



# RESIDENTIAL EXPRESS



2026

## ***MCRI Upcoming Events***

✦ *MCRI Annual BBQ, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

✦ *MCRI AGM, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2026*



## **Board of directors**

President - Chantal Landry

Vice President - Kristen Steeves

Secretary - Beverly Gaudet

Treasurer - Stephanie Lewis

Marianne Mepham-Newton

Sandy Scott Thibodeau

John Lunney

Margie McFee

Xavier Couture

Brijesh Dhameliya

Michael Miller

## MISSION STATEMENT

Moncton Community Residences Incorporated is a non-profit organization that provides residential options and support for individuals with developmental challenges in the various aspects of their progressing lives.



## **Health & Safety Committee**

Nathalie Lutes

Mavis Rodriguez

Obianuju Inomah

Navneet Sehgal

Christina Hill

Taiwo Obaniyi

Jane Umutoni

Parteek Kunder

## **Team Building Committee**

Janice Carter, Daniel Niles, Monica Penney, Natasha LeBlanc, Jessica Gouchie, Kim Seldon, Johnathan Levesque, Nafisat Busari, Katelyn Crooks, Jatin Sehgal





## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Over the past three months, Moncton Community Residences Inc. (MCRI) has continued to make meaningful progress across our strategic pillars of Community Connections, Internal Leadership, and Diversity of Funding.

As we share these updates, we are also mindful that MCRI is approaching the conclusion of our current three-year strategic plan. This milestone offers an opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made while looking ahead with intention and purpose. We are pleased to share that our Board President, Chantal, will formally introduce MCRI's next Strategic Plan (2026–2031) at our upcoming Annual General Meeting.

Our focus on strengthening relationships and increasing community visibility has generated strong momentum. We enhanced our communications efforts through the release of ten social media posts, including a Youth Care Worker Appreciation Spotlight highlighting the dedication of our frontline team. These efforts form part of a broader marketing strategy, which also included the completion of our SILP promotional video, now available on YouTube.

We were proud to engage directly with families and community members by hosting an information booth at a local high school for parents of children with diverse needs. In addition, our team participated in several key events, including a Disability Awareness information and networking session, the Southeast New Brunswick Non-Profit Forum, the Chamber of Commerce AGM, and an Inclusion NB event. These opportunities allowed us to share our mission, strengthen partnerships, and expand our presence within the sector.

Collaboration remains a key priority. At the provincial level, we continue to work closely with the New Brunswick Youth Care Association to support advocacy efforts aimed at improving working conditions for our employees, as well as initiatives to hire a provincial coordinator to strengthen sector alignment and collective impact.

We also continued to support learning and advocacy through community engagement. We hosted six students from local colleges, contributing to workforce development, and welcomed the NB Advocacy Office into all of our children and youth community-based care homes.

Investing in our people remains central to our success. We extend our sincere thanks to all staff who participated in the recent workplace assessment survey. Your feedback is invaluable and plays a critical role in shaping our organizational culture, strengthening our work environment, and informing priorities as we move into our next strategic planning cycle.

Over this period, six programs collectively participated in ten training sessions to enhance skills and service quality. We also ensured that all employees had access to ongoing learning opportunities by sharing information on activities, courses, events, resources, and webinars.



*Braxton Moss (left) with Andrea Best donating 5 Moncton Wildcats tickets to Club Shades members*

*La meilleure façon de prédire l'avenir est de le créer ~ Peter Drucker*

Significant advancements were made in program development and operational capacity. The implementation of AlayaCare within the SILP program marks an important step toward improved service coordination and documentation, supporting the digitalization of reporting, goal tracking, and outcome measurement. Most of our frontline staff also participated in a two-day FASD training, strengthening our ability to provide informed, compassionate care. In addition, participation in an AI in the Workplace session through the Chamber of Commerce supported innovation and forward-thinking practices within our organization.

We also continued to engage with Central Office as they examined our AFLA program—the only program of its kind in the province. This engagement highlights MCRI’s leadership in program innovation and our contribution to informing best practices at a provincial level.

Leadership development and organizational planning remained key priorities. We successfully conducted our MCRI strategic planning session, helping to shape the direction of our upcoming 2026–2031 plan.

Efforts related to potential land acquisition have advanced significantly, following Moncton City Council’s unanimous decision to provide MCRI with a parcel of land through its Surplus Land Strategy. Throughout the spring, we undertook pre-development activities, including due diligence and site assessments, to evaluate the parcel and inform a viable purchase and sale agreement with the City of Moncton. These steps have helped ensure alignment between all parties as we move forward.

