



This Week at Your Y!

Weekly YMCA Northumberland Association Update

For the weeks of July 19 to 26, 2010

Welcome to **This Week at Your Y!**

This communication piece is meant as a way for all our staff, volunteers, members and our community to keep connected and up-to-date with activities and planning taking place around our association on a weekly basis.

A YMCA Northumberland Update

Hi everyone,

Over a year ago our YMCA Board & Management, along with the Town of Cobourg, developed a plan to build a new YMCA in Cobourg in conjunction with the building of the new Cobourg Community Centre. The plan was reliant on significant government funding and would have resulted in a single, shared, one-stop recreational hub for our community. Despite strong endorsement by our municipality, MPP, & MP, our applications were unsuccessful. Although we will continue to monitor government funding initiatives, it appears that there will be no more rounds of large recreational grants available in the near future.

Now that it is clear that we will remain in our present building, we would like to share our plans with you. It is the opinion of our Board and Management that we need to plan to be in our current facility for at least the next 5 years. Our YMCA building is now 30 years old, but is in very good condition. Many systems have been upgraded and there are pending projects that are currently being considered for completion over the next few months. The Board of Directors has implemented a new Facility Development Committee to assist in setting priorities for reinvestment in our current building.

In the past 6 months our YMCA has:

- Purchased 2 additional treadmills and a new "Stairmaster" for the conditioning room.
- Replaced the pool heater
- Replaced the water heaters that supply our showers

- Completely rebuilt the Motor Control Centre that provides electricity to our pool equipment
- Purchased and erected a new “circus” tent for our Day Camp area.
- Purchased the upper parking lot. Historically leased from KRAFT, the property was sold in 2009 to a new owner. The severed parcel is approximately 3.5 acres. (Appraised at \$340,000, the YMCA paid \$150,000 and provided a donation receipt for the remaining balance). Considerations on plans for parking lot expansion and upgrades are currently underway.

Our plans for the immediate future:

- Our Steam Rooms in the Adult Men’s and Adult Women’s change areas are due for complete renovation. Tiling, doors and systems will be upgraded so as to allow a cleaner, more functional environment. This project will occur in July.
- Our whirlpool has also been identified as a high priority for new tiling and a systems upgrade. The schedule will be determined and communicated promptly.
- The Air Conditioning Unit for the swimming pool is due for significant maintenance. This project is currently under assessment as we research the most cost-efficient solution.
- The swimming pool is in need of re-grouting and other necessary maintenance. The timing of this project has not yet been determined.

Our Board will be undertaking a strategic planning process which will begin in the Fall of 2010. This process will guide us as to future developments, upgrades and expansions. Please contact Kyle Barber (905-372-4318 ext. 307) if you would like to assist with Strategic Planning, if you have questions, or if you would like to make a charitable donation to YMCA Northumberland to help us put all these plans into place.

Our YMCA remains committed to providing excellent programs and excellent facilities that positively impact the health of our community!

The Board & Management • YMCA Northumberland, July 2010

Association • CEO’s Office-Kyle Barber

Hi everyone!

- I am on vacation until July 26. ~ Kyle

Association Services ~ Mike Bunn

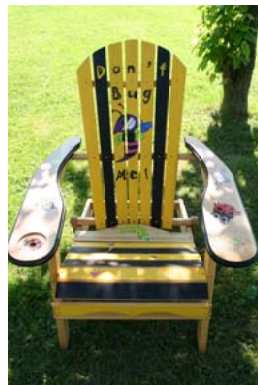
Human Services

- We currently have a position open-Female Building Services cleaner for Cobourg YMCA.
- With all our additional summer staff in camp, beach volleyball and aquatics, our past payroll listed 157 employees. ~ *Lynne*

