

# CUSW NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the CUSW  
Newsletter from the National  
Communications Committee!

This quarterly newsletter will  
bring you news from all corners  
of the CUSW world.

Please send your content, news,  
pictures, feedback, questions,  
suggestions, or whatever else  
you want to share with your  
fellow CUSW Members to us at  
**communications@cusw.ca**

All units and committees are  
encouraged to use this newsletter  
as a resource for communicating  
to the entire Membership.

For those unit and committees  
that may still be forming, or do  
not have their group email set up,  
please email the committee the  
contact email(s) you would like us  
to use when we solicit your news.

**Communications Committee Members:**  
Pauline Cranston & Linda Stella

## Upcoming Social Committee Events

- Annual Fishing Derby: June 22th & 23rd
- Boat Cruise: July 27th
- Annual Wonderland: August 17th
- 25th Anniversary Events: Summer 2024

**And More on Page 5!**

## 2023 CUSW Photo Recap

Visit Pages 6-14 to see photos of  
Members and their Families from our  
2023 Events and Contests!

## Save the Date!!

2024 is a Convention year!  
The Convention is being held in  
**Niagara Falls April 26th - 28th**



# Unit Updates

## Southwest Unit

The CUSW Southwest Unit made quite the comeback in 2023 and the executive team wanted to share all our accomplishments over this past year.

- Our Facebook page was created (thanks to Chris Secord for the time he put into that). If you haven't already joined [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the page.
- We started a logo contest, opened submissions to all members in our unit, and had voting take place on our Facebook page. Winner was Curt Meneray.
- Creating our SOUTHWEST UNIT stickers with our new logo and handing them out in this area.
- The Executive has held regular, engaging meetings every month. Both in person and offering Zoom for those who cannot attend in person. These meetings have happened in London, Sarnia and Windsor.
- Guest speakers, Pete Baird and Matt Hurley, attending our meetings online to answer questions and offer insight from National to our members.
- Southwest Swag designed and put into production
- On June 9th, we held a golf tournament which saw 75 members in attendance. There was a 50/50 draw that earned \$430 which was donated to Sick Kids London. That particular amount was matched by Hydro One during the "Power to Give" month, and \$860 was then donated. Special thanks go out to Dave Miller, Kyle Warren and Ryan Clarke for all their hard work putting the golf tournament together.
- Hockey for the Homeless fundraising event.
- Two successful recruitment sessions were held in London and approx. 30 individuals were interviewed.
- FIVE sponsorships were given out to local sporting teams, both kids and adult teams.



# Unit Updates

## Southwest Unit

- We filled six seats during our last unit election, all positions were acclaimed. Positions were as follows:

**Chair** – James Sokay

**Vice Chair** – Alina Murray

**Treasurer** – Conrad Aitcheson

**Recorder** – Chris Secord

**Executives** – David Matthys and Ryan Clarke

- The Unit held a family friendly event at Kustermans Berry Farm in Mount Brydges. There was food and swag given out to all the adults and children. We had 31 adults, and 27 children attend. Special thanks to Conrad Aitcheson and Chris Secord for all their help, as well as Matt Hurley for bringing some great Swag.
- The final meeting in 2023, held at Joe Kools in London, was well received, and we had a Christmas party with good food, company and swag to follow.
- On January 25th 2024, the Southwest Unit held a hockey event in Windsor.

To every member who has asked questions, attended a meeting, participated in an event, or put ideas forward, **THANK YOU!** We love seeing and hearing from the membership and appreciate any/all engagement from you!

Moving forward there are big plans in motion for some great events in the Southwest area.

The Events committee is looking to hold several events in the coming year. Potential ideas are The Factory in London, ON in the spring, Golf tournament in June, East Park in the summer, Kustermans Berry Farm in the fall, and a Christmas Party in November.

**We look forward to a bright and prosperous year!**



# Unit Updates

## Northeast Unit

### Members in the Unit:

**Chair** – *Pauline Cranston*

**Co-Chair** – *Vacant*

**Recorder** – *Alison N. Sivers*

**Treasurer** – *Christine Meier*

**Executive Member** – *Eric L. Aubin*

**Executive Member** – *Frank Guzzo*

**Executive Member** – *Vacant*

### Information on the Unit:

The Northeast Unit is striving to try to put the members first by adding more social events in the north and being a strong unit by engaging our members to participate in the events to get to know one another.

One thing new this year instead of having Unit Meetings in one area due to our large Geographic area we are going to start hosting unit socials, they are like unit meetings but in multiple areas, there will be a submission to where you would like to host. Example we have crews working in Kirkland Lake one member organizes and submits to the unit saying they would like to have the social at a restaurant, there would need to be a sergeant at arms to run the meeting there, we have our unit meeting and after that the members can have a chance to socialize with one another outside the workplaces as members instead of co-workers.

### Events: SAVE THE DATES!

#### Unit Socials

- January 24th, 2024 – 7pm
- March 27th, 2024- 7pm
- June 28th, 2024 – 7pm
- September 25th, 2024 – 7pm
- November 27th, 2024 – 7pm

Family Day at Science North – February 17th, 2024

Sudbury Golf Tournament – May 25th, 2024



# Unit Updates

## Bruce Unit

We delivered a donation to Launch Pad recently and they wanted to pass along their thanks to everyone. With our donation, the facility will be able to continue to provide skill development and training programs needed to get youth and adults into the skilled trades.

They have more programs planned for 2024 and will continue to be able to assist us with training that we regularly hold at their facility. With this donation and our previous support, Launch Pad has been able to update their facilities for CWB welding certification and enhance their shop space with updated tooling. This has benefited not only the training programs that we put on in the area but benefits the community by providing facilities for local youth and adults looking at a pathway into the skilled trades.

Thanks to everyone involved!





# National Social Committee

## Members in the Committee:

**Committee Chair** – *Linda Stella*  
**Committee Member** – *Pauline Cranston*  
**Committee Member** – *Mike McManus*  
**Committee Member** – *Kris Croteau*

## Success Stories:

Our annual events at Wonderland, Kids Christmas Parties, Annual Fishing Derbies, Ice Fishing, Andrew Gresel Sauble Speedway, and assisting with Unit Engagement (BBQ's) and other events. Excellent presence and great momentum on our NSC Facebook Page.

## What motivates your Committee:

Relationship building, engagement and bonding between our members and their Families. The spread of happiness, conversations, and smiles.

## How does your Committee assist/encompass or involve Members and their Families:

Encouraging unit and member/family engagement and participation.

## Upcoming Events 2024:

**Annual Fishing Derby:** June 22th and June 23rd

**Boat Cruise (Downtown Toronto):** July 27th

**Annual Wonderland:** August 17th

**Dinner and Dance (Niagara Falls):** October 19th

*Hosting with the Health & Safety Conference/Health, Safety & Wellness Committee*

**Annual Kids Christmas Party (The Metro Zoo):** December 7th

**25th Anniversary Events across all Units:** Summer 2024

*Information to follow*



**Visit our webpage** for upcoming events and contests and to find out more about the committee.

We have a Social Committee Facebook Group. Joining is a wonderful way to keep up to date with these events and more.