We are also grateful for continued community support. SE Mutual has committed to sponsoring this year’s Annual BBQ, helping us strengthen community engagement and connection.

Volunteer engagement remains an area of growth. We hosted a volunteer recruitment meet-and-greet, with seven individuals attending. One new volunteer has since joined, with two additional individuals currently in the onboarding process.



  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MONCTON COMMUNITY  
RESIDENCES INC.**

As we approach the conclusion of our current strategic plan, we are proud of the progress made and the strong foundation that has been built. We look forward to sharing our vision for the future at the upcoming AGM and continuing this important work alongside our community, partners, and dedicated staff.

Thank you for your continued support of MCRI.



*There is more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than for bread  
~ Mother Teresa*

# MEMBER NOMINATIONS

*Teagan Sutherland (2)* - She made excellent progress during her stay at West Lane and successfully transitioned into an AFLA family. She continues to thrive and reach new milestones.

*Monica Davis* - She has been successful at maintaining employment for more than a year and working full time for the last months. She even picks up extra shifts. She has maintained a positive attitude and is always open to learn new skills and adapt to new circumstances.

*Mr. Showtime* - He has transitioned into his new home very well, is working on building positive relationships and has shown improvement in his self-regulation skills.

## Other nominations...

Ravneet Kaur, Uchenna Nwaudo, Jasmine Kaur, Sukhjeet Kaur, Geraldine Hopper, Alisson Caissie, Nathalie Lutes, Isabelle Cormier, Victor Manna, Marie Felice Melanson, Janice Carter, Hello Kitty, Alex Dundee (2), Louine Lapointe, Lynn Legresley, Frank Ayles, Danny Ayles, Lil Lady, Therese Mercure, Lori Allain, Nat

Leblanc, Johnathan Levesque, Seth Wilcox, Nirmaljeet Kaur, Nina Leblanc, Jane Umutoni, Christy Lewis, Chuka Onwudimegwu, Linda Gallant, Christina Hill, Nancy Donovan, Patience Isioha

## Team Meetings 2026

**West Lane:** Apr 2, May 7, Jun 11

**Dominion:** Apr 9, May 14, Jun 18

**Railway:** Apr 23, May 28

**McSweeney:** Apr 16, May 21, Jun 25

**Dominion II:** Apr 30, Jun 4 **Dominion II half:** Jun 5

**SILP:** Apr 30, Jun 4

**AFLA:** June 16, July 15, Sep 15, Nov 18

## 😊 *Test your smarts*

- i. Why did they not hear the rumor about the butter?
- ii. Why do fishes not play soccer?
- iii. Why do cows have hooves instead of feet?
- iv. What do you call a superhero on the screen?
- v. What is a pizza's favorite type of joke?



*Happy Birthday! Dominion members*

*Aucun de nous, en agissant seul, ne peut atteindre le succès ~ Nelson Mandela*





# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



## Meet Janice Breau (AFLA Provider)

Janice has been an AFLA provider for more than 12 years. Over the years, she has proven to be a valuable asset to MCRI. Janice is a caring individual who consistently goes the extra mile for those in her life. Her client is always treated with dignity and respect, and is truly fortunate to have someone as dedicated as Janice caring for her. We are truly grateful for the loving home and support she provides every single day.

### Fast facts about Janice



**Favorite color:** *light blue*

**Favorite food:** *Seafood*

**Favorite holiday:** *Christmas*

**Happy place:** *Gazebo*

**3 words that describe you:** *generous, kind and shy*

**Something you cannot live without:** *my daughter*

**Hobbies:** *crafts and reading*

**Proudest moment:** *the person I support has come a long way*

**Life changing moment(s):** *the loss of my husband*

**Fun facts:** *love to do things for others and love my little Yorkie (Theo)*

**Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *Newfoundland*

**Favorite part of your job:** *providing a loving home for my client*



Janice (right) with Cassandra (left) & Theo

*Comme les fleurs au printemps, une équipe s'épanouit lorsque chacun apporte sa contribution ~ inconnu*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



*Meet Mohamadou Soukouna (Youth Care worker)*

*Mohamadou has been with MCRI since June 2022. As a Youth Care Worker, Mohamadou supports young people in building confidence, resilience, and emotional skills.*

