



Andy and Bill are shown donating bags to Ron from the Community Centre Food Bank (James Street). Andy and Bill, and their support team, appreciate your donations.

Andy and Bill are giving back to the community by lending a helping hand. They are collecting clean, re-usable shopping bags that they donate to the Soup Kitchen Community Centre, located on James Street.

Each month, the Soup Kitchen serves between 3,000 and 4,000 meals. These bags enable people who are in need of food, to have a way of taking the food with them. Donate your bags at CLA's office at 99 Northern Ave., Sault Ste. Marie from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

CLA unveils new logo for 70th Anniversary: 1954-2024



In honour of the 70th anniversary since the formation of an advocacy movement that would eventually become known as Community Living Algoma, we've launched a new series of bilingual, anniversary logos. Check out one of the new logos at the top of this page!

A 70th anniversary message from John Policicchio, Executive Director, CLA:

“Celebrating 70 years as an organization providing supports to people with an intellectual disability and their families throughout, Sault Ste. Marie and the Algoma District, is quite a milestone and accomplishment.

The past 70 years have been about commitment, passion, motivation and inspiration as we have shifted from program models of support to individualized and person-directed supports. There have been four key areas of focus: connections, relationships, contributions and a sense of belonging which leads to full and active citizenship within the community. We ask that you, your family and friends join us as we host many events and activities to celebrate our journey over the past 70 years and the many accomplishments over this period of time.”

70 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

ANS D'EXISTENCE

INCLUSION & CITIZENSHIP
INCLUSION ET CITOYENNETÉ



20
24

EVENTS

UPCOMING

APRIL

22

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

1 P.M. - 3 P.M.

MAY

02

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT

6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

MAY

08

PAINT NIGHT

6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

MAY

09

SUCCESS DAY

1 P.M. - 4 P.M.

MAY

22

PAINT NIGHT

6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

MAY

24

FLAG RAISING AND MAY
AWARENESS WALK

12:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

JUNE

06

ELLIOT LAKE BBQ

11:30 A.M - 2:00 P.M

For more information visit
www.communitylivingalgoma.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

08

WAWA BBQ

11:30 A.M - 2:00 P.M

JUNE

19

PAINT NIGHT

6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

JULY

13

TRUNK SALE

9 A.M - 1 P.M

AUG

21

SAULT STE. MARIE
COMMUNITY BBQ

11 A.M - 3 P.M

SEPT

27

CULTURAL FAMILY FUN
DAY AT SSM LIBRARY

11 A.M - 3 P.M

OCT

02

ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

OCT

04

CELEBRATION EVENT

SCAN
ME!



For more information visit

www.communitylivingalgoma.org



SUCCESS DAY

Speaker Ideas!

A space for everyone to share success with their supportive community. You could:

- Sing a song
- Share a story
- Present a poster
- Give a presentation
- Bring a show-&-tell

Options and creativity are limitless.



Where	WaterTower Inn
When	May 9th 2024, 1PM to 4PM

RSVP with your interest as a guest or as a presenter using the QRcode, or email The_Council@cla-algoma.org

Community Living Algoma's 70th Anniversary

Flag Raising & Awareness Walk

Friday, May 24
12:30 p.m.



Join us at the flag pole directly in front of the Sault Ste. Marie Civic Centre.

Program: At 12:30 p.m., the Mayor and special platform guests will speak and then raise CLA's 70th anniversary flag.

Join us immediately afterwards for our "**Awareness Walk on the Boardwalk.**" Walk to the Sault Ste. Marie Library or go-the-distance to Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre. Wear your blue and green!

70 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY
ANS D'EXISTENCE

INCLUSION & CITIZENSHIP
INCLUSION ET CITOYENNETÉ

SCAN ME



COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA IS HOSTING A CHILDREN & YOUTH FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

JOIN US AND LEARN ABOUT SERVICES
COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA PROVIDES
AND OTHER SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY
INCLUDING THRIVE, ALGOMA FAMILY
SERVICES AND NOGDAWINDAMIN

