

L'Arche Calgary

Fall 2025



A Word from L'Arche Calgary

As L'Arche Calgary continues on its journey and mission, our goal is to build deeper and more meaningful connections with the wider community. We're thrilled to introduce this brand-new newsletter, a space where we can share the heart of who we are with Calgary and beyond.

Through each edition, you'll get to know the vibrant people who make up our community: Core Members, Assistants, and friends of L'Arche. You'll also find updates on major community events, important milestones, and photos that reflect the beauty of daily life at L'Arche.

Whether you're new to L'Arche or a longtime friend, thank you for reading and walking alongside us. We're so grateful for the opportunity to share the spirit, relationships, and moments that make L'Arche such a special place.



Kichiyak Move-in



One of the most exciting recent milestones at L'Arche Calgary was the renovation of our Kichiyak house! Thanks to generous support from the Calgary Foundation and CREB®, we transformed our smallest, most structurally limited home into a bright, accessible, and welcoming space.

After five months of construction, residents moved back in this June to find an open-concept main floor, new kitchen and bathrooms, and a modern feel.



Kichiyak's transformation is more than just structural, it's a renewed space that supports community, independence, and belonging for years to come. The completed renovation has set the first stones in place for a project to rebuild three of our L'Arche homes from the ground up. We invite you to journey with us, to share the dream, and to help us build homes that honour the lives of those who have given so much to L'Arche Calgary.



WHAT'S NEW AT L'ARCHE CALGARY?

FROM OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER - ROB SMITH

We're excited to welcome new leadership to our mission! We're proud to introduce Rob Smith, our newest board member. Here's a personal note from him about why he joined our board and what he's experienced so far.

Since joining the L'Arche Calgary Board, I've been deeply moved by the passion and commitment of the community. I was initially drawn to the organization through discussions around potential expansions or renovations, something that aligns with my professional background in real estate development. I saw an opportunity to lend my expertise in a meaningful way. What's surprised me most is how engaged the Board is beyond the meeting room. I'm honored to contribute to such a purposeful and welcoming community.



Rob Smith

**"I'VE BEEN
DEEPLY
MOVED."**

FINDING INDEPENDENCE: PATRICK'S JOURNEY WITH SILP

Our work is about people, and nothing tells our story better than the voices of those we serve. We're excited to share a reflection from Patrick, who recently joined our Supported Independent Living Program (SILP).

In his own words, here's what the journey has been like.



I joined L'Arche Calgary because I heard great reviews. My PDD worker told me no one else does what you do here.

Since joining, I have become more independent with cooking. I have had great support from Loise, Josephine, and Nicole. They have been very encouraging of my artwork, saying I could show it off to the world and even sell a comic strip.

Every time Josephine and I work together I offer her tea because I want to be a good host and because we are a team. One time, Loise and I left my apartment, Loise left first, and I was leaving a few minutes later. I was walking leisurely, and I heard someone saying my name. I ignored it thinking my mind was playing tricks on me. I found out that the person who called my name was Loise. She told me that she is convinced she is a slow walker. Loise said I walk so fast. So now, every time I walk with a support worker, I remember to walk at their speed instead of my leisurely pace.

OUR PROJECT - "HOME IS WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS"



Like any home, decades of wear and tear have taken their toll, and our homes are in desperate need of replacement. Our three oldest homes are over 60 years old and have undergone no significant improvements in the past 20 years. All of our core members age in place - we are their forever home.

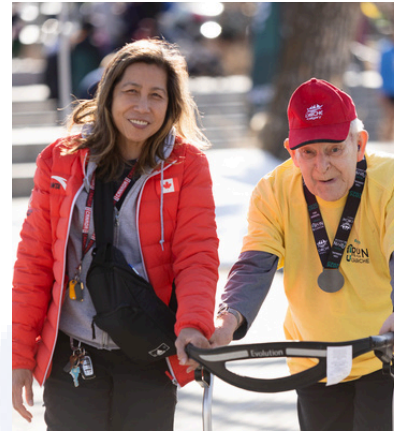
Join us in creating homes where everyone truly belongs, now and for generations to come.

LIFE AT L'ARCHE

We like to keep engaged and connected at L'Arche Calgary, and make sure to continuously make new memories and host new experiences. From nurturing a hobby during the Day Program to going on an adventure to another province, our Core Members and Assistants have many memorable moments.

Here are some highlights from 2025:

APRIL - ACERA INSURANCE RUN FOR L'ARCHE 2025



JUNE - L'ARCHE WESTERN REGION SUMMER GAMES



MARCH - ROUGHNECKS LACROSSE GAME

JULY-AUGUST SUMMER OUTINGS





MORE FROM OUR COMMUNITY



A WORD FROM TYLER

If you visit our Tamarack Day Program, chances are the first person to greet you will be Tyler. With his bright smile and friendly, outgoing nature, Tyler brings joy to everyone around him.

Tyler has called L'Arche Calgary home for the past nine years. We asked him to share what he enjoys most about life at L'Arche:

Q: What do you like about L'Arche?

Tyler: I enjoy doing things. I like to enjoy people, and they like enjoying me!

Q: What do you like about Haeremai House?

Tyler: I like all the people there, and I like my room, it's the biggest room in the house.

Q: What are you grateful for?

Tyler: For Christian. And tonight, I'm going to St. Anthony's Church for prayer mass. *(Christian is our Fundraising Coordinator, and a good friend of Tyler's.)*

Tyler also offered a prayer to share with the community:

"Heavenly Father, I just pray for anyone who wants to come to L'Arche. Amen!"

Words in Gratitude for the Life of Reginald Alfred Lamouche

June 1938 - July 2025

In July of 2025, we lost a dear friend and long-time community member, Alfred.

At 87 years old, Alfred lived a full and rich life, spending 40 of them with us at L'Arche Calgary. Alfred's presence was a quiet but steady thread in the fabric of the community. He had a gentle spirit and an abundance of love, especially for animals and children, who always seemed drawn to his warmth and kindness. Over the years, Alfred touched the lives of hundreds of people, showing us how to live with gentleness and kindness.

In recent years, his love of making birdhouses reflected his patient spirit and the care he put into everything he did. Those little homes for birds will always remind us of the big home he helped create here with us.

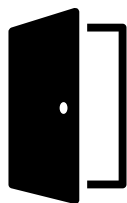
As we grieve, we also give thanks - for Alfred's life, his legacy, and the many ways he shaped our lives.

Rest well, Alfred.





SUPPORTING L'ARCHE CALGARY



SHARE YOUR SPACE

Open your accessible venue or area for our community gatherings and small events. Your generosity helps us create welcoming spaces for our Core Members.



DONATE

Become a partner in our community and invest in the future of our Core Members! From monthly donations to gifts in kind, there are many ways to support our mission.



VOLUNTEER

Whether you are looking for a regular commitment or to help out at occasional events, we would love to have you join us!



WHAT'S NEEDED NOW

As we remain committed to delivering consistent, high-quality programming, rising costs are creating significant financial pressure.

We are currently seeking support in the following key areas:

- Priority home repairs and accessibility upgrades
- Art and activity supplies for the Day Program
- Essential furniture and equipment for our homes

Your support ensures we can continue offering safe, engaging, and supportive environments every day.

HOW TO GIVE

Online: www.larchecalgary.org/donate-ways-to-give/

Phone: (403) 930-2263

Mail: Mail your donation to L'Arche Association of Calgary
307-57 Ave SW | Calgary, AB T2H 2T6



L'ARCHE ASSOCIATION OF CALGARY

307-57 Ave SW | Calgary, AB T2H 2T6
(403) 571 0155

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