## Fast facts about Mohamadou



**Favorite color:** *Blue*

**Favorite food:** *traditional West African home-cooked meals*

**Favorite holiday:** *holidays that focus on family and community*

**Happy place:** *sports facilities, nature, spaces where people learn together*

**3 words that describe you:** *dedicated, patient and dependable*

**Something you cannot live without:** *meaningful human connection*

**Hobbies:** *reading, research and debating ideas*

**Proudest moment:** *supporting youth through their challenges; through the process of building trust*

**Life changing moment(s):** *moving to Canada, completing graduate studies and transitioning into youth mental health care.*

**Fun facts:** *speaks 5 languages French, English, some Arabic, Soninke, Bambara*

**Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *Egypt*

**Favorite part of your job:** *Mohamadou enjoys the process of building trust and helping youth develop confidence, emotional regulation and essential life skills*



*Education, patience and empathy are the foundation of meaningful change  
~Unknown*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



## *Meet Irene Babu (Youth Care worker)*

*Irene joined MCRI February 2023. Each day that Irene comes to work she brings calmness, kindness, compassion and dignity and respect for the members she supports, she is a great team player and ensures that the members have everything they need during her shift.*

### *Fast facts about Irene*



**Favorite color:** *Black/ Red combination*

**Favorite food:** *Sea food*

**Favorite holiday:** *Christmas, Onam Festival for all families*

**Happy place:** *quality time with family*

**3 words that describe you:** *calm, kind and hardworking*

**Something you cannot live without:** *my faith*

**Hobbies:** *reading, writing, singing and traveling*

**Proudest moment:** *how she is handling her life*

**Life changing moment(s):** *getting married at age 18; moving to Canada and working in the youth care field.*

**Fun facts:** *people think she is not friendly when they first meet me, but once they get to know me, they have a different opinion.*

**Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *Switzerland and Paris*

**Favorite part of your job:** *seeing improvements in the members supported*



*Dreams transfer into thoughts and thoughts result in action ~Dr APJ Abdul Kalam*

# YEARS of SERVICE...



Larry McDuff (right),  
25 years with MCRI



Chad Burgess, 25  
years with MCRI



Chris Briggs (left),  
25 years with MCRI



Youth Program Supervisors, Coordinator and  
Manager during Equitable Standards meeting

May 7<sup>th</sup> is Thank a Youth  
Worker Day ✨ ✨ ✨

*Thank a Youth Worker Day* is an opportunity to highlight and recognize the important work happening across youth care worker teams; and help our community better understand the difference they make every day.

We celebrate the incredible people who show up daily to support, guide, and advocate for youth in our communities.

Youth care workers create safe spaces, build trusted relationships, and help young people navigate life's challenges with compassion, patience, and care. Their impact is meaningful, lasting, and truly life-changing.

Thank you to all youth care workers for the heart, dedication, and support you bring to the lives of young people and our communities every day! ❤️ ❤️ ❤️

*Follow MCRi's Facebook page for more.*

*Le printemps est le temps des projets et des promesses ~ Madame de Staël*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



## *Meet Ravneet Kaur (Youth Care Worker)*

*Ravneet has proven to be a tremendous asset since joining MCRI some months ago. She has a huge heart and the knowledge, compassion, and experience she brings have made her a valued member of the MCRI family. She is always willing to lend a helping hand and*

### *Fast facts about Ravneet*



**Favorite color:** *Maroon*

**Favorite food:** *Momos (popular Tibetan and Nepali dumplings filled with meat, vegetables, or cheese)*

**Favorite holiday:** *Boxing Day*

**Happy place:** *being at home with her family*

**3 words that describe you:** *loyal, hardworking and quiet*

**Something you cannot live without:** *her mother*

**Hobbies:** *drawing, listening to music, travelling*

**Proudest moment:** *earning her driver's license*

**Life changing moment(s):** *moving to Canada and learning to live independently.*

**Fun facts:** *Ravneet may seem quiet at first when you meet her, once she feels comfortable, she can talk a lot!*

**Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *home (India)*

**Favorite part of your job:** *meeting new youth and being able to support them in their journey*



*Fight for your fairytale ~ unknown*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



## Meet Tejalpreet Kaur (Youth Care Worker)

*Tejalpreet joined MCRI in 2024, she has since become a vibrant and dependable presence across both the youth and adult programs; whether she is supporting members; organizing activities or adding thoughtful details that make the environment feel warm and welcoming.*

