

Community Connections

March 8, 2022



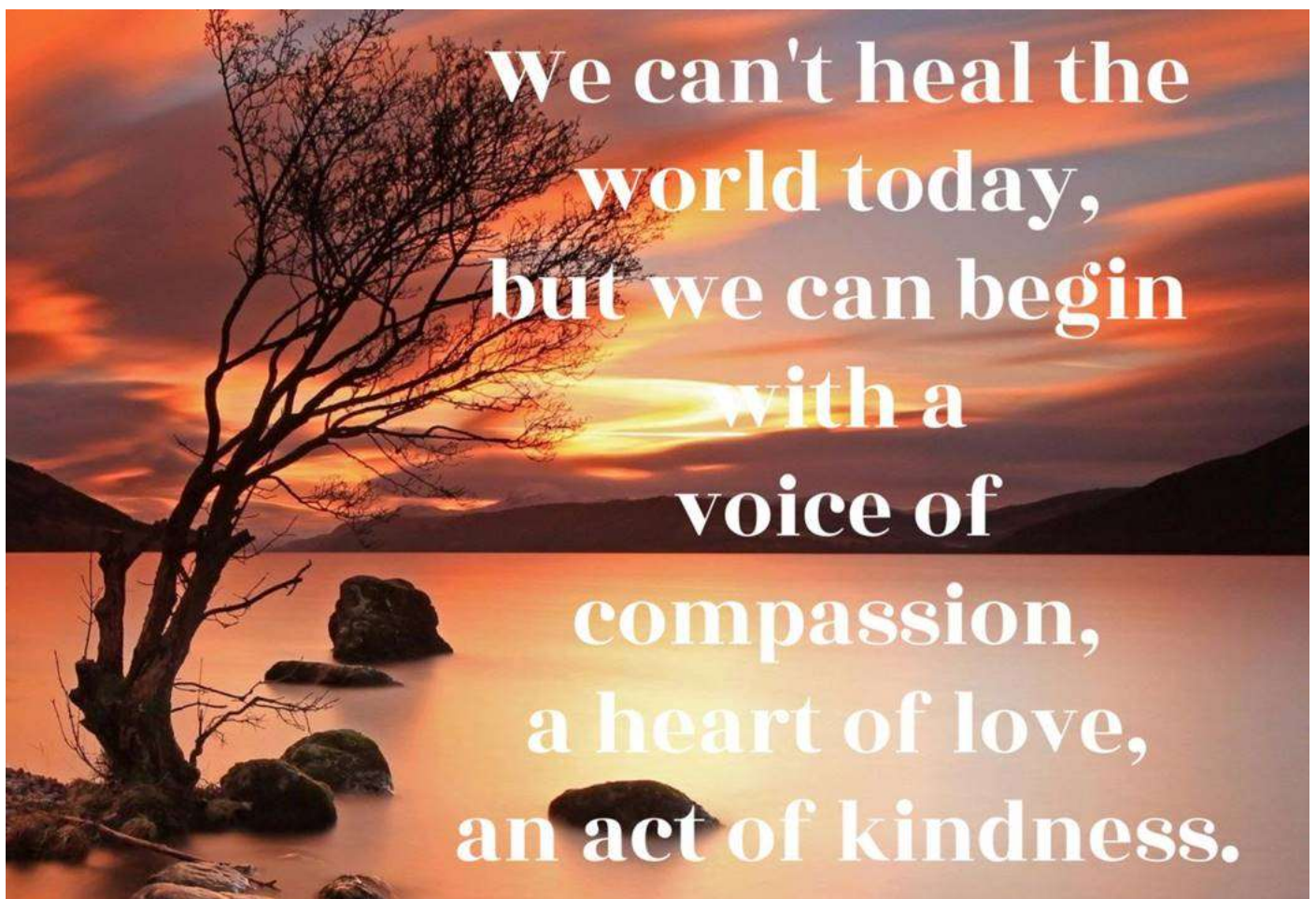
Good Morning:

Please send us anything you would like your peers and agencies to know about your program.

We are happy to be able to provide this and ask that you pass this information on to anyone who might be interested. Also, please let us know if there is anything you have found that has inspired you and we will share in future newsletters

You can find all of the past editions from our community partner Niagara Knowledge Exchange (NKE) by [Clicking Here](#)

Our next issue will be out April 12th



Spring forward Sunday, March 13, 2022

Dans la nuit de samedi le 12 mars 2022, on avance l'heure !



