



Annual Report 2022-2023

Serving children and youth with special needs.



“In one word, Lansdowne is, *Accepting*. I always know that there will be a friend at TR programs.”
- Alec

“I first came to Lansdowne when I was 3 years old... for my speech. After my surgery at 10 years old I started doing Therapeutic Recreation programs. My first program was dance. Going to dance makes me feel more confident in myself and I am always happy to be there.”
- Tatum

“ My favourite Lansdowne memory is when we took a trip to Canada’s Wonderland with ‘The Boys’. It was fun to be independent together buying our own meals and riding the roller coasters”
- Haydn





“One thing I’ve learned at TR programs, is that we all stick together, and do our best to listen and help each other.”
- Isabelle



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This year's cover photo was taken by Elizabeth Burke, a member of the Recreation team. The photo was taken during a *Happiness Hikes* program: once a week a group of youth join together at Waterworks Park (Brantford) to hike with friends and stop along the way to get creative with water colour painting. Elizabeth shares, "as we paint together, participants are encouraged to take their time, think about their day, observe the surroundings and share with peers".

Recreation programs like *Happiness Hikes* are an example of skill-building social programs supported by donations to Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CENTRE BOARD CHAIR

Hello Folks! John Bradford here, President of the Corporation and Chair of the Lansdowne Children's Centre volunteer Board of Directors. Many of you have met or been in meetings with various members of the Board, and we are sincerely grateful for your commitment, #ForTheKids.

Every level, from Reception, Intake, Scheduling and Administrative Services, to front line Treatment and Support teams, Managers, Medical and Senior Leadership, share with us the common goal of addressing the needs of families and their children in the interest of realizing each young person's potential.

Please know that each of you are valuable assets in our minds in this mission, and irreplaceable cogs in this complex endeavour. On behalf of the board, your enthusiasm and innovations everyday over several municipalities, communities, schools and service delivery sites are exemplary. **You make us proud.**

We stand tall in every regard as the model of integrity and excellence in the field and across the province. It is exemplified in our superlative accreditation results. We are feeling an end to the rigid pandemic restrictions and are grateful that you managed a significant challenge to our vision during that period, with professionalism and empathy needed and delivered to our various communities. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

I also would add that the pride I feel for my colleagues on the board fills my heart. I have worked on many boards in private and public environments and am grateful for the volunteer commitment they have undertaken, also under pandemic restrictions. Four years ago I wouldn't have even thought of virtual governance, and now appreciate how it allowed us to grow and adjust on behalf of the kids. Don't get me wrong though, we are also looking forward to in-person deliberations.

As many have come to realize, there are actually two boards working for Lansdowne. The Foundation is a separate corporation and their goal on behalf of the mission and vision is dedicated to fundraising. Laura Maddison, as their Chair, works tirelessly not only to keep the awareness of Lansdowne's achievements through events but is tasked with raising millions of dollars to build a new facility we all anticipate with excitement. Stay tuned for more on that initiative.

Finally, our board has but one employee, Rita-Marie Hadley. There is no question her determination and drive is the catalyst and the glue that keeps us all focused in one direction... #ForTheKids.

Stay well. Be safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Bradford".

John Bradford, Board Chair

ROOTED IN FAMILY-CENTRED CARE AND SUPPORT

The origins of Lansdowne Children's Centre go back to 1952 in Brantford, Ontario, when a group of seven families whose children lived with cerebral palsy met on a part-time basis in the Red Cross Rooms on William Street, forming the Parents Council for Cerebral Palsy.



SCAN ME

Captain Kindness is an incredible supporter of the work at Lansdowne Children's Centre. Thank You Captain for continuing to visit and cheer on our clients and team members.



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The enthusiasm with which Lansdowne embraced the year paid off tangibly. We made extraordinary gains, serving 17 per cent more children and youth clients and their families, and seeing 22 per cent more visits with our service providers.

While we celebrate how these figures mean that more children and youth with special needs were able to access supports in the pursuit of realizing their potential, we must also pause to recognize a serious struggle to keep pace with the accelerating need for help.

At the close of March 2023 Lansdowne faced a wait list nearly equal to the number of kids served in the previous 12 months. Over 2,400 families are awaiting assessment or service initiation. Our efforts to optimize service delivery continue every day.

A new location was opened in Simcoe to unify two less-accessible premises, cementing our 25-year presence in Norfolk County. This larger local footprint with dedicated teams and spaces has boosted our ability to practice collaboratively across our large catchment area. In the past year we have continued to develop our network of service providers working from sites in Simcoe, Brantford, Caledonia and Dunnville.

The network of Lansdowne sites is helping connect infants, children and youth with special needs, and their families, with local supports closer to home, but the pressure of population growth in and around Brantford and Brant County is unaffected by the increased capacity and local service delivery in Haldimand and Norfolk.

It has been 25 years since the grand opening of the Brantford site at 39 Mount Pleasant Street. We are working with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to replace this facility with a more appropriately sized space, resolute in our vision to be a community leader in accessibility, equality, and inclusion. We are sharing the results of inspection and analysis, that our current



LANSDOWNE AND ROTARY

In 1960 the Rotary Club of Brantford was a partner in opening the Crippled Children/Cerebral Palsy Centre at the Brantford General Hospital, a pre-cursor to Lansdowne Children's Centre.