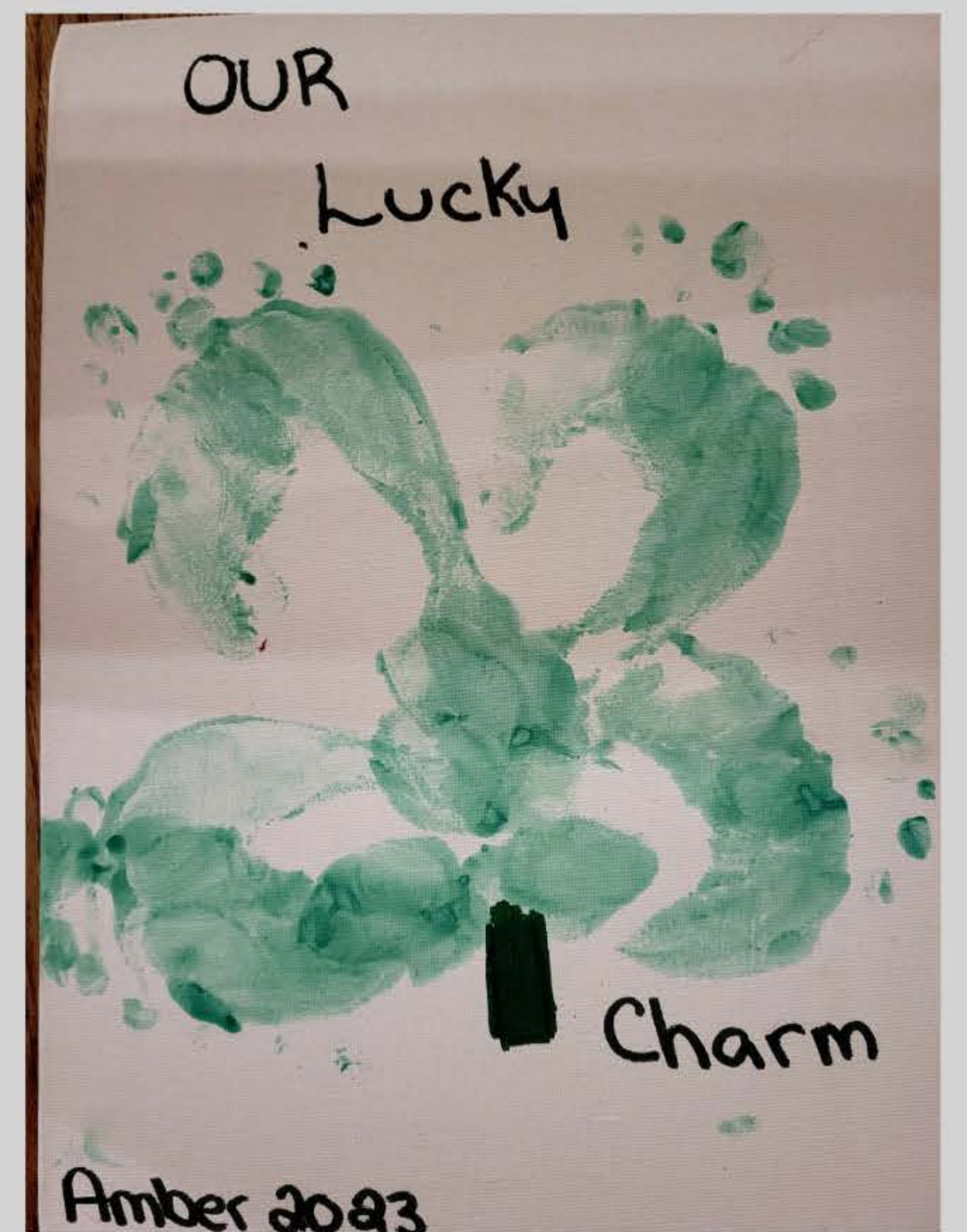
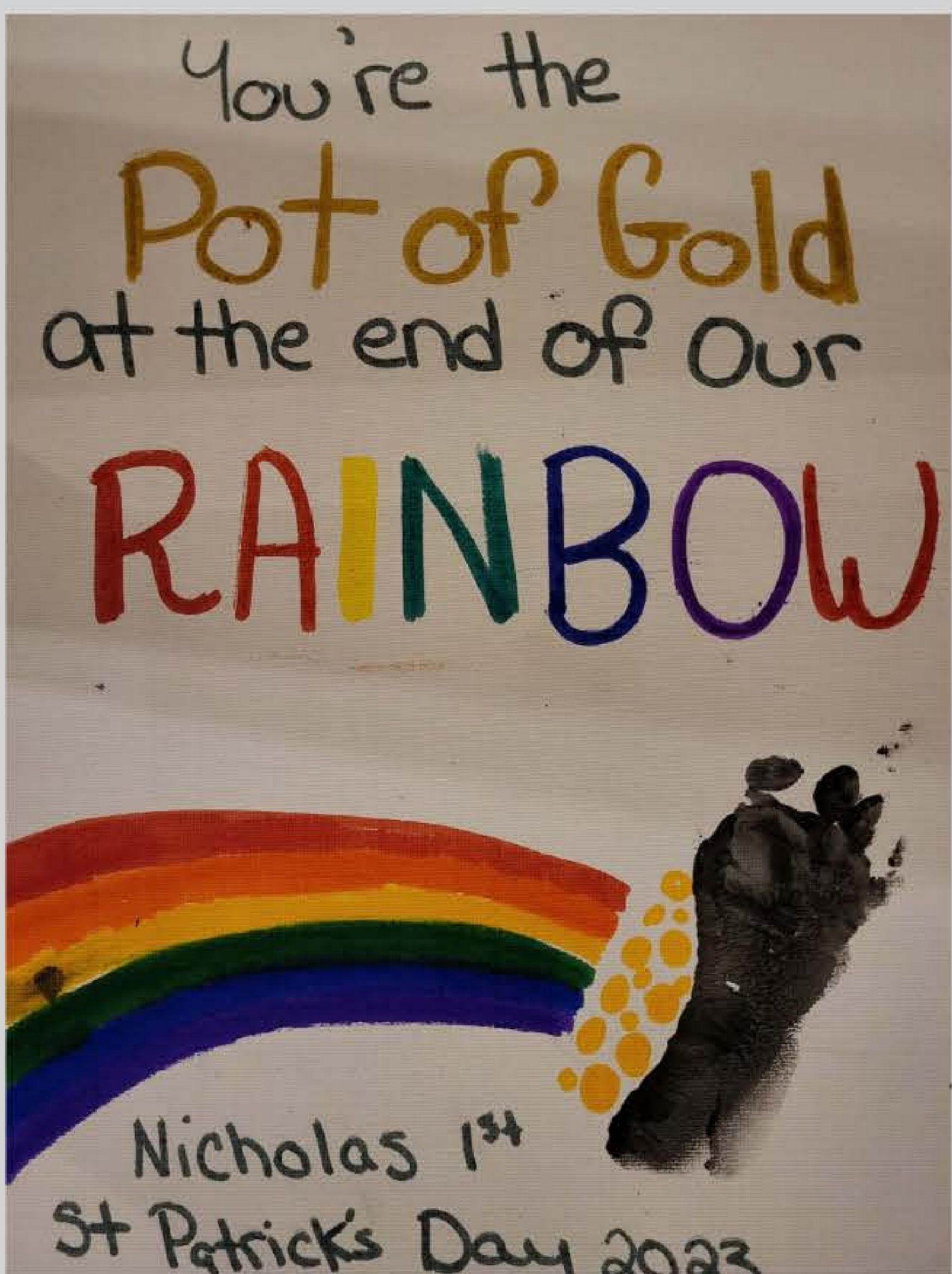
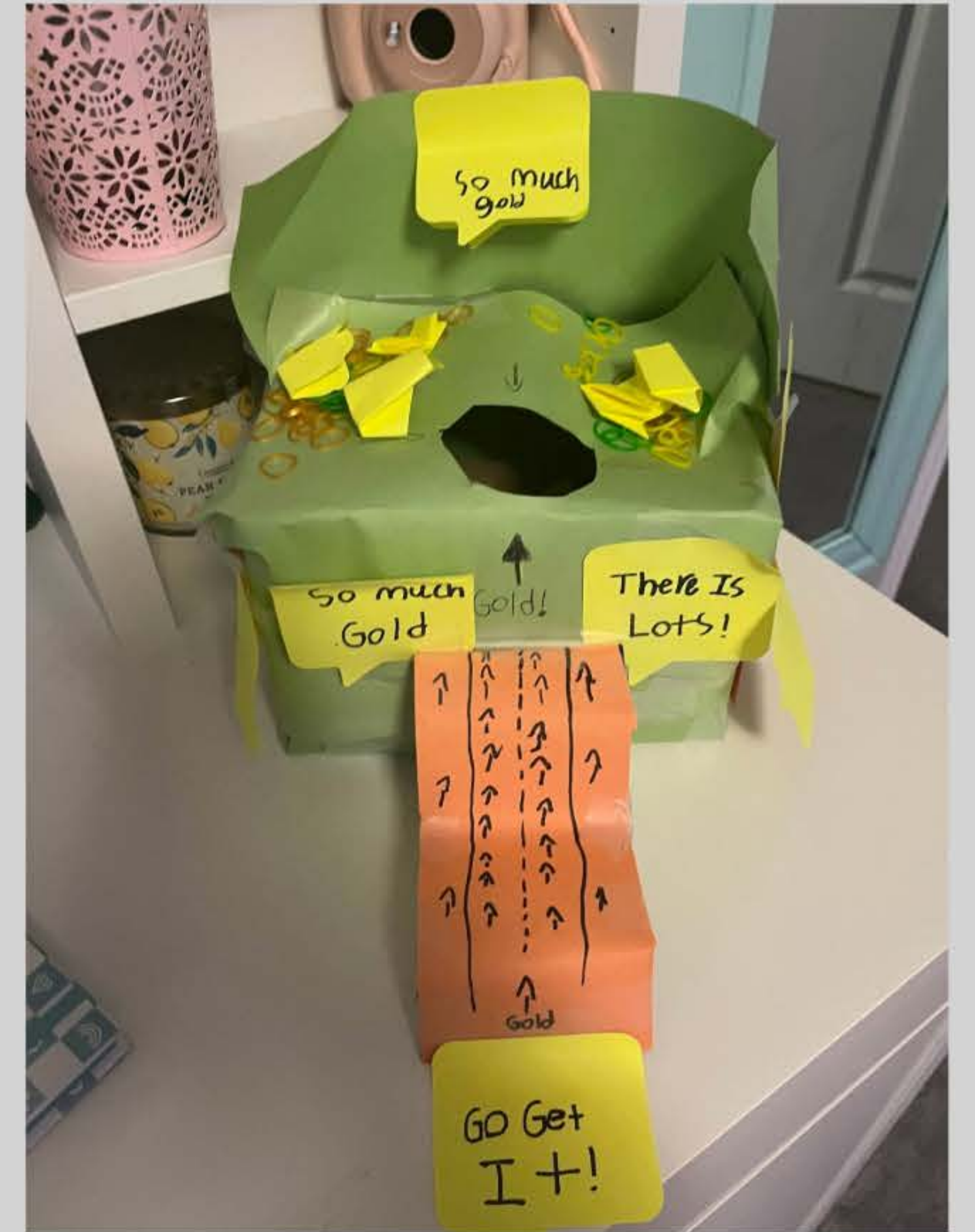
