



## OUR NEWSLETTER HAS A NEW LOOK!

We're excited to share the new look we've created for our quarterly newsletter at KW Habilitation! You'll find stories, plenty of photos and information about everything happening at KW Hab.

We'd be happy to hear your feedback if you have a story or something you'd like to share with us, please email [communications@kwhab.ca](mailto:communications@kwhab.ca)

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and so much more!

# A NOTE FROM ANN

Suddenly it's September! As the weather starts to cool off, I can't help thinking back to the beautiful days we've had this summer at the Our Farm Community Market. I'm pleased to have seen so many people visiting on Wednesdays. The summer students and corporate volunteers who worked so hard alongside our farmers have provided so much support to make the market a success this summer. We are thankful for their help and look forward to a great harvest season this Fall.

KW Habilitation has wrapped up another successful partnership with the Canada Summer Jobs Program. We are thrilled to be able to provide work related experiences for young people with barriers to employment.

As I write this, a modular unit that will be an addition to the duplex located at 710 Frederick Street, a Kinsman Foundation Property, is being built. This is a first in our Region and we've partnered with Edge Architects and Z Modular to bring this exciting project to life. We're pleased to share that this space will be a 2 bedroom unit where people will have their own space and the opportunity to truly live inclusively in our community.

Early Learning Child Care and Family Services at KW Habilitation is undergoing more changes and growing their program to include services for children up to 12 years of age. This is an exciting opportunity for the program and we look forward to sharing more about it as they grow.

Things never seem to slow down at KW Habilitation and we wouldn't have it any other way! We are grateful to be working together building a community where everyone belongs and participates.



Photo: Hilary Gauld Camilleri



# CANADA SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM

click to enlarge

The Canada Summer Jobs program is a Canadian government grant that offers support for employers providing supervised career-related work experience for youth employees.

Our Summer Job Coaches had a visit from Raj Saini, Member of Parliament for Kitchener Centre on August 26, 2019 where he shared his message and encouraged the job coaches to pay it forward.



GOOD MENTORS  
WILL SAVE  
YOU HEARTACHE  
AND HEADACHE.

Raj Saini



## KW CAREER COMPASS

### CANADA SUMMER JOBS

KW Habilitation provides services for young people with barriers to employment.

#### COACHES



##### 5 Summer Job Coaches

KW Habilitation employed 5 Summer Job coaches with funding from the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

Each coach worked with job seekers to help them find employment, build skills and have new experiences.

#### JOB SEEKERS



##### 25 Job Seekers

25 Job Seekers were part of the Canada Summer Jobs program at KW Habilitation.

#### JOBS



##### 16 Jobs

16 Job Seekers were offered employment and two Job Seekers even received multiple offers.

#### EMPLOYERS



Red Carpet Janitorial Services



Bailey's Local Foods, Autumn Woods Corporation

#### SKILLS



While employment was the goal for some, many participants found success developing skills in areas such as resume writing, interview preparation, bus training, time management and cash handling. Skill building and preparation = easier transition into future employment.

# MY JOB COACH EXPERIENCE

BY SHADI HANNA

This is my first summer working as a job coach at KW Habilitation. I have worked in the industry before, but never with this agency, with these clientele, or in this capacity. It was a memorable experience for me, and I feel like I've grown tremendously in such a short period of time.

We got started right away with plenty of orientation activities. The job coach scavenger hunt was by far the craziest activity; it was a great way to build confidence and team-build before we met the students!

Student orientation was just as exciting; we met tons of new faces of eager students. We made presentations, played games, worked in small and large groups, and spent some time getting to know each other. Everything was moving so fast, it was hard to keep up!

The next week, we started meeting with our job seekers one-on-one, getting to know their strengths and areas for growth, in order to build an individualized learning plan for each of our students. I soon realized that these plans needed to continually evolve and change throughout the summer—working with people can be challenging, but also incredibly rewarding!

My role as a job coach is to help my students learn the skills and gain the qualifications they need to succeed in a work environment. Sometimes, this means I am working with them side-by-side until they can stand on their own two feet. It can also mean taking a step back, supporting and observing from a safe distance, giving students the independence to try new things, and learn to ask for help when it is needed. This process requires constant reflection, awareness, conscious thought and lots and lots of patience. Strategies for growth have to be worked on, tested, and adjusted. One size does not fit all in human services, and an attitude of person-centered care demands that all of the staff at KW Habilitation are focused on the “human” in any and every situation.

I loved my time as a job coach, and I hope that the students and coaches of next summer enjoy the program just as much as I did. A community where everyone belongs and participates is built on attitudes of service, and I hope that the job coaches of tomorrow are well-equipped and ready to serve their students with focus and determination, to create strong, supportive communities everywhere.