The enthusiasm with
which Lansdowne embraced
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environment is falling below standard and needs to be addressed. Advocacy at Queen's Park and federally saw us urge our Ministry's response to address crowding, safety concerns and aging infrastructure.

Against these challenges a Lansdowne win came from investing in Family Engagement. A new coordinator lets Lansdowne provide family advocacy training, information fairs, mentorship and peer support, and opportunities for families to share their voices around issues of interest.

Not only is our community growing, it is flourishing with a new composition of life experiences, languages and cultures. We conducted a culture audit at Lansdowne to assess our perceived inclusivity and equity. We are working to learn more about how client families, team members and volunteers experience Lansdowne each day, in centres and in the community. We partnered with Google Translate and Userway to enhance our website accessibility, and as we work to establish new members of our governance team we are actively pursuing diverse representation.

Evolving service delivery includes developing a model for purchase of services. In line with government direction, Autism services at Lansdowne provides a direct payment model of services for children with an Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis. This past year we experienced an increase in family adoption of available programs, resulting in greater financial support for Lansdowne operations.

Community partnerships are a great strength for Lansdowne in service delivery. Effective January 2023, Lansdowne was appointed by the Ontario government as our region's SmartStart Hub, a central point-of-access for



A VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Lansdowne Children's Centre staff and clients participate in several public-speaking events each year, educating our community members about special needs supports and services, and advocating for accessibility and inclusion.



Client Visits increased by 21% overall compared to the previous year, and in-person client visits climbed up to 70%.



SCAN ME

families to connect with child development services, supports and resources. We have worked to establish Memoranda of Understanding with agency partners with whom we collaborate, building a foundation to share communication and infrastructure, to enhance a family's onboarding (intake) experience.

Our technology use continues to improve, building on developments that started with virtual service delivery and enhanced communications. Mitigating the cyber-risks that come with increased technology dependence has meant enhanced training for staff and advancing secure document transfer capacity. We continue to research new opportunities to securely streamline information and distribute resources.

With our energetic Spirit Committee and service teams we saw in-person activities return. For a fifth year Lansdowne entered the largest corporate team in the Brantford Rotary Classic Run. Autism Services, in

partnership with the Family Support Network, presented the Halls of Halloween trick or treating experience, and with the support of Brantford Rotarians and community volunteers Lansdowne Brantford was transformed into the North Pole to host the *Polar Express* with special deliveries made to sites in Caledonia, Dunnville and Simcoe.

In addition to social activities, Lansdowne hosted 13 different weeks of summer camps involving members of Occupational Therapy, Recreation, Support Workers and Kids Country Inn. We are so proud to continue to offer the integrated community-based Every Kid Counts program, supported by donations to Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation. The generosity and kindness of our community continues to propel our ability to see that children and youth with special needs have access to participate in skill-building play with their peers, and experience social development.

VISION

Realizing optimal potential for children and youth.

MISSION

Supporting children and youth with physical, developmental or communication needs, and their families.

VALUES

Respect, Inclusion, Diversity and Empowerment [RIDE]. We are committed to safety, accessibility and accountable teamwork.

Lansdowne Haldimand-Norfolk sites experienced a **17% increase** in service visits in 2022-2023. Lansdowne Children's Centre as an organization helped **13% more** clients than the previous year, and **31% more** compared to 2018/2019.

We are grateful for the community's confidence in Lansdowne Children's Centre, and for the many families willing to share their stories and testimony to give others the comfort to explore our services and reach out with their questions and concerns. I would ask, please, do not be discouraged by our willingness to share the reality of our growing wait list. A concern left unshared can not be helped. We are here to help families find hope and support in their journey, and we are confident that our ministry and local government officials are hearing our calls and will deliver help.

It is the positivity of our clients, with every goal achieved and every smile shared, that rewards our dedicated team and continues to attract talented pediatric professionals to join our mission. As we mark long service milestones and career retirements we can reflect on the personal investments that each team member has given in service of infants, children and youth with special needs, and their families.

Our people are caring and compassionate, and it is a great honour to recognize team members that have been part of our Lansdowne family long enough to work with generations of client families, watching sons and daughters grow up to become mothers and fathers. I am excited to report on accomplishments of the past year, and share our appreciation for all partners contributing to the effort of living our vision, to see all children and youth realize their potential.

With care and concern,



Rita-Marie Hadley, Executive Director



9 OUT OF 10 PARENTS

surveyed responded that Lansdowne service providers help to make them feel competent as a parent.

2022-2023

Client Satisfaction Survey

- 263 responses received
- 56% of participants had started services in the past 24 months
- 20% of participants had been Lansdowne clients for 5+ years
- 75% of participants has experienced Speech-Language Therapy services



IMPROVING ACCESS AND COLLABORATION NEW IN NORFOLK

Providing child development services in Norfolk since 1997, our Lansdowne family celebrated the opening of a new location in Simcoe this past year. The space at 387 Cedar Street provides larger, open spaces all at ground level for improved accessibility, and a parking lot to accommodate staff and visitors. The new location unifies Lansdowne service teams who were previously operating out of two buildings, under one roof.