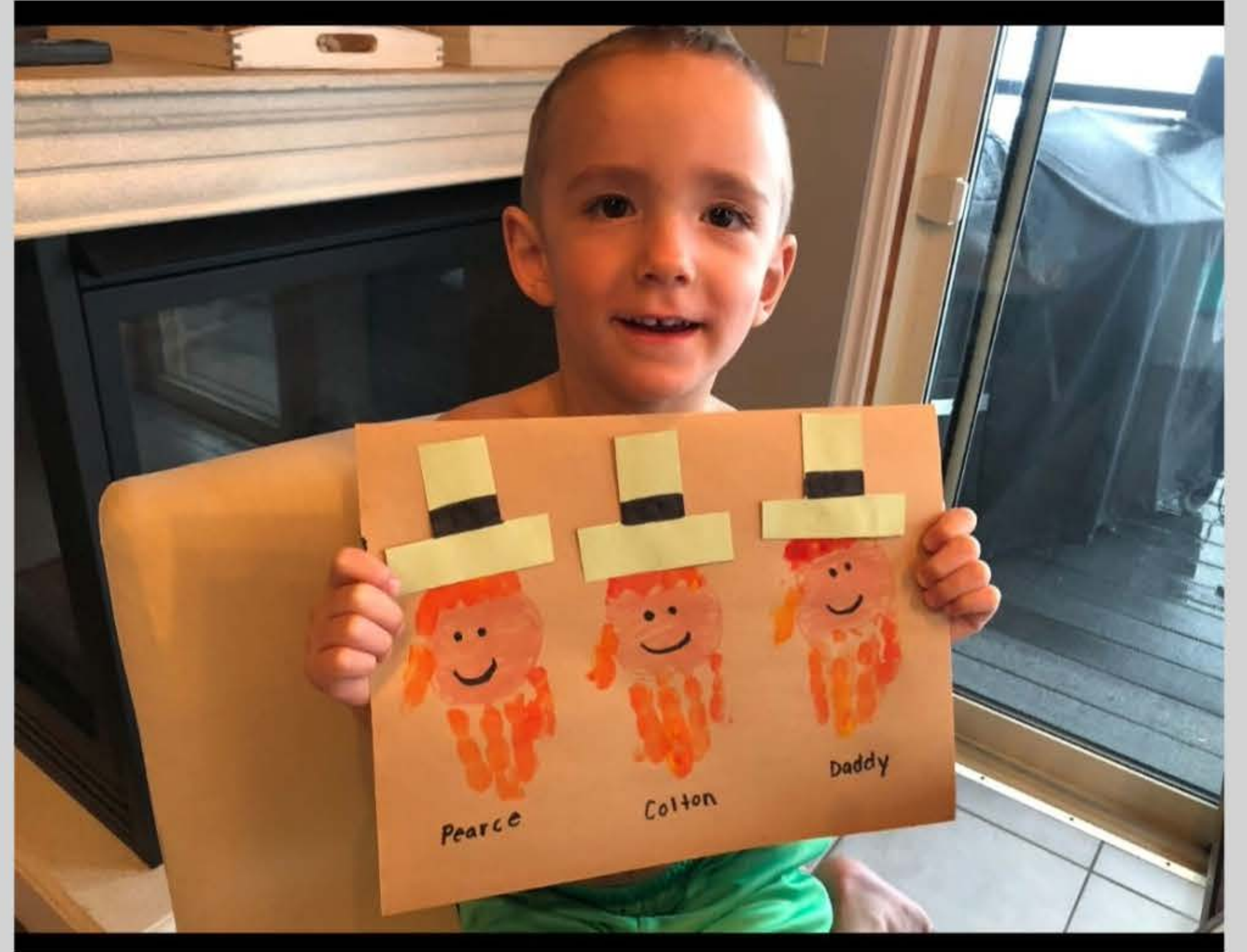
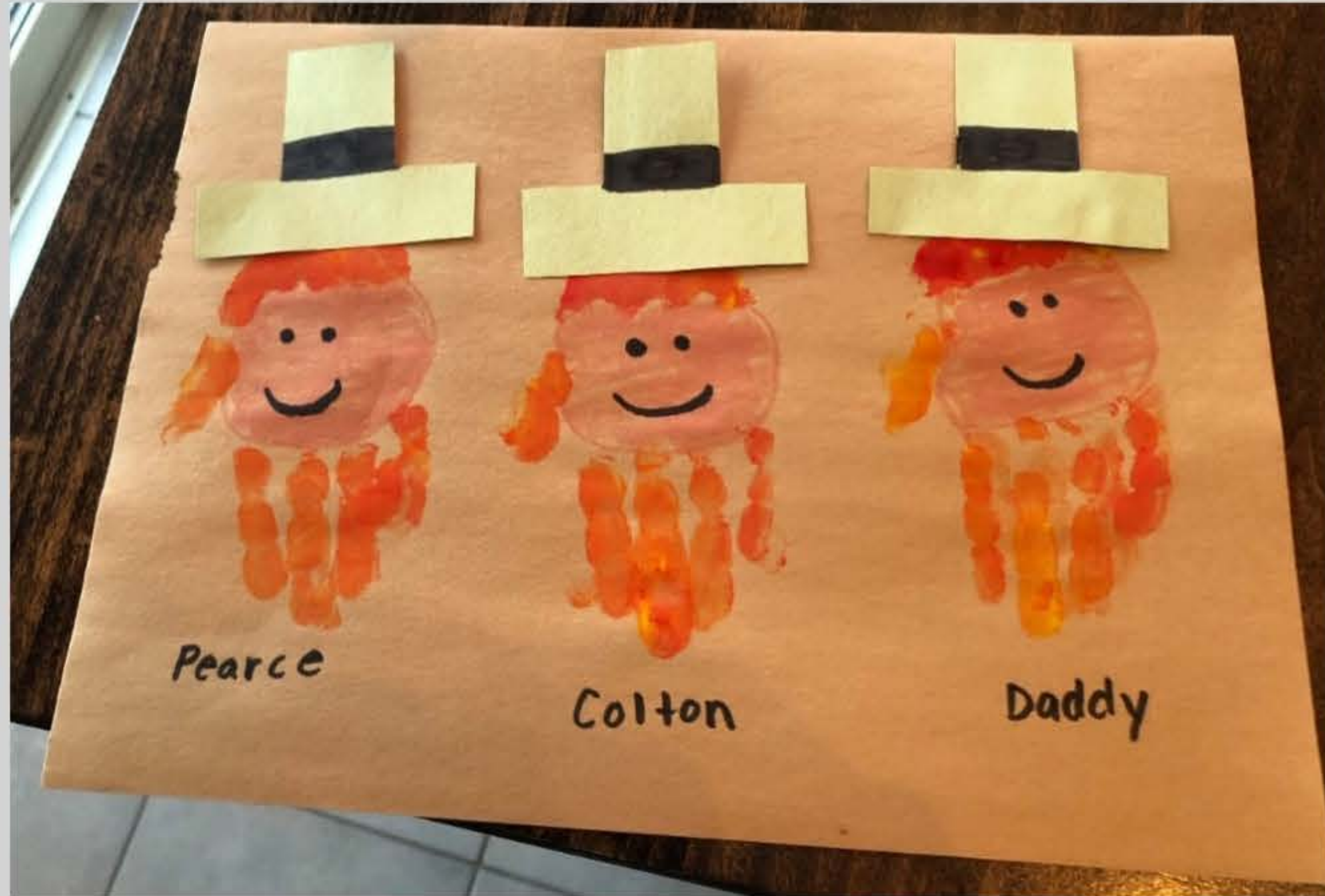
 **Join the NSC Facebook Page!**