Development

- The goal for our YMCA Strong Kids Campaign 2010 is \$75,000.00. So far we have raised \$32,869.00-enough to help 33 families participate at our YMCA with access to recreation and healthy programs for a year!
- REMEMBER - You can donate any time from the comfort of your home computer at www.ymcastrongkids.ca and help our local YMCA directly with ensuring more kids in our community are active and healthy, as well as their families, and people of all ages from all walks of life right here in Northumberland.
- You may have seen a piece on the national news recently or read in the national media that the YMCA is changing its logo and pursuing a new brand strategy. I would like to clarify this message as it appears that the media feels we are one organization world wide! The YMCA of The USA held their 2010 General Assembly in Utah 2 weeks ago and announced that, after a two-year intensive process, they are pursuing a new brand strategy which includes simplifying their story, calling themselves the "Y", and changing their logo. The strategy also has implications for how they are governed and structured. YMCA Canada has been monitoring this situation for some time now and were present at the General Assembly when this announcement was made. The YMCA of the USA is structured differently and organize and govern themselves differently than we do for a different impact, and continue to be significantly different from the Canadian YMCA movement in terms of organization, geopolitical and cultural characteristics (e.g. bilingualism, federalism, ethno-cultural diversity). For these reasons, YMCA Canada is recommending that the National Council of YMCAs continue to develop a distinctly Canadian brand strategy which includes a visual and verbal identity for Canadian YMCAs that refreshes but does not change our current logo. I will keep you posted as the brand discussions and refreshing process continues in the Canadian movement.
- Here are the winners of our Camp Chairs for Camp Kids Raffle. Thanks to everyone for supporting our annual draw, we'll have a final total raised in the next e-news:

Take Big Bites – Tito DiMarco
Tree of Life – Jill Walkingshaw
Go Wild – Karen Simpson
Swans – Penny McMahon
Eyes on You – Trisha McDonald
Jump – Lisa Taylor
New Orleans Jazz – Garry Liboiron
Don't Bug Me – Tristan Jin
Behind the 8 Ball – Brian Shackleton
Dragonfly – Jillian Thomas ~ *Happy*



Communications

- Our very own Mike MacLean (Risk Management Intern) got engaged this past week to Jeannie Patterson! Congratulations Mike!
- We received a last minute donation of Blue Jay's tickets and held a quick draw for the staff to have a

little summer-time fun! The lucky winners were all from our Child Care staff: Stacy Coyle – 2 tickets and a Free Parking Voucher, Jessica Eddy – 2 Tickets, and Jackie Foote – 2 Tickets. Congratulations and hope you had fun at the game! ~ Jason

International Program

- Right now Shane and I are tying up loose ends from the exchange, writing reports to YMCA Canada for the Quarter 2 work of our partner in Nicaragua and our work here in Northumberland and planning for the final evaluation for our youth exchange program as we end this 2 year cycle with our kids and families. ~ Happy

Volunteer Development

- Camp Wunjo youth volunteers are getting their hours in despite the challenge of overwhelming enrollment this year. Their numbers are doubled what they were last year for a total of 23 which means a lot of juggling of schedules to fit them all in. We usually have four or five volunteers per day helping out the various groups keeping numbers consistent with camp enrollment. This volunteer opportunity is so beneficial for 13 – 15 year olds who are too old to be enrolled as a camper but not yet old enough to have a summer job. Very often the YMCA is their first experience at volunteering and we are pleased to provide that for them.
- The Aquatics department is also teeming with volunteers. Many youth age 13 to 15 who have completed Bronze Cross and Bronze Medallion levels are really keen to help out with swimming lessons. You can find them at each one of our pool sites around the county during lesson times. The instructors appreciate the assistance and we are grooming future lifeguards in the process.
- I was pleased to host the Northumberland Volunteer Coordinators Network (NVCN) meeting last week. The group consists of coordinators from agencies in Northumberland such as YMCA, Kinark, Rebound, CAS, Christian Horizons, NSW and more. The committee of 14 meets monthly and our mandate is to support volunteer coordinators and community agencies that strengthen our community by promoting and fostering volunteerism. We discuss policies and share information and our main focus right now is to develop an information binder to distribute to the local high schools.
- If you are interested in joining our terrific team of volunteers, please contact me, Nancy Little - nlittle@ymcanorthumberland.com or 905.372.9247x313. ~ Nancy