KWhabilitation



our farm

**Community Market**

**WEDNESDAYS ARE MARKET DAYS!**

11:30am - 2:30pm

June 19 - October 9

99 Ottawa Street South, Kitchener



[snap-kwhab.ca](http://snap-kwhab.ca)

Call us if you have any  
concerns about your child's  
development

Call 519-514-SNAP (7627)

## AN UPDATE FROM EARLY LEARNING

Our Special Needs Resourcing Collaborative (SNRC) is currently undergoing a change in how we provide services to our Early Learning and Child Care community. Beginning September 2019, we will move toward a full Tiered Services model, and launch new services for children up to 12 years of age. Read more about the changes here.



September 2019



Artwork by Jacky Girard

Artwork by Zoreena Rhab

**SURFACING**

workshop participants in partnership with KW Habilitation & Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, artists Catherine Mellinger & Sarah Kernohan

Reception: Thursday, September 5, 5-7 p.m.



Berlin Tower ARTSPACE  
City Hall, 200 King St. W.  
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7

For more information call 519-741-2200 ext. 7912  
or visit: [www.kitchener.ca/berlintowerartspace](http://www.kitchener.ca/berlintowerartspace)

**Surfacing:  
A Partnership between  
KW Habilitation and the  
Kitchener-Waterloo Art  
Gallery**

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG) is Waterloo Region's leading public art gallery, connecting people and ideas through art, with a focus on the best of contemporary culture. KW Habilitation and KWAG with support from the Ontario Arts Council and the City of Kitchener partnered with two talented local artists to bring art classes to interested participants at KW Habilitation.

This partnership began in February of 2019 when Catherine Mellinger and Sarah Kernohan came to KW Habilitation to teach a series of workshops twice a week to a group of people we support. We are pleased to announce that the work created by the workshop participants will be shown at Berlin Tower: ARTSPACE in Kitchener.

September 5 from 5-7 marks the opening of the exhibition and we would like to invite you to attend.

This program has been an innovative province-first initiative and we are pleased to have been part of process.

We hope you will join us on September 5 to celebrate the artists who created such amazing work.

The logo features the DQ logo in a red and blue shield, followed by the text "Sweet Treat Day" in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, the words "Grill & Chill" are written in a white, sans-serif font inside a black rectangular box with a thin white border.

# DQ Sweet Treat Day

Grill & Chill

The weather was perfect for ice cream and building awareness for KW Habilitation. The 6th Annual DQ Sweet Treat Day was held at both The Boardwalk and 628 King North locations on August 24th.

Thank you to everyone who came out that day and thank you to these business who donated to raffle prize draws:

DQ The Boardwalk  
Montana's Waterloo  
Paris Agricultural Society  
Skyzone  
Snyder's Family Farm  
Beertown  
Marineland  
Grand River Rocks  
Pure Hair Studio  
Funmazing Playcentre

DQ King North  
Our Farm  
Milestones  
Maxwells Concerts & Events  
Airborne Trampoline KW  
Morrows of Drumbo  
Almadina Oven & Grill  
Bulk Barn  
Boston Pizza  
Waterloo Region Museum  
Kodiak

A COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE  
BELONGS AND PARTICIPATES



# UPCOMING EVENTS

September 5: Surfacing

September 10: Food Truck  
Night

September 12: Staff  
Appreciation Day

October 8: Harvest Dinner &  
Raffle

October 17: Scotch Tasting

December 7: Community  
Christmas Bazaar



# '19 | SCOTCH TASTING

*at Hacienda Sarria*

presented by  
KW HABILITATION

- October 17, 2019 -



Individual tickets are NOW  
available!

Visit our website for  
more information.

## HARVEST DINNER & RAFFLE

Tuesday, October 8th, 2019  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church: 19 Ottawa Street North  
Tickets are available from the Committee for Excellence

## SAVE THE DATE



KW Habilitation  
**COMMUNITY  
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

Saturday, December 7, 2019



## DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL APPRECIATION WEEK



It is amazing to think that we have been inspiring abilities and enriching the lives of the people we support for almost 50 years! KW Habilitation would not be able to be the successful, encouraging, community involved organization it is without the dedicated and hardworking employees that make up our fantastic team.

