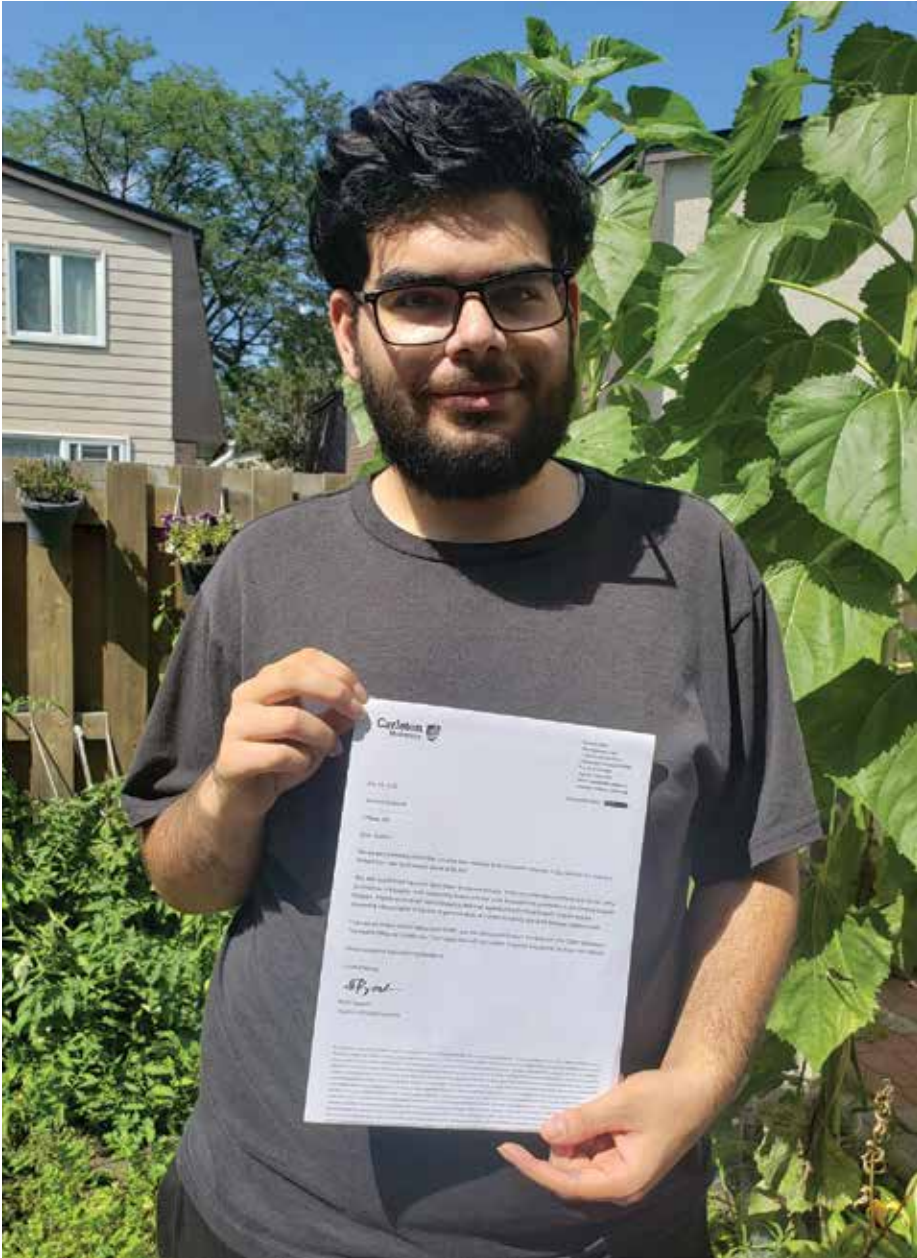


OTTAWA SOUTH COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT

Another partnership leads to success



Ibrahim Chalhoub with his \$3000 Richard and Jean Van Loon scholarship letter. PHOTO BY AMAL DAOUD

By Kevin Mills and Bev Davis

Regular readers of this column know that the Ottawa South Committee for Refugee Support (OSCRS) is a community-based group of volunteers who sponsor and assist in the integration of refugees. Over the years, we have supported Syrian families, are now supporting an Afghan family and in the future, an African family.

