

Ethio-KW Volunteer's Corner



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Melkam Gena!

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Christmas in Ethiopia

Ethiopian Christmas (Gena) is one of the most celebrated holidays in Ethiopia. Many fast for about 40 days leading up to Christmas. Celebrations start with an eve service in churches. Some pay pilgrimage to Lalibela. Families and friends gather in homes for the festivities with special foods (doro wot, kitfo, diffo dabo, lamb and beef stew), drinks (soft drinks, coffee, beer, tela, and tej), and music.

In the country side, young men and children play Ye'genna chewata, which is very similar to field hockey.

This year, many Ethiopian diasporas have returned to Ethiopia as the country hosts the first Great Homecoming.

With all the country's challenges this year, it is exciting to see a peaceful celebration. Holidays bring out unity and hope.

On behalf of the Ethiopian Association KW and Surrounding Area, we wish you and your family a Melkam Gena!

Board Updates

It is 2022! Another new year to celebrate! Though we are starting the year with another lockdown and challenges in Ontario, the new year allows us to reflect, renew and reset. As we kick off the year, we wish you a happy, healthy, and productive year!



December 15, 2021, the board received the results of the community needs assessment completed in November. The results highlighted barriers of participation members of our community encounter accessing program in the Region, such as language, transportation, access to technology, child care, and financial barriers, to name a few. Therefore, the board plans to evaluate the findings and recommendations.

December 20, 2021, received notification of new funding for the Resilience Project. As a result, the association plans to hire a part-time community coordinator. The job opportunity is shared with the community on the Viber and Facebook pages.

December 21, 2021, received notification of approval of a matching grant application for Abyssinia indoor soccer program (LoveMyHood Matching Grant).

December 29, 2021, based on several requests from students and parents in our community, the board met to discuss and plan post-secondary information sessions.

Thank You Essential Workers!

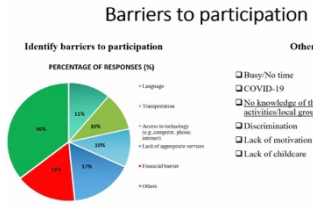
Many members of our community are essential workers who are the backbone of our health system and the economy. If you are an essential worker, we appreciate all you do! You are important!



Activities Last Month

Upcoming Events

1



Needs Assessment Results

The board attended a meeting to hear about the results of the recent community needs assessment conducted. Results will be shared with members.

2



New Funding Received - Resilience Project

In partnership with Family and Children's Services Foundation funding is received for planning and delivery of resilience-based programs.



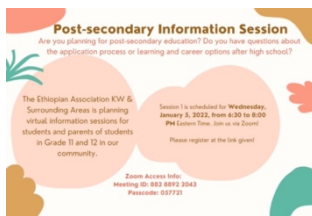
Ethiopian Association
of K-W & Surrounding Area
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Board Meetings
Bi-weekly starting
January 9, 2022
2:00 to 4:00 pm

Post-Secondary Information Session
January 5, 2022
6:30 to 8:30 pm

Proposed Events 2022

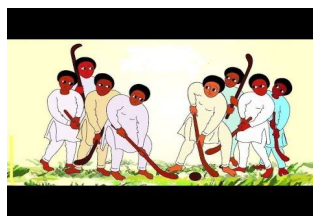
3



Post-Secondary Information Sessions

The Ethiopian Association KW is planning virtual information sessions for students and parents of students in Grade 11 and 12. Dates will be posted on the community viber page and Facebook page.

4



Yegena Chewata (የጎና ጭዋታ) - CANCELLED

Due to the new public health restrictions, we are sad to cancel the Jan. 8 event. We thank those that registered and we hope to bring a skating program for kids when restrictions are lifted.

January 5, 2022
Post Secondary Info Session (Gr. 11 & 12)

January 8, 2022 - Cancelled

Children's Hockey (Ye'Gena Chewata)

February 21, 2022

Family Day Celebration

March 5, 2022

Adwa Victory 126th Anniversary

May 2022 (TBD)

Habesha Conference

Summer 2022

Soccer, Basketball, Walk/Run, Family

Camping Trip

September 10, 2022

Ethiopian New Year

2021 - 2023 Board Members

Chair:

Denny Aschenaki

Vice Chair:

Zerihun Addisu

Treasurer & Secretary:

Admas Mekuria

Fundraising:

Dawit Debssou

Communications:

Elam Hailu

Membership:

Vaccant

Programs & Events:

Bethlehem Daniel

Partnerships:

Hiyab Tafere

Outreach:

Zinash Admasu

Looking for Volunteers

The Ethiopian Association KW and Surrounding Area is looking for committed volunteers to help with membership, events and programs to strengthen our association. Volunteer opportunities include event planning, communications/language skills (Amharic and English), computer skills, and program support.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us via email using the email address provided below.

Contact Us via Email

EthioKWVolunteers@gmail.com

Get in
touch

If you have a story to share, we would love to hear from you!

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