
The Cosmo Communicator

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The Names of Cosmo's Paper Angels Unveiled

Meet Kisik, Haylo and Shreddabelle...

On April 19th Dustin Duncan (The Minister of the Environment) and Craig Peterson (Star Phoenix promotions manager) helped unveil the names that were chosen through the Name Cosmo's Paper Angels Contest. Students from Ecole River Heights School and St. Frances School in Saskatoon as well as Humboldt's St. Augustine school were in attendance. After a short tour of Cosmo, the students were entertained by Paul Runalls, writer and lead singer of Angels of the Earth (The Cosmo Song), and Sheila Vaadeland and by the Cosmo Choir as everyone joined forces for the first live performance of our song. Prior to revealing the names, a new 30 second public service announcement (PSA) was previewed. The PSA is posted on Cosmo's Facebook page while we await final approval for broadcast.

The Names of our Angel Mascots are Kisik, Haylo and Shreddabelle. Kisik (key-sick) is derived from the Cree phrase 'Ka kisteyihtakosit okisikow' meaning the highly regarded angel. In choosing this name for the cardboard angel, the Cree immersion program at St. Frances School brings attention to the traditional role of First Nations as stewards of the environment, a responsibility shared by the participants at Cosmo.

The newsprint angel was named by four students from Ecole River Heights School. John Natcher, Topaza Ye, Zander Bandet and Quinlin Wotherspoon chose to enter the name, Haylo. Haylo has a special responsibility. Newsprint carries the first draft of history, as messages for the future. Haylo carries the message that everyone can act to help the environment and, in doing so, ensure that each participant at Cosmo can live a better, a more productive and a more meaningful life.

A class at St. Augustine School in Humboldt created an entry that was 10 feet long and each student wrote something about adults with intellectual disabilities at Cosmo. Shreddabelle was their name for the shredded angel. Confidential document destruction is a responsibility which is particularly suited to the capabilities of our participants at Cosmo. Shreddabelle, and all our Paper Angels in the community, help each participant live a better, a more productive and a more meaningful life.



Open House 2012 **Cosmo's Community Angels**

Cosmo would like to welcome family members, care givers and supporters of Cosmo to the annual Open House on May 4th, 2012.
1:00-3:00

Come tour Cosmo and see all the great things that are happening in 2012!

SAID APPLICATION REMINDER

The Government of Saskatchewan has committed to expanded enrolment and substantial increases to the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) benefit. In addition to the \$50 increase in January 2012, there will be increases of \$100 per month over four years for those living in residential care, \$350 per month over four years for those in independent living arrangements, and \$400 per month over four years for couples with disabilities who are living independently. Between March 12 and 30, 12,000 application and assessment packages were mailed out across the province in order to help expand the SAID program and increase enrolment from the current caseload of 3,500 people. These assessments are underway with enrolment and new benefits scheduled to begin June 2012.

All individuals currently receiving a disability benefit through the Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP) are reminded to complete and return their application and disability impact assessment packages as soon as possible to determine if they are eligible for the SAID program.

"The SAID program expansion is one way that this government is helping to make Saskatchewan the best place in Canada to live for people with disabilities," Social Services Minister June Draude said. "In order to ensure we include as many qualified people as possible in the enhanced program, it is vital that these assessment packages are completed."

Drop-in sessions for people who want help filling out their SAID application and assessment forms will be held in Regina and Saskatoon over the next couple of weeks. All persons who have received a SAID application package are welcome to attend these sessions. For more information, please call the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living at 306-955-3344.

New Staff

Kim Hall– Contracts

Angela Berting– Job Coach Contracts

Lori Sparling– Job Coach Contracts

Ashley Nemanishan– Job Coach– Contracts

Xenia Sawchuk– casual

Leanne King– casual

Dana Cameron–term Pathways

Desiree Macatbag– casual

Jenn Olynyk– casual

Wendel Wilkie– term

Staff Changes

Tiara Deck– Recreation and Leisure Coordinator

Wes Holder– term Recreation and Leisure Coordinator

Olivia Ecker– full time Pathways

Desiree Deis– full time Therapy Associate

Trisha Karst– Seniors

Pam Sedelnick– Coordinator Pathways

Amanda Shulist– maternity leave

Goodbye

Amy Plowman

Nadine Trotter

Rob Anton

Anti-Bullying Day at Cosmo

On the afternoon of Friday March 30, Cosmo held a dance to recognize Anti Bullying Day. Everyone was encouraged to wear something with the color pink. The Pink Shirt campaign began in 2007, when two high school students in Nova Scotia asked their classmates to wear pink to school to support a boy who was bullied for wearing pink. Staff and participants made anti bullying posters that hung in the gym while the live band played a two hour set of cover songs that everyone sang and danced to! On the big screen behind the band, there was a video show of anti bullying slogans to encourage the message further. It was a great afternoon had by all!