RSVP BY SCANNING THE
QR CODE OR BY EMAILING
OLADOLAPO_JEGEDE@CLA-
ALGOMA.ORG



MAY 2, 2024

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



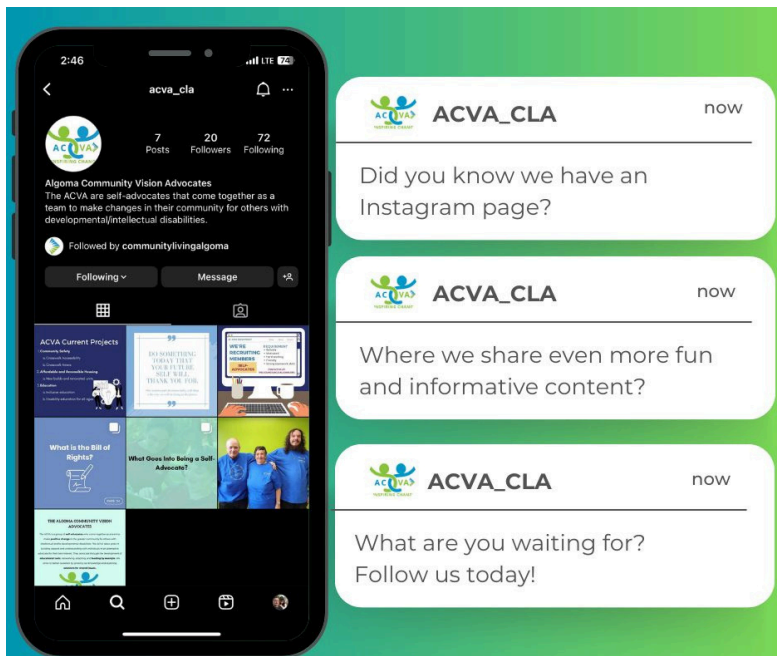
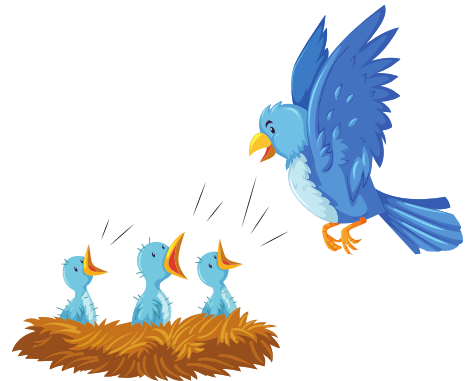
The Water Tower Inn - East Ballroom



ACVA has re-branded: Check out their new logo and the meaning behind it



The Algoma Community Vision Advocates logo comes with a message. The purple represents the advocates and their independent mission; while the blue represents Community Living. Together, arm in arm, we can work as a team to make change for the better in our community.



At ACVA, we're passionate about advocating for the democratic rights of all individuals, including those with developmental or intellectual disabilities. Empower yourself with knowledge and exercise your right to make a difference.

ACVA can be contacted at: The_Council@cla-algoma.org.



Announcing the First Graduates of CLA's jobPath Employment Readiness Program



Sergio Iacoe (CLA), Rocco Martone (CLA), Chloe, Karleigh, Nathan, Thomas, Cheryl and Dave Mornix (CLA). Note: Nicholas and Samantha are absent from photo.

jobPath is an employment readiness program that not only delivers information about the practicalities in securing employment, such as preparing resumes or health and safety, but it provides participants with an opportunity to also obtain a better understanding of relationships and themselves.

For the seven people who just received their certificate of completion, through **The EMPLOYMENT network**, they are now employment-ready. Now it is up to them to start their job search and obtain employment. **The EMPLOYMENT network** staff remain as mentors to them. **jobPath** is for youth and adults supported by **The EMPLOYMENT network**.

“**jobPath** training is an employment discovery workshop for those individuals interested in acquiring employment. It provides an opportunity for people to learn about themselves and others and to prepare them to be successful in the world of work,” says Sergio Iacoe, Manager of Inclusion (Education & Employment). “jobPath requires a personal commitment, both from time and effort perspectives, and for people to do their very best each day.”

...continued next page

Continued.... *jobPath* Graduates

The **EMPLOYMENT network** also includes Dave Mornix, Rocco Martone and Brock Dewar, who are all Employment Advisors. Workshops occur twice, annually: January/February and in September/October. Each workshop is on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings over a period of six weeks.

During the recent certificate ceremony, each participant heard individualized feedback as to how they grew in their knowledge and comfort-levels during the program. In addition, they received reminders about how it is up to each of them to advocate for themselves and to ensure they brought a positive attitude to their actions.