### Fast facts about Tejalpreet



- Favorite color:** *Black and pink*
- Favorite food:** *Indian Street Food*
- Favorite holiday:** *Diwali - Festival of lights*
- Happy place:** *being at home with her family*
- 3 words that describe you:** *silly, funny, entertaining*
- Something you cannot live without:** *her family*
- Hobbies:** *drawing, coloring, cooking*
- Proudest moment:** *takes pride in her work (strong organizational skills & attention to detail)*
- Life changing moment(s):** *learning to live independently*
- Fun facts:** *she is an introvert by nature; she becomes an extrovert once she finds her people*
- Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *Disneyland, where imagination and magic come alive*
- Favorite part of your job:** *the opportunity to help people and make a positive impact on their lives.*



*Life goes on, with or without, whoever or whatever ~ unknown*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



## *Meet Jatin Sehgal (Youth Care Worker)*

*Jatin joined MCRI in 2024. He shines through in everything he does since joining our team. He brings dedication, empathy and purpose to every interaction. He is committed to giving young people a voice and supporting them through their toughest moments.*

### *Fast facts about Jatin*



**Favorite color:** *Blue*

**Favorite food:** *Meals cooked by his mom*

**Favorite holiday:** *Diwali, a celebration of light, hope and togetherness*

**Happy place:** *anywhere he feels present and at peace*

**3 words that describe you:** *spontaneous, reliable, always eager to grow*

**Something you cannot live without:** *purpose and human connection*

**Hobbies:** *fitness, self-development, music*

**Life changing moment(s):** *surviving the war in Ukraine, where he was stuck for 18 days.*

**Fun facts:** *Jatin is a war survivor - an experience that has shaped his resilience, deepened his empathy.*

**Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *Everywhere; he wants to travel the world to understand people, cultures and different ways of life.*

**Favorite part of your job:** *supporting individuals during difficult times and creating a space where they feel safe, heard and valued.*



*Be the support you once needed ~ unknown*

# ... YEARS of SERVICE



*Richard LeBlanc (right),  
25 years with MCRI*



*Pauline Goguen (left),  
25 years with MCRI*



*Shanell Pinnock-Valcín  
(right), 5 years with MCRI*

## June 2026

### CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Fun • Connection • Wellness • Community

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 Line Dancing 4:00 - 5:00 PM 	2	3 Meal 4:30 - 6:30 PM 	4	5 Meal & Pool Activity 4:30 - 7:30 PM 	6
7	8 Line Dancing 4:00 - 5:00 PM 	9	10 Meal 4:30 - 6:30 PM 	11 Sun Catcher Activity 4:00 - 6:00 PM 	12 Meal & Painting Activity 4:30 - 7:30 PM 	13
14 	15 Line Dancing 4:00 - 5:00 PM 	16	17 MCRI Annual BBQ 1:00 - 6:00 PM 	18 Father's Day Craft 4:00 - 6:00 PM 	19 Meal & Bingo 4:30 - 7:30 PM 	20
21 	22 Line Dancing 4:00 - 5:00 PM 	23	24 Meal 4:30 - 6:30 PM 	25 Outdoor Games 4:00 - 6:00 PM 	26 Meal & Live Music 4:30 - 7:30 PM 	27
28 	29 Line Dancing 4:00 - 5:00 PM 	30	1	2	3 	4 

## CLUB SHADES

*La gratitude est non seulement la plus grande des vertus, mais la mère de toutes les autres ~ Ciceron*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



*Meet Christy Lewis (Human Service Counselor)*

*Christy is known for her fun and caring nature. She brings great energy to the team and truly values the connections she builds both with the individuals she supports and her coworkers. Her passion for people is everything she does.*

## Fast facts about Christy



- Favorite color:** Black
- Favorite food:** Chinese
- Favorite holiday:** Christmas
- Happy place:** home
- 3 words that describe you:** happy, fun, caring
- Something you cannot live without:** my children
- Hobbies:** going to the park with my dogs, beach
- Proudest moment:** raising my two children as a single parent
- Life changing moment(s):** when I bought my house
- Fun facts:** animal lover, love game nights, camping
- Destination of choice if all expense paid:** Thailand
- Favorite part of your job:** people I help support and team I work with



