

Business of the Month: Community Living North Halton

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2018 promises to be a year of change for Community Living North Halton and the non-profit organization has started off on the right foot by being named the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Business of the Month for January.

Executive director Greg Edmiston said upon receiving the award that the number-one priority is to become more visible and involved in the community, especially in Halton Hills.

To that end, Edmiston said Community Living North Halton (CLNH) will likely soon be closing its Horizon Packaging business on Todd Road in Georgetown, with plans to open a retail-type location such as its Lunchbox Café, which has operated successfully in Milton for the past four years.

Edmiston said CLNH will apply for funding through the Ontario Trillium Foundation or Halton Region to get its new retail business off the ground in Georgetown.

"We're transitioning from a workshop-type of environment to a more community-based support system and getting out of the packaging business because we want to be more a part of the community," said Edmiston from CLNH's Milton home office.

"This is a big year for us. We don't have as much of a presence in Halton Hills that we had before, but we're going to focus on improving that."

Through a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, CLNH will open a house for its residents in Acton in the coming months and another Supported Independent Living home was established there last year.

CLNH has 15 programs,



Eamonn Maher/Metroland

From left, Greg Edmiston, executive director of Community Living North Halton, accepts the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Business of the Month for January along with Horizon Packaging employees Brad Steenhuis and Jeremy Crocker and CLNH community partnership manager Linda Hunt from chamber membership services committee member Kym Taal.

serving hundreds of children and adults with intellectual disabilities, which are not funded by the vari-

ous levels of government.

A front-burner issue for the organization is finding replacements for its aging

fleet of vehicles used to transport its individuals from home to work or other community activities.

The cost to replace just one of the wheelchair-accessible vans is at least \$70,000 and although CLNH has received \$20,000 in donations from local residents, the fundraising drive continues.

Anyone who can provide support for the CLNH through a fundraising event, gift in kind or charitable payroll deduction can contact community partnership manager Linda Hunt at lhunt@clnh.on.ca

Recognizing that diversity is a key component toward an inclusive community, CLNH is offering local businesses and organizations an opportunity to include CLNH-supported individuals in their staff teams through our volunteer initiative program and/or employment mentorship program.

For more information on these programs, contact Lesley Moss at lmoss@clnh.on.ca

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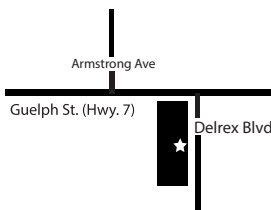


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