# National Social Committee

**2023 CUSW Recap!**  
Some pictures from last year's Events

March 2023 St. Patrick's Day Facebook Contest



If you would like to reach the National Social Committee, please email us at [social@cusw.ca](mailto:social@cusw.ca)

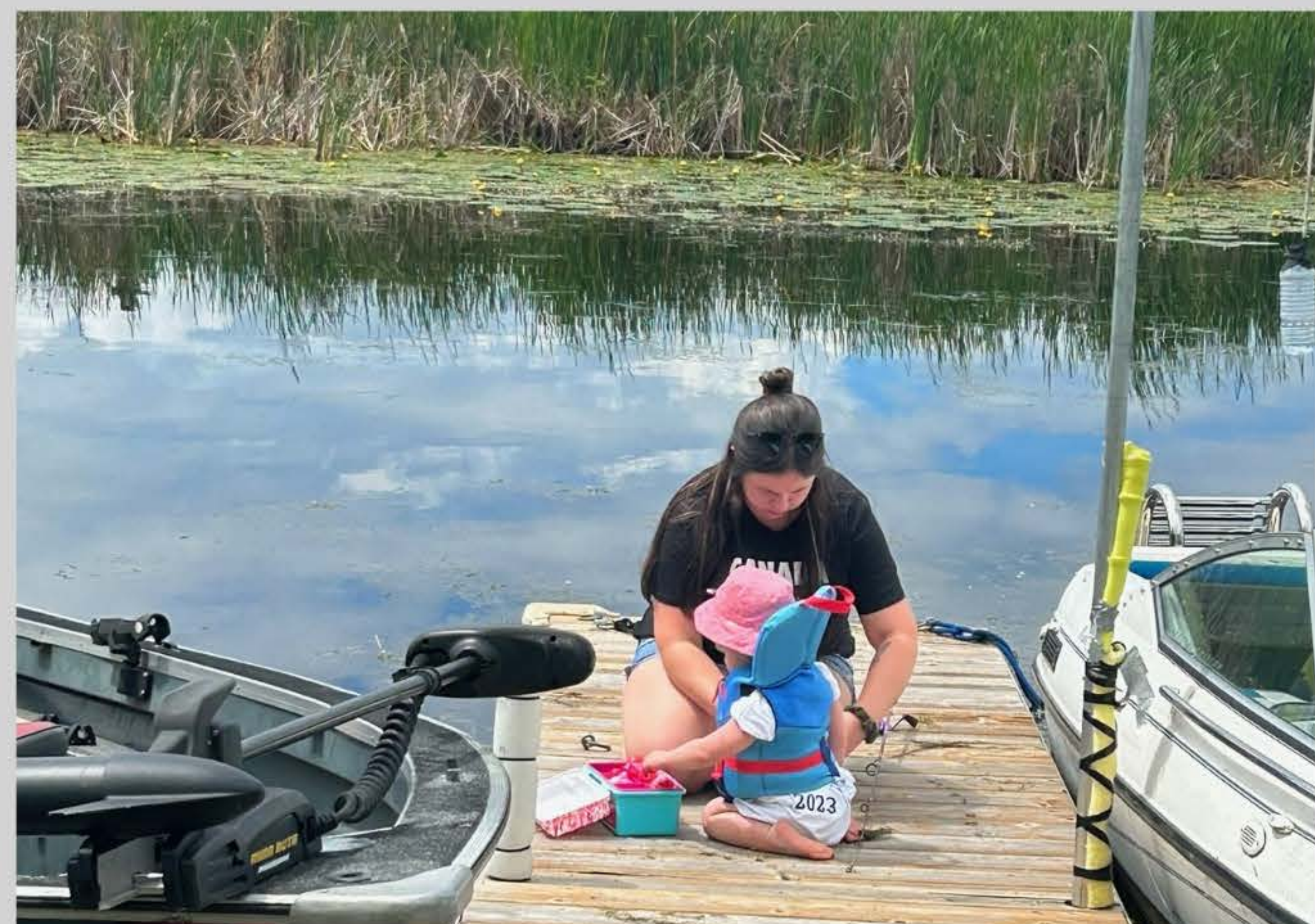
**We Look Forward to Seeing Members and their Families at Future Events!!**



# National Social Committee

**2023 CUSW Recap!**  
Some pictures from last year's Events

June 2023 Fishing Derby @ Anchor Bay



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**We Look Forward to Seeing Members and their Families at Future Events!!**



# National Social Committee

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October 2023 Halloween Facebook Contest



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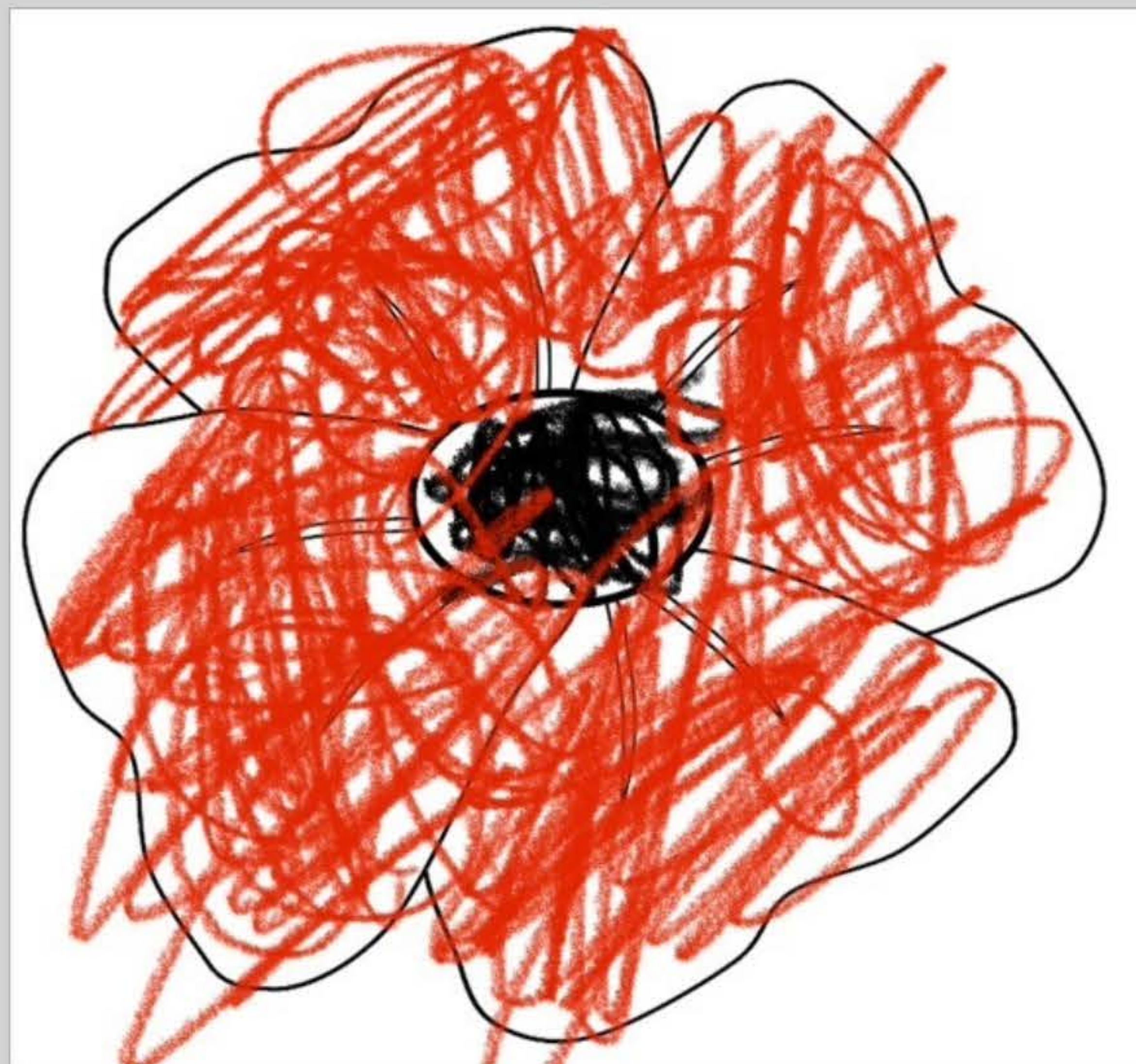
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# National Social Committee

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November 2023 Remembrance Day  
Facebook Contest



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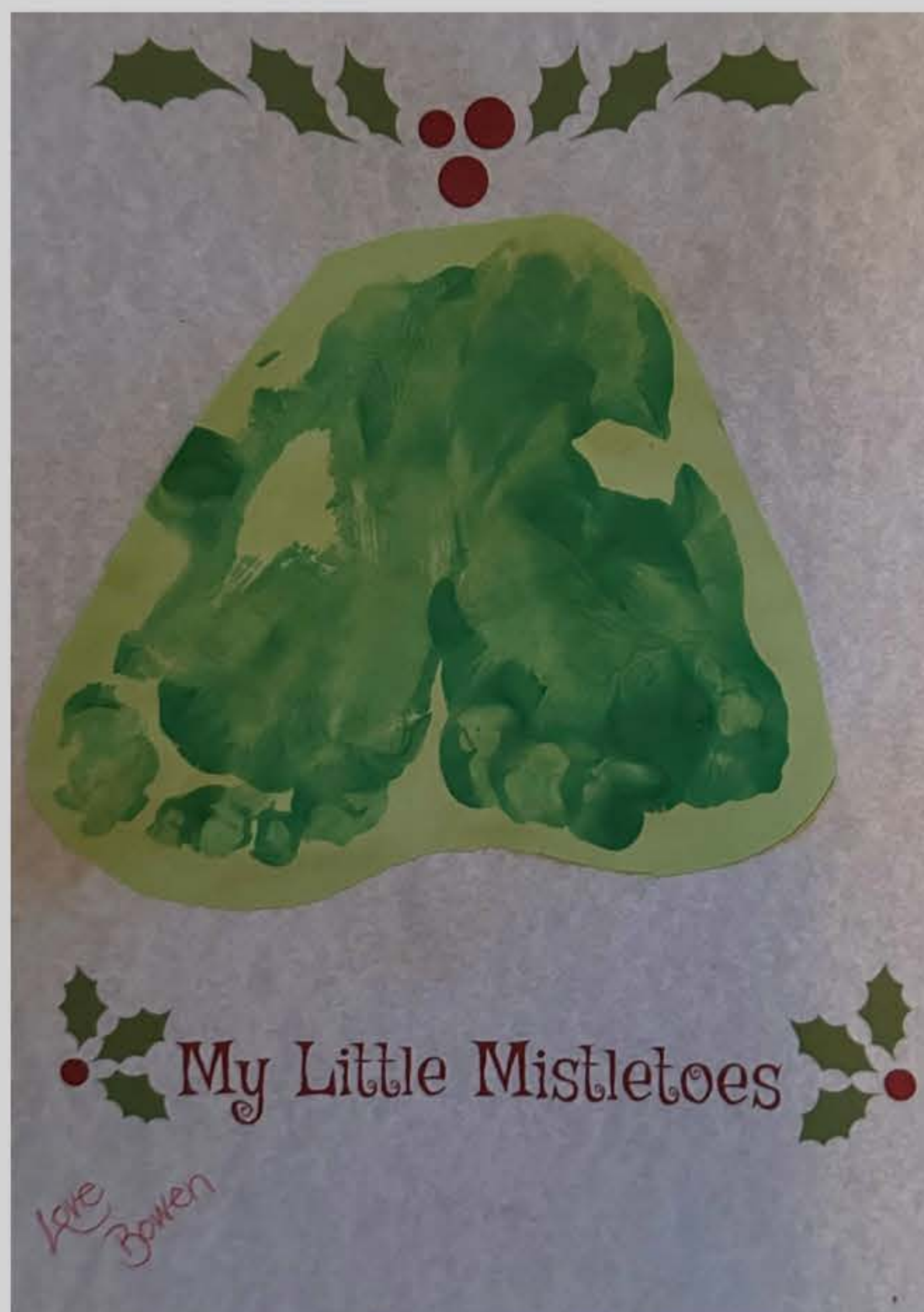
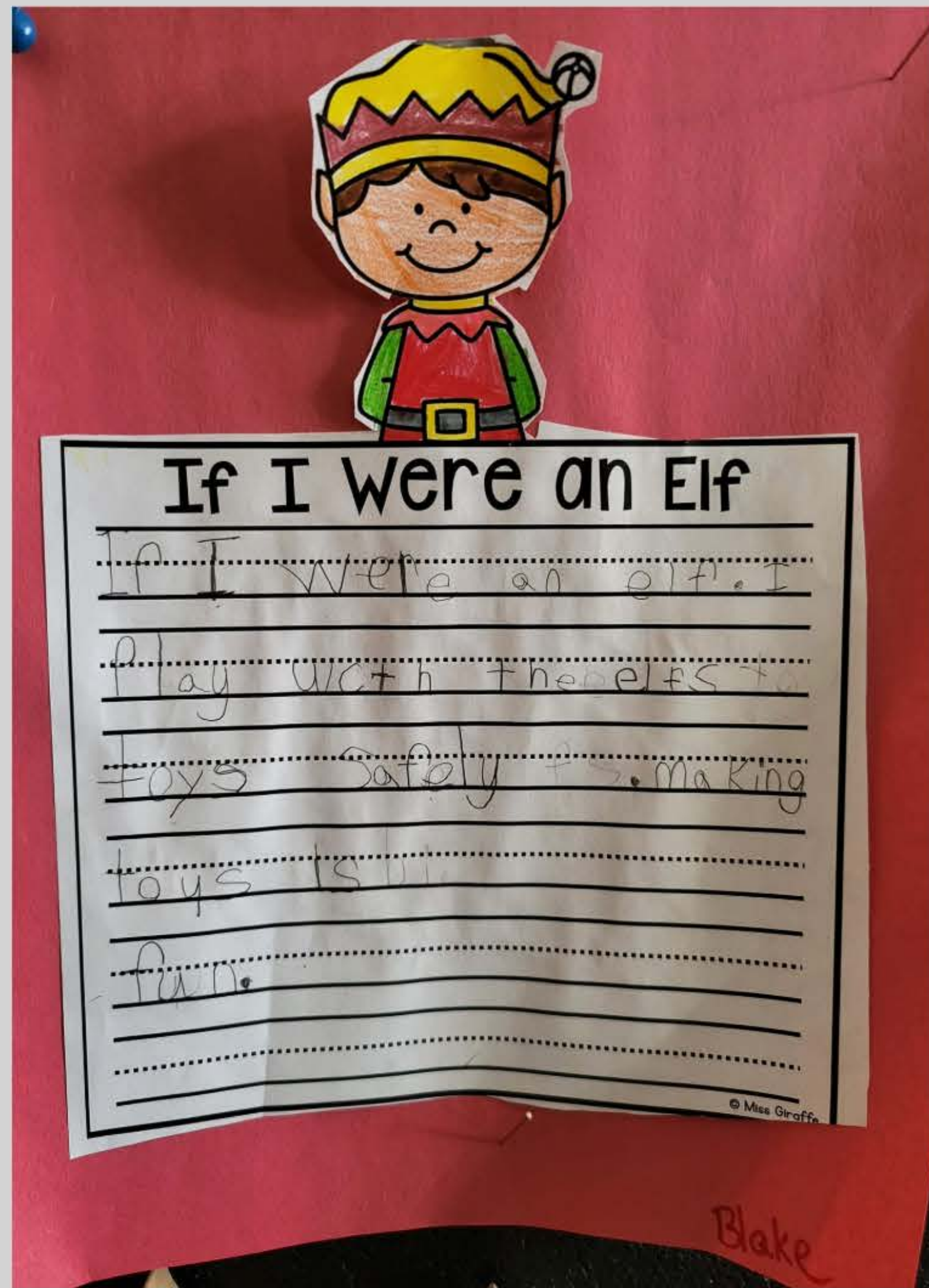
**We Look Forward to Seeing Members and their Families at Future Events!!**



# National Social Committee

**2023 CUSW Recap!**  
Some pictures from last year's Events

## December 2023 Kids Christmas Dcoration Facebook Contest



If you would like to reach the National Social Committee, please email us at [social@cusw.ca](mailto:social@cusw.ca)

**We Look Forward to Seeing Members and their Families at Future Events!!**



# National Social Committee

**2023 CUSW Recap!**  
Some pictures from last year's Events

December 2023 Kids Christmas Party @ the Zoo



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If you would like to reach the National Social Committee, please email us at [social@cusw.ca](mailto:social@cusw.ca)

**We Look Forward to Seeing Members and their Families at Future Events!!**





Share the savings with up to 5 family members!

# Welcome to MemberPerks®

Discounts to help you and your family save on life's essentials, comforts and joys.

We are delighted to invite you to MemberPerks – an exciting new member benefit program that's designed to perk up your everyday life.

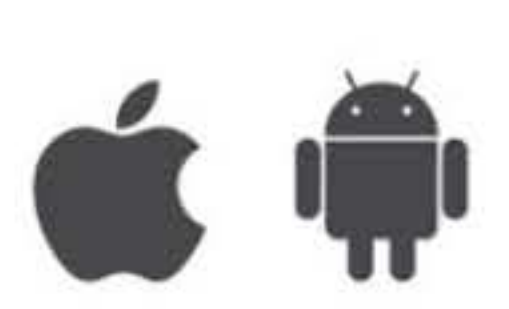
MemberPerks can help you save \$1000s every year with special discounts on home electronics and entertainment, restaurants, health and wellness, apparel and so much more.

## START SAVING TODAY!

1. Go to [cusw.venngo.com](http://cusw.venngo.com)
2. Create your MemberPerks account
3. Start saving

**NEED HELP?** [support@venngo.com](mailto:support@venngo.com)

[cusw.venngo.com](http://cusw.venngo.com)



memberperks for CUSW



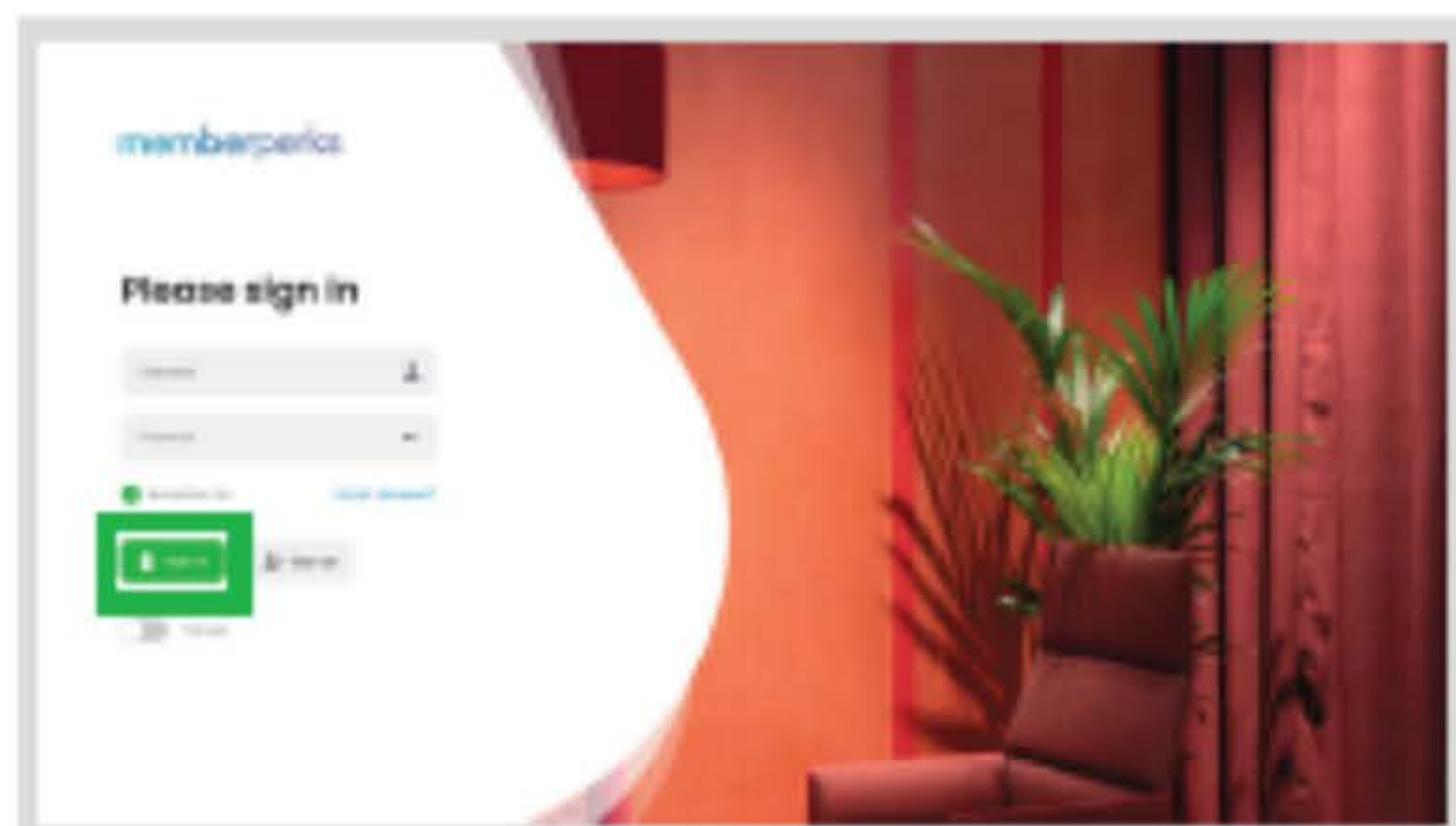


## Share Your MemberPerks Discounts with Family

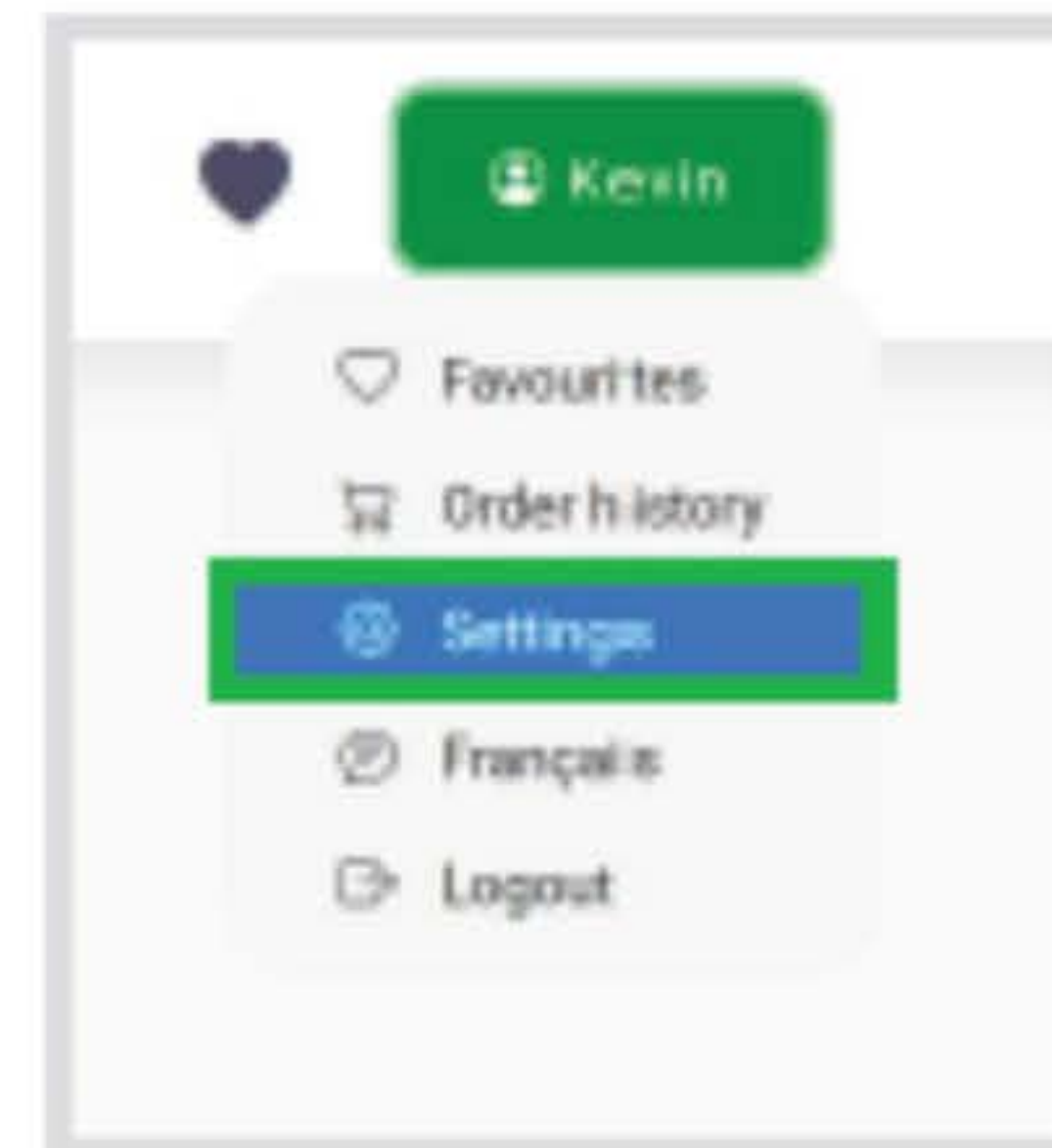
Did you know that you can extend the benefits of MemberPerks to family members within your household? They can create their own accounts, receive personalized promotions and save money when shopping at big brands and local favourites.

It's easy to share the savings and extend the discounts to everyone at home.

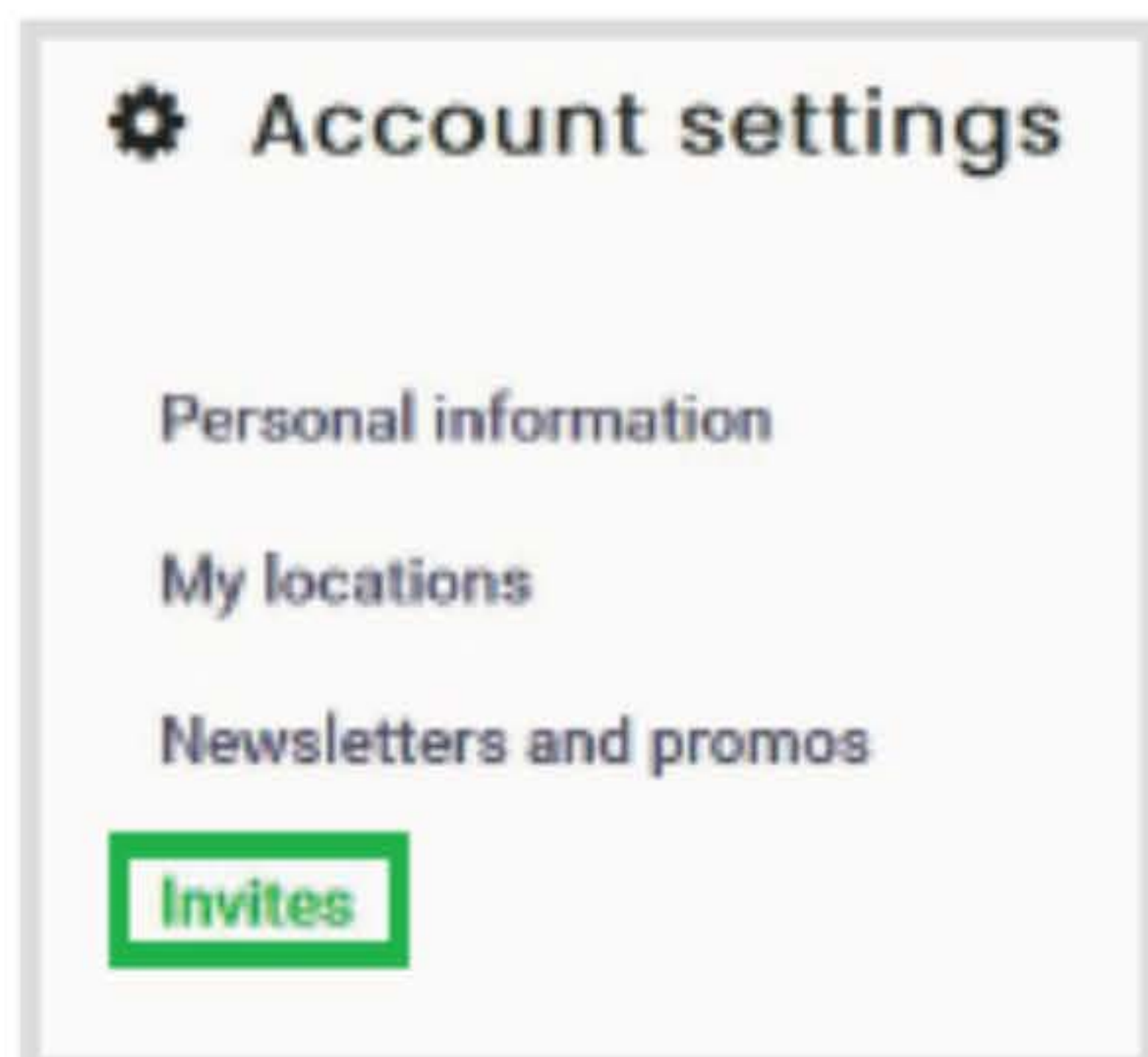
### 1. Sign in



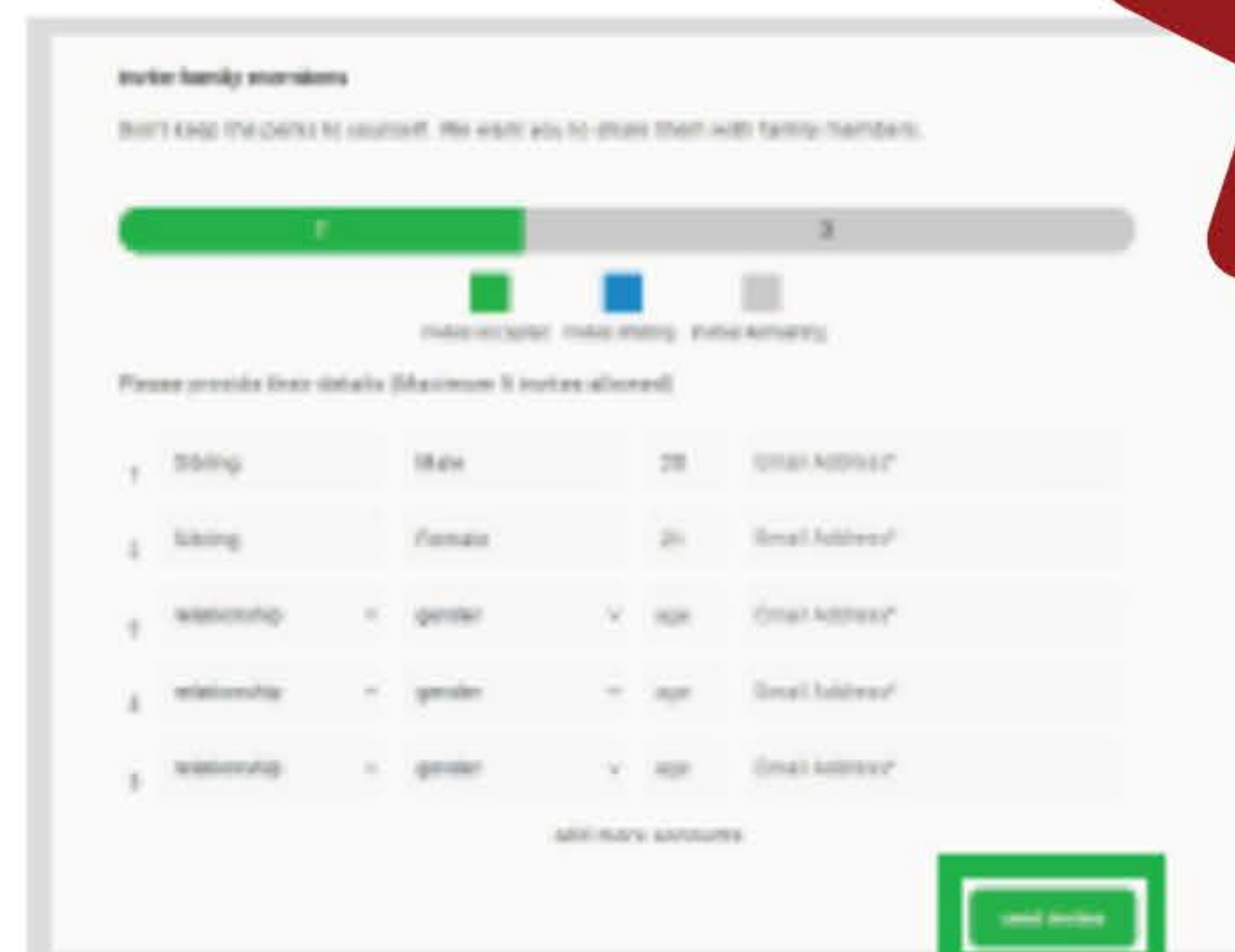
### 2. Go to your account settings



### 3. Click the invite tab



### 4. Send your invitations today!



**Invite up to 5 family members!**

Visit MemberPerks today!  

**memberperks**



# Committee Updates

## Health, Safety & Wellness Committee

The Health, Safety and Wellness Committee, together with the Social Committee, put on a joint event in Niagara Falls in October.

The HSW Conference 2023 was held October 27th-28th, followed by an evening of family fun kicking off CUSW's 25th anniversary celebrations.



The Conference theme was Kinder and Better When We're Together, and our MC was none other than Dan Plexman; CUSW member, public speaker, medal-winning arm wrestler...he has done it all.

A fantastic set of speakers were brought in to discuss trends in Health and Safety across Ontario, mental health awareness and statistics, keeping fit in our bodies

and our minds, and a condensed and powerful version of the Be More Than a Bystander training. Our presenters moved our members to laugh, ask questions, take notes, and share moments of emotion while personal stories were shared.





# Committee Updates

## Health, Safety & Wellness Committee

New for this year were information booths from many of our presenters, enabling members and their families to engage further with presenters and gather more information on topics of interest. They were a huge success!

Planning will be underway shortly for Conference 2024. If you have ideas for themes or speakers, please reach out to the Health, Safety and Wellness Committee at [hsw@cusw.ca](mailto:hsw@cusw.ca)

### Members in the Committee:

David Aviles, Shannon Veitch, Calvin Hicks, Stephen Mckellar, Shawn Campbell, Howard Brown, Dan Plexman

### Information on the Committee:

- Annual Health and Safety Conference.
- Assisting with WSIB training for reps.
- A newsletter about hand safety and potentially a monthly information package to help prevent injuries.
- Connecting with other organizations such as Threads of Life, the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, the Ministry of Labour, and the Workers Health and Safety Centre.

### Events:

We are already starting to plan the 2024 Health, Safety and Wellness Conference with the help of the amazing Social Committee.

### Success Stories:

- The feedback from the conference and Halloween dance was amazing. We worked with the Social Committee on these events.
- The up-to-date Health and Safety policy in our constitution.

### How does your Committee assist/encompass or involve Members and their Families:

Members and their families were invited to the Health, Safety and Wellness Conference 2023.



# Committee Updates

## National Tradeswomen Committee

### Members in the Committee:

**Committee Chair** – *Cynthia Brown*

**Committee Chair** – *Pauline Cranston*

**Committee Member** – *Michelle Y. Holmes*

**Committee Member** – *Mekalah Leach-Rathwell*

**Committee Member** – *Kendra Serecin*

**Committee Member** – *Rebekah Stuckless*

**Committee Member** – *Sarah Truax*



### Information on the Committee:

The CUSW National Tradeswomen Committee was formed in 2021 to provide a network to support current and future tradeswomen joining CUSW. When tradeswomen feel supported and empowered, they become better workers, mentors, and leaders.

The committee also serves as an advisory board to CUSW as they understand the barriers to the recruitment and retention of women in the trades.

The committee provides the CUSW National Executive Board feedback and fresh ideas for ongoing diversity and inclusion initiatives.

### Events:

We are currently working on a Fundraiser gala for Interval House for April 11th, 2024. There will be a presentation on Be More Than a Bystander.

#### **About Interval House:**

Interval House is Canada's first centre for women survivors of intimate partner violence and their children. Founded in 1973 by a feminist collective, we have always had a pioneering spirit, taking a holistic approach to helping women and children leave abuse behind and start new lives, free of violence.

We believe survivors and we hold the dignity of our residents and clients in high importance. We use our experience and trusted voice to speak up for survivors' rights and to call for an end to gender-based violence. Everyone deserves a life of peace and safety, and our goal is to help break the cycle of violence, for good.

We are currently looking for donations for the silent auction if you or someone you know would like to donate. Please reach out to [pcranston@cusw.ca](mailto:pcranston@cusw.ca)



# Committee Updates

## National Tradeswomen Committee

### Success Stories:

- We have already put on a fundraiser gala for Interval House and other women's shelters last year raising roughly 15k Dollars.
- In conjunction with the Recruitment Team, we are able to go to Trade events to support women in the trades and educate women and young girls that a career in a trade is a viable option.

### How does your Committee assist/encompass or involve Members and their Families:

If you reach out to the Tradeswomen Committee, we are a safe space for your voice to be heard and offer support to fellow women in the trade. Email us at [tradeswomen@cusw.ca](mailto:tradeswomen@cusw.ca)

## Constitution Committee

### What is a Resolution?

A Resolution is a proposal on future policies, programs, or procedures of the union, formally presented to Convention for discussion and adoption. These policies, programs and procedures can all be found in the CUSW Constitution and Policies (October 2021 Revised Edition).

The primary purpose of the Convention is to provide members with an opportunity to bring forward their ideas on how to improve our Union. Members will be invited to submit Resolutions – another way to say proposed changes – that if approved by the Delegates, will change the Constitution of the Union. Keep an eye out for your chance to change the way our Union is run.

### Save the Date!

CUSW Convention 2024 in Niagara Falls – April 26th-28th



# Committee Updates

## Communications Committee

### Members in the Committee:

**Committee Chair** – *Pauline Cranston*

**Committee Member** – *Linda Stella*

### Information on the Committee:

The Communications Committee is responsible for completing the quarterly Newsletter, working together with Venngo/Member Perks Program which provides premium discounts and rewards for members and their families and the annual CUSW Calendar. If you require information on Member Perks, please email us at [communications@cusw.ca](mailto:communications@cusw.ca)

The Communications Committee has new members this year and we are continuing to review and learn tools that will best communicate with our members and their families. We will share success stories and updates in the next Newsletter.

## Apprenticeship Committee



CUSW has supported The Indigenous Opportunities Network (ION) from the inception of the program at OPG, accepting more than 25 people into membership as JP Electricians, Lines Persons, Apprentices and Grounds Persons. Dispatching them throughout OPG and the rest of our CUSW partners.

CUSW was recognized for our successful participation in the ION program on December 1st, 2023.

From Left to Right: Cody Quan, Nathan DeGange, Tyler Postil, and John Wabb



# Committee Updates

## Membership Committee

### Members in the Committee:

Bobby Bissonnette, Matt Hurley, Cody Quan, Tyler Postil, Josh Breteton, Jeff McGown, Basile Matsigaris, and Tiera Forbes

### Information on the Committee:

The Membership Committee works on membership grievances that do not fall under the Collective Agreement, membership engagement, Hiring Hall rules and types of membership status.

### Events:

- Christmas Giveaway
- Sponsorship of U15-U18 Rosedale Boys Hockey

### Success Stories:

- New Committee Chair – Tyler Postil
- Growth with the Committee

### How does your Committee assist/encompass or involve Members and their Families:

- Membership grievances
- Helping members with Hiring Hall navigation and practices

### What motivates your Committee:

The betterment of members, families, and lifestyles



# DID YOU KNOW?



## CUSW Job Centre

Use the **CUSW Job Centre** to check current Joint, National and Employer Postings:

- Click "Visit the Hiring Hall" on each of the above for the Dispatch Rules
- Review Dispatch FAQ's
- Register your layoff date
- Find Support Contact Numbers for Dispatch

## Homewood Health



**Member & Family  
Assistance Program**

Members and their families have immediate access to a wide range of confidential counselling services offered 24/7 over the telephone. Guidance, support, and counselling are available to Members and their families in several life areas that can sometimes feel overwhelming. Each of us has home-life and Workplace related issues that we need help with from time to time. MFAP is available as part of Power Sector Benefit Trust **PSBT.ca**

## Now Accepting Journeyperson & Apprentices Applications

Please share with your family and friends that CUSW is now accepting applications for Journeypersons and Apprentices:

- ELECTRICIANS
- POWERLINE TECHNICIANS
- CARPENTERS
- IRONWORKERS
- PLUMBERS
- AND MORE!

Visit  
Apply to CUSW  
for More Info

## Out of Work Dues

Don't forget to keep your dues up to date! Out of work dues are \$25 a month and can be paid through your online banking directly to CUSW. It will appear as an OTC (over the counter) payment when you **view your contributions online**.

## Security Clearance

You can check your security clearance status on the CUSW website. Make sure your information is accurate! **CUSW Security Clearance**



## CUSW Calendar

Remember to take pictures throughout the year that can be used in the CUSW calendar. Please include member names and locations for captions. Pictures can be submitted anytime to **communications@cusw.ca**





# CUSW Head Office

Contact List

10 Carlson Court Suite 802, Etobicoke  
ON M9W 6L2

## CUSW Has Gone Virtual!

*We encourage all Members to submit inquiries by email. If you wish to call, please leave a voicemail and we will respond within 24 to 48 hours.*

### Canadian Union of Skilled Workers (CUSW)

info@cusw.ca  
Tel: 416-240-7259  
Toll-Free: 1-800-376-8539  
Fax: 416-240-9970

### Membership

membership@cusw.ca

### Security Clearance

securityclearance@cusw.ca

### Apprenticeships

apprenticeship@cusw.ca  
Tel: 416-240-7694  
Toll-Free: 1-866-907-7694  
Fax: 416-240-9970

### Skills

skills@cusw.ca

### Power Sector Retirement Trust (PSRT)

Lisa North  
Sharon Tuck  
info@psrt.ca  
Tel: 416-240-8479  
Fax: 416-240-0993

### Power Sector Benefit Trust (PSBT)

Donna Durdle  
Alissa McKinnon  
info@psbt.ca  
Tel: 416-240-8083  
Toll-Free: 1-888-250-2270  
Fax: 416-240-0993

Rawle King  
paydirect@psbt.ca  
Tel: 416-245-9270

Vanessa Martinez  
remittances@psbt.ca  
Tel: 416-245-9270  
(For Employers Only)

Kerri Mulhall  
kerri@cusw.ca

### CUSW Education and Training Trust (ETT)

info@ettrust.ca