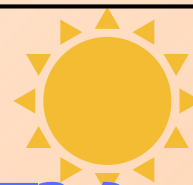


# ADAPTABILITY LONDON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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## Partners Meeting Summary

Earlier this June, the Adaptability Partners Network recently met to share updates, discuss partnership opportunities, and plan future initiatives that support accessible recreation and community participation.

A key theme of the meeting was strengthening connections between organizations to better promote programs and create pathways for individuals with disabilities to access sport, recreation, and community services. One of the main highlights was the importance of collaboration, awareness, and information sharing across the sector.

The group also received an update on a proposed SSHRC Connections Grant application that would support capacity-building workshops focused on topics such as volunteer recruitment, resource development, and grant application writing. Partner support and participation will be critical as the application moves forward. More information on this is available in the section on the SSHRC Connections Grant Talk Info.

Recent social media initiatives were highlighted, including National Accessibility Week campaigns, organization spotlights, adaptive sport promotions, and a collaborative Red Shirt Day video. Future efforts will continue to showcase partner programs and increase community awareness.

Planning is also underway for the next networking event, tentatively scheduled for fall 2026, with a focus on strengthening relationships, sharing resources, and identifying opportunities for collaboration.

## Social Media: Day in an Organization

Our Day in the Organization series continues to showcase the incredible work of local organizations and the programs they offer. Upcoming features will highlight Hutton House and Rise Above Adaptive Climbing, providing an inside look at their facilities, services, and participant experiences.

These videos are designed to help individuals and families better understand what to expect when attending a program. Highlights include accessibility features, activity demonstrations, program requirements, available supports, and scheduling and registration information. By showcasing real experiences and inclusive environments, we hope to increase awareness and make it easier for community members to find programs that fit their interests and needs. Keep an eye out on our Instagram and Facebook Accounts for these features! Below are some pictures showcasing the facilities available at Hutton House!



## Upcoming Try-It Days

### **London Blizzard Sledge Hockey**

- June 27, 2026
- July 25, 2026
- August 15, 2026

Western Fair Sports Centre (Tony's Rink)  
1:45pm - 2:35pm

**Please arrive by 1:15 for equipment fitting**

### **Rise Above Adaptive Climbing**

- July 25, 2026
  - August 22, 2026
- Junction Climbing Centre  
6:30pm - 8:30pm

### **TVCC PARA SPORTS DAY**

- June 27, 2026
- Carling Heights Optimist Community Centre  
Click **HERE** for more information and registration!

## SSHRC Connections Grant

We are currently preparing an application for a SSHRC (Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council) Connections Grant, a funding opportunity designed to support knowledge mobilization and collaboration across adaptive sport, recreation, and disability service organizations. Rather than funding traditional research, this grant focuses on building practical capacity through workshops, networking initiatives, and shared resources that strengthen organizations and improve service delivery!

If successful, this project would bring together partner organizations to collaborate on key areas such as volunteer recruitment and retention, organizational capacity building, social media and communications support, and broader community engagement strategies! The emphasis is on sharing expertise and developing tools and practices that can be used directly within organizations.

Because of the collaborative nature of the proposal, partner input and commitments are essential to the strength and feasibility of the application. Over the past few months, we have compiled various letters of support and expressions of interest for this grant opportunity! We are grateful for the letters of support from Blizzard Sledge Hockey, Track 3, and Challenger Baseball. As we draw nearer to submitting our application, we would love your continued support and will reach out to organizations if needed!

This information is required to clearly demonstrate partnership strength, coordination, and capacity within the application! Early preparation of these details will ensure a smoother submission process and allow us to accurately reflect the collective contributions of all participating organizations.

We appreciate your collaboration and support as we work toward building a strong and impactful proposal!

## Upcoming Networking Event

Our networking event last year was a success with a large turnout from various organizations! Many ideas were shared surrounding struggles with adaptive sport but also the successes, achievements and milestones that many organizations hit!

Our upcoming networking event is set for **September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026** at **1pm!** Please save the date! The event will be hosted at **Kinsmen Recreation Centre, Room 3 (20 Granville St)!** Further details will be sent out later throughout the summer!

## City of London's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

The City of London's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2027-2031) outlines the municipality's commitment to creating a more accessible and inclusive community by identifying, removing, and preventing barriers for people with disabilities. The plan is guided by the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and focuses on improving accessibility across key areas including customer service, information and communications, employment, and the design of public spaces.

In addition to meeting legislative requirements, the City emphasizes continuous improvement through the use of inclusive and universal design principles, accessibility training, public engagement, and integration with broader municipal initiatives. The plan aims to ensure that all residents can access City services, programs, facilities, and information with dignity, independence, integration, and equal opportunity.

Through ongoing evaluation and collaboration with community stakeholders, the City seeks to foster a barrier-free environment that supports the full participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life.

As part of its commitment to accessibility and continuous improvement, the City also actively seeks feedback from residents, employees, and community stakeholders regarding accessibility barriers and opportunities for improvement. Public feedback is an important component of the accessibility planning process, as it helps identify challenges experienced by individuals with disabilities and informs future policies, programs, services, and infrastructure improvements. By gathering input from the community, the City can better understand accessibility needs and ensure that its ongoing efforts to create a more inclusive and accessible environment reflect the experiences and perspectives of those most affected. Please visit the link [\*\*HERE\*\*](#) for more information.



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