We do this with the assistance of donors; donors of supplies, donors of money and those who donate time and expertise. The success of the OSCRS and more importantly the

families, is dependent on community partnerships. The focus of this article is on a partnership with a unique program at Carleton University.

Carleton University has been reaching out to the community to welcome and teach first year students in the Enriched Support Program (ESP) for over 25 years. ESP provides a unique pathway for non-traditional students to start first year university studies in a supported setting, while earning regular university credits towards degree programs. The ESP is for students who may not have the educational background, but they have the potential. ESP students,

who successfully complete their studies, go into degrees in arts and social science, engineering, science, computer science and business.

Many students who enroll in the ESP may have just completed high school, with grades that do not tell the whole story of their education. Others are mature students returning to their education. Educational supports include one-on-one student advising, academic coaching and more. Students in the ESP learn how to learn using evidence-based research strategies.

Ibrahim, whose family has been featured in the OSCAR, is a graduate of this program. He had completed high school in Lebanon and some university courses in Beirut while his Syrian family were UN refugees waiting to come to Canada. Although he enrolled in English language training at Carleton, his exposure to the Canadian university system was limited. The ESP saw him as a promising candidate. Through his focus, determination, family support and the support team at ESP he was able to earn not only a place in the first-year aerospace engineering program at Carleton but he has also received the Richard and Jean Van Loon scholarship for \$3000.

If you know someone who may be interested in the ESP program, you can reach out at 613-520-2804 or esp@carleton.ca For more

information about the ESP program go to: carleton.ca/esp

To help dreams of new Canadians succeed, you can support OSCRS by donating (by cheque, payable to Trinity Anglican Church (with OSCRS on the memo line) and sent to 1230 Bank St, Ottawa, K1S 3Y3, or online at www.trinityottawa.ca/donate, or emailing treasurer@trinityottawa.ca). For information about volunteering contact the OSCRS co-chairs, Bev and Kevin at osrefugee@gmail.com.

A final note to thank all those who supported our fundraiser through the Classic Theatre event in August.

Kevin Mills and Bev Davis are co-chairs of the OSCRS.

Ottawa South Committee for Refugee Support (OSCRS)

E-mail: osrefugee@gmail.com
Donations are welcome at: www.trinityottawa.ca/give

Or by cheque payable to Trinity Anglican Church with "OSCRS" on the memo line, 1230 Bank St., Ottawa, K1S 3Y3

Trinity Fall Fair

Once again this fall, Trinity Anglican Church will be hosting its Fall Fair on Saturday October 1, from 10:00 am. - 1:00 pm. There will be a smorgasbord of frozen food – meals, desserts and soups available to help you stock up for Thanksgiving or for a quick meal on a busy day after work. As always you will find a variety of homemade crafts, sewing, knitting and cards. Something for you? A gift? Come and see. Trinity is at the corner of Bank Street and Cameron Avenue, with the entrance at the Cameron Ave. steps. For more information go to: trinityottawa.ca or call 613-733-7536.



Toddler Program

Tuesdays and Thursdays
9 am - 1130 am (18 to 30 months)

Preschool and Beyond

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
Mornings: 9 am – 1130 am
Half-days: 9 am – 1 pm
Full days: 9 am – 3 pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Noon – 3 pm
(31 months – 6 years)

Creative Arts After School (CAAS)

Tuesdays and Thursdays
330 pm – 530 pm
(JK – Grade 6)

Pickup/walkovers from schools in the Glebe (included)

www.GMCAPS.com

613-276-7974, goodmorningpreschool@gmail.com