

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Larry Markus is Awarded Highest Provincial Honour for Self Advocacy

Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley (CLUOV) is proud to announce that Mr. Larry Markus was selected as the 2013 recipient of the **James Montgomery Honour Award** through Community Living Ontario. The presentation was a key highlight of the ceremony at Community Living Ontario's 60th Annual Conference held in London, Ontario on September 19th.

Community Living Ontario (CLO) is a non-profit, provincial association that advocates for people who have an intellectual disability to be fully included in all aspects of community life. CLO has over 12, 000 members and represents 117 Community Living associations across Ontario. The award is presented annually to recognize a person's efforts in furthering the goals of community living for all people and who demonstrates leadership by: promoting the equality of people, speaking up publicly or helping other speak up, acting in a way that teaches others about the abilities and strengths of individuals with intellectual disabilities and who actively participates in committees and promoting the goals of inclusion and citizenship.

When Mr. Markus was informed he was the 2013 provincial award winner he stated "I am excited and honoured to receive this award and I want to thank Community Living in Pembroke for nominating me "

Mr. Markus is a committed blood donor who has previously been awarded national honours by Canadian Blood Services to highlight his outstanding dedication to helping others through blood donation.

Additionally, Larry is an integral force in promoting participation for the membership of Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley in our Partners for Life program with Canadian Blood Services. With Larry's spirited encouragement and dedication, Community Living has not only met but doubled our original pledge goal for 2013. Larry is always on hand at the local Pembroke clinic not only to donate but to support the members of our partnership who help save a life through blood donation.

CLUOV congratulates Mr. Markus as a stakeholder in our organization whose dedication has been recognized. Larry is the second person from CLUOV to receive this distinguished honour demonstrating strong organizational support in the belief and values of citizenship, inclusion and self-advocacy.

CLUOV is an organization serving over 150 persons with an intellectual disability throughout the upper Ottawa valley.

Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley

Media Contact: Nancy Goodbody (613) 735-0659

END
375



P.O. Box 1030, 894 Pembroke Street West
Pembroke, Ontario, K8A 6Y6

Tel: (613) 735-0659, Fax: (613) 735-1373
www.communitylivingupperottawavalley.ca