



2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

LEARNING LIFE & MORE



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Tanya Burke,
Executive
Director**

Well, 2018-2019 has surely been exciting! This year we have experienced many interesting changes. I feel like I repeat myself every year, but yet it still rings true. Without the dedication of our EHCLA and EHCR team and our highly skilled Board of Directors, we would not be able to do the good work we do!

On our EHCLA side, Jean and Tom demonstrate outstanding teamwork and teach to their individual strengths. This is a bit of a change to our traditional model of program delivery and the result is even better programming and opportunities for our learners. This year, we have noticed a real thirst for computer instruction, life and essential skills training and individual workshops. We continue to evolve our senior, family, and intergenerational learning programs based on the feedback we receive from participants.

The EHCLA Board of Directors are our backbone and really guide us to deliver quality services. This past year they have worked hard to develop a new communication plan, update promotional materials and review policies and procedures.

We have created a newsletter to better inform our community of what we are offering. We have also re-invigorated our Corporate Membership campaign and worked toward the expansion of our EHCR service area.

The newest addition to our team, Phil Laven, Communications and Programs Manager, brings a wealth of skills and experience to our organization and he has been instrumental in a number of projects. Honestly, he walked in on his first day and settled in as though he has been here for years!

An amazing donation from the Nova Scotia Roadbuilders Association will position us to grow our fleet in the coming months. With this strategic growth in capacity, we will work to expand our service area into the HRM communities between Enfield and Waverley in the very near future.

As we prepare to head into the 2019-2020 year, I will gladly and graciously extend the message that the talent, dedication and diversity of our EHCLA team of staff, volunteers, participants, and partners are key to what we do. You all are "The rubber on our road!" It is because you care so deeply about what you do, and how it helps those you provide service to, that makes me so proud of our organization!

Thank you for letting me lead you into this next year!

"...the talent, dedication and diversity of our EHCLA team of staff, volunteers, participants and partners are key to what we do."

OUR MISSION

The mission of the East Hants
Community Learning Association is:

*to empower individuals to live with
a sense of freedom and confidence
through accessible transportation
and learning opportunities*

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

With strong leadership, community
connectivity and continued community
engagement, EHCLA works towards
three important strategic priorities:

Making Learning Accessible

Making Life Accessible

Making Food Accessible

Community Engagement

Program Excellence

Organizational Sustainability

A FEW NUMBERS

11,418

of
EHCR
Rides

7

of
EHCLA
Programs

415,965

of km
travelled
by EHCR

320

of Program
Participants

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY RIDER TEAM



Hayley Miller,
Dispatch
Assistant

This year, the East Hants & Area Community Rider has continued to deliver on its important commitment to the community: affordable, accessible, door-to-door transportation for all. Our team at the Community Rider office is working hard to break down barriers and help as many people as possible.

Our service was originally established to get learners to class. Over the years, EHCR has developed into a service for the whole community: taking passengers to classes, employment, training, workshops, medical appointments, social outings, sightseeing and holiday visits. This is just a sampling: we take folks of a wide range of destinations.

We are happy to tell you that our service has been growing. In 2018-2019, the East Hants & Area Community Rider had a total of 318 passengers – 44 more people than last year! We delivered 11,418 rides this year and travelled 415,965 kilometers. This reflects an overall increase of 17% in service delivery.

These numbers will continue to grow, as we are expanding our service into the Fall River and Waverley areas. To help us service these regions, we are hiring more drivers.

The Fleet Lead Coordinator role that we implemented last year has proven to streamline our vehicle maintenance, resulting in less downtime for vehicle repairs and has created efficiency in maintenance costs.

In Fall 2018, EHCR launched another round of shopping trips to Mic Mac Mall and Masstown Market. With the help of a poverty reduction grant, we were able to offer \$2 shopping loops, which were a hit with our passengers. This funding also covered financial subsidies for those who needed it most.

We look forward to this new chapter of EHCR. In 2019-2020, we will continue to increase our presence in the community, including finding community support for even more vehicles on the road. We are all in this together and through corporate members and donations, we will be able to help even more people.

Thank you for another marvelous year!

44 more passengers
57,324 more kilometres
Trips to Mic Mac Mall
& Masstown Market
\$2 shopping loops

STORIES FROM THE ROAD

214



"I have to take Dad out in a wheel chair accessible vehicle as he can no longer get out of a vehicle.

Community Rider for the last two years or more have been a life saver!

They get Dad to appointments and they even go out of their way to pick up Dad from the hospital at odd hours out of kindness...

All of the drivers are patient, kind and courteous and the office staff are great for scheduling appointments.

They will go out of their way to accommodate you if they can."



"My little boy often talks about the drivers and how friendly they are.

We appreciate the fact that this service is available to us through the East Hants Community Rider.

Thank you for touching base with us throughout the school year and making any changes last minute without any issues."



OUR ADULT LEARNING PROGRAMS

At the heart of EHCLA are our Adult Learning Programs (ALPs), Computer Classes and Family Literacy. These offer the core skills that learners need to update their education, keep pace with today's technology and learn together as families. We had 320 registrations across these programs this year!

