

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

L'Arche began as an act of kindness when Jean Vanier welcomed two men with intellectual disabilities to share their lives with him. In doing so, he unknowingly began the movement that has become known as L'Arche. Jean Vanier recently passed away, marking the end of an era and the end of a transition for L'Arche from one man's personal calling to an intentional way of living involving thousands of people with and without intellectual disabilities. While sad for those that knew Jean personally, and even for those that didn't, the fact that life at L'Arche Halifax carried on after Jean's passing, is a demonstration of how his message took root and bore fruit over the past 50 years. Had Jean passed away 50 years ago, L'Arche as it was, would have died with him. Raphael and Phillippe's worlds would have been changed forever without Jean in it. Not so in 2019 where L'Arche has developed and matured as an organization guarding Jean's mission and vision so well over those many years. As a result, our Core members at L'Arche Halifax and all around the world, were able to wake up the next day to the comfort of the sameness they had experienced the day before. How peaceful Jean must have felt reflecting on his legacy. Hopefully each of us will be able to feel the same when it is our time to pass on the torch.

Speaking of which, it has been 10 years since I joined the L'Arche Board of Directors, many of those years as Chairman. With L'Arche Halifax looking at launching a major project to expand our community - whether it be another home, apartments or a gathering place - and with lots of talented Board members to choose from, I have let Kelly know that it is time to start looking for a new Board Chair. Until a new Chairperson is selected I will continue in the position but in all likelihood this will be my last Annual General Meeting as your Chairperson. I will be staying on the Board as the Past Chair, so you won't be able to get rid of me that easily!

My journey with L'Arche started in 1984 when, as a university drop-out, I spent 4 months as an assistant at L'Arche Cape Breton at a time when it had only 3 Core members! It was in Cape Breton that I had honour of meeting Jean Vanier at the chapel in Waycobah First Nation. I moved to Halifax after that and got busy with life. It was in 2008 that a friend asked me to join the Board of L'Arche Halifax - the Board thought it would be a good idea to have a lawyer. So I volunteered and here we are today.

As is usually the case in L'Arche, I have learned and received so much more than I have given over the years. Core members have reminded me how to live in the moment and enjoy the simple things in life. I have admired our Assistants for their ability to be present to others - not as easy as it appears. Kelly has taught me so much about leadership, how business can be combined with compassion and how genuinely caring about the other person makes the tough conversations easier. I have appreciated the collective wisdom of my fellow Board members past and present as we faced many issues and decisions over the years - each one giving graciously of their time in the measure available.

In looking back over the last 10 years, I do feel pleased that I was able to help in some small way L'Arche Halifax stay on course. My only regret was that we were not able to welcome more Core members to a new home. But thankfully there is still time for that and I look forward to continuing to work with the Board on that.

Thank you everyone for your help and support over the years and best wishes to the new Board Chair whenever he or she is selected.

Brian Hebert | Chair of the Board



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY LEADER

Dear Friends,

Gratitude. That is the word that keeps coming to me when I think of this past year. I am so thankful for the life we have lived. I'm thankful for our assistants who believe in the mission and choose each day to build relationships. I'm thankful for the new life in our community: Mackenzie, daughter of Ainsley and Chantal, just turned one year old and Alethia, daughter of Michelle and Kai, was born in January. They are such a gift to our community.

I'm thankful for our core members who open their hearts to new people, to new experiences and teach us how important it is to have a place where we belong. I'm thankful for our Board of Directors who work hard, often behind the scenes, to make sure we have what we need and then some. I'm thankful for our families who have been with us every step of the way, and have grown with us through good times and hard times. I'm thankful for all of our supporters, for our friends and for all the people that have touched our lives and allowed us to change their hearts.

