



BUILDING A WORLD  
WHERE *Everyone*  
*Belongs*



FALL/WINTER 2021

## L'Arche Community News

### New Community Leader/Executive Director



In late July, Tracey Brezovski officially assumed the role of Community Leader/Executive Director for L'Arche Greater Vancouver.

Tracey brings to L'Arche extensive experience in the non-profit sector. After receiving a Master's Degree

in Leadership from Royal Roads University in Victoria, her search for an organization whose mandate resonates with her transformational servant leadership style led her to L'Arche. She finds her values and beliefs align with the amazing L'Arche community where she has the wonderful opportunity to bring forward her passion for engagement, collaboration, advocacy, and inclusivity to the community and to the organization.

*"I am full of gratitude, excitement, and energized enthusiasm as I enter into new beginnings with all the staff, community, and stakeholders of L'Arche Greater Vancouver. We will leverage each other's strengths and move forward as a community in the next four years while we await the completion of our new building. I look forward to learning, sharing, and growing within this organization and the community."* ~ **Tracey**



*Tracey and Mary at Tracey's official installation held at Foreshore Park (Burnaby) in August.*

*Welcome Tracey! Great to have you with us on the boat!*

### CARF Three-Year Accreditation of L'Arche

L'Arche Greater Vancouver has recently been re-accredited by CARF International for a period of three years (2021 - 2024), for its Community Housing and Community Integration programs and services. This latest accreditation is the fifth consecutive Three-Year Accreditation that the international accrediting body, CARF, has given to L'Arche Greater Vancouver.

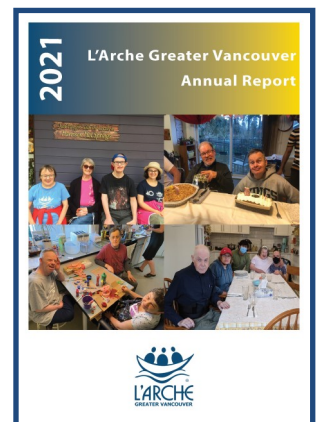


This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to an organization and shows the organization's substantial conformance to the CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. It has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an in-depth survey its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality.

CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) is an independent, non-profit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of the persons served. For more information, visit: [www.carf.org](http://www.carf.org).

### 2020/2021 Annual Report

The L'Arche Greater Vancouver's 2020/2021 Annual Report is now available to download at: [www.larchevancouver.org](http://www.larchevancouver.org). To request a hard copy of the report, please call 604-435-9544 ext. 102 or email: [development@larchevancouver.org](mailto:development@larchevancouver.org)





# Making known the gifts of people in our Community

## The Emmaus Centre

L'Arche's gradual reopening plan was rolled out in September and we were happy to welcome back our regular day program participants from our homes and from the external community. All with proper safety protocols in place!

The excitement in the hall and the flurry of activities at Emmaus Centre (including the wonderful smell of cookies being baked in the kitchen almost everyday) help lift everyone's spirit at Conway— our temporary administration office and program location while we wait for our new building on Sussex Avenue to be built!



## L'Arche Gift Works



A new and very exciting initiative was recently launched at Emmaus Centre called, L'Arche Gift Works. The goal of this not-for-profit enterprise is to create outlets and meaningful work opportunities for the core people (with developmental disabilities), which L'Arche Greater Vancouver supports. The plan is to create several gift products in the new year.

In October, our program participants began creating hand designed art cards, which was an appropriate and timely first project, especially as we approach the Advent and Christmas Seasons.



## Handmade Cards for Family and Friends

The beautiful artworks are created together by people with and without developmental disabilities. So far, making these cards has been a lot of fun for everyone. All of the artists are tremendously proud of their achievements!

The cards are available to purchase at Emmaus Centre at \$3.50 each. A pack of 5 cards with assorted designs is also available at \$15 per pack. Part of the proceeds of the sale of the cards go to support the artists who made them. For more info, contact [dayprograms@larchevancouver.org](mailto:dayprograms@larchevancouver.org).



