



A message from

**Kim Dolan, YWCA
Executive Director**

Looking back on my first year as executive director I am grateful for the predictable cycles of the seasons, the certainty that spring follows winter, and the women who welcomed me back so warmly mere weeks before COVID changed our lives.

I have been reflecting on our YWCA's 130 years of service, historic events and the inspiring actions of so many women whose trust in the power of a collective vision and persistent determination continues to create better tomorrows for all.

Through these uncertain times we will help women with responsive programs, current information and welcoming environments.

Together, we will continue to do what we have always done to bolster courage and resilience: reach out, offer a hand to another woman as she rises.



Preventing Gender-Based Violence | YWCA Youth Program

Our group-based violence prevention programs bring youth together in safe, inclusive spaces – both on and offline – for interactive projects and brave conversations around gender, social media safety, sexuality, emotions, becoming a safe active bystander, characteristics of unhealthy relationships, and a whole lot more.

We do our very best to meet boys and girls where they're at, giving them the ear, the resources and the shoulder they need today, and powerful ideas to inspire equity, inclusion and change tomorrow.

Our flexible curriculum is available throughout Haliburton County and Peterborough and is capable of supporting and focusing on the unique needs of various participants, schools and community partners. New participants are always welcome!

Learn more, including details on Spring Break sessions, by visiting our website or connecting with Jena Taylor-Hunter at 705-743-3526 x118 or jhunter@ywcapeterborough.org.

Thank you!

Your compassionate support means that we're able to provide programs that prevent unhealthy relationships, as well as shelter, crisis, and support programs that directly respond to violence within relationships. Thank you for making sure that help is available when and where it's needed most!



"Our youth program is all about creating connection and having fun!"

Courageous conversations and growth become possible when we feel engaged and know that we're in a space where it's safe to bring our authentic self, interests and needs to the table.

Each session provides amazing opportunities for collaboration where participants' strengths, skills and agency can be fostered and celebrated."

- Jena Taylor-Hunter,
YWCA Youth
Programming
Coordinator



Please join us in welcoming Darlene Smith-Harrison to her new role as YWCA Director of Client Services.

For 30+ years, Darlene's calm, compassionate approach to client service and extensive knowledge of the VAW sector has guided and supported our Women's Centre and Transition Support Teams in both Haliburton County and Peterborough. We wish Darlene much happiness and success in this next chapter with the YWCA!

Get to know our dynamic Leadership Team and talented Board of Directors by visiting our [Leadership & Governance](#) page online.

Thank You Peterborough Foundation!

Recent funding from Peterborough Foundation has made it possible for us to further enhance our safety protocols at Crossroads Shelter. New magnetic door locks are allowing for safe, secure access to a second staircase, creating a one-way traffic flow and guaranteeing physical distancing in all shelter areas.

Thank you for helping to ensure that our Crossroads Shelter continues to provide a safe, welcoming environment throughout the pandemic.



Connecting Virtually | New Support Options for Women

OnCall Health is a virtual meeting tool that's giving women in Peterborough and Haliburton County new, secure ways of connecting with YWCA support teams.

Women can now reach our Transition Support, Family Court Support, START and Youth Teams, as well as our Clinical Therapist in Haliburton County, through encrypted video sessions.

"Women place their trust in us and we take that responsibility extremely seriously.

As a Canadian platform, OnCall Health is able to ensure an exemplary level of privacy and confidentiality that's simply not possible through other online platforms."

- Darlene Smith-Harrison, YWCA Director of Client Services

Women interested in scheduling a virtual appointment or learning more about the software are encouraged to contact a member of our support team.

Peterborough: 705-743-3526
info@ywcapeterborough.org

Haliburton County: 705-286-1942
ywcahal@ywcapeterborough.org

And, since nothing can truly replace the benefits of in-person support, we are all very much looking forward to welcoming women and children back to our Women's Centre and 216 Simcoe Street meeting spaces just as soon as it is safe to do so.

To learn more about our support programs, please contact Darlene Smith-Harrison at 705-743-3526 x125 or dsmith-harrison@ywcapeterborough.org.

A Local Research Project with National Impact

Our local support teams are very pleased to be working in partnership with Western University to investigate how a new, free app may be able to further support our work with women.

Results from the pilot project, running throughout February and March 2021, will be used to create a toolkit to help women's organizations all across Canada.



Introducing a Fresh Take on a Beloved Community Fundraising Event | 2021 YWCA Empty Bowls

Thanks to the combined support and flexibility of the Kawartha Potters Guild, local restaurants and dedicated sponsors, the 17th annual YWCA Empty Bowls event has a whole new look that's helping to keep our community safe during the pandemic.