Fêter Pâques Celebrate Easter - April 15 – 18, 2022



Local Egg Hunts, farms: It looks like more Easter egg hunts will be returning in 2022! Unfortunately MOST have not announced their 2022 dates and will wait until days before the event to publish their plans and details. We're updating their information daily as it comes in. The dates listed are PROSPECTIVE, NOT YET CONFIRMED, based on past years. Check back as this site will update as it gets closer to Easter. When the event is confirmed for 2022, the date will be highlighted in pink. [Click here](#) for activities in Niagara.

Local Chocolate Shops to sweeten up your Easter:

- [Click Here](#) for Marshville Chocolates in Wainfleet
- [Click Here](#) for Nighs Chocolate in Stevensville
- [Click Here](#) for Criveller Cakes in Niagara Falls
- [Click Here](#) for Sweet Thoughts in Ridgeway
- [Click Here](#) for The Chocolate Shop CFX Niagara in St Davids
- [Click Here](#) Chocolates Etc - Always The Best in St Catharines
- [Click Here](#) for the Artful Cookie in St Catharines
- Or google chocolate shops to find the one closest to you.

Check out these Local Activities and Resources



Visit a Sugar Bush: It is that time of year again when the sap is gathered and boiled into sweet maple syrup! A Sugar Bush is a great spot to visit during this sweet time of year and perfect for a March Break activity. [Click here](#) to learn more about maple syrup production and to find Sugar Bush locations in Niagara.

Time to Start Thinking Gardens with Niagara Community Garden Network: As spring crawls closer, it is time to start thinking about gardens! Whether you have your own garden at home, have a community garden plot or just like to walk through gardens, the Niagara Community Garden Network is here to help! Check out their website for community garden locations, learn great tips and advice and maybe consider volunteering. [Click here](#) to see all that they have to offer.



Niagara Parents now offers live chat in over 90 different languages!

Individuals can connect with a Public Health Nurse instantly in whichever language they are most comfortable speaking. They can connect with us to register for free parenting classes, to discuss their child's growth and development, or to get links to services within the community. Connecting is easy!

[Simply click here](#)  

EarlyON's Re-Opening: After almost two years of virtual service delivery, the EarlyON Centres in Niagara are beginning to gradually re-open to in-person programming. Pre-registration is required, masking and social distancing recommendations will be followed. Check out each centre's Facebook page for additional details – [click here](#) for links.

Carousel Players Celebrating 50 years: Carousel Players is celebrating 50 years of providing amazing theatre presentations to families in Niagara and beyond. As part of their

celebrations they will be holding a free family event on April 16 and 17 called the Spring Fling. [Click here](#) for details and free registration. They will also be holding a variety of presentations, digital screenings and free family activities in every Niagara community [click here](#) to learn more.



Research Study Seeking Participants

For further information, please contact Dr. Lynn Dempsey at dempseychildlanguage@gmail.com

Niagara's Mobile Closet: Take one food truck seeking a new purpose during the pandemic and you have Niagara's Mobile Closet! This clothing shop on wheels arrives at locations where people can then come and "shop" for adult clothing and shoes except everything is free! This is a great opportunity to ensure that adults have seasonal appropriate clothing to keep them warm and dry. [Click here](#) to learn more and to view their upcoming Wellness Tour schedule. Keep an eye on their social media posts – they often are in need of donations and volunteers.

Stargazing: The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada – Niagara Centre are once again offering in-person stargazing opportunities. Their website includes photographs, upcoming events, a clear sky chart and more. [Click here](#) to view their website and [click here](#) for their Facebook page their next stargazing opportunity is this month at Heartland Forest!

Activities and supports for you, your clients & families:

March Commemorative Days

- **March 8 – International Women's Day/ journée internationale des femmes:** A day to recognize and appreciate the role women play in society. In some countries, this day is an official holiday and treated equivalently to Mother's Day. [Click here](#) for more information and resources. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources
- **March 11 - Great Big Crunch/ la Grande croquée:** Join the Great Big Crunch to celebrate healthy school food! Grab a yummy healthy snack and start crunching! Check out the website's social media hashtags, activity guide and more – [click here](#) to get started. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources
- **March 20 – Journée Internationale de la Francophonie/International Francophonie Day:** célèbrent la langue française partout dans le monde. Ces célébrations rendent hommage aux valeurs et revendications des francophones. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources. [Click here](#) for more information and resources.
- **March 21 - World Down Syndrome Day/la journée mondiale de la trisomy 21:** A day where the world organizes and participates in raising public awareness, advocating for the rights, inclusion and well-being of people with Down syndrome. [Click here](#) for more information and resources. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources
- **March 21 - International day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination/ la journée internationale pour l'élimination de la discrimination raciale:** Declared by the UN, this day remembers the damaging effects of racial discrimination and is a reminder to continue building a world with justice and equality. [Click here](#) for more information and resources. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources

- **March 22 - World Water Day/la journée mondiale de l'eau:** celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. [Click here](#) for more information and resources. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources.
- **March 26 @ 8:30pm – Earth Hour/une heure pour la terre:** engages supporters in more than 190 countries and territories, all taking action to ensure a brighter future for people and planet. [Click here](#) for environmental stewardship earth hour campaign kit. [Cliquez ici](#) l'intendance environnementale la trousse d'activités pour une heure pour la terre
- **March 31- International transgender day of Visibility/ la Journée internationale de visibilité transgenre:** The annual holiday dedicated to celebrating Trans people and raising awareness of the discrimination they face worldwide. [Click here](#) for more information and resources. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources.
- **March 31- International Decade of Indigenous Languages Day/décennie internationale des langues autochtones:** A day where Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada to recognize and celebrate the very rich and diverse heritage of Indigenous languages. [Click here](#) for more information and resources. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations et de ressources.

Funding Opportunity: The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is investing in non-profit organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19 through the [Resilient Communities Fund](#). Funding is available for projects that support the medium to longer-term recovery efforts of organizations. Projects should also help them rebuild their capacity and resiliency, and support meeting the changing needs of their communities.

- Organizations can apply for funding starting Wednesday, 9 March 2022
- Grant application deadline is Wednesday, 6 April 2022 at 5 PM ET.

If you are interested in learning more, sign up for a Virtual Information Session by [clicking here](#).

Virtual Farm Tours: Interested in knowing where your food comes from? No not the grocery store, where it is grown, on a farm! The Farm Food 360 website provides you with virtual tours of a wide variety of food producing farms – from eggs to grain, there is a tour for all of the food that you love. [Click here](#) to start your tour.

Visites virtuelles de la ferme: [cliquez ici](#) pour visiter virtuellement les entreprises agricoles et agroalimentaires canadiennes

Canada Food Guide - Involving kids in planning and preparing meals teaches them food skills and the importance of healthy eating. [Click here](#) to learn how.

Guide alimentaire canadien: Faire participer les enfants à la planification et à la préparation des repas leur permet d'acquérir des compétences alimentaires tout en découvrant l'importance d'une alimentation saine. [Cliquez ici](#) pour apprendre comment.

Start Planning for Earth Day in April: [Click Here](#) for the Earth Day 2021 Tool Kit

Célébrez le Jour de la Terre: Il y a mille et une façon de vous mobiliser pour la planète et le Jour de la Terre, même depuis chez vous! [Cliquez ici](#) par exemples

National Poison Prevention Week -March 20-26, 2022: This annual national poison awareness campaign draws attention to the causes of poisoning and how to prevent them from occurring. It also helps promote awareness of poison prevention strategies, and promotes awareness of Poison Centres and their role. Since cannabis was legalized, there has been an increasing trend of calls regarding cannabis exposures in children under 12 years of age. In 2018, there were just over 70 exposure calls and last year they received over 700 exposure calls from homes and hospitals. [Click here](#) to explore the Ontario Poison Centre's website for additional information and tools that can be used to help keep children safe.

The Birds are Back! One of the best parts of spring is seeing the return of so many birds and enjoying their songs. To help you identify all of the returning birds, check out Audubon for Kids [click here](#) to start exploring. Be sure to click on all of the adventures, check out how to make a bird feeder out of recycled materials and so much more!

Talking to Kids about War & Conflict: It is increasingly difficult to avoid the coverage of war, violent protests and similar moments of unrest and disruption in our world. It is inevitable that children will be exposed to the related conversations or discussions on these topics – so what is the best way to talk to kids about what is happening? [Click here](#) to read UNICEF’s tips on talking to children about war and conflict. CBC Kids asked Canadian school age children to submit questions and provided answers to 10 [click here](#) to read and share these answers.

Guerre en Ukraine: comment en parler à vos petits-enfants? [Cliquez ici](#) pour Hélène Romano, psychothérapeute spécialisée dans la prise en charge des blessés psychiques, sur la manière de bien s’y prendre.

Digital Archive Ontario: “Developed and managed with resources from the Toronto Public Library, Digital Archive Ontario (DAO) provides free access to digital material of historical importance to Ontario and Canada. DAO is a unique and vast digital collection of high quality images including Ontario maps, fire insurance plans and views of towns and cities over time, culled from the Library’s collection and dating back to the 1880s. The site also offers universal access to extensive Canadian literary programming and librarian expertise.” [Click here](#) to start exploring **et pour parcourir les articles en français**

Outdoor Spring Fun: Now that the weather is starting to get warmer, thoughts turn to outdoor fun and activities. Active for Life has some great suggestions for ways to enjoy being outdoors with your family. [Click here](#) to get started.

