

OUT & ABOUT

Community. Connection. Belonging!
Fall 2016

Newsletter

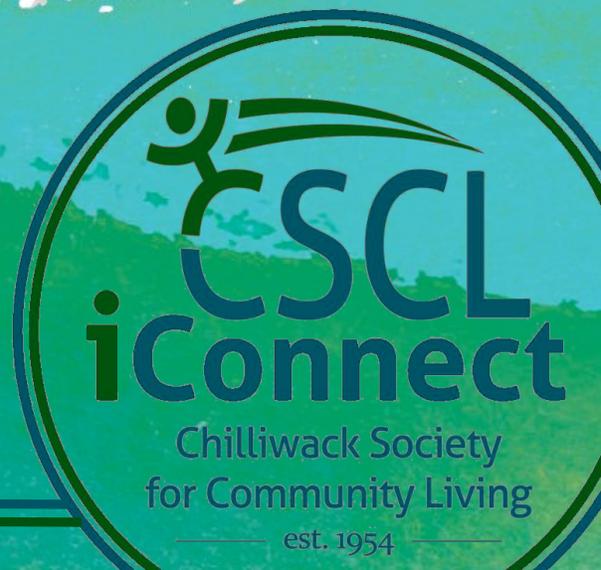


Norm & Emma

CSCL is very honoured and excited to welcome Norman Kunc and Emma Van der Klift as our keynote speakers for this year's staff conference - iConnect2. Norm and Emma are internationally recognized speakers, trainers and authors of disability rights issues.

Did you know...

- *October is Community Living Month*
- *The 7th annual World Autism Festival was held in Vancouver from September 30 - October 5,*
- *Logic Computer Services is CSCL's trusted new IT management provider.*



iConnect 2

CSCL's 2nd Annual Staff Conference Featuring...



**Emma
Van der Klift**



**Leila
Rahemtulla**



**Jessica
Wollen**



**Peter
Leidy**



**Norman
Kunc**

iConnect begins October 24 and 25, 2016 at the Best Western Chilliwack.

CSCL is thrilled to present, for the second year in a row, a conference for our employees that is focused on supporting individuals to increase their social capital. Responding to feedback and questions from employees at last year's conference was at the top of this year's agenda. Each of the sessions is a reflection of what staff told us they wanted to hear more of!

We are welcoming back Norman Kunc and Emma Van der Klift, this year as our key note speakers! They will kick off each of our two days

with some provocative ideas about social capital and what it is in response to – loneliness or powerlessness? We have a line-up of breakout session speakers who are sure to challenge, encourage and educate us. Peter Leidy from Wisconsin (with guitar in hand) will address the topic of "Support Staff as Bridge Builders". Jessica Woolen CEO of SHIFT Education in Vancouver will lead a session on relationships and sexuality, and Leila Rahemtulla (parent, author and professor) has titled her session "Partnering in the Dream".

A team of planners have put together a conference that is sure to stimulate thought and

conversations, as well as encourage CSCL'ers to consider their role in advancing social capital. CSCL's Wellness Committee is also preparing a room at the conference where staff can gather resources pertaining to the six domains of their personal wellness.

CSCL is proud to offer this unique opportunity to its employees and board members. Bringing world-class speakers to our CSCL conference is indicative of our commitment to our staff. We want to energize and inspire each other in our efforts towards CSCL's vision of a community that welcomes and includes everyone!

Tyler's Story

Tyler's Support Team
L to R: Stephen, Josh, Tyler, Andrea and Nicola



Special Contribution by Andrea Ferguson (Tyler's mom):