## Some Upcoming Events in Moncton

- 👉 East Coast Comic Expo, **Moncton Coliseum, June 12-13**
- 👉 Canada celebrates the FIFA World Cup 2026, **Downtown Place, June 18**
- 👉 Ribfest Moncton, **Riverfront Park, June 18-21**
- 👉 Hub City Motorcycle Rally, **Assomption Boulevard/ Riverfront Park, June 19-21**
- 👉 National Indigenous People Day, **Bore Park, June 21**
- 👉 MOSAIQ Community BBQ in partnership with POPS NB, **Victoria Park, June 26**
- 👉 Sparkfest Canadian Multiculturalism Day, **Riverfront Park, June 27**
- 👉 MOSAIQ Parade of Nations in partnership with Sparkfest, **Main Street, June 27**
- 👉 Canadian Forces Snowbirds Show, 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, **Bore Park, June 28**

*Une mère comprend ce que son enfant ne dit pas ~ Proverbe juif*



# EXPRESS SPOTLIGHT



*Meet Olayinka Fatimilehin (Youth Care worker)*

*Ola started with MCRI in 2025. Ola brings with him a positive attitude and a ready smile that is contagious; with his high spirits and optimism that we see in his work.*

## *Fast facts about Ola*

**Favorite color:** *Grey*

**Favorite food:** *Pasta*

**Favorite holiday:** *Christmas*

**Happy place:** *with his family*

**3 words that describe you:** *fun-loving, easy going and curious*

**Something you cannot live without:** *Internet, and good food*

**Hobbies:** *cooking, listening to music, exercising*

**Proudest moment:** *every obstacle that he has overcome*

**Life changing moment(s):** *moving to a new city*

**Fun facts:** *he wanted to be a pilot when he was a kid.*

**Destination of choice if all expense paid:** *Paris, France*

**Favorite part of your job:** *being able to make positive impact in people's lives*



## *Have you checked out Perkopolis?*

*Enjoy discounts on travel, shopping, entertainment, fitness, dining, and more - just for being part of the team! Start exploring the perks, treat yourself while saving a little extra.*

*Spread love everywhere you go ~ unknown*

# AFLA

Happy Spring!

The snow has melted, the sunshine has returned, and the AFLA program is blooming with exciting updates! We're thrilled to share recent highlights, upcoming opportunities, and stories that celebrate our incredible providers and clients. As we welcome the start of spring, we also welcome an exciting new chapter within the AFLA program.

We are pleased to introduce **Daniel Niles**, who stepped into the role of **Acting Supervisor of the AFLA Program** for the year. Daniel brings great energy, dedication, and a strong commitment to supporting our providers, clients, and families. He is thrilled to be serving in this role and looks forward to working closely with the AFLA community to ensure continued growth, connection, and quality support.

At the same time, we would like to extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes to **Vibha**, who is on her maternity leave. We are so happy for her and her growing family, and we wish her a joyful and restful year ahead.

Spring is a season of renewal, and with these positive changes, we look forward to a bright and productive year for the AFLA program.

## Celebrating Milestones & Achievements

Stepping into a new year filled with fresh energy and possibility, we're thrilled to highlight some truly remarkable accomplishments within our AFLA and MCRI community. These milestones remind us why we do what we do—they reflect dedication, resilience, and the incredible growth we witness every day.

This year so far, we are proud to celebrate **three outstanding individuals** whose commitment and achievements inspire us all:

### Jeannie Hatton—40 Years at MCRI:

Jeannie reached an amazing milestone, celebrating **four decades** with MCRI! Her journey is a testament to perseverance and personal growth. Watching Jeannie's progress over the years has been nothing short of inspiring, and her dedication continues to be a shining example for our entire community.

### Chad Burgess — 25 Years at MCRI

Chad celebrated **25 wonderful years** with us. His positive spirit, hard work, and consistency have made such an impact. Chad's long-standing involvement reflects the strength of connection and stability that our programs strive to foster every day.

### Patti Barton — 5 Years at MCRI

We are also celebrating Patti's **5-year milestone**! Patti has shown incredible growth, confidence, and independence over the years. We are so proud of the progress she continues to make and excited to cheer her on as she reaches new goals.

These achievements highlight the heart of our work—supporting individuals as they build meaningful lives and celebrate their unique journeys. We have loved watching the growth of Jeannie, Chad, and Patti over the years, and we can't wait to see what comes next for each of them. Their successes remind us that every milestone, big or small, is worth celebrating.

Here's to another season filled with even more achievements, joy, and opportunities for everyone in our AFLA family!



*Patti Barton, 5 years with MCRI*



*Lyne & Tobie*

### **MCRI at the National AccessAbility (NAAW) Expo**

At MCRI, we are grateful to be part of a strong network of organizations committed to supporting individuals with disabilities and helping everyone reach their full potential.