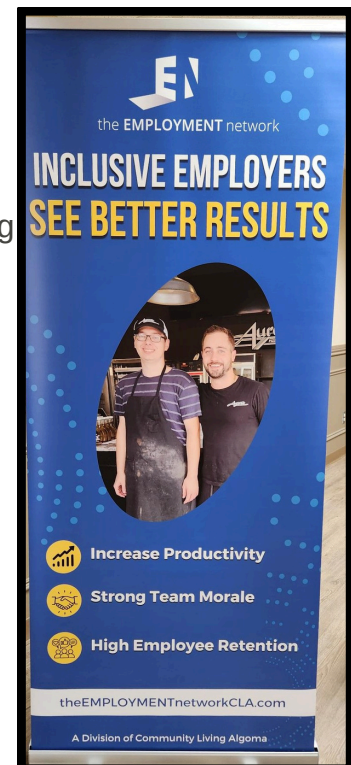
Wisdom, ray of energy, committed, ready and resilient were some of the words used to describe the participants at their certificate ceremony, held at Community Living Algoma.

“After 18 sessions and 54 hours of **jobPath** training seven candidates has demonstrated both growth and a greater awareness of the knowledge, skills, personal traits, and teamwork required to be successful in the workplace setting,” says Sergio. “They are ready to seek, acquire, and retain employment opportunities matching their interests and skills with the needs of specific employers.”

jobPath is delivered through a series of workshops, employment-related field trips and covers topics such as *Getting to Know You; On the Path to Success; Acing the Interview; Life Skills; Health & Safety; and Future Job Retention*. Emphasis is placed on attendance, attitude, motivation level, ability to work with others, flexibility and preparedness.

Interested in learning more about **jobPath**? Contact a member of **The EMPLOYMENT network** team, at Community Living Algoma:

- Sergio_lacoe@cla-algoma.org or (705) 253-1700 ext 3005;
- David_Mornix@cla-algoma.org or (705) 257-2868;
- Rocco_Martone@cla-algoma.org or (705) 255-8716
- Brock_Dewar@cla-algoma.org or (705) 255-3232



the **EMPLOYMENT** network



THE CLASSIC

VOLUNTEERS WANTED



Together the ACVA advocates for others with disabilities through the development of educational tools, networking, adapting to a changing world, and leading by example. We are happy to announce that we are accepting new members! If this sounds like you, we encourage you fill out a volunteer form.



We are actively seeking volunteers to serve on our various Committees. Being on a Committee can be a great stepping stone if you are thinking of potentially becoming a member of our Board of Directors. Help drive positive change and contribute towards building a strong, inclusive community. Share your experience and know that you are helping people live their best lives.



In 2024, CLA will be marking our 70th Anniversary and we need your help! If you are looking for a meaningful way to connect with others, and are interested in sharing your time and energy, please sign up as a volunteer. We are seeking to fill a variety of positions including: event planners, set-up, ushers, greeters, guest services, go-fers and history buffs.

Interested in an opportunity that will enrich the lives of others, and yours, as well? For the Algoma Community Vision Advocates (ACVA), please email:

Kira_Beall@cla-algoma.org

For Committees or the 70th Anniversary Committee, contact:

Nicole_Clark@cla-algoma.org

Or call 705 - 253-1700.



SCAN ME



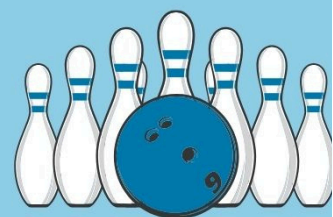


Bowling Besties

February 2024



Team:
MaryAnn,
Lisa, Nina
and Melanie



MODELS NEEDED


Who We Are Looking For:

- Models of all ages
- Models of all races and ethnicities
- Models of all genders
- Models that are: People Supported, Community Living Algoma Employees, Family Members

Why Join Us?

- Opportunity to be featured in various media platforms
- Showcase your individuality and beauty
- Join a project that celebrates diversity and inclusivity
- **Gift card provided as a token of appreciation for your time**


COMMUNITY LIVING
Algoma



Mission Statement

Community Living Algoma supports people with intellectual disabilities. We are committed to the advancement of a community in which all people:

- are recognized as full citizens;
- achieve personal dignity;
- enjoy the benefits and responsibilities of independence;
- and are supported to reach their full potential.



COMMUNITY LIVING
Algoma



Vision Statement

All People Belong. Join the Journey
The following points provide additional perspective and understanding of the key themes contained within our Vision Statement.

All People Belong
All people in a community striving to that community are accepted, have the capacity to contribute and are full citizens. A healthy community is one that allows all of its members to belong, participate and be full members.