At the grand opening, Rita-Marie Hadley recognized the team effort that contributed to opening the new location.

“Our service providers have worked very hard to make improvements on our previous location. We are all dedicated to evolving service to meet the growing needs of our region’s children and their families.”

LANSDOWNE CHILDREN'S CENTRE IS A SMARTSTART HUB

Effective January 2023, Ontario’s Children’s Treatment Centres and Surrey Place in Toronto were designated *SmartStart Hubs* by the Ontario government. A SmartStart Hub is a clear point of entry to services and supports for families who have concerns about their child’s development and would like to explore available options and supports.

In Ontario, children and youth up to age 19 and up to age 21 for youth in school can access a SmartStart Hub as well as all publicly funded child development services, including services for children and youth with physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, or communication disorders.

Lansdowne Children’s Centre Director of Client Services, Jennifer Huxley, is optimistic about the introduction of the province-wide launch, and the positive impact it will bring to communities.

“SmartStart Hub will help families connect with services faster, and reduce the repetition of multiple intake experiences. It will have a positive impact on efficiency for families seeking services.”

Under the SmartStart Hub program, each Hub brings together local child development professionals, giving families that have a concern about their child’s development seamless connections to assessments and services.



Lansdowne Children's Centre coordinates communications and client services and supports with agency partners including Contact Brant and Haldimand-Norfolk REACH. Lansdowne also provides school-based rehabilitation services in district school boards.



SCAN ME

Autism Services hosted an indoor trick or treat practice event in October, part of Foundational Family Services. The *Halls of Halloween* provided children and youth clients an opportunity to practice skills including manners and patience, as well as get comfortable with sensory experiences.

A PARENT STORY | DANIELLE WEIL

CONNECTING WITH AUTISM SERVICES

Our family has been attending Lansdowne Children's Centre since July 2019 when my then 16-month old daughter, Emme, started physio-therapy for a soon-identified gross motor delay...

Lansdowne was incredibly helpful from the beginning, helping me navigate the referral process and start our sessions, and it didn't take long before someone else noticed what I had been saying to my doctor - that something else was going on and needed to be identified.

After an assessment with Dr. Klein, the paediatrician - which was timely and more reassuring than I could ever express - our sub-sequent diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) connected our family with Lansdowne's Autism Services team. They have become a huge part of our lives.

Emme was among the first group to participate in the Entry to School program, which made her transition from pandemic isolation to junior

kindergarten virtually seamless. She eagerly takes part in special events that we can attend, such as the Hallowe'en party, drop in groups - and very soon even a week of summer camp!

She has been able to begin ABA therapy which has brought about amazing developments in her self-regulation and her ability to handle unexpected transitions, as well as learning to complete some tasks independently.

Emme participated in Caregiver Mediated Early Years (CMEY) programs and the Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) program, which (supported by her speech therapy) has absolutely exploded her vocabulary and communication abilities. She still deals with a speech delay but the struggle to make herself understood is drastically reduced and continues to get better.

These supports have assisted us in learning strategies for balancing the very different needs of three autistic children, and have helped to prepare them for small but important milestones in their lives.

C O N T I N U O U S IMPROVEMENT

Lansdowne Children's Centre is dedicated to optimizing human, financial and physical resources to enhance quality and accessibility of programs and services.

The annual Lansdowne Client Satisfaction Survey gives client families an opportunity to share their experiences and offer counsel to organization leadership, helping to identify areas of concern and opportunities for impactful change.

The following notes represent a summary of statistical and editorial data submissions, grouped into recurring themes of interest, ranked by their frequency and apparent urgency.



Pilot Projects using in-context screening opportunities are showing promise in having an impact on reducing wait lists. *Kick Start to Kindergarten* and *Tiered Model of OT Services* are different programs working with different age groups, providing needs assessment in the community.

TOP 3 ISSUES



Kick Start to Kindergarten



Tiered Model of OT Services

1 ACCESS TO SERVICE

The negativity created by wait times for assessment and service initiation cannot be ignored. In the past 5 years Lansdowne has experienced a 50 per cent increase in the number of clients waiting for service initiation. In the same time period, the wait list for assessment has increased by 53 per cent, resulting in a total number of wait listed clients equal to 70 per cent of the total number of clients served.

2 CONNECTION WITH RESOURCES

Lansdowne is called to do better in guiding client families to available resources. Clients expressed a desire for connection with community programs and services, virtual and print materials and online registration tools.

3 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

Client families identified the challenge of inconsistent communication experiences with service providers, citing occasional challenges with follow ups and scheduling, and a desire for more open opportunities to provide feedback.

RELATIONSHIPS ARE OUR STRENGTH

Client Survey responses indicated that client families felt they have a positive, personable relationship with their care team, and find comfort in treatment services. Overall, client satisfaction scored **4.3 out of 5 stars**.

