



B.I.A.P.R.
Brain Injury Association
Peterborough Region

Date: July 31, 2020

Dear Members, Clients and Care Partners,

I hope that everyone continues to be healthy as we move into Stage 3 throughout most of Ontario. Please continue to do your part to keep yourself, your friends and family safe by following the Public Health guidelines on staying safe by washing your hands (or using hand sanitizer), physically distancing and wearing a mask (or face covering). As of August 1st, it is now mandatory in all four counties that we serve to wear a face covering/mask while indoors. Thanks to all for your hard work in helping to stop the spread of the virus.

The BIAPR Rebound Plan is ready to be reviewed by our Board. We will be following Ministry Health directions at each stage of our resumption plans and as such this process is taking time. The office space has been equipped with physical barriers, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) has been purchased and safety plans have been written by the staff for each of our functional areas. BIAPR supports will be similar but look much different when we are back in the office. Clients, members, and staff will be required to wear a mask while on-site and client/member visits will be by appointment only to ensure that we are following all safety protocols and fair and equitable access to on-sites supports. This truly has been a surreal journey for all of us. Thank you to the staff who are working so hard to ensure that we can meet our clients' needs during this time and into the future.

We have lost another one of our members during the last month. If you have attended the Peterborough ABI Day Service, you might have met Gary. He was always in and out of the Hobby Shop sharing his love of working with his hands. Just today while looking for something in my office I came across a wooden puzzle that he had gifted me with one day a couple of years ago. He knew that I loved cardinals (bird) and so he cut out a wooden puzzle, but I had to sand and paint it. I guess I have some work to do now. Thanks, Gary for generosity and the reminder! He has passed but he will not be forgotten.

I would like to let you know of several new initiatives at the Ontario Brain Injury Association (OBIA).

The Brain Injury Speaks (the OBIA/ONF Stakeholder Engagement project). To learn more and to sign up go to the OBIA.ca website at this link <http://obia.ca/about-brain-injury-speaks/> . Sign up and add your voice to this important initiative.

OBIA is pleased to announce the launch of the new **Brain Injury Impact Study**. OBIA has been conducting research for more than 25 years. Many things have changed over the years, including the incidence and impact of concussion being brought to the forefront. The current research questionnaire is transitioning to the **Brain Injury Impact Study**. There are two versions of the new study, one for **Individuals Living with Brain Injury/Concussion** and the other, for **Family Members and Caregivers**. By completing the annual study, participants will receive a FREE membership to OBIA and a participating Community Association. Click on this link for more information. <http://obia.ca/obia-launches-new-brain-injury-impact-study/>

And finally, we have once again been nominated for the Awards of Excellence in Brain Injury Rehabilitation for the 2020 Community Brain Injury Association of the Year. Please see attached letter for details of other nominees and how to vote. Thank you to those who nominated BIAPR. If we have earned your vote, please be sure to spread the word and cast your vote before August 31st.

Thank you and stay safe.

Teryl Hoefel
Executive Director

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