Kelly Geddes | Community Leader

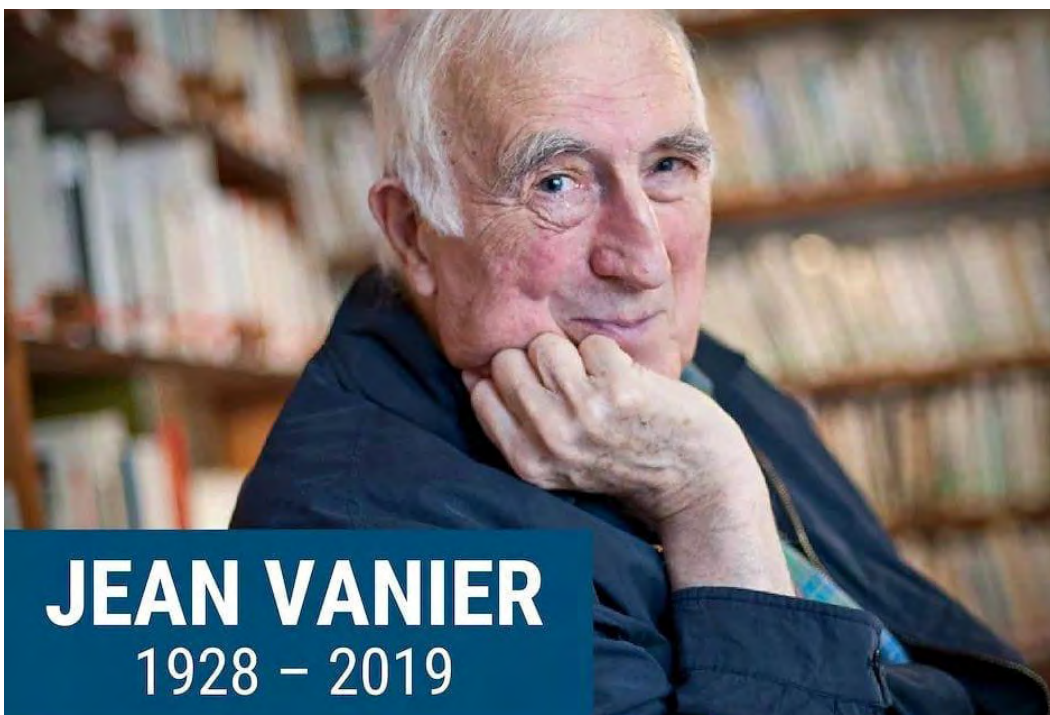
And I'm thankful for Jean Vanier and his vision that has brought us all together and changed our lives. This was an important year for L'Arche around the world. Jean Vanier, our founder, passed away on May 7th, 2019. Jean was 90 years old. Representatives from around the world gathered in France for Jean's funeral, which was live-streamed in English and French. We gathered in our living room to watch the funeral and be with our brothers and sisters in L'Arche. The world felt a little smaller that day. It was a beautiful tribute to a wonderful man.

Many of us have talked about the impact that Jean's death has had on us. For me, I have a renewed calling to spread the message of L'Arche to more people. I am thankful to have this life and to be a part of an organization that wants to make the world a better place.

I'll leave you with Jean's last words to us:

***"I am happy and give thanks for everything.
My deepest love to each one of you."***

Jean Vanier, 30 April, 2019



JEAN VANIER
1928 – 2019

ART SHOW AND SALE

Our 9th annual L'Arche Halifax Art show and sale was again a great success! We had some great feature artists this year including Gordon Mills from L'Arche Cape Breton, Shelley Mitchell, Zehava Power and Louise Baker.

Thank you to so many people who contributed! Firstly the artists and all who came from the community and bought paintings!! We actually made \$1100.00 more in revenues than last year! Thank you to Joy Fraser for designing our beautiful poster. For Jamie Munro distributing the poster, thanks again to Sarah Gillis for her PR work and Ghislaine Fauteaux for organizing the Print Table again this year. Thanks also goes out to Deserres for lending us easels for the weekend, much appreciated. To the ladies who catered the Wine and Cheese party at the opening, Linda Longmire, Angela Comeau, Elizabeth Sampson and Kathleen Ross. Thank you so much!

We are looking forward to our 10th Annual Art Show next spring! On behalf of L'Arche Halifax, thank you.

Barbara Ross



11TH ANNUAL L'ARCHE HALIFAX GOLF TOURNAMENT

Please join us on Monday, September 16th, 2019, for our 11th Annual Golf Tournament at the beautiful Glen Arbour Golf Course.

This year we celebrate 50 years of L'Arche in Canada and next year marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of our L'Arche homes in Halifax. These are huge milestones and in planning these celebrations, we have

decided to go back to our roots and host the tournament on our own. We are thankful for the friendship and experience of partnering with Prescott for the past 2 years and have their full blessings as we move forward. As usual, members from Special Olympics Golf will be joining us and hosting their own mini fund raisers on the course, adding to the fun of the day.

Registration is at 8am with a Shot Gun Start at 9am- RAIN OR SHINE and we are hoping for shine! The day will include goodie bags, prizes, cash raffle, BBQ lunch, silent auction and a Reverse Draw with the main prize of free West Jet tickets!!

We are looking for golf teams and sponsors and are hoping we can count on your support this year. Individual golfers are welcome and we'll help build you a team. Costs will be the same as last year: \$1200.00 per 4 person golf team, \$300.00 per individual golfer, \$1200.00 per sponsorship or \$2000.00 for a team AND sponsorship combo.

Not a golfer? Sponsor a hole or donate an item for our auction. Your donation will make a difference! Sponsors will be recognized on our sponsor board, website and social media channels.

Please connect with Kelly at the office for more information.





SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 12 2020

Celebrating L'Arche Halifax
10 year anniversary!

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Past Chair: Open
Chair: Brian Hebert
Vice-Chair: Wayne Dipersio
Secretary: Mike McCarther
Treasurer: Andrew Howatt
Director: Barb Ross
Director: Joy Fraser
Director: Katherine Boone
Director: Steve Estey



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