## Retreat at Rivendell



For the first time in almost two years, some of our core members and assistants were able to have an in-person retreat at Rivendell Retreat Centre in Bowen Island.

It was such a blessing to have the much-needed time away especially to our assistants, whose tireless and dedicated care of our core members has been exceptional. The retreat was a time to recharge, refresh, to be inspired, and to build community!



# Building a Place to Live, Gather, and Grow

## Redevelopment Project Milestones



Demolition of our old building (Shiloah) on 7401 Sussex Avenue began in August and was completed in October. To celebrate this important milestone in our redevelopment project, a blessing of the land was held on a beautiful September afternoon attended by some local dignitaries, limited number of guests, and members of the L'Arche community. It was a moving experience for everyone who was present at this momentous event.



A video of the event is available to watch on our website at [www.larchevancouver.org](http://www.larchevancouver.org).



Event Speakers (L-R): Archdeacon Richard Leggett, Denise Haskett, Ted Kuntz, Lawrence Ho, Sr. Marie Zarowny, Deacon Rennie Nahanee, Tracey Brezovski, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, Rev. Graham Brownmiller, Mayor Mike Hurley

## We All Belong Campaign on the Home Stretch



Our We All Belong Capital Campaign is on the home stretch, thanks to the recent significant grant of US\$750,000 received from M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust based in Vancouver, Washington. This grant brings our funds raised to date to \$4.4million - 73% of our \$6million capital campaign goal, in support of our redevelopment project.

Lawrence Ho, a senior fellow at Murdock Trust, made the exciting announcement at our land blessing event on behalf of the Trust. An excerpt from his speech: *"The Murdock Trust serves the five states of the Pacific Northwest and in BC, we make grants to faith-based organizations...Murdock Trust was so encouraged because of the meaningfulness of the way that L'Arche serves and loves people of all abilities who live in community together."*

*Murdock Trust really sees this (project) as a challenge to the community and to others to really step up and support L'Arche and organizations like L'Arche Greater Vancouver. The Trust also really believes that the model that is being done here - the mixed market and below market housing as well as people with abilities and disabilities living together - will be a model for Canada and across the world."*

Our L'Arche community is deeply grateful and encouraged by the confidence and commitment that Murdock Trust has in our big dream to expand the mission of L'Arche in Greater Vancouver.

A huge thank you to our many generous donors and friends who have responded, thus far, to our We All Belong campaign. We are also thankful to many individuals and organizations who respond to our various fundraising appeals throughout the year. Every gift to L'Arche, regardless of amount, does make a difference!



**WE ALL BELONG**



## Thank You!

We gratefully acknowledge the following organizations for their financial support of L'Arche Foundation Greater Vancouver (May - October 2021).

B.E. Digitally Hip  
Burnaby Firefighters Charitable Society  
Catholic Women's League - Salmon Arm, BC  
D&D Reesor Family Holdings Inc  
J&G Servant Foundation  
Kennedy Duncan Foundation  
Knights of Columbus, Guardian Angels Parish Council 14723  
Knights of Columbus Fraser Valley Council, No. 2552  
Knights of Columbus Council No. 8853  
L'Arche Canada  
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund  
St. John's Anglican Church ACW

## Tribute

The following individuals were honoured/remembered with a tribute gift to L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver (May - October 2021).

### In Memory

Betty Allen	J. Murray Kierans
Marie Bach	Francesca Nichelle
Ming Chih Tu	Gerry Staudacher
Josef Deli	Kathleen Telford

### In Honour

Genni Gunn  
Paul Kierans  
Ken Milne

*A heartfelt thank you to the many individuals and families who give to L'Arche in support of our mission and our work. Our intentional community continues to thrive because of your generosity and faithful support!*

## WAYS TO SUPPORT L'ARCHE FOUNDATION OF GREATER VANCOUVER

**Mail:** Complete a donation form and send with your gift to the address below

**Phone:** 604.435.9544 ext 120

**Online:** [www.larchevancouver.org/donate](http://www.larchevancouver.org/donate)

Charitable Registration No. 137648671-RR0001



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