

# Voice of the Nonprofit Sector



**PILLAR**  
nonprofit network

## 2007 Annual Report

Our Members, 2007: Across Languages Translation & Interpretation Service, Addiction Services of Thames Valley, AIDS Committee of London, Alzheimer Society of Elgin - St. Thomas, Alzheimer Society of London & Middlesex, Anago (Non) Residential Resources Inc., Wendy Arnott, The ARTS Project, ATN for Persons with Disabilities, Beyond Brescia, Big Brothers of London, Inc., Big Sisters of London, Brain Injury Association of London & Region, Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, Canadian Blood Services, Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation - Ontario Chapter, Canadian Diabetes Association, The Canadian Hearing Society, Canadian Liver Foundation, Canadian Mental Health Association - London-Middlesex, Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), Canadian Paraplegic Association of Ontario, Canadian Red Cross - London Branch, The Career Centre @ Western, Chelsey Park Retirement Community, Cheshire Homes of London Inc., Child Find Ontario, Childcan, ChildLife Network International, Childreach, Children's Health Foundation, Children's International Summer Villages (CISV), ClothingWorks, Community Living London, Continuing Studies at Western - The University of Western Ontario, Craigwood Youth Services, Crest Support Services Inc., Dale Brain Injury Services, Emmaus Cares, Epilepsy Support Centre, Kirsten Fisher, Lissa Foster, Friends of the London Public Library, Ellen Froot, Future Possibilities London, Nathan Garber, Glen Cairn Community Resource Centre, GoodLife Kids Foundation, Goodwill Industries - Ontario Great Lakes, Don Gordon, Grand Theatre, Fabienne Haller, Heart-Links/Lazos de Corazon, Hemophilia Ontario - South Western Ontario Region, Heritage London Foundation, Hospice of London, The Independent Living Centre - London & Area, Investing in Children, Junior Achievement of London & District, The Kidney Foundation of Canada - Southwestern Ontario Chapter, Lawson Health Research Institute, LAVA (London and Area Association for Volunteer Administration), Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario - London Region, Literacy London Inc., London & District Distress Centre, London Block Parent Program, London Community Foundation, London Community Players / The Palace Theatre, London Community Resource Centre, London Humane Society, London InterCommunity Health Centre, London International Children's Festival, London Memorial Society, London Military Family Resource Centre, London Occupational Safety & Health Information Service, London Public Library, London Regional AIDS Hospice/John Gordon Home, London Regional Children's Museum, London Unemployment Help Centre, The Lung Association - Bluewater Thames Valley Area Office, Peter McKinley, Merrymount Children's Centre, Middlesex London Health Unit, Mission Services of London Jennifer Mott, Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada - London/Middlesex Chapter, Museum London, Neighbourhood Legal Services (London & Middlesex) Inc., Neighbourhood Watch London, Nokee Kwe Occupational Skills Development Inc., Northwest London Resource Centre, Osteoporosis Canada - London & Thames Valley Chapter, Parkinson Society Canada, Parkwood Hospital - Volunteer Services, Participation House Support Services, Pathways Skill Development Inc., Philip Aziz Foundation of Art, Pride London Festival, RMHC London - Volunteer Services, The Salvation Army, Maria Sanchez-Keane, Scouts Canada - Tri-Shores Council, The Secrets of Radar Museum, Sexual Assault Centre London, Single Women in Motherhood (S.W.I.M.), St. John Ambulance London Branch, Street Connection, Thames Region Ecological Association, Thames Valley Children's Centre, Pat Tripp, United Way of London & Middlesex, United Way of Oxford, Willy Van Klooster, Vanier Children's Services, Victim Services of Middlesex County, VOCPRI (Volunteer Organization of CPRI), VON Middlesex-Elgin Foundation, Western Area Youth Services, WIL Employment Connections, WOTCH Community Mental Health Services, YMCA of London

Pillar Nonprofit Network supports nonprofit organizations in fulfilling their missions in our community.

We provide leadership, advocacy and support to the nonprofit sector through the promotion of volunteerism, professional development, networking, and information.

## A Message from the Executive Director

As we all strive to create an engaged, inclusive and vibrant community, each of us has an important role to play whether it is working, volunteering or supporting the nonprofit sector. Pillar Nonprofit Network continues to work towards this vision by providing support to nonprofits and charities as they fulfill their missions in London and area.

Much changed at Pillar in 2007 as we continued our tried and true programs and added new ones. We have a fresh new look with our updated space, website and branding.

Our expanded professional development program was well received with over 50 workshops and 800 individuals attending events that honed their skills in communications, fund development, board governance, financial management and much more.

Our Board Diversity Project was the beginning of positive change towards nonprofits that are more inclusive and engage individuals from ethno-cultural communities at the board level. As organizational and community change takes time, we are delighted to announce that this work will continue in 2008.

The Pillar Community Innovation Awards were restructured to shine a light on those who make our community a better place to live, work and play. The event was a true celebration of the innovation, leadership, impact and collaboration contributing to the quality of life in London and area.

All of these successes were the result of the vision and energy of our committed board, our other dedicated volunteers, skilled staff and generous supporters. Our commitment for 2008 is to continue to build on what we do well and develop new benefits for our members. We look forward to expanding our membership to be more representative of the sector and thus to strengthen our ability to provide a voice for the nonprofit sector.

