

Thriving Communities was the Theme of the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society Annual General Meeting

The Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society (KHCAS) held its Annual General Meeting this morning at the Peterborough Lions Community Centre. The theme of the meeting was "Thriving Communities" and a highlight for attendees was hearing about the experience of a guest speaker who receives services from KHCAS.

Patricia, a 19 year old single mother of two small children aged 22 months and 10 months, shared that when she was a child and the CAS was involved in her life, the experience was completely different compared to what her children are experiencing now. "I look forward to my worker coming to see us now. Since KHCAS became involved with me and my children, we've been able to leave a domestic violence situation, secure a safe home, develop a support network, and secure spots for full-time day care. Our city is very lucky to have the CAS to support families like mine."

Executive Director Jennifer Wilson thanked Patricia for her willingness to speak about her experience with the Society and commented, "Hearing about the positive impact the work of our staff has had on the life and families such as Patricia's reinforces the importance of engaging with our clients in order to build relationships that can lead to positive outcomes. An integral part of that process is the trust that develops between our workers and those receiving service."

Also at the meeting, returning Board members Stella Johnson, Karen McGee and Arnold Taylor were re-elected to the KHCAS Board of Directors for three-year terms. Appreciation was extended to departing Board member Jamie Hagg for his contributions to the Board over his three-year term. Deirdre Thomas will remain as Board President for the 2nd year of a two-year term.

Congratulations were also offered to three employees of KHCAS who received OACAS long-term service awards at the AGM: Wendy Gordon was recognized for 20 years of service, and Kathy Bonenfant and Sylvia Sullivan were each recognized for 25 years of service.

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