ONTARIO TRILLIUM GRANT HELPS YOUTH CLIENTS DEVELOP INDEPENDENCE, CONFIDENCE

Awarded to Lansdowne Children's Centre in 2020 and implemented in 2021, the Ontario Trillium Foundation *Grow Grant* allowed for expansion of support services to meet more of the unique needs of youth clients, specifically providing programs and resources to empower youth with special needs, and prepare them with the tools to overcome barriers in their community.

Studies and experience have shown that youth with special needs are at a higher risk of victimization and isolation as they grow into their adult years.

Through the grant-funded project, youth with special needs were able to connect with child/youth workers (CYW) and social workers, and access programs designed for developing confidence, assertiveness and safety awareness.

A Youth Counsellor role was created to provide youth clients with the individualized support they need. Existing programs were enhanced with individual follow-up giving youth the opportunity to apply learned skills in their home and community environments. Group programs were extended to offer flexible program delivery, including individualized 1:1 sessions and/or level-sensitive programming for youth with physical, developmental, or emotional barriers.

Lisa Watters is a parent of a youth client who accesses support through Lansdowne's site in Caledonia. She shares her appreciation for the expanded services and the Ontario Trillium investment that made it possible;

"I've found the support we've received through social work and CYW so helpful. We've watched our child grow and learn so many valuable skills. Our child is able to better identify how they are feeling and is working on problem solving to determine the best solution should problems arise. We are so grateful for all the help in achieving our goals."

Lansdowne Children's Centre is so honoured to have been chosen as a recipient of the Grow Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.





Lansdowne Children's Centre

Statement of Operations

Years Ended March 31, 2023

Revenues	2023	2022
Province of Ontario	9,132,643	7,957,648
City of Brantford	1,525,614	1,538,640
Hamilton Health Sciences	1,608,095	1,254,054
Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation	200,000	116,000
Amortization of Deferred Contributions	134,177	138,607
Other Revenue	874,974	545,492
Total Revenue	13,475,503	11,550,441
Expenses		
Salaries and wages	8,512,054	7,145,156
Employee Benefits	1,891,024	1,635,204
Purchased Services	1,519,293	1,437,401
Building Services	217,897	192,246
Amortization	123,756	128,175
Other operating	904,001	843,361
Total Expenses	13,168,025	11,381,543
Excess of revenue over expenses	307,478	168,898

In recognition of the support provided by our funders, Thank You.

Funding Sources

- 68% Province of Ontario
- 11% City of Brantford
- 12% Hamilton Health Sciences
- 9% Other Revenue

**Use of Funds**

- 79% Salaries and Benefits
- 6% Supplies & Other
- 3% Equipment and Building
- 12% Purchased Services



3,483 unique children & youth served



Up 13% from previous year,
31% increase since 2018

60,819 client visits



Up 21% from previous year,
27% increase since 2018

2,246 unique children & youth referrals



Up 5% from previous year,
53% increase since 2018



70%



4%



26%

Client visits by type: in-person, virtual and phone.
Compare with 2021-2022 results:
49% in-person, 22% virtual, 29% by phone.

184,366

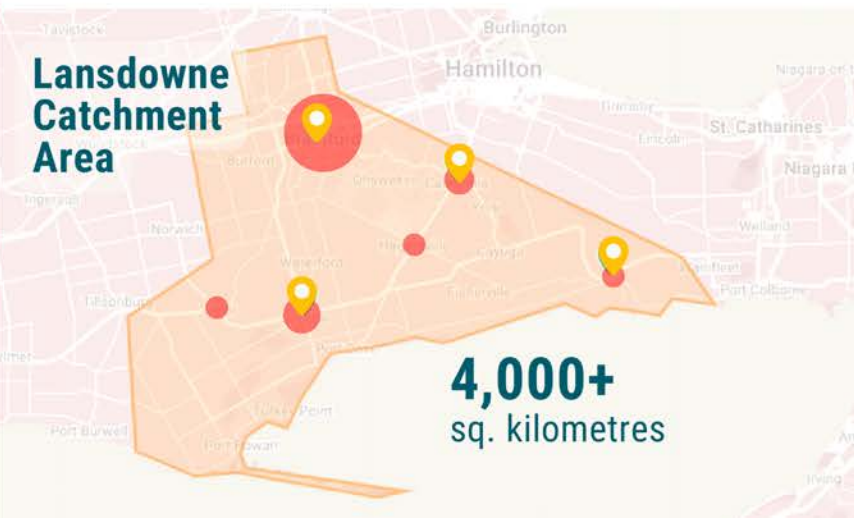
agency hours of client service
Up 16% from previous year

232 Staff

139 salaried
93 support workers



Lansdowne operates five sites, in Brantford, Caledonia, Dunnville and Simcoe, providing access to service for families in the region of Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk counties, Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and the city of Brantford.



2,449

families
waiting for
assessment
or service
initiation



2007 children waiting for assessment

- 3.7% increase in one year
- 53% increase over 5 years

442 children waiting for service initiation

- 51% increase in one year
- 57% increase over 5 years

13,500

is the projected wait list by year 2041
if **current capabilities are left
status quo**





Family Engagement and support includes mentorship opportunities with other client families who have experience caring for and growing with children with special needs. The Family Support Network facilitates connection opportunities.



