

# ***Third Age Learning Burlington***

## ***Annual Report***

**March 10, 2016  
3:30 PM  
Burlington Art Centre  
1333 Lakeshore Rd.  
Burlington, ON**

**Fiscal Year - May 1, 2015 – April 30, 2016**

**Address:** PO Box 91551 3023 New St. Burlington, ON L7R 4L6

**Website:** [www.3alb.org](http://www.3alb.org)

**Non- Profit Number:** 1857724 Ontario

The following report reflects the activities of the fiscal year 2015 – 2016. Two programs were presented during the course of the year– “Mirror, Mirror” (Fall 2015) and The Ethics of Everyday Life (Winter 2016). These mark the eighth and ninth series offerings that began with the” Pathfinder” series in January 2012. This March marks the fifth year of Third Age Learning Burlington’s inception. The planning for the organization began in March 2011. Each series has been well received and fully subscribed and 3ALB is grateful for the support of the members.

Planning for the 2016 – 2017 series is well underway with themes selected and speakers for the Fall program either confirmed or contacted. Work continues on the Winter 2017 program.

The following reports will provide a short summary of the activities during the past year and the financial status of the organization.

### **Program Committee:**

Angela Papworth representing Mairi Fulcher, Chair, Program Committee  
Mirror, Mirror (Fall 2015) Ethics of Everyday Life (Winter 2016)

The Program Committee reviewed the membership responses from previous surveys to select the series themes up to and including Winter 2017. The membership will be approached in the Fall of 2016 with a new survey to gain input for Fall 2017 forward. Overall it has been very gratifying to see how you, the membership, have embraced our 3ALB vision and have quickly reached full enrolment.....THANK YOU.

Feedback from members for both series indicated that the topics and information provided have been popular. We have been fortunate to invite excellent speakers who have engaged and enlightened. We continue to focus on the optimal way to connect with potential speakers to reinforce our request that their presentations link with our overarching series theme. The “Mirror, Mirror” series on occasion

highlighted the issue as some of the speakers, though engaging, did not reflect the series theme. That being said, members come from different perspectives and a subset provided positive feedback.

Efforts have been made to improve the experience for members. The screen was elevated to improve the sight lines and presenters have been encouraged to use 24 point fonts for projected information. Presenters have also been encouraged to repeat questions from the audience prior to answering. The most significant improvement was the contract for AV assistance for the speakers and we have been extremely pleased with the expertise of Coretech's Edsel Littlejohn who will return in the fall.

There has been an ebb and flow of members to the Program Committee. We sincerely thank those who are no longer with us and look forward to working with the new members. It is so important to have a variety of creative points of view, personal and business backgrounds and an eagerness to work with a team to bring these series to reality. We are not yet at the desired number of 10 for the Program Committee and so continue to reach out to those of you who may be interested in becoming part of the team.

#### **Program Committee:**

Marion Brunton	Judith Johnson
Mairi Fulcher	Angela Papworth
Gretchen Harris	Bernice Pedreschi
Karen Harrison	Les Robb
	Marg Tracz

#### **Membership Committee:**

As of March 8, Third Age Learning Burlington has a membership of 330. Membership is included with the registration fee for a session and continues for a period of one year from the date that the registration fee is received. It may be of interest to note that 25 Individuals have attended all 9 of the series that have been presented.

#### **Facilities Committee:**

The Art Gallery of Burlington, formerly the Burlington Arts Centre, remained the venue for the presentations and will continue as the site for the foreseeable future. Mrs. Bernice Pedreschi became 3ALB's liaison with the Art Gallery and in that capacity arranged for volunteers to welcome participants and distribute the information sheets at each session. A special "Thanks" to Bernice and the following group of volunteers:

Marion Brunton	Rose McAfee	Pat Taylor
----------------	-------------	------------

Ampersand Hospitality provided a beverage service for the Fall 2015 session but the service was discontinued for the Winter 2016 session due to cost.

#### **Website Committee:**

Our website provides information to the general public including

- details of all previous series and presentations

- links to information related to presentations and other sites
- information about the organization
- online registration for programs and our mailing list
- contact information

Individuals interested in receiving information on upcoming series are encouraged to provide their contact information using the 3ALB.org website and becoming part of the mailing list.

This year the ability to pay online for a series was made available using the Paypal website that allows payment by credit card or through a Paypal account. Of the 225 registrants for the Winter series, 119 used the Paypal option.

## **Treasurers Report:**

Series 8 and 9 were fully subscribed generating slightly higher revenues than originally budgeted. Walk in proceeds at this point are on target and will likely meet projected numbers. As mentioned earlier, Ampersand Hospitality provided a beverage service for the Fall session but revenues for the service were considerably lower than anticipated resulting in a substantial subsidy. The experience resulted in the service being discontinued for the Winter series.

Cortech Computer Services were hired to provide AV services for the Fall series. The benefits of the service prompted the Board to continue the service for the Winter series resulting in a variance from the original amount budgeted.

Venue rental costs ran slightly above as the Winter rate was unknown at the time the budget was projected. The AGB and 3ALB have different fiscal periods.

Overall expenses were slightly lower than projected and revenues will also not meet expectation due to the catering revenues discussed above. Despite the shortfalls the year will end with a surplus of \$4,000. The Board will discuss how best to utilize the surplus.

The 2015 – 2016 budget summary follows.

## **Summary:**

The Board wishes to thank all the members for their support and participation in Third Age Learning Burlington. Subscriptions continue to support the programs developed by the Program Committee and the response to the individual speakers has been quite positive.

Greater membership participation in the organization and delivery of the programs remains a challenge and needs to be addressed in the coming months if 3ALB is to remain a viable concern. The mandate to provide stimulating, informative and affordable programs for the 55+ community remains the focus of the organization.

## **Board Membership for 2015 – 2016**

Mairi Fulcher  
 Penny Hersh  
 Austin Knowlton  
 George MacRae  
 Barbara Pickworth  
 Susan Savage