



From the Desk of Anne Babcock
President & CEO, WoodGreen Community Services
- September 2018 -

Rites of Passage Trip to London, England For The International Indaba Conference

On August 22nd a group of 15 WoodGreen Rites of Passage Alumni and 5 Rites staff traveled to London, England to attend The Indaba Rites of Passage Conference. The 5-day trip consisted of visits to various London attractions including the Black Cultural Centre in Brixton, The London Eye, Buckingham Palace, Borough Market and many arts and cultural institutions. The highlight of the trip was the 2-day conference which included attendees from Rites programs across the globe. The WoodGreen Rites Alumni produced and facilitated two workshops, which were well attended and received fantastic feedback. One Rites alumni, Makayla Robinson, received the Outstanding Youth Award for the Indaba!

On behalf of the WoodGreen Rites of Passage youth, I'd like to thank everyone who

supported this trip by generously donating to the fundraising campaign. It was truly the experience of a lifetime, and I'm immensely proud of our RoP youth!



WoodGreen Rites of Passage participants in London, England.

United Way Greater Toronto's #LocalLove Campaign Kickoff at WoodGreen

As a United Way Greater Toronto anchor agency, we were thrilled to host our friends from EY Canada and CHUM 104.5 as a part of the United Way's fundraising campaign kickoff! Volunteers came together to cook and serve a hot breakfast to over 50 homeless and street-involved clients at our 650 Queen St. East site. This event was

one of over 25 acts of #LocalLove happening the same day across United Way agencies, leading up to the announcement of their \$110M fundraising goal for 2018.



Left: CHUM 104.5 hosts Shannon Burns and Meredith Shaw plating breakfasts. Right: The EY Canada Team with Tracy Murdoch, Manager of Homelessness Services, and Teresa Vasilopoulos, Executive Director of The WoodGreen Foundation.

Associa Generously Makes a \$10K Donation to Help WoodGreen Serve Those Affected by the Fire at 650 Parliament St.

Since the devastating fire at 650 Parliament St. in Toronto, we've seen an outpouring

of support from individuals and businesses alike. Mark and Diana from Associa hand-delivered a special donation of \$10,000 from their team at Maple Ridge Community Management to help WoodGreen serve residents impacted by the fire. Thank you to everyone at Associa for supporting our community.



Mark and Diana presenting a \$10K donation check for the displaced residents of 650 Parliament St.

WoodGreen's 81st Annual General Meeting

On September 26 community members, staff, volunteers, clients and neighbours came together at the East York Civic Centre to celebrate WoodGreen's 81st AGM! In addition to the great food and busy networking reception, those in attendance got to hear from three truly inspiring client speakers who each shared the powerful experiences they've had with WoodGreen's programs, and the resulting positive change in their lives.

[Click here](#) to view more photos from the event on Facebook.



AGM keynote speakers Vidya Sudama, Kelly Lawless, Anne Babcock (WoodGreen President & CEO), Lara Shohet (WoodGreen Chair) and AGM keynote speaker Olay Omodora.



Sincerely,

Anne Babcock

President & CEO

WoodGreen Community Services



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