Asset Management

- We are preparing to renovate the steam rooms. The plan is to begin renovations on Saturday July 31 (both changerooms) and re-open them on Monday August 09. Members will be asked to use the general changerooms during this time period. ~ Keith

Cobourg YMCA Membership

- Membership is at 3460 as of July 21
- I have a nice compliment to pass on regarding our lifeguards at the beach and Centennial Pool--Reg Chad, a police volunteer at the beach (and long-time YMCA member), expressed his sincere appreciation for the assistance our guards provided on a busy Saturday recently in helping to successfully locate 3 missing children. Reg so appreciates the work that our lifeguarding crew does at the beach that he also recently put on a BBQ for them right at the beach! ~ Lynne

Adult Program

- Fall program planning is about to get underway. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or ideas! ~ Leslie & Mette

Youth Development

- The first wrestling camp will take place this Sunday here at the YMCA, featuring special guest Chris Crooks.
- The Strong Kids Duathlon will take place on August 27th at CP/Victoria Park . ~ Joel & Oona

Aquatics

- The swim meet took place this past Saturday in Trent Hills between the Cobourg YMCA Waves and the Trent Hills YMCA Gators. Jill, Callum, Lija and Karlee from the Cobourg YMCA have been working hard to prepare our swimmers! We'll have results next week in the e-news.
- CP has been busy with people trying to beat the heat! We have had upwards of 35 participants in aquafit classes! ~ Eunice & Leslie

Brighton YMCA Membership & Programs

- Membership Is at 443
- We had our first meeting with people interested in sitting on the Brighton Enhancement Committee. Thank you to those who came out.
- Our member newsletter went out once again to the Brighton members. If we don't have your email address, please drop by the membership desk and we will update, so that you can personally receive these newsletters as they come out.
- A cheque for \$250 was donated to the Brighton Y from the Brighton Dragon Boat Club. This donation came from money raised at their Dragon Boat Festival. THANK YOU!!!
- Currently we have a member Franny Armstrong who is working on a Community Challenge. She will be journaling her health challenge through the newspaper, MY FM, Sobey's, a website and ourselves. Stay tuned for some interesting updates.~ Anne

Children's YMCA • YMCA Ontario Early Years & YMCA Child Care

- YMCA Child Care staff were treated to an appreciation barbecue this past week. Recognizing the long hours and physical demands of their jobs, Kyle and I decided to spend some time talking and mingling with staff in an informal setting on the back lawn. Thanks to Kyle for continuing to be the official YMCA burger *King*.
- Campbellford area families received a special workshop on Family CPR and First Aid last week at the Campbellford OEYC, courtesy of YMCA Aquatics staff. Thanks for sharing such valuable information with our rural residents.
- Planning is underway for our 6th Annual Mega Machines and Family Fun Fair event, scheduled for Thursday, August 19th, from 5:30-7:30 pm at the Cobourg YMCA,. This Strong Kids Campaign fundraiser is hosted by all Children's YMCA staff and features a family barbecue, face-painting, bouncy castles, and of course, the opportunity for children to climb aboard tractors, fire trucks, race cars, police cars and much more. Mark the date; details to follow.
- Twenty, four-year-olds have successfully completed their first week of Kindergarten Foundations at Terry Fox Public School. The three-week school readiness program focuses on developing the self-regulation skills that children will need to be able to learn by the beginning of school in September. The children, many first-timers to any regulated programming, attend all-day from Monday to Thursday, for three weeks, in preparation for what lies ahead. We have already seen great success in their abilities to concentrate, communicate their feelings and cooperate with others, and separate from parents more easily. Many thanks to our school board partners who provide space and financial support for the program. Graduation day is July 22; a full report card to be issued. Have a great week everyone. ~ Linda