A PART OF OUR FAMILY

Heather MacDonald first brought her daughter Billie to Lansdowne in Brantford at just one month old...

Billie's early introduction to Lansdowne Children's Centre was due to a brachial plexus injury in her right arm at birth.

The brachial plexus is the network of nerves that sends signals from the spinal cord to the shoulder, arm and hand. An injury occurs when these nerves are stretched, compressed, or in the most serious cases, ripped apart or torn away from the spinal cord. Resulting symptoms create complexities that can include numbness or loss of feeling in the hand or arm, inability to control or move the shoulder, arm, wrist or hand, a burning, stinging or severe and sudden pain in the shoulder or arm, and even an arm that hangs limply. As Billie tells it,

"It was a challenging time as no one could really explain it to my mum and dad why my arm looked different."

Unable to brace herself with both arms, as Billie continued to develop physically and explore the world as a mobile toddler she sustained a series of head traumas that eventually led to a diagnosis of Acquired Brain Injury (ABI). Her diagnosis was very unique at the time, and Heather still recalls the effort Billie's Lansdowne care team took to learn, develop and share strategies that would help her at home



120 survey responses rated Lansdowne service 5 out of 5 stars!

The total average score was 4.07 out of 5.

Top Programs by # of Clients Served

- 1,464 Speech-Language Therapy
- 1,165 School-Based Rehab Services
- 850 Occupational Therapy
- 751 Autism Services
- 634 Respite Services
- 512 Physiotherapy
- 376 Special Services at Home
- 369 Early Integration Program
- 314 Developmental Paediatrician
- 296 Social Work
- 258 Infant-Child Development Services
- 163 Recreation Services

35%

**of all clients access 2 or more
services at Lansdowne**



and in the community, and the early day challenges of facing so many unknowns - including doctor and specialist appointments filled with acronyms and terms that left her head spinning. For Heather and her family, Lansdowne was a safe space to ask questions.

"It was okay for me to say, *I don't know what that means*. I didn't feel threatened or brought down."

Heather recalls working with Sandi during Billie's early years, with visits at home to check in on Billie's development as part of the 'Premie Pathway' program for infants born premature. She shares how comfortable she felt and how relieved to have someone willing to hear her questions and have patience to help her understand what her child needed.

As Billie continued to develop, she and her family discovered more opportunities where Lansdowne could help to support her skills and abilities. Billie has participated in Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Recreation programs and many events at Lansdowne Children's Centre. One of the earliest events Billie attended was the Charity Motorcycle Ride, but it was her big sister Lacey who insisted on the family saving the date.

As Heather tells it, "Lacey had been at Lansdowne a year earlier to get ready to start school, so she was so excited to go back with her new baby sister when Billie first started. We were at Lansdowne for one of Billie's earliest appointments when Lacey discovered the Charity Motorcycle Ride poster on the wall. She just said, 'Mom! We got to call Grandpa and have him bring his bike!' and we did. And the girls have been part of the ride ever since."

"We just felt it was really important, to get in here and help. To make sure it [Lansdowne] keeps going, and expands... We just need to do our part and help out."

It was sincere gratitude for all they found at Lansdowne that motivated the MacDonald-Moore family to join their first Charity Motorcycle Ride. After Grandpa rode his bike to Brantford all the way from Manitoulin Island - an 8 hour journey to satisfy the request of his granddaughter - and rode that first Grand River tour, it became an annual tradition for the family to gather together for the ride, enjoying a picnic and the attractions. The Mac-Moore sisters have been top-five fundraisers at the Charity Motorcycle Ride multiple times, and in 2023 Billie was named the Client Ambassador for the 19th annual Ride #ForTheKids.

For Heather and Billie and their family, Lansdowne has been more than a medical centre or support system. Lansdowne team members are more than clinicians, they are an extension of family and people who have literally watched Lacey and Billie grow into youth leaders and young adults.

"Without this Centre, so many families would just be lost as to what to do, and how to navigate life. And that's exactly what they do. They give us our life."



SCAN ME



THANK YOU FROM THE LANSDOWNE CHILDREN'S CENTRE FOUNDATION



HEROES for Lansdowne! Client ambassador 'Mighty' Mason Boughner and his family led the way at the 2022 Heroes Walk and Roll, raising \$17,000 for Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation. Our thanks to Rob and Karissa Boughner and 'Poppy' Brian Sullivan, all the Mighty Mason team.



SCAN ME



A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR

Change is a constant force that can be both exciting and unsettling. It is an experience we all share, and sometimes share together.

In my first year as Board Chair for Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation I have had the privilege to work with our team of dedicated volunteers in navigating change to our organization, evolving our structure and purpose to better meet the challenges faced by children and families served by our children's treatment centre.

I want to thank Angela Turnbull for her leadership and dedication during her time as our executive director. Angee's efforts in the face of unprecedented challenges of pandemic restrictions will be part of her lasting legacy at Lansdowne, seeking new ways to connect and reconnect with our generous donors to maintain a high level of financial support for the critical programs and services that rely on Foundation funding. We wish her all the best in her next chapter.

