

L'Arche Calgary

Summer 2026



A Word from L'Arche Calgary

This has been a season of growth and possibility at L'Arche Calgary. As we continue to expand our capacity and deepen our impact, we are welcoming new Core Members, growing our programs, and creating more opportunities for connection and belonging.

2026 has also brought exciting moments of community engagement, from our record-breaking Run for L'Arche to our inspiring Art Show, which shared the gifts of our Core Members with the wider Calgary community. As a parent in our community beautifully reflects in this newsletter, the Art Show was a place where everyone was seen, celebrated, and encouraged.

Looking ahead, we are excited for what's to come, including the next steps in our Rebuild Project, upcoming community events like L'Archtoberfest and Run for L'Arche 2027, and the continued growth of a community where everyone belongs.



Update: L'Arche Calgary's Rebuild Project

This spring, L'Arche Calgary said goodbye to Cenacle, a home that has been part of our community since the 1970s. While it was difficult to say farewell to a place filled with so many memories, it also marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter.

The property will be the site of the first home in our Rebuild Project. This new, fully accessible home is being designed to support Core Members as they age with dignity and belonging. Replacing three of our aging homes is an important step toward ensuring they remain safe, welcoming, and sustainable for generations to come.

Since saying goodbye to Cenacle, we have continued moving the project forward through design development, municipal approvals, and fundraising. While much of this work happens behind the scenes, each milestone brings us closer to making this vision a reality.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this journey so far. Together, we are helping create homes where people can continue to live, grow, and belong for many years to come.



WHAT'S NEW AT L'ARCHE CALGARY?

NEW TO THE BOARD: JOE CREAGHAN

We're pleased to welcome Joe Creaghan as the newest member of the L'Arche Calgary Board of Directors.

Joe was drawn to L'Arche after being introduced to the organization by a respected Board member and learning more about its mission, vision and values. "They align to one's I support," he says.

As a partner at Kelly & Creaghan LLP, Joe believes strongly in giving back to the community. Supporting non-profit organizations, he says, is an integral part of the firm's partnership model, and he brings with him decades of experience in volunteer leadership and community service.

Since joining the L'Arche Calgary community, what has stood out to Joe most is the care and dedication of the people who make it what it is. He describes "a caring group of individuals providing selfless efforts" to promote self-worth and accomplishment for Core Members and their families.

We're grateful to have Joe's experience, perspective and commitment to community on our Board, and we look forward to getting to know him better as he begins his journey with L'Arche Calgary.



Joe Creaghan

“
**Not for profit
support is
integral..**
”

GROWING OUR COMMUNITY

As L'Arche Calgary continues to grow, so does our capacity to welcome more people into the community. This summer, we were delighted to welcome two new Core Members: Cassidy Reimer, who joined our Supported Independent Living Program (SILP) in June, and Christina Stenhouse, the newest member of the Tamarack Day Program.

Every new person who joins L'Arche brings new relationships, stories, gifts and possibilities to our community. Cassidy and Christina's arrivals are part of the growth we're seeing across L'Arche Calgary, and a reminder of why our Rebuild Project is so important. As we look toward creating more accessible, welcoming spaces for the future, we're excited to continue growing a community where more people can find belonging, friendship and a place to call home.



Cassidy



Christina

READ OUR 2026 ANNUAL REPORT FOR MORE UPDATES



EVENTS AT L'ARCHE

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

RECORD-BREAKING 2026 RUN FOR L'ARCHE

The 2026 Run for L'Arche was our largest yet, welcoming 470 registrants to Confluence Plaza in a celebration of belonging and inclusion. Nearly half of participants were joining us for the first time, reflecting the growing reach of L'Arche Calgary's mission. Together, the event raised \$69,649, bringing the total raised through the Run since 2011 to more than \$860,000. Thank you to everyone who helped make this inspiring day of community possible.



