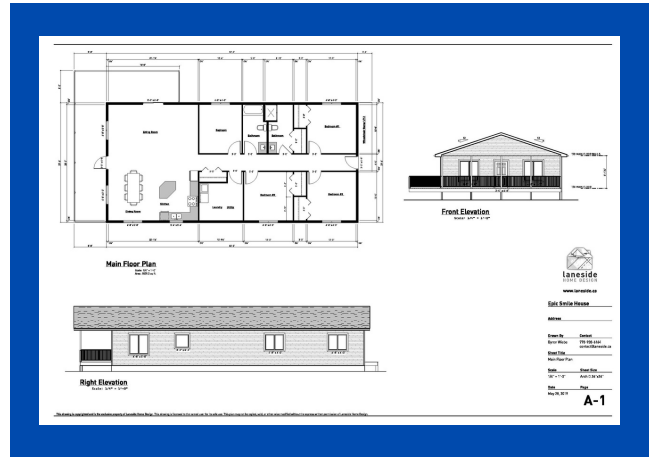
Louise, Tim, Dale, Renee/Caisse, Trevor

PPE Grant

We received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for Personal Protective Equipment purchases. This was a great initiative by the Ontario Chambers of Commerce and we are truly thankful.



\$2.1 MM+
"The amount contributed to the Canada United Small Business Relief Fund as a result of all of your views, likes and shares. This money is being used to help many small businesses buy PPE. Thank you Canada -- you helped make this program even more valuable for small businesses!"



New Build 2021 - RES#5

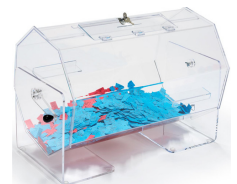
Epic-Smile is getting geared up for a new build in 2021. The lots have been purchased, house plans are ready and a contractor has been secured. We are working on securing more funding by applying for grants and funding requests through foundations. The cost for the new project will be approximately **\$325,000**.

Coming in June ... 50/50 Draw

Win up to \$5,000

Just in time for your Christmas shopping!

More details to follow.



PPE Training for Staff

We take PPE seriously,
BRAVO TEAM,
to date we have no staff or participant cases!



6 Week Old Puppies Visit Participants

WOOF ...

Participants and Staff received a surprise visit from Bella the miniature schnauzer and her puppies ... it was such a joy and a good distraction for everyone - all enjoyed the **puppy love!**



Nettie



Bella



Raymond



Stephane



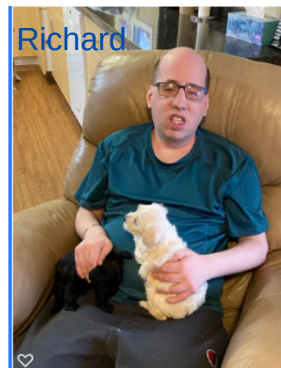
Raymond- Isabelle



Lisa



Charlene



Richard



May 24, 2021



Dear FAMILIES - we are still on a strict lock down due to Covid-19; please call the office **BEFORE** visiting your loved ones / (204) 347.5418
Thank you - Merci!

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." - Leo Buscaglia, author