This past year we started a change in our foundation's mandate, seeking to explore opportunities to support a wider view of the greatest needs of children and youth clients at Lansdowne Children's Centre. As we move forward, the Foundation will be reviewing more project proposals and considering new ways to enhance programs and services, while maintaining support for legacy investments in recreation and mobility/accessibility. As stewards of donor dollars, we will always ensure that any investment is in the best interest of supporting our kids at Lansdowne.

I want to recognize the outstanding efforts of Candace Kingyens this past year. Candace has been stalwart in her duties as senior development officer while also taking on added responsibility during a period of transition. Under her management we have seen continued growth in the Charity Motorcycle Ride, Heroes Walk and Roll and the Tim Horton's Smile Cookie campaign, along with several generous third-party events. Candace has provided a steady consistency for our foundation while we sought out the next executive director, and her commitment is most appreciated.

Our volunteer board of directors have invested much of their time and expertise this past year, refreshing governance resources and working on a strategic vision and plan for the future. We are invested in advocating for Lansdowne Children's Centre children and youth clients and families, doing our part to highlight concern about growing wait lists and limited service capacity. I am excited to see this work continue, and am thankful for each person's contribution to our continued success.

It is on that note that I am thrilled to start this next year with an introduction to our new Executive Director. Jennifer White joins Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation with a wealth of leadership experience in not-for-profit and health sector organizations, and a drive to help grow the organization to a next-level of fundraising and support. Welcome!

I don't know what changes may greet us in this next year, but I am excited to see where this team of amazing people will take us!

Laura Maddison, Board Chair
Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation



Our Year In Review

Candace Kingyens
Senior Development Officer



As we reflect on the past year and all that was achieved, and the great impact we have made on the lives of so many, it's important to note that “we” includes all of You - the volunteers, fundraisers, donors and advocates - working with our dedicated staff and Board of Directors to make it all possible.

We absolutely could not continue to do the great work we do without the help of our donors, volunteers and the generous members in our community. You are at the heart of what we do, and you are making such a big difference in the lives of these children every day.

CHARITY MOTORCYCLE RIDE

The 18th annual Lansdowne Charity Motorcycle Ride was the biggest Ride #ForTheKids yet! Raising over \$100,000 and featuring over 330 riders. It was a great day of fun and excitement, and we received wonderful feedback about the new venue at Brimich Logistics and Packaging Ltd., calling it “a perfect fit for this event”. Thank you to all our friends at Brimich for their

outstanding partnership as hosts.

We are thankful to Zoe Duggan and family for all their efforts to raise funds and awareness for the motorcycle ride. Zoe was our youth ambassador and created 'The Zo Show' on social media to share about her life with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) and promote community gift baskets that were raffled to raise funds. Thank you to Zoe's school, Our Lady of Providence, for their fundraising efforts too, adding \$2,000 in support of Zoe's work to become the 2022 Top Charity Motorcycle Ride Fundraiser.

Thank you to all the team at Blackbridge Harley-Davidson for their partnership in the Motorcycle Raffle and promotion of this fantastic event.

HEROES WALK AND ROLL

Over 300 costumed friends of Lansdowne gathered in Brant Park for the 4th annual Heroes Walk and Roll family fun carnival, combining to raise over \$72,000 in contributions including generous sponsorships from local businesses. The event was led by client ambassador 'Mighty' Mason Boughner, whose family and team raised an incredible \$17,000 in donations.



The event was presented by CRWS 3PL Warehousing & Logistics, BML Roofing Systems and Crossroads Refrigeration, supported by numerous other caring companies and organizations.

Thank you to Melissa Forsyth (KX947fm) for being our master of ceremonies, and to all the entertainers and special guests who attended.

TIM HORTONS SMILE COOKIES

Supported by 19 participating Brantford Tim Hortons restaurant locations, Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation and Brant Food For Thought shared the proceeds of funds raised by the 2022 Smile Cookie campaign, each receiving a donation of \$57,880.75.

Our thanks to Gisele Budgell and Angee Turnbull for their leadership in promoting the campaign and creating engaging social media support.

Our winner of the 2022 Best Smile photo contest is featured to the left.

THIRD-PARTY EVENT HOSTS

Our thanks and gratitude for each of these generous organizations and people who chose to celebrate Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation and honour us as their charity of choice. Thank you!

- Beachwave Volleyball (Trish Barsby)
- BGI Retail
- Brantford Tim Hortons Restaurants, Smile Cookie Campaign
- Connect Marketing, Benefit Concert
- Flux Brewing Company
- Josmar Acres, Strawberry Picking Day
- Kisdak Ltd.
- Knightfall Tattoo
- Liz Oliveira
- Our Lady of Providence School, Zoe Duggan
- Petsmart, Brantford and Ancaster
- ReMax Twin City Realty
- The Works Brantford, Comedy Night
- Victory F.C. U10 Brantford, Jon Zombeck
- Woodman-Cainsville Public School

HOW TO HOST A FUNDRAISING EVENT #FORTHEKIDS

You can learn more about hosting a third-party event in support of Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation, what's involved and how we can support your efforts, by visiting: lansdownecentre.ca/foundationevents



In September 2022, we suffered a great loss, losing former Foundation Board Chair Dave Neely after a hard-fought battle with leukemia.

