



"Connecting People to Their Communities in Meaningful Ways"

Office of the Elected Officials
Strathcona County
Priority Funds

To whom it may concern:

In 2019, Winder Inclusive Communities Service (WICS) applied for and received Priority Funding to hold inclusive events in Strathcona County. These events were extremely successful and have shown a strong need for more inclusive social activities in our community.

In 2020 WICS applied for and received Priority Funding to hold four more inclusive events in 2020. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing pandemic WICS was unable to hold these inclusive events. However, we were told that we could carry over the funding until 2021.

As the pandemic is continuing to cause restrictions for in-person gatherings I am writing to ask if we could use the Priority Funding to support hosting some Inclusive Virtual Events and a Community Scavenger Hunt over the next few months.

In February 2021 we started a Virtual Inclusive Meetup Group that meets once a month, connecting persons that live with a developmental disability with people in their community. Thus, I am writing to ask if we could use the Priority Funding to hire entertainment (Musicians, Comedians, Magicians) to perform virtually at these inclusive events.

In addition, we are looking at hosting a community Scavenger Hunt Event in the summer. This event would help people to get outside and explore their community. We will be advertising the event throughout Strathcona County and encouraging all members of the community to participate. Thus, I am writing to ask if we could also use the approved Priority Funding to help facilitate this event by covering the costs for advertising, set-up of the hunt, and the purchasing of prizes.

The biggest obstacle many people are facing right now, including persons living with a developmental disability, is social isolation. Therefore, we are hoping that these events can bring people together to connect and engage with other members of their community.

It is also our intention, if the current circumstances change, that we would go back to holding in-person inclusive events in Strathcona County, at a local establishment, in the fall of 2021.

Thank you so much,

May Laufman

Community Support Professional/Employment Facilitator

Winder Inclusive Communities Service

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