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to CCRW for the opportunity to participate and connect with so many dedicated community partners at the Expo.

It was inspiring to learn about the valuable resources and supports available, and to engage in meaningful conversations about inclusion and accessibility.



### *Cassandra's Book Report*

### *Star Darlings: Scarlet Discovers True Strength*

~by Cassandra L Doucette

Scarlet is a third-year student at Starling Academy and has been kicked out of the Star Darlings a special group of the youngest wishers that go down to Wish Word to grant wishes. Scarlet must go down to help her replacement in the Star Darlings, Ophelia. Will Scarlet and Ophelia get the wish to come true before it's too late?

*Happy Reading!*

*Le lien qui unit votre véritable famille n'est pas celui du sang, mais celui du respect et de la joie dans la vie de chacun ~ Richard Bach*

# DOMINION

Happy Spring, everyone!

Happy Spring, everyone! Here at Dominion, we are very excited to see the weather becoming warmer with each passing day 😊. Although we love the excitement that winter brings, we enjoy being part of a 4-season climate! Our youth and staff have already begun planning activities for the warmer weather to keep us busy until summer break!



*Dominion Team Building activity*

During the winter months our youth attended Hop Skip Jump! Sky Zone, McDonald's indoor playground and restaurant for sit down meals. We took advantage of the YMCA amenities and attended their splash pad, kid-zone, walking trail and basketball court. Two of our youth enjoyed the movies over march break, and both youths also celebrated their birthday in February! We had ice cream cake, presents, decorations and lots of laughs. One of our youths was fortunate to attend a birthday party for a friend from school as well.

Even though we faced a few colder days, that didn't stop the staff and youths at Dominion from taking advantage of community events and outings. We went to Club Shades, Polar Fest, sledding down the hill at Centennial Park, and even hopped over to Alexander Park for some play time. We also got to visit the Zoo, attended the Touch a Truck event at Champlain Mall and Tim Hortons for some tasty treats!

For the days that were a little too chilly to go outside, we kept busy indoors playing with bubbles, using our imaginations to play zombies, singing karaoke and putting on Hollywood star performances! We were even lucky enough to have our favorite weekly music therapist join in with the fun! We did Easter crafts, built puzzles, colored and played games. During the Easter weekend while attending Easter Blast at Tidal Church, one of our youths was fortunate enough to win a bike!

While our team continues to grow, we are very excited to celebrate one of our team members had a new baby and is on her maternity leave! We are waiting patiently for baby photos and wish you well! You are deeply missed already.

Our staff members participated in a Paint and Eat event for team building! Everyone had a blast and the paintings turned out amazing. Again, Happy Birthday to staff members who had birthdays between January and May!

We have long traded in the winter jackets for light sweaters and the snowflakes for flower petals! We wrapped up the cozy winter season, ready to step into the sunshine and embrace all the fresh energy and new growth that spring has in store for us.

*The best way to predict your future is to create it ~ Abraham Lincoln*

# WEST LANE

Greetings from West Lane,

Spring is in the air! The snow has melted, the birds are singing, and the youth at West Lane are getting excited for the warmer weather. Many have already started making their summer plans.

Over the winter months, the youth kept busy with a variety of activities. They created crafts to decorate the house, enjoyed baking, and spent time playing in the snow. When it was too cold to be outside, trips to Sky Zone provided a great opportunity to burn off energy.

We celebrated several birthdays over the past few months, enjoying plenty of cake along the way. The youth also attended the Santa Claus Parade and rang in the New Year downtown, where they had a blast at the festivities. In addition, they enjoyed attending a couple of shows at the Capitol Theatre.



*Jackie, Johnathan & Tejal*

Easter was a wonderful time, with chocolate eggs and a big ham dinner shared together.

Over the past few months, we have welcomed new staff members to the West Lane team. We also celebrated a youth transitioning into an AFLA family, where they are doing very well. Additionally, we have welcomed two new youth into our West Lane family.

With the arrival of spring, we cleaned up the yard with the help of the youth, collecting garbage that was hidden under the snow. Some youths even took the initiative by beginning spring cleaning in their own rooms 😊

Warm regards,

Team West Lane



*There are 3 responses to a piece of design - yes, no and WOW! Wow is the one to aim for ~ Milton Glaser*

# McSWEENEY

During the winter season, the youth at McSweeney enjoyed having snow ball fights with each other and included the staff! One of our youths had fun creating a snow fort with all the snow we had, and even enjoyed nature walks in the snow. On extreme cold days, youths would take advantage of the entertainment centers and go watch movies at Cineplex and play with the arcades at Bowlarama. Some youths even took advantages of the cold days and did some spa days!

