



# ALTERNATIVES

COMMUNITY PROGRAM SERVICES

EST. 1986



## JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

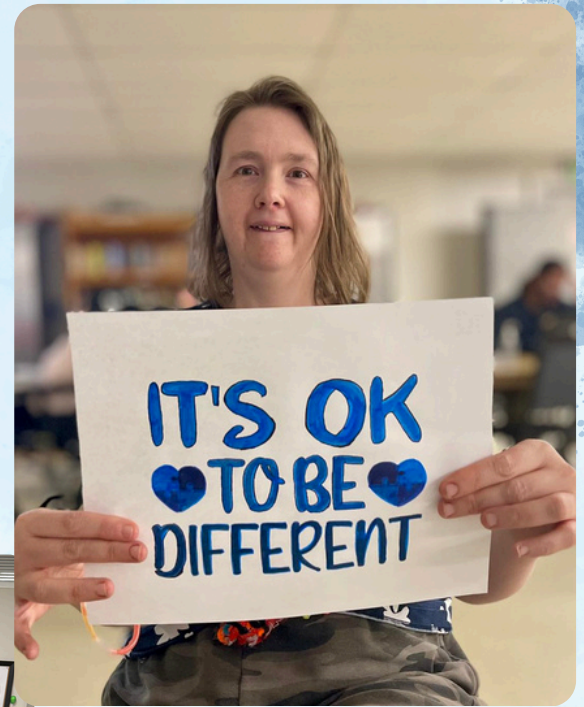
[www.alternativescommunityprogramservices.ca](http://www.alternativescommunityprogramservices.ca)

# International Women's Day

On March 8, 2026, we brightened the day for our female clients with a cheerful surprise! As they entered the building, each was greeted with a beautiful carnation—a small gesture to celebrate the strength, resilience, and achievements of women everywhere. Here's to uplifting and empowering one another—today and every day!



# World Autism Day



April is Autism Acceptance Month, and April 2 marks World Autism Acceptance Day! This month was all about going beyond awareness—embracing kindness, understanding, and inclusion. Alternatives is proud to uplift the voices, strengths, and individuality of the incredible people we work alongside every day.





Featured left to right: Deb, Morgan, Ken, Laurie B, Theresa, Jackie, Kristie, Kia, Alison, Laura, Kylee  
Missing from this photo: Trevor

# Years of Service Awards

As we celebrate 40 years of community, care, and impact, we are also proud to recognize some of the incredible staff who have helped shape our journey. This year, we are celebrating team members who have dedicated 5, 10, 15, and even 25 years to our organization. Their compassion, commitment, and hard work have made a lasting difference in the lives of the people we support and in our community.

Thank you for being such an important part of our story. Your dedication is what makes 40 years of Alternatives possible!



# ONWARD Conference

Our staff had the opportunity to attend the OASIS Conference—three inspiring days of learning, connection, and collaboration. From engaging sessions on innovation and inclusion to valuable networking with peers across the sector, it was an energizing experience!

Our team had the pleasure of attending the ONWARD Conference—an inspiring community gathering focused on the status of women and pathways forward. With meaningful conversations on leadership, equity, and empowerment, it was a great opportunity to learn, connect, and reflect. We're grateful to be part of such an engaged and supportive community!

# OASIS Conference



# Luminary Awards



We had a wonderful time at the 2026 Luminary Awards, celebrating the inspiring women who uplift and shape our community. We were especially honoured to sponsor and present the Building Belonging Award, recognizing inclusive leadership and innovation. Congratulations to this year's recipient, Jennie Lawson—your work truly makes a difference!



# Earth Day



Our Day Program and Advanced Skills Program came together to celebrate Earth Day by heading out into the community for a clean-up!

With teamwork and care, they helped make our environment a little brighter and greener.

A great day of giving back to our planet!



# Out and About!



Our SIL program has been busy exploring the community with trips to Toe Beans, a Humane Society tour, and Neb's! With more adventures ahead—including the Oshawa Zoo—alongside skill-building groups and a summer BBQ, there's lots to look forward to. A great mix of fun, learning, and connection!

Our SIL program enjoyed a fun-filled adventure to the Royal Ontario Museum—travelling together by train made the day even more exciting! From fascinating exhibits to shared laughs, it was a great day of learning, exploring, and making memories.