Join
This word represents togetherness: working together joining in and the collective sense of responsibility and opportunity that all the individuals have to support the people with intellectual disabilities. The community, parents, staff and supporters in the business and industry.

The Journey
This word is a journey in life and the support needed by those with intellectual disabilities to prosper. This is the journey of many different individuals on the path that leads to individuals who succeed through their own abilities. There are many starts when they are young and growing up and when they are adults. The journey is a continuous one that is never-ending.



COMMUNITY LIVING
Algoma



Values

We believe...

Respect & Dignity
In respecting each other's individuality, choice, skills, powers and to make independent choices.

Trust
In trusting each other the foundation of all relationships.

Honesty & Integrity
In being honest and acting with integrity that the world.

Unity & Working Together
In the spirit of unity and collaboration and giving members to contribute to the very best for inclusion and belonging.

Community Inclusion
In actively contributing each day to the building of a robust community that are accepting of all their members.

Accountability
In being accountable for the quality of our programs, services, professional and caring in doing what we are supported and work with.

Commitment
In being personally committed in supporting people to achieve inclusion, personal dignity and full citizenship.



HOW TO CONNECT

IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU SUPPORT, ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING, WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! PLEASE REACH OUT TO US VIA EMAIL TO NICOLE_CLARK@CLA@ALGOMA.ORG TO LEARN MORE AND SCHEDULE A CONVERSATION!

YOU COULD BE HERE!



UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST COMMUNITY PAINT NIGHT



Date: Wednesday, May 8th

Time: 6 P.M. - 8:00 P.M

Location: The Steamfitters Lounge, The Machine Shop, 83 Huron Street, Sault Ste. Marie, On

Join us for a vibrant celebration of creativity as Community Living Algoma proudly presents a special Paint Night event in honor of our 70th anniversary! Immerse yourself in an evening of artistic expression guided by the talented Shannon from LilyCreek Photography and Art Studio, a beloved local artist based here in Sault Ste. Marie.

- Step-by-step guidance from a local artist
- Canvas painting experience for all skill levels
- Delicious food and beverages available for purchase
- Support Community Living Algoma's mission of empowerment and inclusion

Tickets are limited! Secure your spot today and be part of this special celebration with Community Living Algoma. Let's paint the town in vibrant colors together!

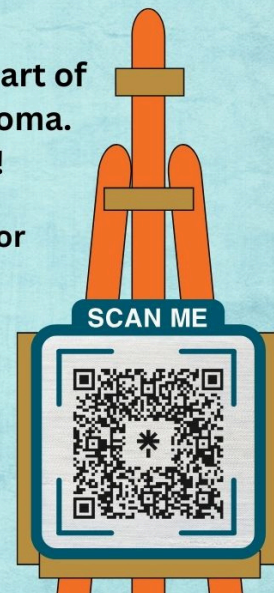
For more information or to purchase tickets, visit our site or scan the QRCode:

<https://communitylivingalgoma.org/en/cla-70th-anniversary/cla-70th-may-events/>

Please contact Community Living Algoma with questions
ciarra_pilon@cla-algoma.org or heather_glover@cla-algoma.org

Note: Purchase of ticket covered by Passport.

TICKETS
\$43.93





Did you see this ...?

There is a small card included with this issue of 'The CLAssic.' It includes a QR Code which looks like a design but it contains information that can be read by a cell phone camera. Point your camera at the code and look for the yellow line of words. Tap that line with your finger (don't take a photo!) and it will open up an internet page that lists all of the special events we'll be hosting this year. Then you can tap whichever event is of interest to you and more information will appear! Check back often!



We did it! Thank you to everyone, across the District of Algoma, who signed a letter of support. Community Living Ontario reports that over 10,000 letters were sent to our representatives at Queens Park, advocating for a vital 5% funding boost for developmental services. Your action has made a real difference, spotlighting the #5ToSurvive campaign and pushing for the change we need.

Let's keep going! Your commitment is inspiring, and together, we're not just making an impact—we're setting the pace for continued advocacy and positive change.

Did you know ...?



P4P empowers people with a disability, their families and caregivers with FREE resources to create good lives and secure futures, rooted in community. <https://www.planningnetwork.ca>

Did you know ...

