

OCFootprints

We're Growing

OCF is very busy preparing for our annual meeting on April 25th at Mount Elgin Community Centre. Staff and board members are visiting organizations who received grants from OCF late last year, thrilled to see first hand the impacts OCF grants are making in all corners of Oxford County. We look forward to sharing these stories with you at our upcoming annual meeting. You'll hear how OCF grants are helping to restore, protect, feed, educate, inspire and celebrate.

You will also hear how we're growing. We added three new funds to our family in 2018. That means your impact is felt more each day. Please plan to join us April 25th!.

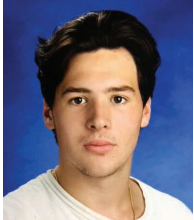
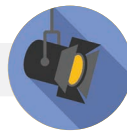
— Louise Wardrop, Executive Director

New Staff

Rosaline Bruyns recently joined OCF as Administrative Assistant. "Having lived and worked most of my life in Oxford County, I realize the strength of a community is based on the people," Rosaline says. Her career in print and digital advertising sales for SunMedia in Oxford County and Metroland Media in Brant County offered her opportunities to build positive relationships with local businesses. Combined with her volunteer work with Oxford Women in Networking and Oxford County Trails Council, she's developed a resourceful network of people. Rosaline adds, "I'm looking forward to connecting with the people in the community once again and working for an organization that benefits so many."



OCF 2018 Annual General Meeting



Tyler James Arts

On November 14, 2018, the Arts Family experienced the most painful moment in their lives. Their son and brother, Tyler James Arts, passed away in a car accident just before his 18th birthday.

In the local Village Voice, the family recently shared,

"It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child. Although that may be true, I can tell you beyond a shadow of a doubt that it takes a village to bury one."

They also expressed "a very humble thank you to all who donated to the GoFundMe page, ate a number 7 burger at the Joker's Crown, bought a sweatshirt or bracelet, showed up to a very powerful Memorial hockey game and presentation put on by the Ingersoll Minor Hockey Association or donated to the Oxford Community

Foundation directly, all of this keeps the Legacy of Tyler James Arts alive. There are truly no words powerful enough to express how important that is to all of us. Tyler's memory and our love for him will always be present in this community through everyone that has touched his life and because of how he touched ours."

Because of the community's amazing support, Tyler's parents, Rick and Dale and his siblings, Samantha, Jamie, Scott and Jennifer were able to set up the Tyler Arts Fund at OCF.

Participating in sports has always been a significant part of the Arts family life. "Sports helped me and helped Tyler get through our high school years," Rick says. The family thought it fitting to designate grants in Tyler's memory to families with financial challenges, to make it possible for youth to participate in hockey. They're also setting up two spirit

awards recognizing sportsmanship and leadership, one to be awarded to a local hockey player and a second bursary to go to a high school athlete.

Through OCF and grants from the fund, Tyler's spirit and the way he lived his life, full of love and kindness will be remembered always.



Front row: Jennifer, Dale, Samantha, Jamie
Back row: Tyler, Rick, Scott

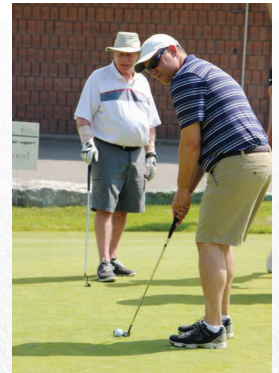
HOLD THE DATE

Warden Larry Martin invites you to attend the

Oxford County Warden's Charity Golf Tournament

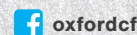
Friday, June 21st

The Bridges at Tillsonburg,
101 John Pound Rd, Tillsonburg



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OCF Board of Directors: Liz Lessif (Chair), Bill Mackesy (Vice-Chair), Richard Fanning (Treasurer), Neil Dolson, Rosemary George, Mary Holmes, Steve Robb, Don Ross, Karen Sample, Keith Stevens, David Truscott, Kelly Gilson (ex-officio)