Thank you to the CICE program at Fleming College for hosting a wonderful community market and screening of the “Ride Ahead” documentary! We’re incredibly grateful to be part of such a meaningful and inclusive event



We were proud to support our local hospice with a donation of grocery gift cards—helping provide warm, home-cooked meals for residents and their families. Small acts can make a big difference, and we’re grateful to give back to such an incredible part of our community!

It was a pleasure to welcome Brenda Whitehead, President & CEO of the Peterborough and the Kawartha Chamber of Commerce, to Alternatives for a visit, lunch, and tour of our building.



# Community MATTERS!



We were proud to support Meals on Wheels by taking part in their Meals to Go fundraiser—helping bring nutritious, affordable meals to those who need them most. A great cause, a great lunch, and a great way to give back to our community!



# Shoutouts + Agency Events



A huge thank you to Adeilah from Jigsaw Organizing Solutions for her incredible work! Over four days, she transformed several of our storage areas with amazing efficiency, speed, and attention to detail. We're so grateful for her expertise—what a difference she's made!



We had a wonderful time welcoming the Absolutely Choir to our agency! From classic favourites to modern tunes, their performance brought joy, energy, and plenty of smiles to everyone who attended. Thank you for sharing your voices and brightening our day!

As a thank you to our AMAZING Alternatives community, we gave away 9 SETS OF TICKETS to see the Century 21 Lakers! We appreciate the support, connection, and community that has made Alternatives such a special place for the past 40 years, and this is one small way we wanted to give back!



# Placement Students



A big thank you to our Trent University Business placement student, Jackie, for her hard work and enthusiasm! Her contributions made a positive impact, and we're so grateful to have had you as part of our team. Wishing you all the best in your future success!



Shout out to our Fleming College Developmental Service Worker placement students, Gbemi and Jibin! Your dedication, kindness, and hard work made a positive impact on our programs and the people we support.

We're so grateful to have had you with us—wishing you all the best ahead!



# One Million Meals



On April 11, the Alternatives team joined forces with One Million Meals Peterborough and Kids Against Hunger Canada for an inspiring day of giving back. Together, we packed hundreds of nutritious meals for those in need—filling the room with energy, teamwork, and a shared goal of creating change. A big thank you to our dedicated team members and the amazing community for making this day so impactful. We're proud to be part of something so meaningful!



# DROP



A big thank you to The Painted Pine for partnering with DROP to lead a fantastic painting and sign-making workshop! Filled with laughter, creativity, and great energy, it was a wonderful experience for everyone involved. And a special shoutout to our participants—your creativity truly shone!



A little rain outside, a lot of creativity inside!  
DROP group spent the morning painting rainy day scenes and letting their creativity shine - even if the sun wasn't!



# DROP



The DROP program enjoyed a beautiful flower workshop with Sweet Fern Floral Studio! Filled with creativity, colour, and great company, participants had a wonderful time designing their own arrangements. A blooming lovely day all around!



Our Advanced Skills team enjoyed some fresh air and fun with games of kickball in the park! Filled with teamwork, laughter, and friendly competition, it was a great way to stay active and connected. Nothing beats sunshine and good company!



# Advanced Skills



Go Jays Go!  
The Advanced Skills gang spent the day cheering on their favourite baseball team - the Toronto Blue Jays!  
Good energy, great company, and plenty of team spirit!





# Good News Stories!



A BIG thank you to Tyler for leading the Advanced Skills baking group during his placement with the CICE program at Fleming College! Congrats Tyler in finishing your placement!

Trent is running a NHL pool!

Congrats to our Fleming Acceptance Students: Maddison, Athena, Andrea, James, Tamara!



Dillon and Olive have successfully passed their G1 Test!



Congrats to our CICE Fleming Grads: Tyler + Katelyn

Isaac - with the support of his support staff through our SIL program - applied to the BJO program through EPC Employment, and with his hard work and dedication, he successfully completed the program!

Isaac ALSO earned his welding certification along with three welding tickets!



# Thanks for reading!



Our next quarterly issue will arrive in  
September —see you then!



Charitable Gaming aims to provide stable, consistent, and direct fundraising opportunities for organizations that support programs and services in communities across the province.