Meranda Sander

May 7th, 1985 – March 30th, 2012



We gather to celebrate the life of, and say farewell to, our friend and coworker Meranda Sander. Meranda joined Cosmo five years ago and quickly won the respect and hearts of many. Her infectious smile and genuine hugs will be sorely missed. While Meranda may have faced many challenges she did so with grace and dignity. It was the dedication of her friends, supporters and (most of all) her devoted family that helped her to take on and overcome these challenges daily. Meranda was born in Saskatoon on May 7th, 1985 and graduated from John Dolan School prior to working at Cosmo. From birth she was destined to fill the position of beloved daughter, precious granddaughter, special niece, proud auntie and cousin. Her personality enabled her to quickly become a meaningful part of her extended family as well as a treasured friend to many. Meranda led a full life with the support and devotion of those who meant the most to her. The ones who accompanied her on walks, went swimming with her, hung out at Camp Easter Seal including her special friend who went to the mall with her and joined her at the Phoenix dances. Meranda would shine any time you asked her about her visits with her dad and step mom. She loved being with family on any occasion. In life Meranda graciously accepted aide from those who were devoted to her and loved her and now in her passing she is free to watch over those that she has loved. Meranda has left a lasting impression and will be sadly missed, fondly remembered and never forgotten.

Thank You

The Pathways garage and bake sale was a roaring success. We would like to give a big thank you to everyone who supported our fund raising efforts. We made over \$600.00 and had a great time! You all rock!

Volunteer Appreciation 2012

Everyday people ... doing everything things ... making an extraordinary difference!

Thank you Cosmo Volunteers!

National Volunteer Week April 15th -21st, 2012

Cosmo Volunteers received an invitation in the mail in March that said we are so thankful, we are going to explode! We simply can not remain dormant. Your volunteer work is sending an atmospheric shockwave through Cosmo and it's about to cause a volcanic eruption. Please come to Cosmo for a magnitude eight celebration. And a great celebration of volunteers we did have. Everyone enjoyed lava-like ice cream floats with the pop of their choice, tables were adorned with bubbling vases and conversation was flowing.

We are so thankful to all the volunteers who have assisted at Cosmo over the years. We have so many great things to celebrate since our last appreciation event. Two long term volunteers retired. Jack Millar, who took us all over the world with his monthly slideshows retired in June 2011. Mary Baxter, longtime Rhythm Band conductor also retired in May 2011. This left the band in a time of flux. Thankfully we have found great leadership with Russ Regier, who has come on board with lots of energy and creativity. Shirley MacLennan accompanies the band on the piano and Frank Moore and Eric Grant faithfully set up chairs and hand out instruments. The band is thriving and it is all thanks to the great volunteers who make it possible.

We had many partnerships and vol-

unteers in 2011. After putting some numbers together for the United Way report, it was calculated that excluding Board and committee members, in 2011 we had over 300 different people provide volunteer services at Cosmo. 65 provide regular volunteer support throughout the year. 27 are youth volunteers who come in less regularly.

The remaining 212 were part of volunteer groups including school groups, United Way Day of Caring, Youth Volunteer Corps, Ethos Salon, Galon Insurance, Nursing students, Teachers Retreats, Bridging the Gap program, Miracle on 34th Street Festival, and Language Instruction to Newcomers to Canada. See a list of all our volunteers on the following page.

Our partnership with Ethos Salon Spa has been especially strong. Back in May 2009, Ethos came to do their first free hairstyle at Cosmo. Since then, they have come monthly to provide free cuts for participants. We are so thankful to Ethos Salon Spa for their commitment and support of Cosmo. Ethos Salon Spa is an Aveda salon which means their mission is to care for the world we live in, from the products we make to the ways in which we give back to society. At Aveda, we strive to set an example for environmental leadership and

responsibility, not just in the world of beauty, but around the world. What a great fit with Cosmo!

