



## College Hill Early Learning Cooperative Member Obligation

College Hill has a standing goal of 100%-member participation. As a non-profit cooperative, the parents, educators, and children are active agent—the centre evolves and moves where our collective action makes it go, and it requires input and volunteer time from all members.

**There are many ways that members can contribute to the College Hill community:**

**Volunteer time and donate materials:** The Giving Trees outside each classroom suggest some ways members can donate time and energy. Members are not required to document their participation, but are instead encouraged to participate in the centre directly and to see the benefits of their involvement first-hand.

The green leaves on the trees indicate classroom materials that are regularly needed, and members can purchase and donate an item to fulfill their monthly participation requirement.

The apples, on the other hand, highlight ways that members can donate time and energy, rather than materials. Member participation in the classroom is strongly encouraged by College Hill's educators.

Some examples of classroom involvement include: helping out with supervision on field trips; visiting classrooms as guest speakers; repairing toys, books, and equipment; reading to children; acting as parent classroom representatives; and cleaning toys.

**Participate in College Hill management or serve on committees:** Another way members can fulfill their volunteer hours is by serving on the Board of Directors or participating on one of our three standing committees: the Fundraising Committee, the Special Events Committee, and the Playground Committee. Each committee plays an integral role in the operation of our centre. This is a convenient and flexible way to participate in the life of the centre—committee activity can be irregular, depending upon when members have time and energy to expend, and much of it is done primarily through email. The tasks are also shared and balanced by all of the committee members, supporting the age-old saying that “many hands make light work.”

**Other contributions:**

- oversee the refundable recycling program;
- act as a classroom representative;
- provide computer and technical support for the front office;
- shovel snow in the playground; and
- participate in fundraising activities, such as Scholastic book orders, which provide much of College Hill's classroom reading materials.

This list is not exhaustive. Members should feel free to help out in any way that suits their interests, hobbies, and time constraints.

We believe that members should feel involved, appreciated and responsible for College Hill Early Learning Cooperative, of which they are all owners/shareholders. It is certainly true that co-operation makes a difference.

**Co-operation makes a difference!**