Dave was actively involved with his church, Fairview Gospel Hall in Brantford, for his entire life. His love for his Lord was always something that could be seen in every aspect of his life, and he could light up any room with his positive and warm energy.

He loved the Blue Jays, fishing, reading singing, his dog, his family, and being active.

One of his favorite sayings was, "I won't give up on this", and he didn't... not for one second.

His love for the children and youth at Lansdowne was evident in his daily work with our Board, and he was always encouraging our staff to think "outside of the box" and try new things. He was a supportive leader in developing the first Heroes Walk and Roll event, and we honor his memory each we gather as Lansdowne heroes.

Dave is gone from this earth, but will never be forgotten. Thank you for all that you did for us here at Lansdowne.

Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation accepts meaningful gifts each year that honour incredible individuals. We recognize and appreciate this gesture of gratitude, as do the ones who have been honoured.

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN HONOUR OF:

- Chris Davidson
- Gerry Smits
- Harold Offenhammer
- Isla Clarke
- Jedyiah-Eli
- The Jenkins Siblings
- Joan Hadley
- Johnny & Bennett Cochrane
- John Wiacek
- Lee Dudley
- Patti Clark

This past year, we lost some very special people in our community, and are continually grateful for the many donations made in their memory. On behalf of the families who have lost, we thank you for this beautiful gesture during their difficult time.

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF:

- Betty Hopkins
- Dan Borthwick
- Dave Neely
- Harold Hodder
- Henry Wrona
- Hilton Lyons
- Irene Jenkins
- Joan Herbert
- Linda Blackey
- Patricia Monahan
- Rory MacNeil
- Rosa Groppmair
- Ted Davies & Kim Lankin

Each year, our Foundation applies for grants to support programs and services at Lansdowne Children's Centre. We are grateful for these impactful gifts, and are excited to see their growth of giving increase annually.

GRANTS AND FOUNDATION GIFTS RECEIVED:

- Alan R. Cook Foundation (Tom & Tracey Humble)
- Barbara L. Lee Sisson Fund
- Brant Community Foundation
- City of Brantford – Operational Grant
- D.H. Gordon Foundation
- Mabel & Gordon McMillen Foundation
- Nick & Glyde Rizzo – Donor Advised Fund
- Ontario Endowment Fund for Children/Youth in Recreation
- RBC Foundation
- Stephen Smith & Dorothy Woltz Foundation

Volunteer Spotlight with Chris Comeau

In her own words... "I was offered the opportunity to volunteer with the Lansdowne Foundation and I am so thankful! As a grandparent of a young child with Autism, who has, along with his family received services, education, support and encouragement from the wonderful staff at Lansdowne, it is the perfect way for me to give back. If in some small way I can use my expertise to help, I do so, with gratitude.





Therapeutic Recreation is a program supported by our foundation. We would like to recognize Tom and Tracey Humble and the Alan R. Cook Foundation for their generous donation of \$25,000. Your impact has helped Lansdowne transform a boardroom into a dance studio, access new visual arts opportunities and create a variety of art-based programs to give children and youth the opportunity to develop and practice skills, and realize their potential. Thank you!

We are fortunate to live in a community where our local businesses, clubs, and organizations see the importance of corporate giving. Through this great support, the Lansdowne Children's Centre is able to continue their amazing work in helping our children and youth reach their optimal potential. We sincerely thank every business involved in helping us to achieve our mission and vision.

Let's take a moment to recognize the generous support from these corporations and community groups:

- Brantford-Brant Chamber of Commerce
- Kiwanis Club of Brantford
- Kuri Tec Corporation
- Music Mania DJ Services
- Onondaga #519
- RBC Brantford
- Rotary Club of Brantford
- Rotary Club of Brantford Sunrise
- Tricia Luscombe Forget Me Not Boutique

This past year, we received a generous **anonymous** donation in the amount of \$50,000. This significant gift will continue to impact the lives of the children and youth with special needs in our community.

Thank you!



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



The Young family believes contributing to charities in their community is the best way to support community engagement.

J.H. Young is a family-owned and operated business since 1900, with a trusted history in Brantford and the surrounding area. The J.H. Young brand combines luxury jewellery with personalized customer service. Fourth-generation jewellers own J.H. Young Fine Jewellers; the four sibling team includes David, Dianne, Paul, and Graham. The Young Family and staff take pride in providing their customers with quality service and transparency.

Over the years, the Young family has supported a number of local charities, most notably the Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation, spearheaded by David Young, former chairman and board member for ten years at Lansdowne. The Young family believes contributing to charities in their community is the best way to support community engagement. Both the Centre and Foundation would like to personally thank David and his family for their years of support and dedication to helping children and youth with special needs, and to recognize them for all that they do in our community.