Another great Cosmo fit is the one we have with Galon Insurance. We are so thankful to the Galon staff for all the great help they have given to our avocational program. From planting flowers, cooking, crafting and games their smiles and assistance has been greatly appreciated. Galon has also provided us with some other very fun activities including tie dying t-shirts, the annual haunted house and an outing to the stock car races.

With not much room left on the page, I still must mention the wonderful ceiling tile artwork in Life Skills, our horticulture club, nursing students from SIAST, Nelson Boxing, Edwards School of Business, the U of S dance instructors, volunteers who helped at the 40th anniversary celebration and all the volunteers who are here day to day interacting and assisting at Cosmo. We are so grateful for your presence, support and creativity.

Thank you also to the United Way, who help to fund a full time volunteer coordinator position at Cosmo.

-Anna McCallum
Coordinator of Volunteer Services

Find out how you can help at Cosmo by checking out our Volunteer Postings on the

Volunteer Saskatoon Website www.volunteersaskatoon.com

Thank You!

To the following people and organizations who have made a difference to Cosmo!



Galon Insurance
Carol Diederich
Davin Schurman
Ethos Salon
Jen Galon
Sharla Humble
Annette Letwin
Shirley MacLennan
Jack Millar
Jenny Olenchuk
Jill Olfert
Esther Rees
Lisa Righi
Ruth Robinson
Mike Sarcazin
Randi Thiessen
Laura Wickham
Mitchell Albert
Alex Russell
Bridging the Gap
Jan Dillon
Nicholas Carverhill

Bill Ng
Linda Risling
Stacey Sawa
Nathan Grimard
Cassie Kuffner
Brianna Parkalub
Kayla Parkalub
Steffi Baker
Tanya Casswell
Bev LePage
Cindy Herbel
Amy Nobel
Kristina Romansky
Adesa Francis
Zanga Francis
Marie Gould
John Gormly
Penny Fairbrother
Bill Fairbrother
Bud Weikle
Mimi Weikle
Justin McCallum

Laurie Dunlop
Jeff Galon
Billy Gherasim
Laura Weiss
McKenzie Grimard
Josie Kiniski
Open Door Society
Roland Michner School
Youth Volunteer Corps
Jimmy Intarakosit
Stacey Dumanski
Shayla Duquette
Priyanka Yadav
Shelby Crosbie
Michelle Dewitte
Jackie Gelowitz
Jodi Johnson
Amanda Linford
Vanessa Olynick
Birke Regasa
Kelsey Steinke
Heather Thompson
Sarah Vetter

Don Smith
Ricquelle Germain
Tyrus Germain
Sharon Johnson
Connie Samulak
Barb McCallum
Kathy Thorpe
Sydni Thorpe
Grace Harmon
Iain MacLennan
Russ Regier
Frank Moore
Eric Grant
Lara Donnan
Laila Unigo
EcoJustice Class
Buena Vista Grade 7/8
Sharla Burns
Christy Halldorson
Leanne King
Josseling Bravo
Deirdre O'Reilly
Lauren Praskow

Vania Wesleyw
Bi Qun Xiao
Gary Ejven
Levi Borisenko
Debbie Janzen
Gregory Albert
Mandy Connel
Janice Cushon
Lucy Kiniski
Sue Peterson & Bragi
Austin MacDonald
Sydney Dutchak
Sierra Kalthoff
Casja Taylor
John Amag
John Bol
Cierra Wylie
David Diakuw
Kennedy Carey
Cameron Carey
Lindsay Sarauer
Josh Kiniski

Canada World Youth
Alyssa Takas
Tommy Douglas Highschool
Leah Berg
Elise Dang
Chantelle Demkiw
Phoebe Rio Marinas
Cindy Meyers
Noelle Panchuk
Joshua Robb
U of S Dancers
Soma Dalai
Austin Holst
Eloida Imperial
Barbara Mannion
Alex Lazaro
Kathy Chorney & Neutron
Edwards School of Business
Jillian Carey
Derek Duquette
Ryan Sarauer
Jesse Hall

If you can't change the world...
Why not change *somebody's* world?

- 30 minutes a week shooting hoops...
gives somebody the opportunity to take part in physical activity
- 45 minutes a week playing the piano...gives someone the joy of music
- 60 minutes a week in money skills group...
gives someone the tools to count the change for a cup of coffee
- 90 minutes a week leading an art class...
gives someone the chance to express themselves



Do you have a few minutes to change someone's world?

Volunteer at Cosmopolitan Industries Ltd. Just call **Anna @ 664-3158** to find a great volunteer position and make a difference with just minutes a day!