Passport funding can be used to help you develop the skills you need to apply for a job and to support you in keeping a job. This includes skills development; task and routine training; and job coaching. You can also use it towards transportation to and from work. Learn more at: <https://passportfunding.ca>



Made by Me - Art by Danica

When Danica opens her art portfolio, you may think you are looking at artwork created by several artists, but it is the creative talents of one person. At 17 years of age, Danica uses a variety of artistic mediums and with skill and creativity.

Open her portfolio there is a bird; turn the page and there is a portrait of a young woman; flip another page and a Japanese warrior appears. Water colour paint, crayons, ink, markers, pencil crayons – all mediums are represented. Danica uses her already well-trained eye to create an illustration of a duck handing you a sunflower as well as a portrait of a young woman looking off into the distance. Her manga-style illustrations look like stills from an anime graphic novel.

She says she is inspired by what is around her as well as imagery that she creates in her mind while reading a novel.

“I have images build in my head,” she says.

Birds are a favourite subject matter and drawings of both domestic and wild animals have also found a place in her portfolio. She also channels her emotions into artwork.

“If I’m feeling really emotional, I’ll get a big canvas and throw blobs of paint at it until it becomes a portrait of something.”

Danica says she is from an artistic family where creating art is a natural part of their home-life. Immediate artistic influences include her parents and her sister. External influences include Kentaro Miura, a Japanese manga artist who she describes as a ‘big inspiration’. A manga artist is an artist who creates a specific style of Japanese comics or graphic novels. Her advice to aspiring artists?

“There’s no monetary boundary to getting art supplies, go to a dollar store for supplies,” she says. Not sure where to start? “Look outside and see what looks good to you and just start drawing.”



Created by Danica



Created by Danica

“I draw every day.”



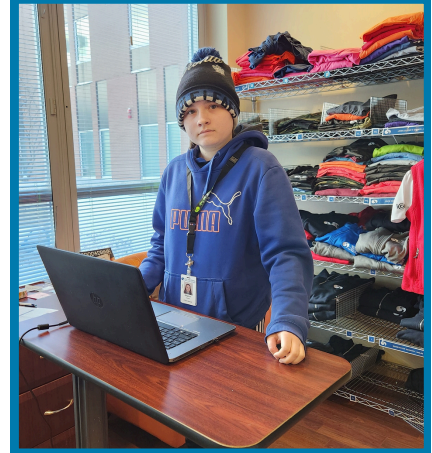
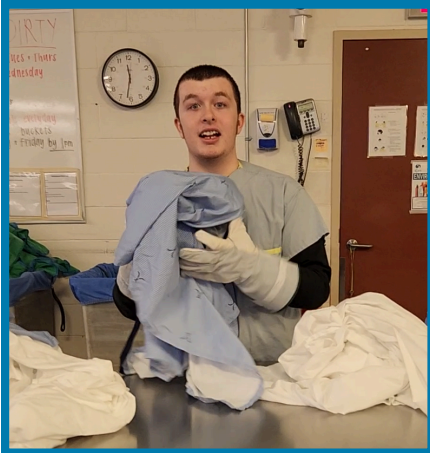
Created by Danica



Created by Danica



Students benefitting from transition-to-work program



Seth, Domenic and Ally

Starting a first job can be exciting but it can also be stressful. Project SEARCH Algoma is a program that helps prepare students for employment through a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on career training. It is a transition-to-work program for young people with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

The goal of Project SEARCH Algoma is for the student interns to acquire transferable skills that they can use towards securing employment in the community, upon completion of the program.

Sault Area Hospital is a host site that is generously providing space, time and resources including an on-site training room. Staff includes Algoma District School Board teacher Paula Mason and Brock Dewar, an Employment Advisor and Skills Trainer from Community Living Algoma.

“Students work in four different departments on a 10-week, three rotation cycle in Laundry and Linens, Medical Devices, The iCcare Store, Environmental Services and Food Services,” says Brock. “They learn about time management, organizational skills, inventory, socialization, how to prioritize, team work and then, as part of health and safety training, about disinfecting and sanitation.”

• *continued*





Students benefitting from transition-to-work program...*continued*

A typical day includes an hour of training in the morning following a curriculum developed by Project Search Algoma.

“We do all kinds of onboarding and safety training and we talk about work-life balance, stress management, the importance of being on time, and personal hygiene,” says Paula.

In just a few months, all of the interns have made new relationships with SAH staff and become familiar with their surroundings.