"The small town I grew up in, and that Tyler was born in, had very limited services which was ok while he was in school. But as school drew to a close for him, and he was more and more resistant to leaving the house I could see it becoming a huge problem. His world was shrinking and I knew if we stayed in Prince Rupert his quality of life would be unacceptable. I asked a nurse I had got to know when Tyler was at the Pacific Assessment Centre where he would move if he had a child like Tyler - he didn't even hesitate when he named Chilliwack as the best balance of services and cost of living. When we got home I looked into it further. Our whole family and support system was in Rupert, moving meant tearing us both away from

everything and everybody we knew. Then all hell broke loose. Tyler had a series of terrifying meltdowns. For the first time ever I had to call the RCMP for back up. Over a 2 week period I had to call 8 times. Most of the attending officers were amazing, but it was heart-breaking to see them handcuffing my terrified child and putting him in the back of a squad car. He was then taken to the hospital and hand cuffed to a bed. It was during one of these trips to the hospital I learned of a local tragedy. A young man whom Tyler shared a special room in high school, had also been going thru a very hard time with his behaviours. His mother, at the end of her rope, chose to end both their lives. I will never know exactly the reasons behind her choice, but it scared me to death that I could understand how she might have come to that decision. I decided then we had to get

out. September was actually the one year anniversary of us leaving our hometown. There is no doubt in my mind it was the right choice for Tyler and myself, and I know my mom (who passed away recently) was totally behind me making this choice. The difference in Tyler is night and day. He loves going to 'program', he loves the people who work with him and the things he gets to do. They are slowly introducing more and more activities to him, which isn't easy since he barely wanted to leave the house before. He wakes up every day excited for the day and what will come. Even when its a bad day, which of course still happens, I know that there is support there if needed; I never feel like I'm in this all alone. For me, knowing he is safe, and having fun, with people who actually like working with him: there are no words. I couldn't ask for more."

Wellness Corner

The Wellness Committee has been sponsoring the CSCL Seals, a Dragon boat team, since it was formed three years ago. Each year the team seems to grow with new and returning paddlers. This sport focuses on team building and increases self confidence in a fun environment on Harrison lake. There are 4 scheduled practices with an experienced coach and steersperson; all equipment is provided. Race Day involves 5 races against other Community teams with a trophy and bragging rights for the winning team. Being on the Seals team is a fun and rewarding experience.



October is Community Living Month!

To Celebrate, CSCL showed off its Boot Scootin' Boogie!



CSCL History

Staff Training - Then and Now by Brenda Gillette

In the early days of CSCL staff training was unheard of; you learned from those who were already working at the Sunshine Drive Hostel or the O/C and much of the knowledge you gained and how you did your work was passed on from families. Of course we heard tidbits of information about Wolf Wolfensberger and “normalization” but without specific training it was difficult to grasp the context or the intended purpose. It was only when the provincial government made the decision to close the institutions that the need for staff training at the community level became apparent. Early training was often provided by institutional professionals (which meant driving to the institution) and focused on medication, diagnosis and modifying behaviour. At CSCL our first group training was provided in the 80s by PIRT (Provincial In-Services Resource Team) from Woodlands and was focused on Behaviour Modification and specifically developing teaching plans through detailed task analysis. I know that as a group of staff we were committed to working on this but while supporting 10-12 individuals per employee our good intentions quickly fell to the wayside. During that same timeframe a number of us were able to participate in training on General and Individual Service Plans, the precursor to today’s Person-Centred Planning process and found that helpful. Move ahead 40 years and you can see the changes. Opportunities for training are now much more regularly offered and recognize the needs of the individual as opposed to a group. Congratulations to CSCL on holding its second annual Staff Conference; enjoy seeing each other, have fun but most of all do not take these opportunities for learning lightly. Take the time to internalize what you hear and use it in your daily practice with the individuals you serve!

CSCL Featured Service: “Vedder”



Vedder Services opened its doors in February 2015 and welcomed 11 individuals and 3 staff to CSCL’s new combined service to the Sardis side of town.

At Vedder the focus is all about employment and independence in the community. So the first big step for everyone was learning the Chilliwack transit system and to grow comfortable with navigating around both sides of town. Of the now 12 individuals that attend Vedder Services, 8 are currently employed in various types of jobs. The service also plans “Community Cruises” by picking out a community business, researching it, figuring out the bus route then planning a visit. When individuals aren’t accessing community, they

are participating in skills classes with a focus on literacy, math, time and money management. Self advocacy is also very important at Vedder; individuals attending the service express it in many different ways and the growth as a group has been very empowering. When individuals witness or help their peers overcome a fear or obstacle, they all learn from it and it makes everyone stronger. Stop by anytime to check out Vedder Services. Be sure to call first as we are often out enjoying our Community.

