

Prepared for  
the Nov 21,  
2011 Annual  
General  
Meeting

 **Crossing All Bridges**  
Learning Centre

# Annual Report

August 2010  
to  
July 2011

## MISSION STATEMENT

An innovative community program dedicated to providing continual learning opportunities for adults with developmental needs



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Debbie Brown  
Carol Cain  
Deb Fularski  
Nancy Gowing  
Chris Herrewynen  
Rose Press  
Nancy Tew Seberas

## CENTRE STAFF

Linda Harbridge  
Rachel Labbe  
Sherrie Marshall  
Margaret Micheli

## VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

We believe adults with developmental needs

have the right to

Choice and  
Opportunity

Safety and Security

Meaningful  
Engagement

Respect and Dignity

Continuity and  
Stability

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer board member or would like more information about our program, call us at (519) 751-0123. Applications available

[www.crossingallbridges.ca](http://www.crossingallbridges.ca)

## Working Towards the Future

### A Message from the Board Chair

I have been a member of the Board of Directors of Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre from its conception. It has been a privilege to work with such an energetic and determined group of individuals. Despite facing an increasing workload and an endless demand on their time, the Board remains committed to our clients and to our quality of programming. The Board of Directors is determined to work as hard and as long as it takes to ensure that Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre is the best that it can be.

In the last few months, much of our time has been focused on issues pertaining to our governance model including the development and implementation of new policies and procedures. Hundreds of man hours have been spent ensuring that we continue to operate in a professional and accountable manner.

Growing the program and providing students with new learning opportunities is also key to the Board. With a generous donation from the Rotary Club, we were very fortunate to secure the services of Deano Rouse who brings with her years of experience in the theater. Deano is providing our clients with a drama program that is both enriching and challenging. We are extremely excited to see the final production December 3rd at the Beckett Building.

As the demand for our program continues to grow, so does our need for more space. Going forward, we expect that demand will increase resulting in a longer waiting list. It is an issue that the Board of Directors continues to struggle with.

As we move into 2012, the Board of Directors will continue to work on these issues and several others. It is a labour of love filled with so many rewards. Many hands make for little work and I invite anyone interested in this rewarding experience as a Board member to contact us.

*Nancy Tew Seberas*

## Moving Forward

### Thanks from the Program Director

We would like to thank the many individuals, foundations, donors, community organizations and families that support us and enable us to achieve the desired outcomes of the Centre. We are fortunate to have an incredible dedicated team of staff, co-op students, volunteers and Board. The Volunteers committed over 4,700 hours, not including volunteer drivers and Board members time. Our clients "gave

back" to the community helping out at Red Cross, the Food Bank, Brantwood Centre, Brant United Way and Participation House. The Clients participated in a variety of outings, attended special events and enjoyed new, enhanced and expanded programs including drama, arts, crafts, music and gardening. Our Golf Tournament and Spring Fling were a success. Thanks!

*Linda Harbridge*

## Financial Summary

### REVENUES FOR YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 2011

Tuition	\$	133,288
Grants		18,500
Brant United Way		22,000
Fundraising		28,274
Misc. Revenue		<u>8,566</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>210,628</b>

### EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 2011

Program Expenses		
Craft		1,735
Classroom		12,523
Lunch		6,172
Kitchen		<u>2,829</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>23,259</b>
General Expenses		
Wages/benefits	127,990	
Office Expense	3,253	
Other Expenses	<u>47,267</u>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>178,510</b>	

EXCESS REVENUE  
OVER EXPENSES 8,859

#### Note:

The above is a brief summary for year ending July 31, 2011. Full financial statements can be viewed at Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre at the address below.



25 Bell Lane, 2nd Floor  
Brantford, Ontario  
N3T 1E1  
(519) 751-0123  
info@crossingallbridges.ca  
www.crossingallbridges.ca

## Living My Dreams

### A Word from Our Newest Staff Member, Sherrie Marshall

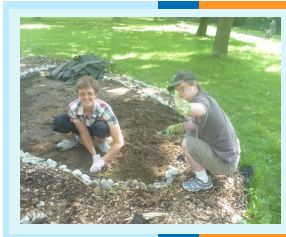
I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at Crossing All Bridges for the privilege to work with your clients. Every day is more exciting and educating than the last. I have started with the organization at an innovative and encouraging time of change. Watching the clients develop and blossom during the Drama practices has been an awesome experience. I've always lived by a quote: "Don't dream your life, live your dreams", and the Centre has been an incredible opportunity to do just that. I look forward to spending many years growing with the terrific team here at Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre. *Sherrie Marshall*

## "Friendly, Happy, and Upbeat"

### The Centre Through the Eyes of a Client, Nancy Sayles

Crossing All Bridges is a unique program that offers us a place to socialize, have fun and learn all at the same time. It gives us the opportunity to work, learn and respect each other and share our ideas. We all have special talents and really enjoy sharing them with each other.

At first I didn't like the **computer** room but now with the help of our instructors I am able to find my way around the computer. This program has helped with my typing skills, puzzles, games, internet, and sometimes I google the Sanderson Center to see if there are any good concerts playing. The **fitness** room is OK but I would rather be outside and go for walks. Some of the clients prefer being inside. We also deliver Christmas Booklets in the area. This provides us with lots of exercise and fresh air. Some clients get to **volunteer** at Red Cross. We package the hot meals and put them in thermal coolers. This is fun for me. It teaches us responsibility and also helps seniors and others. Other topics that we have learned are "Living on our own", "Money Management", "Manners" and "Personal Hygiene". **Math** is NOT my favourite class. We do board games and grocery shopping and money games and count the lunch money every day AND we have to balance. Over the years my math skills have improved.



One group will prepare our **lunch** for everyone and another group does the cleanup. I really like when we go to the **grocery store** for our supplies. We are taught to stick to the list of healthy food and don't buy treats. We make really good meals like Lasagna, Chili, mini pizzas, salads and gourmet sandwiches. When it's our birthday, we get to choose the lunch menu for our special day.

**Wood-working** class is my favorite. Roel is a volunteer with this class and over the years we have made some terrific items. My mom's favorite items were the Christmas tree Decoration which we still put out every year, the magazine rack which is in our family room and the "marker message board" which hangs on the wall by our telephone. In sewing class we have made PJ bottoms, carry-all bags and we just finished making vests. We are very excited to present our first ever **Drama** Production. We have a special "Deano" who is involved in Theatre and is teaching us what is involved in putting on a show.

This year we picked apples at Brantwood Farms and sold them for \$10 for a 10lb bag. All of the monies went directly to Brant United Way for the annual campaign. Another major fundraiser is our Golf Tournament held in July at the Burford Golf Course. Everyone has lots of fun at this event. Crossing All Bridges is an excellent program to help us with independence and responsibility. I really enjoy being here in this friendly, happy and upbeat environment. *Nancy Sayles*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### The 8th Annual Crossing All Bridges Golf Tournament has been scheduled for July 14, 2012!

Please call if you are interested in applying for the golf tournament chair position