“Staff have embraced the interns and are enjoying them as members of their team and for their comical sense of humour,” says Annette Finateri, Manager Environmental Services, Sault Area Hospital. “They are doing the same things as the staff do including sorting linens, folding linen or using the small and large piece folding machines.”

In just a few months, we can see the changes in everyone,” says Paula. “On day one they were shy and nervous to be in such a big building and now they can take the bus and they are competent in navigating anywhere in the building.”

And what do the interns think about their experience?

“I became involved because I wanted to gain work experience. It is an opportunity to try it out.” Domenic

“I’m hopeful that I’ll get hired here and then retire when I’m in my 50s.” Seth

“I really like working with the computer (registering sales) and doing customer service,” says Ally.



Laundry machine at SAH

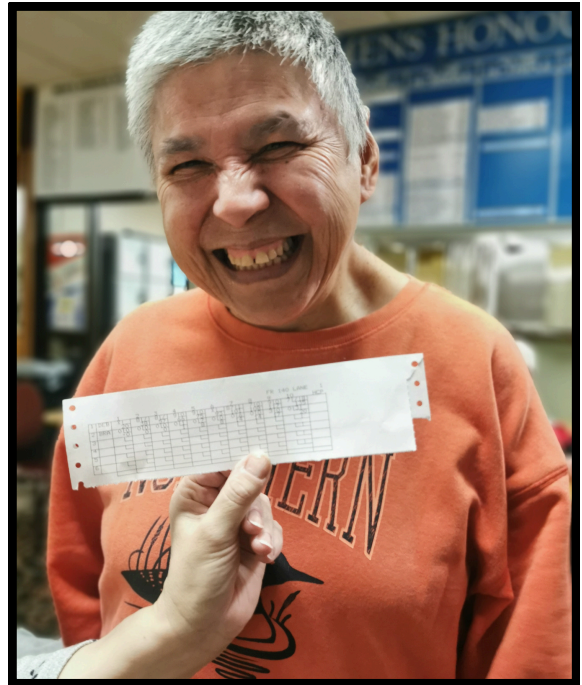
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“We can appreciate the importance and significance of employment in our lives and how it enhances our quality of lives so we can understand how Project SEARCH Algoma provides hope, optimism and opportunities for youth seeking employment,” says John Policicchio, Executive Director, CLA. *“We are proud to be part of a partnership where youth learn with ADSB; acquire new skills with CLA’s support; and, apply that learning and skill in an employment setting, such as SAH.”*

I am active in my community ...



Michael feeds a llama



Debbie sets a new bowling score



Charlie and Kent met up at the Bushplane Heritage Centre



Rachelle hand-feeds a chickadee

All About Me



All entries received will be entered into a draw and one ballot will be selected to win a 70th anniversary t-shirt!

Name

Age

Birthday

Address

One of My Favourite Things to Do:

My Favorite ...

Color:

Food:

Pet:

Music:

Movie:

Season:

Place:

Sport:

Fun Facts About Me

My Hobbies

Send in this form and a photo of you, when you were younger, and a photo of you, now. We'll include it in one of our 70th Anniversary presentations and in a future issue of this newsletter! We won't publish your address or last name.

Scan or email to:
newsletter@cla-algoma.org

Mail or deliver it to:
Community Living Algoma,
Attn Cindy E Crawford
99 Northern Ave. East,
Sault Ste. Marie ON P6B 4H5

Are you an aspiring writer or artist?

Interested in writing for The CLassic?
Or having your artwork featured?
Or your photos shared?

CLA's external newsletter goes out to approx. 500 people three times a year

Have a story about a trip or adventure?

A poem that you've written?

A drawing that you're like to share?



HOW TO SUBMIT:

The CLassic newsletter is printed three times a year. The people who receive it are people supported, their families or caregivers and members of the public who have requested it. It is free.

We do not pay for any submissions, however, we will include your name (first name only) and two sentences about who you are or why you sent your story, poem or artwork to us. We will provide you with extra copies of the newsletter to share with your family or friends.

Consents must be signed for anyone appearing in a photo.



STORIES OR POEMS

Tell us about a trip, a great day or a reunion. Share it as a story or a poem. Maximum wordcount is 250 words.



ART

We create design based on your value, purpose, and business needs.



PHOTOS

Have a photo of you and your pet? A photo from a trip? A picture of a flower in your garden? Maximum of two photos submitted.



CALL OR EMAIL CINDY, THE EDITOR, FOR MORE INFO



705-255-1194



cindy_crawford@cla-algoma.org



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