Staff News!

New Managers

As a result of looking at CSCL's funding allocations and management structure to better respond to emerging needs, Simon Wulffraat is joining the management team in the Outreach department for the ILT/ ILS/SLS programs and Cindy Graff is joining the CIS department as an Employment manager. Dan Celella is the newest HomeShare manager covering for a leave. These were all posted as temporary positions for now.

PJ and Vanda

CSCL has two new friendly, smiling faces in the Administration department at Mary Street!



PJ Rajwan (left) has joined us as Payroll Administrator, and Vanda Silva (right) has joined us as Accounts Payable Assistant. Both ladies have recently relocated to BC and we are so happy they have joined our team!

Stew Off

CSCL's Green Committee recently held a "Big Stew Off" challenge to all CSCL programs and services.

The challenge actually started in the spring when participants registered for a plot at CSCL's Sunshine Community Garden. Participants were asked to grow their own vegetables for a "Stew Off" at the end of the growing season. A celebrity panel of judges helped out comprised of



MasterChef Canada's Travis Mogens Petersen; Shawn Palmer, President of People First Chilliwack and Glen Slingerland of Chilliwack's own 89.5 The Drive. The decision was tough (and yummy) but the entry from the Wilmada House team (pictured) took home the honours.

Social Capital Talk

An excerpt from Dr. Al Condeluci's website blog at www.alcondeluci.com

Recently I had the opportunity to keynote a conference. My talk was focused on the fact that in spite of all the good intentions of services and programs for people with disabilities around the country and the world, we have still not achieved a parity for people experiencing disabilities in every day life. To this end, I suggested we must shift our thinking and actions from the current "micro" programs designed for disability, to a "macro" approach designed to change the world. My premise was that the only way we can truly change the world, is by assisting people with disabilities to be a part of the world. This means joining generic clubs, groups, and associations, and lessening (and ultimately phasing out) the separate programs and services currently offered. Of



course, this is not easy and will require the funding and goodwill of government entities, the refocus of current disability services, and the openness of the greater community. We know that the laws and regulations all suggest that people with disabilities be a more natural part of community, still we mostly have a bifurcated reality - offset programs for people with disabilities, and the rest of the world. I am convinced that the greater community will not really change, even with the regulatory and legal prompts, until everyday people begin to meet and build relationships with folks who have disabilities. When this happens, and people build friendships, minds and hearts will change. Indeed, we will change the world, when people with disabilities join the world.

Hero to All

CSCL is thrilled to announce that CSCL's own, Nancy Gauvin, has been selected to be the recipient of a CSSEA (Community Social Services Employers Association) Award of Excellence.

Specifically, Nancy was nominated by her peers for the Hero Award which recognizes the person who goes the extra mile to make a difference in community social services. Nancy makes a difference through her passion, dedication, and enthusiasm. She truly is an inspiration to others, especially in



the field of employment supports. Nancy will receive her award during the CSSEA AGM and conference, at a luncheon celebration, in Vancouver on October 18th. This award is a big deal as it acknowledges contribution on a provincial scale. Congratulations Nancy!

NAOSH Awards

CSCL recently won two NAOSH BC Awards for its recognition of its Health & Safety activities during NAOSH Week.

NAOSH Week is an annual, continent-wide event where employers, workers, and all partners in occupational health and safety collaborate to promote injury and illness prevention in the workplace. This year, CSCL submitted a super-hero themed entry that illustrated CSCL's commitment to H&S practices for both CSCL employees

and the people CSCL supports. Blooperman and Otto played host for the week and the H&S committees were amazed at the response from all the CSCL programs and services that participated. As a result, a

"comic-book" style entry was sent to the NAOSH BC organizing committee. Once again, CSCL was awarded with the Health Care category award (having previously won it in 2015) and was truly surprised to pick up an "Overall" award in the "Most Innovative" category. This will now represent the province in the national awards later this year. The

awards luncheon will be held in October and many CSCL employees and individuals will attend. "Havoc Hilda" will be there to accept the award on behalf of CSCL, which should be a fun and eventful day.



