

Proclamation: Community Living Month

Whereas:

May is Community Living Month — a province-wide celebration of the accomplishments of the Community Living movement and its ongoing efforts to build welcoming, inclusive communities across Ontario;

Whereas:

With over 100 Community Living associations across the province, this month is a time to come together and continue promoting what belonging and inclusion truly mean for people who have a developmental disability;

Whereas:

More than 250,000 people in Ontario have an intellectual disability, and for over 70 years, the Community Living movement has been advocating for inclusion and meaningful participation in all aspects of community life.

Whereas:

Local Community Living agencies, including *Community Living Access*, *Community Living Haldimand*, *Haldimand-Norfolk REACH*, and the *Norfolk Association for Community Living*, have been proudly supporting individuals and families across Norfolk and Haldimand Counties. Together, they envision a society where people who have an intellectual disability belong and have equal rights, respect, acceptance, a sense of self-worth, and opportunities for growth;

Now therefore:

Be it resolved that Norfolk County Council does hereby proclaim May as Community Living Month, and reaffirms its commitment to fostering a community where inclusion is not only celebrated during this month, but embraced each and every day.

Whereas:

Community Living Access has been proudly supporting individuals and families in Norfolk County since 1991, guided by the mission: “To advocate with, empower and support people with disabilities to live the lives they choose,” and the vision of “A community where every person contributes, belongs, and enjoys a fulfilling life;”