



## ALTERNATIVES COMMUNITY PROGRAM SERVICES

### “Building Community for Belonging, Acceptance and Growth”

#### FEATURED CITIZEN

Our featured citizen this month is Crystal who attended Thomas A Stewart Secondary School, graduating in 2006. During her High School studies she took full advantage of the transitional services offered through our Building Bridges program, leading her to skill development and recreational opportunities provided in both our Advanced Skills and Employment Support programs.

Forever a go-getter, Crystal worked diligently on all her goals in program. In 2008 she accepted a position at Wendy’s on Chemong Road and remains a valued employee there today, waiting to take your order at the front and functioning as Health and Safety Representative and Trainer.

Crystal, also active in sport with Peterborough’s Special Olympics, recently represented Peterborough in the World Games held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Four years of training and wins at the Qualifiers, Provincials and Nationals earned her a place on the team and Crystal proudly came home with a Silver Medal in individual 10-pin bowling, finishing 4th in team and doubles bowling. She says, “It was an awesome time! I met great people, the weather was amazing and it was an experience I will never forget!”

Crystal is inspired by the Special Olympics motto, in life and in sport; ***Let me win, but if I cannot win let me be brave in the attempt.***

This month Crystal participated in Provincials in Oshawa in 5-pin bowling, bringing home Gold in Team and Gold in Individual! We know that the future is very bright for this active and talented woman!

Everyone at Alternatives is so very proud of Crystal and grateful to have been witness to all that she has accomplished.



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## BRAIDWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

Alternatives Community Program Services (Peterborough) Inc. is a not-for-profit, charitable organization governed by a committed volunteer Board of Directors.

Alternatives strives to inspire and excite people of all abilities to enrich their skills, celebrate life and have fun with families, friends and neighbours by;

- ⇒ Fostering real friendships
- ⇒ Valuing personal and informed choices
- ⇒ Honouring personal worth and citizenship
- ⇒ Promoting life-long learning
- ⇒ Respecting personal safety and security
- ⇒ Enjoying healthy and active lifestyles

### Temporary Location

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**Alternatives Community Program Services** has been passionate about improving the quality of life for people living with developmental challenges for over 30 years, now supporting about 250 individuals and their families annually. Our gifted and energetic employees provide opportunities for experiences and participation in the areas of employment, volunteerism, recreation and learning new skills while fostering a sense of 'community -belonging' for people of all abilities.

Demand for quality services and opportunities has continued to grow throughout the years. With an eye to future needs and a vision to build community into the lives of all people, Alternatives invested in a property that is being renovated to address current demands while looking towards the future to expand opportunities, adapt to changing needs and to create new innovative options.

The former St. George's Church at 270 Braidwood Avenue, was a gathering space for over 100 years, bringing people from Peterborough's south-end together in friendship, community and support.

This space felt perfect for our vision.  
The **Braidwood Neighbourhood Project** was born.

Restoration began to transform St. George's Church into a multipurpose, fully-accessible community space. This includes changing the former Chapel into a Community Space, the installation of an accessible kitchen, the construction of an open studio for our day programs, the addition of accessibility ramps and a lift and the beautification of the exterior landscape. Great progress is being made and we are so very close to opening the doors.

Join our growing list of amazing donors. For just \$100 your name will be engraved on a 'leaf' and added to our Donors 'Giving Tree'. Be part of something great, be a good neighbour and be proud that you BELONG.

**With my heartfelt thanks,**  
**Vikki Etchells**  
*Executive Director*



*Acceptance Builds Community.....*

*the ABC's of Alternatives*

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