



## Community Collaboration Session

On May 8, 2018 The Flower Cart Group welcomed 44 invited guests to an evening presentation and discussion at the Louis Millet Community Complex in New Minas. Executive Director Jeff Kelly, along with The Flower Cart Group Board of Directors, hosted the event which included a brainstorming session to delve into the feasibility of new facility.

“Two things were very apparent during and after the session”, Jeff says. “First, there is tremendous support for our organization in our community. That support extends to our goal of securing a facility that could bring all of our social enterprises under one roof.

“Secondly, the amount of experience and expertise in our community is amazing. There were people present who had fundraised for much larger projects, they knew the process and the key players, and their advice will be instrumental to our campaign going forward.”

Jeff admits that getting exposure for The Flower Cart Group brand was another major item echoed throughout the evening. “No question, there is an obvious need for us to tell our story and to get our message out to the community in creative ways. That was loud and clear.”



# Get started on spring with our woodworking products

Last year our woodworking team was as busy as they'd ever been, thanks in large part to some popular promotional items like our Pride Bench and our Canada 150 Picnic Table give-away.

We're ready to work on your orders for this season. Not only does our team create a number of popular products, we can also arrange for special orders upon request.

Current Woodworking Products:  
(All prices include HST.)

- 5-Board Bench.....\$30
- Pride Bench.....\$90
- Talking Bench.....\$80
- Kindling (bag).....\$3.<sup>75</sup>
- Picnic Table - Standard.....\$135
- Picnic Table – Accessible.....\$165
- Picnic Table – 8ft.....\$175
- Washer Toss.....\$40

Call 902-681-0120 to place your order today!



**PRE-ORDER NOW!**



## Leaving our mark

This winter we sourced and purchased a branding iron which has been customized with our logo. This branding iron will allow us to brand all of our wood products, and everyone who sees this image on a picnic table, bench, or washer toss game will know it was made by our participants, with care, skill, and support.

The Flower Cart Group means a lot of things to a lot of people. To our woodworking team it means a dedication to perfecting their craft, to working together, and to producing quality products. That's why we're excited to leave our mark.

**LOOK FOR A SPECIAL CANADA DAY 2018 GIVEAWAY COMING SOON ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!**

# ♣ ♦ Jack of All Trades ♥ ♠



***Jonathan Taylor discusses how he enjoys having a number of service options to choose from.***

Jonathan Taylor first joined The Flower Cart Group in December 2013 training in the Baker's Choice Fine Foods bakery. There he learned about teamwork and how to be a good teammate to a person with a disability.

"I especially liked working on deliveries," Jonathan says. "It was always fun to meet customers and see where our products went."

After training briefly with the woodworking team, Jonathan returned to the bakery but discovered another opportunity that excited him.

"I learned about the Michelin program and it seemed like it would be a good fit. I spoke to my supervisor and they made it happen." Jonathan has been on our Michelin contract team since February 2017 and even made a presentation at The Flower Cart Group's 2017 Annual General Meeting describing his role at the plant.

"It took me a month and a half to find my way," Jonathan says. "There are lots of challenges. It's a much larger, louder work place, but I like my team and I'm happy to be there."

## Retirement Banquet

On May 11, 2018 we had an official send-off for two long-term staff members, Beth Whelan and Dawna Havill. Both had been with The Flower Cart Group for over 20 years and had witnessed some amazing growth and changes in that time.

The Flower Cart Group staff and participants said a bittersweet farewell to Beth who will be leaving for the west coast to join her son. The ladies from her Flowercart Industries team playfully roasted Beth with fond memories and insider stories, while some former employees returned to recognize Dawna's amazing and lasting contribution. She will remain with Partners in Employment until the end of June.

Both Beth and Dawna were surprised with unique personalized gifts from our woodworking team as a gesture of thanks and best wishes for whatever lies ahead. While it is impossible to accurately measure their contribution, they have made a lasting impact on the organization, as well as their community, that could never be replaced.





## A recipe for success

Made with Local first launched their Real Food Bars at the Halifax Seaport Farmer's Market in June 2012. Since then they've partnered with major retailers across Canada who now stock and sell their delicious, healthy snacks. What's Cooking Commercial Kitchen is a social enterprise of The Flower Cart Group, and they've been with Made with Local since the beginning. Our team mixes a variety of local ingredients, then packages the Real Food Bars before they're shipped to each vendor. Our partnership with Made with Local has been mutually beneficial, and we are proud to play a role in their continued success.

# work with purpose.

The Flower Cart Group