Staff enjoyed a very peaceful and artistic team building activity at the DIY studio & a yummy pot luck. We had some yummy dips, desserts and some delicious Indian foods! We thank all the staff who came and hope you all had fun.

The McSweeney house also welcomed new staff, Caleb & Jasmeer. We welcome you to the team! While we added some new staff, Kashish will also be moving on to work at another program. Best wishes, Kashish!

For the spring season, we will be starting our vegetable, fruit and flower gardens. We are going to double the size of our vegetable and fruit garden this year by adding two more garden boxes. Everyone is excited about deciding what we can plant in the garden for future healthy goodies! Our youth and staff will enjoy the nice weather with climbing trees, nature walks in trails, sun bathing (before it gets too hot) and cleaning cars. We are all eager for the nicer weather to come, and get some good old vitamin D.

Thank you to the team for all your continuous hard work and consistency! It does not go unnoticed.

Wishing everyone a beautiful spring season!

*McSweeney Team  
Building activity*



*Creativity is intelligence having fun ~ Albert Einstein*

# DOMINION II

The winter season was ambivalent for many of us. Most of our days were spent indoors, venturing out only when necessary for appointments. Our youth, however, found joy in visiting Club Shades and doing her indoor activities.

Now, with Spring upon us, we're excited to welcome the budding leaves and the bright smiles they bring. The fresh scent of nature—free from winter's snow heaps—fills us with renewed energy. We're especially looking forward to seeing our youth outdoors again, engaging in the activities she loves.

In April, Tooties turned 20. Can you believe it? Given the progress she has made since joining us, the team gathered with pomp and pageantry, to celebrate this milestone, and we are grateful for the opportunity to support her journey.

We had a great time at our team-building outing. It's always refreshing to see everyone set aside the seriousness of frontline work and reconnect while honing or rediscovering their creative skills. We can't wait to see the beautiful works of art from the talented stars in our program.

We've also welcomed new members to the group over the past few months. Team cohesion remains strong, and our focus continues to be unwavering.



*Dominion II Team Building outing*

**MCRI**  
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR —  
**51<sup>st</sup>** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
*Together, Building Stronger Communities* ♡  
Please join us as we reflect on the past year, celebrate our achievements, and look ahead to the future of Moncton Community Residences.  
**DATE:** Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026  
**TIME:** 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** 1250 St George Blvd  
Moncton, NB E1E 3S1  
LUNCH will be included!  
Your presence and support make a difference.  
*We look forward to seeing you there!*  
PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 18TH to [abest@mcrinc.net](mailto:abest@mcrinc.net) | We hope you can join us! ♡  
EMPOWERMENT • RESPECT • INCLUSIVITY • INNOVATION

*Un bon père est l'un des trésors les plus précieux et les plus méconnus ~ Billy Graham*

## *DOMINION II half*

We were delighted to welcome our new member and the new team to the program during the winter season. Despite the snow keeping us indoors more than usual, we used that time to build our team norms, strengthen communication, and begin working collaboratively.

Because our client enjoys spending his days out in the community, winter limited some of the activities we typically love doing together. That's why we're especially excited for the arrival of spring. This season reminds us that even when the trees look bare and still, they're simply waiting for the right moment to bloom again—patience truly is a virtue. We're looking forward to seeing flowers return, leaves unfold and hearing the familiar buzz of bees enjoying the warmer days.

As a program, we continue to support Big T in reconnecting with the community. He especially enjoyed watching hockey games in March, and we're eager to plan more outings he'll love.

Our first team-building activity is also in the works for this spring, and the team is excited to experience this milestone together. We're looking forward to the fun and growth the season will bring.



*Dominion II half Team*

*Perfection is achieved, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is nothing left to take away ~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery*

# SILP News



*SILP Team Building activity*



*Tommy in the sun*

Spring is finally here! With warmer weather and longer days upon us, there is a renewed sense of energy across our program. It's a great time to get out, connect, and enjoy all that the season has to offer. One of our members, Tom is out enjoying the sunshine!

We are excited to welcome the newest member of our team- Gazalsomit. We are thrilled to have you join SILP and look forward to the positive impact you will bring to our team and members.

Our program continues to stay active and engaged. The MCRI Steppers have been busy since their fantastic performance at the social and have not slowed down. They continue to meet weekly, learning new dance routines, building confidence, and most importantly-having fun together.

