

Issue 08

July 2016



Passport Post

PASSPORT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Contact Information

A friendly reminder that if your contact information or address has changed, it is important that you inform your Passport Coordinator. Updating your contact information will ensure timely responses and that your invoices are reimbursed without delay.

For questions about your Passport funding, contact your coordinator at **416-780-1106** and the following extension numbers:

Madalena Silva X 295

Venetta Tavernese X 289

Amaranta Ng X 294

Megan Hart X 425

Domenic Pisante X 242

Melissa Giacomini X 431

Rosemarie Braithwaite X 263



New Website for Family Service Toronto

On May 3, 2016, Family Service Toronto launched a new website. FST 5.0 is mobile friendly and a highly visual site. The new website will allow you to navigate Family Service Toronto Programs with ease and find resources.

The Passport Program page has information on:

- ◆ Eligible Expenses
- ◆ Completing Purchase of Service and Invoice Forms.
- ◆ Hiring a Personal Support Worker
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions
- ◆ Upcoming Workshops
- ◆ Resources

Please take a look at our new website at by [clicking here.](#)

We look forward to your feedback!

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Are You Moving Outside of Toronto?

There are 11 Passport Agencies in Ontario and your funding can be transferred with you if you move outside of Toronto. The funding amount you receive per fiscal year and eligible expenses remain the same from region to region. Your Passport Coordinator will contact the new region, send your file to them, and make sure the new region has all of the information needed to begin supporting you. If you are moving outside of Toronto, please inform your Passport Coordinator so that they can get the process started and ensure a smooth transition.

A list of Passport Agencies in Ontario can be found [here.](#)

Class Action Settlement

Did you Live In a Schedule 1 Institution?

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has approved a settlement of a class action involving twelve former Ontario institutions for individuals with developmental disabilities.

You may be able to get money from the Schedule 1 class action settlement if you send in a claim form by February 28, 2017.

The institutions listed in the settlement are:

- St. Lawrence Regional Centre in Brockville
- D'Arcy Place in Cobourg
- Adult Occupational Centre in Edgar
- Pine Ridge in Aurora
- Muskoka Centre in Gravenhurst
- Oxford Regional Centre in Woodstock or the Oxford Mental Health Centre
- Midwestern Regional Centre in Palmerston
- L.S. Penrose Centre in Kingston
- Bluewater Centre in Goderich
- Durham Centre for Developmentally Handicapped in Whitby
- Prince Edward Heights in Picton
- Northwestern Regional Centre in Thunder Bay

If you or your family member lived at one of these institutions and you would like more information or to file a claim, you can contact the Arch Disability Law Centre at 1-866-482-2724 or TTY 1-866-482-2728.

Take Back The Night

The Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape in collaboration with Survivors living with Disabilities have announced its 36th annual Take Back the Night event.

The event will be held on September 16, 2016 at Ryerson Student Union located at 55 Gould St.

This year's theme is about centering the lives and experiences of survivors who self-identify as living with various disabilities which include but are not limited to physical disabilities, mobility disabilities, cognitive disabilities, learning disabilities, mental health as disability.

If you have any questions or need information regarding the fair, please contact Deb at 416-597-1171 ext. 230 or deb@trccmwar.ca.

Resources

As Fall approaches, it is important to begin planning for programs and activities to participate in. ConnectABILITY.ca offers a wide range of services and supports and can connect you with service providers. Fall registration for City of Toronto programs will be opening soon. More information on City of Toronto Program can be found [here](#).

Passport Testimonials

"Only through really experiencing it can you appreciate the difference the Passport funding is making to both our daughters and our family's life. This summer for the first time our daughter spent two weeks away at a special needs Camp - a great success for her and a welcome respite for the rest of the family. The funding then also allowed us to arrange for our care provider come and stay with our daughter while the rest of the family went to England for a holiday and to visit Grandparents for the first time in years. Thank you!" - Father of a Passport client.



PASSPORT PROGRAM

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