Although we are lucky to have people with diverse backgrounds working here, most of the team at KW Hab is made up Direct Support Professionals and this year marks the first-ever Direct Support Professional Appreciation Week at KW Hab from September 8 – 14, 2019. In honour of DSP week, we have moved our Staff Appreciation event, which has historically been celebrated in June, to September so that it falls at the same time as DSP Week. The staff appreciation event falls on September 12th and includes lunch, wellness activities and more. We hope **ALL** full time and part time staff will join the Committee for Excellence to celebrate the good work we do at KW Habilitation.

Also during DSP Week, KW Hab is hosting a community Food Truck Night on September 10th! There be great food trucks, but we'll also be sharing information about all the great work DSP's do at KW Habilitation and in our community! The Food Truck Night is open to the whole community to come and enjoy some food and meet some of the people who work at KW Hab. (Most meals at the food trucks are \$10 and up, and we recommend bringing cash as they don't all accept cards.) We hope you'll come for dinner and invite your friends and family to join you.

KW Habilitation would like to take this time and thank all of its employees for the dedication they put into their work every single day.



Next week is:

# DSP APPRECIATION WEEK

Two great events are planned:

Food Truck Night (DSP Information Night)

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

**4:30PM - 7:00PM**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Staff Appreciation Day

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2019**

**11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**ALL FULL TIME & PART TIME  
STAFF ARE WELCOME!**



**KW**habilitation

Inspiring Abilities. Enriching Lives.



I GET TO SEE  
 MY FRIENDS  
 AND DO FUN  
 THINGS. WHEN  
 CAN WE DO IT  
 AGAIN?

Summer Leisure Participant

## SUMMER LEISURE AT KW HABILITATION

The 2019 Summer Leisure Program ran weekly through July and August with over 40 participants going on a total of 30 trips.

This program is funded in part through the Canada Summer Jobs program and provides people with opportunities to attend exciting events in Waterloo Region and beyond.

Participants helped with planning some enjoyable and adventurous experiences like camping and an overnight trip to Niagara Falls. Highlights from the summer include Jays games, VIP movie experiences, live theatre, the drive in, and so much more.



# A LETTER TO OUR FARM

Dear Our Farm,

To the Boettger house, the Our Farm project is about much more than just vegetables. So much has happened for the citizens of Boettger through the introduction of Our Farm and it continues to provide the house with both nourishment and broader sense of community.

Of course we love the free organic produce! How can you not? Giant zucchinis to be baked into mouthwatering zucchini bread is enough to make John's typically stoic face break into a smile. Richard is particularly fond of the new potatoes, to the point Jenny Weickert put together a special order for his 70th birthday party so everyone in his family could try his favourite potato salad.

Every week, the large order is brought home to Boettger to either be immediately chopped up into a huge pot of spaghetti or prepared to be frozen so the vegetables and herbs can be enjoyed right into the fall. It never lasts until winter though, because we use it up so fast.

The smells of cooking is exciting at Boettger and even Richard, a self-declared green vegetable hater can't help but smile when garlicky sautéed kale is on his plate. Not only do we love the food, but the actual garden itself has become part of our weekly routine. The gentlemen can be found every Tuesday at ADS, either basking in the sunshine or among the rows of produce and enjoying the scent of fresh herbs.

Not only is it a beautiful spot to relax and enjoy the beautiful summer days, but connections have been made with other houses that frequent the garden. Friendships are being forged between people who do not communicate verbally but by being content in a beautiful place together.



The weekly Market has also provided another beneficial social outlet for the household. At the Market, the gentlemen are enthusiastic shoppers actively part of the procurement of their own food. Every week they are greeted by a cheerful “Hi Boettger!” from Jenny Weickert who then makes sure everyone’s favourites are added to the bag. As time has gone by, more people remember the house name of Boettger and better yet, the gentlemen’s names. People take the time to greet us when we arrive at the Market and they appear to feel more welcome and involved every time. Boettger has become a bigger place because of Our Farm. The gentlemen have made connections and new friends among the rows of vegetables. They have attended parties at Healy house and have hosted dinner parties at Boettger with these new friends. All enjoying the delicious food grown just for them in their own backyards. And what a better place for friends to meet than around a large table, filled with fresh and nutritious food?

Thank you Our Farm, and especially Jenny Weickert and the Market staff and volunteers, for all you have done to make Boettger a healthier and happier place.

Let’s eat!



# WARRIORS BASKETBALL

For the last three years, students from Mary Johnston Public School in Waterloo have organized a sports event for KW Habilitation. This year, they partnered with the University of Waterloo basketball team, the Waterloo Warriors. The event was held on June 15 where 23 people supported at KW Habilitation took part in the fun!

Participants had the opportunity to run drills and play basketball with the Warriors thanks to Marco, Adam and teacher Ryan Kraft who organized the event.