**Michelle Baldwin**

## Testimonials

### **United Way of London & Middlesex**

I just thought I would drop you a line to let you know how excellent these newsletters are. I find them so informative and useful. So many bits and pieces of information come at us from all sides that it is often difficult to absorb/remember. Having it all in one well-organized newsletter is so helpful.

*- Ruth Young, Director, Community Services*

### **Glen Cairn Community Resource Centre**

Another amazing workshop! I continue to be impressed by the affordable, interesting, relevant, ongoing opportunities you provide.

*- Iona Woolley, Associate Director*

### **The Grand Theatre**

I left the Pillar Community Innovation Awards inspired and grateful that I live in a city that cares and gives so much and that such generosity is recognized and celebrated. So, congratulations ...for leading an organization that makes us, as individuals and organizations, want to do our best.

*- Deb Harvey, Executive Director*

### **Anonymous**

In 3 years, London's nonprofits will be considerably more equitable. It started here with the Board Diversity Project.

*- Participant*

## Mission & Vision

Pillar's mission is to strengthen the effectiveness of the nonprofit sector.



Our vision is a stronger nonprofit sector for an engaged, inclusive and vibrant community.

## Role of Volunteers

Pillar Nonprofit Network's success in 2007 was because of our dedicated volunteers — in our office, on our board and on our committees.

Our volunteers contributed over 2000 hours of their time in 2007.

## Highlights of 2007

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Board Diversity Project
- Citi Executive Director & Nonprofit Leader Breakfasts
- Management Tools for the Nonprofit Sector
- The Charities File Project
- Networking with a Purpose Events
- Power of Philanthropy Conference
- Nonprofit & Charitable Expo

### VOLUNTEERISM

- Volunteer referral service on [www.pillarnonprofit.ca](http://www.pillarnonprofit.ca)
- Board Orientation Program

### RESEARCH

- Employee Recruitment, Retention & Succession Planning Research Project

### INFORMATION

- Launched our redesigned website: [www.pillarnonprofit.ca](http://www.pillarnonprofit.ca)
- *Getting Connected* bi-weekly newsletter
- Nonprofit Library Network
- Developed nonprofit resource databases
- [Voluntarygateway.ca](http://Voluntarygateway.ca)

### ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

- Pillar Community Innovation Awards, November 2007
  - Community Innovation: Meals on Wheels
  - Community Leadership: Johnny Fansher
  - Community Impact: The Graham Family & Try Recycling Inc.
  - Community Collaboration: Hostels to Homes - The City of London
- *The Londoner* articles
- Modernization of the Legal Framework Governing Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations—Community response

In 2007, our membership grew to 121 members.

In the sector, we helped over 12,000 individuals and organizations through our website and email, telephone and walk-in inquiries.

## A Message from the Board Chair

Like other healthy organizations, Pillar Nonprofit Network has undulated between times of growth followed by periods of stabilization before growing again. In 2007, Pillar entered another significant growth phase. In 2008, this period of new growth will continue.

At a board strategic planning session last year, we focused our attention on ways to improve member services. Pillar exists to serve its members and we are delivering services to strengthen our collective efforts. The Board of Directors expresses its deepest gratitude and highest regard for Michelle Baldwin, our Executive Director, who is making our dreams for the nonprofit sector and this community into reality.

On a personal note, I express my profound thanks to Beth De Long our founding Executive Director, Michelle Baldwin, and all of the founding and current board members with whom I have had the honour to serve this incredibly important organization. After seven years as the board chair, I will become the past chair. I do so in complete confidence that our incoming chair will not settle for anything but the big dream of a nonprofit sector that is essential to an engaged, inclusive and vibrant community.

**Willy Van Klooster**

The [nonprofit] sector enhances our creativity, enlivens our communities, nurtures individual responsibility, stirs life at the grassroots, and reminds us that we were born free.

*John W. Gardner*



## 2007/2008 Board of Directors

- Willy Van Klooster, Westover Treatment Centre, Chair
- Lissa Foster, Citi Cards Canada, Vice-Chair
- Kirsten Fisher, University of Western Ontario, Secretary
- Gary Wood, Vanier Children's Services, Treasurer
- Wendy Arnott, St. Joseph's Health Care London
- David Billson, rTraction Canada Inc.
- Ellen Frood, Women's Rural Resource Centre
- Jennifer Hesse, London Public Library
- Eddie Ippolito, Royal LePage Triland Realty
- Brian Meehan, Museum London
- Christine Wilde, VON Middlesex-Elgin Foundation

## Community Partners 2007

A-Channel, Canada Revenue Agency, Canadian Federation of Voluntary Sector Networks, Citi Cards Canada, The City of London, CJBK/CKSL, Condotta Visual Media, DATAPIX, Delta London Armouries, Employment Ontario, Libro Financial Group, Imagine Canada, London & Area Association for Volunteer Administration, London & Region Fund Raising Executives, London Community Foundation, London Life, The Londoner, London Public Library, Canadian Heritage - Multiculturalism Program, Nathan Garber & Associates, On Communication, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Pathways Skill Development & Placement Centre, Rogers Television, United Way of London & Middlesex, Voluntary Gateway

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