

The Vincentimes

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Our New SSVP Store Hamilton West Particular Council

A scary situation had a very happy ending for our Hamilton West Value Store in 2016. We received the news that we must move as part of the future LRT Project. Mr. Bernard Osbaldeston, a long time local business man, read about our situation in our local newspaper and offered to donate a building located only about a mile from the location that we had owned for 20 years! In addition the size of the store is about four times larger than the size of our previous property.

2017 was renovation year at 429 Barton St. East, our new address.

Many firms and individuals offered their help. The Diocese of Hamilton gave us a temporary loan and a grant from the ExCorde Foundation; the City of Hamilton provided two grants for the roof and a new façade, and everyone involved gave many, many extra hours to accom-



plish this wonderful feat. Our Wall of Thanks in the store is a testament to these efforts.

The new store opened on Monday, January 29, 2018. Our new neighbourhood has welcomed us; new volunteers have joined our staff; and our daily revenues have increased substantially. Mike Ford, our previous Manager, retired on March 30 and we welcomed Karen Felker to that position.

We have books, clothing, shoes, furniture, appliance and electronics departments - housed in much larger areas. Our donations have doubled as well - a happy challenge for us.

We have been blessed in many ways. Our mission now is to steward and guide this wonderful resource for many years to come. Please drop in when you are in our area Monday – Friday 10 A.M. – 5 P.M. at 429 Barton St. East just west of Wentworth Street. Municipal parking is available right behind the store. We would like to share with all Vincentians and their friends.

~ Dorothy Tapajna, President,
Hamilton West Particular Council



Vinnies Feel Good Shopping ... in Lakefield

The Vinnies Feel Good Shopping thrift store in Peterborough has been very successful since opening at its current location on August 2, 2011 much to the outstanding efforts of store staff and volunteers along with our generous donors and loyal customers.



the donations received through to the shopping experienced by our new customers. Store staff have been told repeatedly that there was a great need in the community for a store like ours. We are very pleased to be part of and support those in need in this area.

Success breeds success.... after an extensive search and renovations, on January 3, 2018, the Peterborough Particular Council held the Grand Opening of our second Vinnies Feel Good Shopping store, in a 2,000 sq/ft retail space in Lakefield, Ontario. The Village of Lakefield is a small urban community of

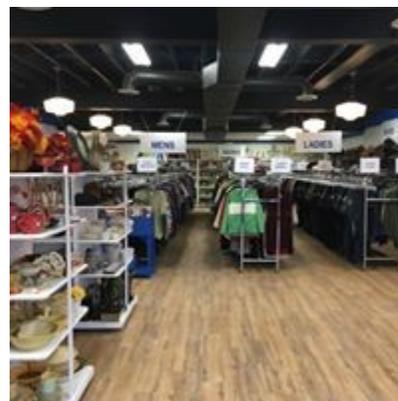
approximately 2,500 people located on the Otonabee River, part of the historic Trent Severn Waterway system. It is 20 minutes north of Peterborough.

~ Peter Gruneberg, President St. Paul the Apostle Conference, Lakefield

Monies raised help fund our Good Works efforts in the community with such things as our clothing voucher program along with the employment of local store staff. We have also established a working relationship with the Lakefield Community Food Bank, serving those in need who live in Lakefield, Selwyn Township, or Douro-Dummer Township.



Community support for this new store has been tremendous, from



ONRC Meeting September 28-29, 2018

We are hoping to see you at the upcoming Ontario Regional Council meeting taking place September 28-29 in Sarnia. These meetings are open to all Vincentians and volunteers, and are a great opportunity to network with other members from across Ontario to hear about the

Society's good works in different communities. There will be a number of workshops offered on spirituality, home visit, recruitment, marketing, community gardens and technology which information can be taken back to your Coun-

cil/Conference. We will share more details with you as they become available. Be sure to [register](#) now and email your registration to sarah@ssvp.on.ca.

See you there!

Stores are the Face of our Society

This ONRC executive understands the importance of our stores. Our stores, for many of the people we serve, are the first contact with SSVP. They are a physical building that people can see and find. They are our FACE in the community.



With that being said, we also recognize that our biggest assets are our managers. They deserve and need to be heard at all levels of our organization. They have to be given a voice not only at the committee/conference/council level but at ONRC and Nationally. We continue and encourage managers to use the peer 2 peer site.

The managers realize that social media is the way to reach a larger and broader audience all the time promoting the works of SSVP. ONRC has budgeted help for each store to be set up with their own Facebook and Twitter accounts. Many of us are lacking the understanding and knowledge of the popularity of social media but stores need to use every available avenue to reach as many people as possible.

We are and will continue to encourage partnerships with large companies to partner with us. This year we partnered with Frank and Oak, a large clothing retail chain. They have stores in Ottawa & Toronto. Another partnership was with a company named Article.com. The stores were allowed to pick up furniture from across Ontario. We had furniture in Sudbury, Ottawa, Peterborough, London, Bowmanville and Windsor. These partnerships are not only fruitful for stores

but also for our Friends, and it helps with our other special works. It is a win-win all around and we really need to continue to foster these types of partnerships.

With all the exciting things happening, our goal will be to continue having Regional Manager Meetings, including managers at all ONRC meetings and for them to learn from each other. Helping stores with social media needs. Creating partnerships with other companies and always continue to accept stores as part of our mission!!

~ Sue Mazziotti-Armitage,
Vice President
Ontario Regional Council



**SOCIETY OF
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL**

**ONTARIO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**



Visit us on the web

www.ssvp.on.ca

Email: secretary.ssvp@ssvp.on.ca

Email: administrativeasst.ssvp@ssvp.on.ca

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Mission:

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is: To live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

Values:

The Mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians, we:

See Christ in anyone who suffers;
Come together as a family;
Have personal contact with the poor;
Help in all possible ways.

Upcoming Dates

September 29-30, 2018 — Ontario Regional Council General Members Meeting (aka the Fall Meeting), Our Lady of Mercy, Sarnia. For more details, please visit www.ssvp.on.ca

October 15, 2018 — Deadline for newsletter submissions (please note: we cannot guarantee all submissions will make the next issue, but will do our best to include in upcoming issues)

Notice of Passings

We would like to recognize and remember the following Vincentians who have passed.
They blessed so many with their lives.

May 23, 2018: Robert (Bob) Peel, St. Mary's, London

June 5, 2018: Leomay Dewling, St. Pius X, Brantford