Activités extérieures amusantes au printemps: Au printemps, les activités simples, faciles et ludiques ne manquent pas pour se défouler au grand air. [Cliquez ici](#) pour quarante que vous pouvez faire gratuitement avec vos enfants.

Snopes & Fake News – How Can You Tell? Lately it seems that we are increasingly being bombarded with information especially on social media but how do you know what is truthful and what is fake? ABC Life Literacy had introduced a new, free virtual program to help you learn how to tell the difference. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Fausses nouvelles et Snopes.com: Comment savoir si quelque chose pourrait être une fausse nouvelle? Comment utiliser un site Web de vérification des faits pour repérer de fausses nouvelles. [Cliquez ici](#)

Stay up-to-date:

Ontario Government Covid-19 Update Page: [Click Here](#) to get the latest case data and updates, learn how to protect yourself and others and get advice on what to do next if you think you might have COVID-19. (This site has the information available in many other languages.)

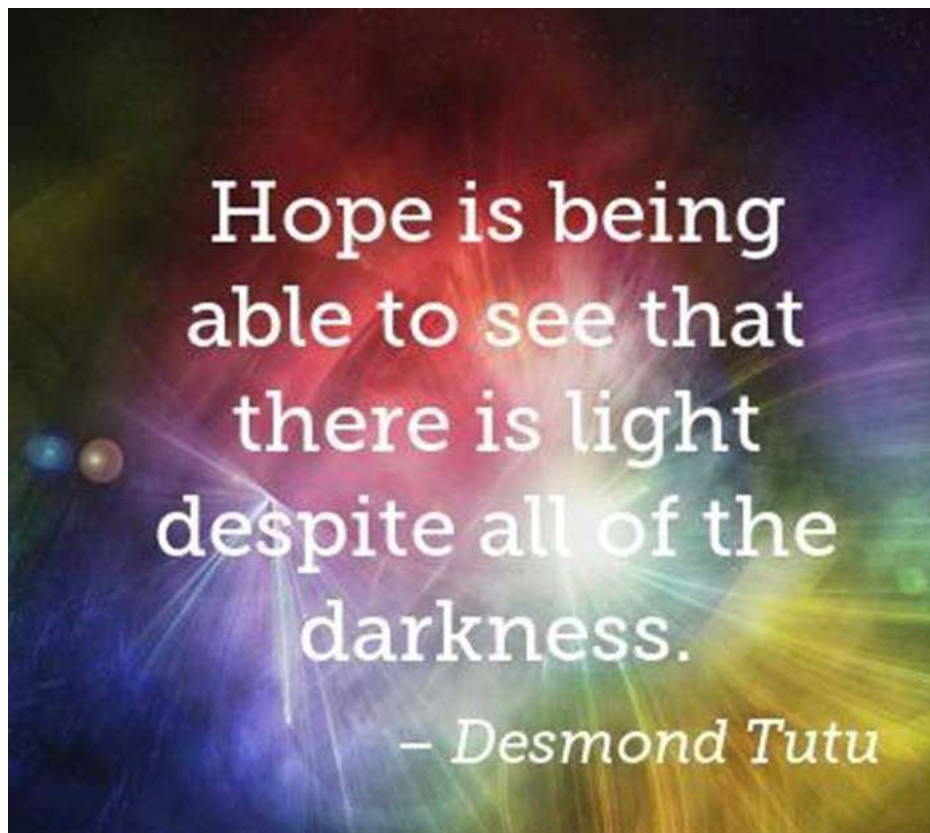
Mise à jour Covid-19 du gouvernement de l'Ontario: [Cliquez ici](#) pour obtenez les plus récentes données sur les cas et mises à jour, apprenez comment vous protéger et protéger les autres et obtenez des conseils sur la marche à suivre si vous craignez d’avoir contracté la COVID-19.

Niagara Region Community Resources: is working with the community to ensure residents are connected to resources, services, programs and support during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click Here](#)

Niagara Region FAQ’s: [Click here](#) if you have any additional questions about vaccines, booking appointments or general information about COVID-19.

Health Canada Covid-19 Update Page: [Click here](#) to get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines and find resources for your families

Gouvernement du Canada - Maladie à coronavirus (COVID-19): [Cliquez ici](#) pour les faits sur les vaccins contre la COVID-19 et Ressources de sensibilisation



We would like to apologize if you received multiple copies of this email. We are trying to reach out to as many early years' educators and staff as possible. Please share with all of your staff, clients, families or anyone who is not on this email list.

Take Care and Stay Healthy

Karen & Sharon

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