Child & Youth News!

Vancity Grant-Bridge

CSCL's BRIDGE Youth Employment Services is the proud recipient of a \$5,000 grant from Vancity. The funds will be utilized to augment employment services to Youth 17-24 years of age.

YAP-Cherie Martens

Cherie Martens is the newly hired "Youth Adult Partnership" Coordinator in Chilliwack. Cherie will be facilitating dialogue between Chilliwack Youth and Community Service Providers. This position will provide valuable insight to the needs of ALL Youth while allowing the Youth an opportunity to be active members of their community. If you know of a Youth who would be interested in having their voice heard on matters that are important to Youth – Cherie can be contacted at chilliwackyap@gmail.com

CSCCL By The Numbers:

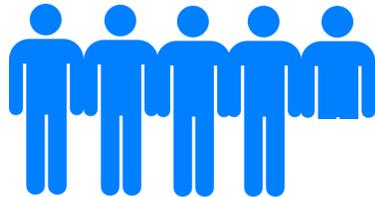
1 2 3

As of October 1, 2016

of
Individuals

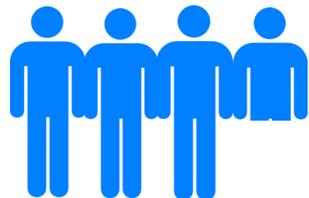
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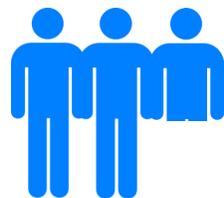
of
Employees:

343



of
Active
Caregivers:

254



Serving Communities in:

- Chilliwack
- Sardis
- Hope
- Yarrow
- Agassiz
- Harrison
- Deroche
- Greendale
- Cultus Lake
- Sunshine Valley



CSCL Reports

Measuring Up!

A random survey of progress updates from CSCL's official Plans and Reports:

Strategic Plan

Excerpt from CSCL's Strategic Planning Report 20/20:

Goal: CSCL will be a nationally recognized employer of choice

Result: Leadership team nominated CSCL employees in all five categories for the Community Social Service Awards of Excellence. One of our employees will receive an award!

Goal: CSCL will increase employee learning and engagement. CSCL will trial a 'boot camp' training for new employees.

Result: First boot Camp Training held June 13 to 17. Evaluation in progress.

Goal: CSCL will increase financial and operational sustainability .

Result: Initial report identifying new/urgent residential placements has been completed.

CSCL is
100%
Non-Profit

7
Services

48
Service/Program
Options

ONLINE PRESENCE:



761 Likes



533 Followers



167 Followers



STAR Award



CSCL's Executive Director, Julie Unger, presents David with his STAR award. David works as a CSCL employee and also receives CSCL services

Congratulations to David Crey who received the latest CSCL STAR Award for excellence in his job as a CSCL employee.

David was presented with a STAR Certificate, a Letter of Recognition and a \$100 cheque.

David's nominator wrote this about him:

"David is willing to help anyone at the program. He also does his job here at the Alexander cutting grass and weeding. The place looks better with David working. David will help out anytime he is asked and is very friendly with everyone at the building. If you are in a bad mood or whatever; when David comes around you always feel better. He is just a good person and I enjoy working for him and just being around him. David is a character who always is fun to be around and is a hard worker. Thanks Dave!

In Memoriam



Erin passed away unexpectedly on August 5th at the very young age of 37. He was a busy young man, full of life and energy. Erin lived with his care-

givers Linda & Andy Poustie since he was a young boy. He was well loved by his immediate family, caregiver family and friends. A well-attended Celebration of Life was held on September 2nd at the Henderson's tea room. Many family and friends came from afar to be in attendance, even his sister Aja who came all the way from France. Erin will be fondly remembered by all of us who were fortunate to be a part of his life.