Lansdowne Children's Centre Foundation

Statement of Operations

Years Ended March 31

Revenues	2023	2022
Donations	187,910	170,595
Deferred Contributions Recognized	68,858	189,108
Fundraising Revenue	177,709	133,377
Interest	20,780	6,851
Total Revenue	455,257	499,931
Expenses		
Salaries and Benefits	180,948	154,486
Donations (Lansdowne Children's Centre)	200,000	116,000
Fundraising	30,490	35,194
Grants	55,278	100,311
Other operating	29,460	18,305
Total Expenses	496,176	424,296
Excess of revenue over expenses	(40,919)	75,635



In recognition of their dedication to our mission, vision and values,

and their commitment to our clients, community and colleagues, we celebrate the service milestones of these Lansdowne Children's Centre team members



5 Years

Amanda Watts
Bridget Vanderheyden
Brooke DePoorter
James Kojelis
Jenna Schonbacher
Jennifer Hoekman
Julia Bertens
Kristie Forshaw
Megan Phillips
Nina Geley
Sydney Whelan

10 Years

Danielle Hunte
Charlotte Michalchuk
Tana Turkowiak

15 Years

Abbie Hutton
Ely MacDonald
Pat Martin
Sandi Gairns

20 Years

Bettina Oulton
Debbie James
Jackie Morris

30 Years

Rose Press
Stephanie Gosnell

35 Years

Lorraine DeJong

*Thank!
You!*

Have you heard?

Can't say enough good things about this place and the people who work there. They have helped me and my daughter immensely and I don't want to imagine our life without them.

[Mandy Gracie, Google Review](#)

I can't say enough good things about the wonderful staff at Lansdowne! They have helped us & our son immensely. We are forever grateful for all the time and energy!

[Bethany Tozer, Google Review](#)

Amazing team at Lansdowne. The most helpful of any children's centre we've ever been to.

[Carlo Labrecque, Google Review](#)

[Autism Services, Entry to School experience]... Establishing routines, learning new skills... You name it, my child now has experience in it! :) We are incredibly grateful to the staff at Lansdowne for this program and their dedication to it. My child wanted to go everyday and that's the most important thing. Transition to JK will be so fun because of your lovely staff and the compassion you showed my child.

[Parent Feedback Form, ETS Exit Survey 2022](#)

Fantastic experience, once you get in. The wait is extremely long to receive support but once you're in you really feel you're in the best of care. My little guy is so excited to go every week. It really fills up his cup, and we've seen a lot of improvement with his speech. Highly recommend! Wonderful staff. Absolutely lovely, caring people who clearly have a passion for children's wellness.

[Valery Brown, Google Review](#)



LANSDOWNE LEADERSHIP

CENTRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John Bradford

Past President

Rob Simmons

Vice Presidents

Lloyd St Amand

Rick Sterne

Treasurer

David Gowling

Secretary

Ashley Veldkamp

Foundation Board Liason

Mark Lazenby

Anne Noyes

Dr. Ben Klein *Ex officio*

Jim Parrott

Joe Persia

Karen Towler

Mike DeBruyn

Mike Gatopoulos

Rick Rozak

Rita-Marie Hadley *Ex officio*

Will Bucholtz

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Executive Director

Rita-Marie Hadley

Medical Director

Dr. Ben Klein

Director of Client Services

Jennifer Huxley

Human Resources Director

Sarah Consoli

Sandy Gdyczynski (retired)

Business Director

Cindy Rock

Service Managers

Bettina Oulton

Carolyn Muir

Cassandra Cloet

Sandra Gairns

Sarah Thompson

Susan Battin

Tamie Aubin

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Laura Maddison

Past President

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Vice President

Mark Lazenby

Treasurer/Secretary

Skylar Turkiewicz

Centre Board Liason

Rick Sterne

Cam Weir

Geoff Nelson

Jamie Hitchon (Resigned)

Scott Brunskill

Rita Stratford

Chief Robert Davis

Julie Neal

Wendy Pomponio

Executive Director

Jennifer White

Angee Turnbull (Retired)

Senior Development Officer

Candace Kingyens

Receipts Coordinator

Kathryn Aulsebrook



#ForTheKids

We need room to grow.

Lansdowne Children's Centre continues to be innovative and adaptive in our efforts to maximize the resources at our 39 Mount Pleasant Street site in Brantford, but we have no more room to compromise.

The current wait list for services at Lansdowne Children's Centre exceeds 2,400 children, nearly double the volume since pre-pandemic 2019.

It is time to build a new facility. One that will address shortfalls, provide new capacity and serve the next generation of our community and children's needs.

To build this new, fully accessible, technology-enabled centre we need your help. We must secure sustainable funding, working with government, partner organizations, friends of Lansdowne and our business community.

Each day on a waitlist is a missed opportunity.

Add your name to our roster of supporters online and learn more about how you can help to make a difference.

lansdownecentre.ca/forthekids



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 lansdownefoundation.ca

 autismbrant.ca

Brantford 39 Mt. Pleasant St.


Caledonia 282 Argyle St. S.


Dunnville 110 Ramsey Rd.

Simcoe 387 Cedar St.

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 Lansdowne Children's Centre
and Foundation

MEMBERS OF:

