# Key Messages

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* Rina Poulos hired as VIVA Lanark County Project Coordinator. She started Monday March 26th and contract runs until March 31, 2019
* New placement student, Francis Wooby, will be starting April 9th and will be with us fulltime until end of August.
* We are co-hosting 2 huge youth conference: May 16 and 17 (one for SF/Perth students and one for Almonte/CP students). The theme is Making Healthy Connections
* We are submitting an application to be the recipients of the 2020 Perth Polar Bear Plunge with the support of Alfred Von Mirbach who is closely connected to that group. I’m also hoping to have Alfred join our board at the next AGM
* We are now booking workshops for the Building Restorative Communities program so please help spread the word.

Executive Director’s Report March 2018

* We are officially at maximum capacity in our office space now. Still no word on when the sale of the building will actually happen and since we have no plans to expand any more I am considering us in a holding pattern for now.
* Our new placement student has extensive experience as a communications manager and we will be leveraging his considerable skills to round out the CARD Team which had been stalled due to a number of folks dropping off. As of now our CARD Team consists of me, Elle, Laurie Clark, Francis and Brian. We will need increased support and engagement of the board for some fundraising initiatives this year.
* The new website will be launching within the next week or two. It has a cleaner, more simplistic look but considerably more pizzazz and use of online forms, video and fun features. Every image, text box, element on every page (including all the hidden pages) has been created with maximum Search engine Optimization (SEO) features so we will start showing much higher in online search engines and likely see more traffic. We will be adding new weekly to maintain our high SEO standing.
* We will be asking Board members to do some short videos for the website and social media communications strategy. Essentially it will be Elle conducting a very casual and brief interview asking you about why you believe in our vision/mission/values and some key memories or impact you want to share. Our goal with these video clips is to put a face on Restorative Justice and Practices and our organization as a whole.
* Our Spring 2018 Webinar and Discussion Group Series is starting on April 4th and registration is filling up incredibly quickly. It is extremely gratifying to know this initiative is working very well to not only get folks aware of us but also to build service provider capacity to address different issues through a restorative lens. Word has spread and I frequently hear about how happy participants have been with the professional development they’re getting. This session has a lot of new faces and new organizations represented. There are still some slots left if any Board members want to come. Calendar is in your board package if you want to register.