John Peterson passed away at the young age of 26 on Friday August 19, 2016. He attended CSCL since 2008 attending various services such as ACE then REV Community Inclusion Service where he had made many friends. John was very friendly and had no problems striking up a conversation with a friend, staff or community member. He

would bring up the topic of Hockey, telling you what the score was in the Canucks game with such passion through his words. John liked dogs and children and would ask the owners or parents questions about them (What's their name, how old are they etc.) John liked to joke and kid around and laugh! John would love to play basketball, golf, swim, skate, volunteer work at the Salvation Army and work at the horse stables. He loved many adventurous community field trips, like exploring Othello Tunnels, going to Harrison Hot Springs, Cultus Lake, Chilliwack fire station, and Harrison Mills. John truly touched so many people that were blessed to know him.

Coming Events...

October is COMMUNITY Living Month

October is Community Living month

Community Living Month is a time when communities around the province and across Canada host events to celebrate the abilities and achievements of people with developmental disabilities.



Community Living Event

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Time for BOOT SCOOTIN BOOGIE! CSCL is hosting their annual Community Living Event at Tzeachten Hall. Don't miss out, get your tickets TODAY!



iConnect Conference

Monday & Tuesday, October 24 & 25, 2016

CSCL will be conducting its' annual staff conference over a two day event. A warm welcome to Norm & Emma as well as Leila Rahemtulla, Peter Leidy, & Jessica Wollen



Photo Contest!

CSCL's Photo Contest

October 1-31, 2016

What Does Social Capital Look Like to You? CSCL is sponsoring a photo contest for all CSCL employees, individuals receiving support and caregivers to participate



Halloween Dance Party

10am—2pm, October 27, 2016

CSCL is hosting a Halloween Dance Party at Yarrow Community Hall. Food will not be provided so bring a bag lunch with you - Admission \$2 - Music by Phat Boyz



CSCL's Winter Gala

Saturday, November 26, 2016

CSCL will be hosting a celebration for all CSCL employees to attend at the Harrison Hot Springs Resort Hotel. Tickets will be limited so get yours quickly when they become available.

Chilliwack Christmas Parade

Parade/Intl' Day of Persons with Disability

Saturday, December 3, 2016

CSCL will be operating a float in the Chilliwack Christmas Parade while at the same time celebrating the International Day of Persons with a Disability.

“What I Got from IGNITE”

By Shawn Palmer

Shawn is the President of the People First - Chilliwack Chapter and he recently attended InclusionBC's IGNITE conference in Prince George.

“The conference was very informative and interesting and I appreciate having been able to attend.”

“One of the workshops I attended was Theresa's Story about being forced to live in a long term facility. I was disturbed to find out that the Ontario government would violate her rights and force their decision upon her. I found it very encouraging that her caregivers were such strong advocates and although her battle may not be over, she is at least living now where



Shawn attended the conference with another People First member on behalf of CSCL's Sponsorship program

she chooses to live.

“Another workshop was about the rights of Aboriginal people with Diverse Abilities. They spoke about the comparison of First Nations people put in Residential Schools and Persons with Diverse Abilities having been institutionalized in places like Woodlands. Both populations were once excluded from exercising their right to vote. There was also a segment about PRIDE in its many forms.

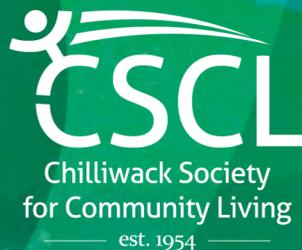
“I exercise my rights every chance I get and I am PROUD to be part of the Inclusion Movement. I am actively involved in the Chilliwack Crime Prevention Service, I volunteer with the Political Party of my choice when the opportunity comes up and I am an active member of the Mt Cheam Lions Club that gives back to the community by fundraising for worthy causes.

Chilliwack Society For Community Living

Supporting adults with developmental disabilities, children and youth with special needs and their families since 1954.

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Web www.cscl.org

“Our Vision is for a community that welcomes and includes everyone.”



Follow us on Social Media:



Your Voice!

Many thanks to Andrea Ferguson, Julie Unger, Brenda Gillette, Cindy Graff, Rebecca Kendall, Ellen Peters, Kami Edwards, Nancy Gauvin, Dr. Al Condeluci and Shawn Palmer for their contributions to this edition.

Do you have something to say? Let's hear from you!

Please contact Jeff Gilbank at jeff.gilbank@cscl.org for your comments, editorials, and/or newsletter ideas.