Join us in support of YWCA Nourish Food Programs – it's as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Purchase your ticket at www.ywcapeterborough.org and reserve a time to pick-up your bowl on Friday March 12, Saturday March 13 or Sunday March 14.

Tickets are \$40 each and include a NEW local restaurant coupon card.

2. Visit the Kawartha Potters Guild Pottery Shop during your selected 30 minute time slot and select a beautiful, one-of-a-kind bowl.

The Pottery Shop is located at 993 Talwood Drive, Kingswood Life Centre, Peterborough. Masks required. Free parking available.

3. Redeem your coupon card at participating local restaurants and show your local love all year long.

Coupons are valid for 1 full year.



For further details about this year's event, please connect with Ria Nicholson at rnicholson@ywcapeterborough.org or 705-743-3526 x113.

Transforming our Understanding of Food Insecurity | Nourish

Since the early 80's, hunger has been framed as the problem, making food the natural solution to food insecurity. But it may surprise you to learn that food, whether from food banks or emergency meals, has never had the power to reduce food insecurity rates. Hunger presents a captivating narrative, but it obscures the reality.

Food insecurity means not having enough money to buy food. The root of the problem is income insecurity, and therefore, the only effective solutions are income-based. Our **Hungry for Income Education Series** provides an essential knowledge base for anyone involved in emergency food, but is relevant to anyone who cares deeply about our community.

Learn more about the realities of poverty in both Canada and Peterborough in an interactive, free online format. Please connect with Joëlle Favreau at 705-743-3526 x102 or jfavreau@ywcapeterborough.org for more information or to register. Flexible start dates are available.

What story will your legacy tell?

Planning a gift to the YWCA in your Will is a powerful way to ensure that local women and children can continue to escape violence and build the futures they dream of, today, tomorrow and for generations to come. To learn more, connect with Corinna Campbell ccampbell@ywcapeterborough.org or 705-743-3526 x128.



Celebrating Your Support | Recent Acts of Kindness

Together, your generous support throughout the holiday season helped raise more than \$90,000 toward YWCA crisis and support programs in Haliburton County and Peterborough! Thank you, on behalf of the hundreds of local women and children finding safety, resources and 24 hour support at the YWCA - **because of you!**

With a Whole Lotta Love to:

- Giving Tuesday matching donors: Betty & Bill Morris, Olivia & Gord James, Monika Carmichael of Trent Valley Honda, and Local Desjardins Insurance Agents: Tammy Lee Hanlon, Mike Harrington, Brian Mulligan, Kirk Norris & Todd Spalding
- Kawartha Credit Union
- Kawartha Home & Health Care Services
- Linz Hunt with Royal LePage Frank Real Estate
- Peterborough Naval Association 'Giving Back Initiative'
- Supporters of the Cosmetic & LOVE YOU Campaigns at Shoppers Drug Marts in Peterborough

To learn more about event, corporate or community partnerships, contact Ria Nicholson at rnicholson@ywcapeterborough.org or 705-743-3526 x113.

Monthly Impact!

Reliable support from folks who choose to give on a monthly basis offers stability and increases our ability to adapt to change. Learn more about making the switch by contacting Tina MacFarlane at tmacfarlane@ywcapeterborough.org or 705-743-3526 x123 today.

Special Thanks to Special Friends of the YWCA

Every year, a handful of our supporters include a note of thanks or encouragement along with their donation. These acts of kindness are a beautiful reminder of all that's possible, together. We hope this one brightens your day:

Dec 2020

Dear YWCA;

To all of your staff, volunteers and supporters. Please accept my sincere appreciation for all you do in our community to give women a safe alternative to life's choices, when they need it and are ready for help. That is the amazing thing about the YWCA, you are there and "ready" when they are. You need support before they do, and I get that. I hope the community does too. I hope 2021 is better, but I'm glad you will be there, no matter what lies ahead.

Thank you and best wishes
Nancy

Please know that every note, every call and every kind word means a great deal to all of us here at the YWCA. Thank you for sharing such compassion for women and children in Peterborough & Haliburton County!



We're here for women, as well as the people who love and support them. If you or someone you know needs help, contact us day or night.

24 Hour Support & Crisis Line:

CALL | 1-800-461-7656
TEXT | 705-991-0110

YWCA Administrative Office

216 Simcoe St, Peterborough, ON | 705-743-3526
info@ywcapeterborough.org

YWCA Women's Centre of Haliburton County

11 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden, ON | 705-286-1942
ywcahal@ywcapeterborough.org

Office Hours | Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Charitable Registration # | 12981 9819 RR0001

www.ywcapeterborough.org