**2 students obtained their GED
4 students are only 1 test away!**

There is no one size fits all approach to learning and we do everything we can to help every type of learner. A few of the ways we learn include:

- The Orton-Gillingham method of tutoring
- Scenario-based problem solving
- Experience-based learning



**"My reading has improved
a lot their year.**

**I started with small books
and am reading novels now."**



2 Valuable Workshops: Money Matters & Upskills for Work

ALPs are designed to help learners improve literacy, math and essential skills. However, these skills are just the beginning. Throughout the year, we hold activities that get learners out of the classroom. Here's a sample of the fun we had:

- Good Food Fast
- Field Trip to the Museum of Natural History
- Bowling in Truro
- Tour of Halifax with the Harbour Hopper
- Zumba with Iris Laven



TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

Tom Richard facilitated EHCLA's technology classes throughout the year. Learners came in with many different types of technology, including:

- Computers
- Tablets
- Smart Phones
- Apps
- E-mail
- Social Media
- Word Processing
- Cloud Computing

Classes are offered both daytime and evening – overcome your technology fears and learn how it can help you!

**20 senior students
learned their way
around technology
this year!**



FAMILY LITERACY



We strongly believe in learning for the whole family. EHCLA's Family Literacy Programs bring children and parents together and makes learning fun for all. Together with our friends from the East Hants Family Resource Centre, we held a fun mix of activities for the whole family:

- Alphabet Soup in Motion
- Family Literacy Day activities
- 5th Annual Family Picnic

Partnerships

We are proud to work with other learning organizations:

- East Hants Family Resource Centre
- Hants County Senior Safety Association
- Literacy Nova Scotia
- Sipekne'kinak Employment
- ABC Life Literacy Canada



INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING

We firmly believe that learning is valuable across any age and between the generations. This is why we host intergenerational learning with learners of all ages in the classroom.

Volunteers and staff develop these programs and projects to engage others in the community and pass down knowledge and traditions.



There were an outstanding variety of programs this year. Have a look at what we offered to learners:

- Cooking Classes
- Vermiculture (Worm Farms)
- Scarecrow Making
- Beekeeping for Beginners
- Fly Tying with Carl Weston
- Mi'kmaq Basket Making with Carolyn Landry
- Wills and Estate Planning with Linda Wood



Sharing knowledge

**Reducing
social isolation**

**Engaging our
community**

Discovering talents

**Inspiring new
generations**

Making connections



COMMUNITY GARDEN

2018 was an outstanding year for the Elmsdale Community Garden. We held garden parties throughout the summer, hosted pop-up markets in surrounding communities and brought attention to the need for affordable food.

**In 2018, we provided
1,754 plates of food for
the community**



Our 12 raised beds were very productive, but we couldn't have reached as many people without help. **Withrow's Food Market** partnered with us on our pop-up markets to boost our supply of fresh vegetables.

**Donations will help our garden
grow even larger in 2019!**

The donation of a freezer from **Hants County Senior Safety Association** opens many new possibilities for education. How to freeze fresh produce, save pies for the winter or cook in bulk to reduce your time in the kitchen are all options for classes.

**"We have picky eaters at home.
It's nice to have something ready
and to try different meals."**



MEET THE TEAM

EHCLA and EHCR are built on a foundation of hard work and community spirit. Thank you for making our organization shine through your passion for helping others and dedication to our cause!



OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It takes a community to run a community organization!

We are fortunate to have an experienced and multi-talented Board of Directors. This group of volunteers help us govern and steer our organization towards the learning and program needs of our community.

- Barbara Christie, Board Chair
- Caitlin Patterson, Vice Chair
- Gennie Himelman, Treasurer
- Cathy MacDonald, Secretary
- Gina Winfield
- Beth MacNeil
- Cecil Dixon
- Stacey Harrison
- Paula Wadden
- Mindy LeBlanc

10

GET INVOLVED

Offer a community course

Be a community driver

Lend a hand in the garden

**Help us fundraise for
a new vehicle**

**Let us know how our
services have helped you**

OUR SUPPORTERS

OUR FUNDERS

EHCLA and EHCR receive funding from a range of provincial, municipal and community supporters. These funds enable us to offer programs and services which are affordable and accessible to everyone in the community.



Department of Municipal Affairs

Department of Labour and Advanced Education

Department of Seniors



- East Hants Family Resource Centre
- Hants County Senior Safety Association
- NS Community Transportation Network
- Rural Transportation Association of NS
- Literacy NS
- East Hants & Districts Chamber of Commerce
- Association of NS Community Learning Organizations (ANSCLO)
- Association of Workplace Educators of NS

OUR PARTNERS

We strongly believe in collaboration. We partner with many other organizations & institutions in our community.

Thank you to our partners & collaborators for connecting our community!

OUR DONORS (first among many)



John MacDonald
\$1,000



Nova Scotia Road Builders Association
\$50,000



Days of Service
\$5,000

2018-2019 CORPORATE MEMBERS



**Bluenose
Financial**



**Dean's
Automotive
Repair**



Carmie's
Pre-School & Daycare



**Enfield
Naturopathic Clinic**

Be Happy!



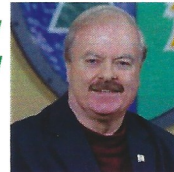
EHFRC

EAST HANTS
Nature created this wonder. *We live it!*

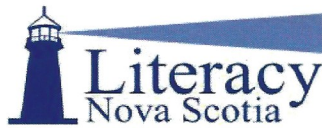


**EAST
HANTS**
Community
Health Board

ELCO
Elmsdale Lumber Co. Ltd.



Gateway
FACILITIES ULC



**HALIFAX
STANFIELD
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT**

**The
hearing
Specialists**



McNeill's
Keeping you on the move since 1962

Nova Scotia School
for **Adult Learning**
Success starts here!



**nova scotia
health authority**

**Tots
Academy**
CHILD CARE SOCIETY

oakfield
golf & country club



NOVA SCOTIA



Thank you for your support!

Follow us online!



EastHantsCommunityLearningandRider

easthantslearning.com