L'ARCHE CALGARY ART SHOW RETURNS

This spring, L'Arche Calgary hosted its first Art Show since 2023, welcoming hundreds of visitors to celebrate the talent of Core Members in our community. Showcasing more than 150 original works at cSPACE Marda Loop, the exhibition introduced many first-time visitors to L'Arche Calgary, with additional visibility through coverage by CTV News. Through artwork sales and donations, the event raised \$4,425 in support of the Tamarack Day Program Art Studio. More importantly, it reflected the continued growth of the studio and the wider L'Arche community, and the powerful role art plays in building relationships.



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 10, 2027

2027 RUN FOR L'ARCHE

The momentum from our biggest Run for L'Arche yet is carrying us into 2027! The 2026 Run broke records with more participants than ever before, and we're excited to keep that energy on Saturday, April 10, 2027. We're also proud to share that Hudson Advisory Group will be returning as our title sponsor for another year. Mark your calendars and get ready to run, walk, and celebrate together!



DATE TBA

L'ARCHETOBERFEST

The spirit of L'Archtoberfest will return this fall! Following a memorable 2025 celebration filled with stories, laughter, community, and a renewed vision for the future of L'Arche Calgary, we're looking forward to gathering again in October 2026. Details, including the date and venue, are still to come, but you can expect another evening celebrating the belonging we build together.

MORE FROM OUR COMMUNITY

A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE IS SEEN



Annice (left) with her daughter, Alison, and husband John.

At this year's L'Arche Calgary Art Show, visitors experienced far more than beautiful artwork. They witnessed the confidence, creativity, and joy that flourish when people are encouraged to share their gifts. Annice Pendrel, whose daughter Alison has been a Core Member at L'Arche Calgary for five years, shares her reflections on meeting the artists and the lasting impression the exhibition left on her.

We attended the L'Arche Calgary Art Show and I want to share how I felt as I met the artists. We were greeted by Mike who showed us his self portrait. He asked if I could guess who it was and was quite pleased when I said it was him. Mike told me the picture had been sold and he was very happy. He then asked me if I would like his autograph and when he finished, I noticed that there were about six people waiting to give me their autograph as well.

One young lady wanted to give me her autograph, but the only letter she could make was "C". The other six people told her they would help her and they patiently described how to make each letter until she was done. She was beaming.

Next I stopped to watch Stephen paint. He told me some of his paintings had sold for "real money". He emphasized that it was real and he had not expected it because he had only been painting for three years and loves it. His paintings showed the love.

As I walked down the aisle, each person I knew called me over. Heather was the happiest I had ever seen her and she had sold several paintings. By this time, I was in tears. I was experiencing community joy, individuals helping each other, and beautiful pieces of art. The artists were sharing their pictures and also encouraging you to see everyone else's paintings. If I hadn't seen it, they directed me to the next. This was a place where everyone was seen. It was the best art show I have ever attended and I sincerely hope there are more.

Annice Pendrel

Parent in the L'Arche Calgary Community

Remembering Diane Young

March, 1954 - January, 2026

Diane Young, age 71, a cherished long-term Core Member of our community, passed away in January.

Diane joined our L'Arche family on April 29, 1994, and over the years, she touched many hearts. She lived at Marymount and Annapurna, and was later supported by SILP until 2024. Although she was not living in a L'Arche Calgary home during those years, Diane remained present in the memories and hearts of our community. Diane had a special way about her that touched everyone she met and will be most remembered for her quick wit.

Rest in peace, sweet Diane. You will be missed and lovingly remembered.



SUPPORTING L'ARCHE CALGARY



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.



SPREAD THE WORD

Help spread the word about L'Arche Calgary! Whether it's sharing our events, following us on social media, or telling others about our Rebuild Project, every conversation helps build a more welcoming and inclusive community.



VOLUNTEER

Do you have a hobby, skill, or passion you'd love to share? We're looking for volunteers to help create meaningful experiences through hands-on activities with our community.

DONATE TODAY



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: 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

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