We also looked ahead to one of the most anticipated events of the season- Night to Shine. Many of our members signed up, and there was a lot of excitement leading up to the day. This special evening provided opportunities for dancing, connecting with friends, and celebrating in a meaningful way, including the crowning moments that made the night so memorable. Stay tuned for pictures in the next issue. You can also check out our Facebook page for pictures.

Overall, it's shaping up to be a vibrant and engaging season filled with connection, growth, and fun. We look forward to sharing more highlights, until next time...

Don't forget to keep up to date with activities offered at the Club monthly!

## *Years of Membership Recognition*



We would like to proudly recognize and celebrate Richard LeBlanc, Leo Bourque, Chris Briggs, Larry McDuff and Pauline Goguen for their continued years of membership with the organization.

*Celui qui apprend, enseigne ~ proverbe Africain*

# RAILWAY

Hello from Railway,

The youth and staff had a great Christmas, enjoyed our Secret Santa party with some great food and yummy treats, also enjoyed their time off during the holidays and spending time with their families and friends.

On February 26<sup>th</sup> we had a going away party for Mystery Man, the staff on shift that day made some delicious food and making good sendoff memories to add to his life book to take with him. I would like to thank all the team and staff that used to work with him came to wish him well. Thanks Railway team for having such a huge impact on his life, providing support, compassion and love, to be able to continue on with the next chapter in his life. I know he will always hold a special place in our hearts.

The youth had a good Easter; decorated windows with Easter décor; had a delicious meal made by Zetty and the team; and spent time with their families. Youth continue to explore in their communities, learning to bake and cook with staff to enhance their life skills.

We are looking forward to Phase 2 with our recently purchased gazebo for the backyard, the team is getting excited for this project. One of our staff is continuing to grow scallions in the garden boxes in the garage, as staff/youth looked forward to the gardening season in May.

We had our fourth youth move in!

Until next time, enjoy the birds chirping, warm sunshine, planting flowers and vegetables and spending much missed time outdoors.



Zetty (left), Railway Avenue's greenhouse (middle) & Zetty's homemade doughnut

*Keep your dreams alive. Understand to achieve anything requires faith, and belief in yourself, vision, hard work, determination and dedication. Remember all things are possible for those who believe ~ GAIL DEVERS*

# La RECETTE

## Pakoras

Thank you, *Jasmeer Subherwal* for sharing the recipe to this tasty snack! These can be made with any kind of vegetables.

### You will need:

- Vegetables: 1 large onion (thinly sliced) and 2 medium potatoes (peeled and thinly sliced or julienned)
- Flour: 1 cup gram flour (besan) and 2 tbsp rice flour or cornstarch (for extra crunch)
- Spices & Aromatics: 1 tsp cumin seeds, 1 tsp coriander powder,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp carom seeds,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp dry fenugreek leaves,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp turmeric,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp dry mango powder,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp red chili powder, 1 tsp salt.
- Add-ins: 1-2 green chili (finely chopped), 1 tbsp grated ginger and a handful of fresh chopped cilantro.
- Other: cup of cold water, and neutral cooking oil for deep frying.

*La découverte d'un mets nouveau fait plus pour le bonheur du genre humain que la découverte d'une étoile ~ Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin*



*Until the next issue...Enjoy Spring!*

Test your smarts

i) It was not spread ii)  
They hate the net iii)  
They lac-tose iv)  
screen saver v) cheesy

### ~Cooking Directions ~

#### 1. Prep the Vegetables

Slice your onions and potatoes. Place them in a large mixing bowl, add the salt, and mix well. Let the vegetables sit for 10 minutes to draw out excess moisture.

#### 2. Make the Batter

Add the green chilies, ginger, cilantro, and all the spices directly to the vegetable mixture. Sprinkle the gram flour, rice flour, and baking soda over top. Mix well with your hands. Add the cold water a tablespoon at a time, just until a thick, clumpy batter forms coating the vegetables. Do not make it too wet.

#### 3. Fry the Pakoras

Heat about 2 inches of oil in a deep kadai or pan over medium heat. Drop small, rough clusters of the pakora mixture into the hot oil. Fry in batches for 4-5 minutes, stirring occasionally, until they are deep golden brown and crispy.

#### 4. Drain and Serve

Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels. Serve hot with a side of Mint and Cilantro Chutney-or your favorite dipping sauce!

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<http://www.monctoncommunityresidences.com/newsletter/>