

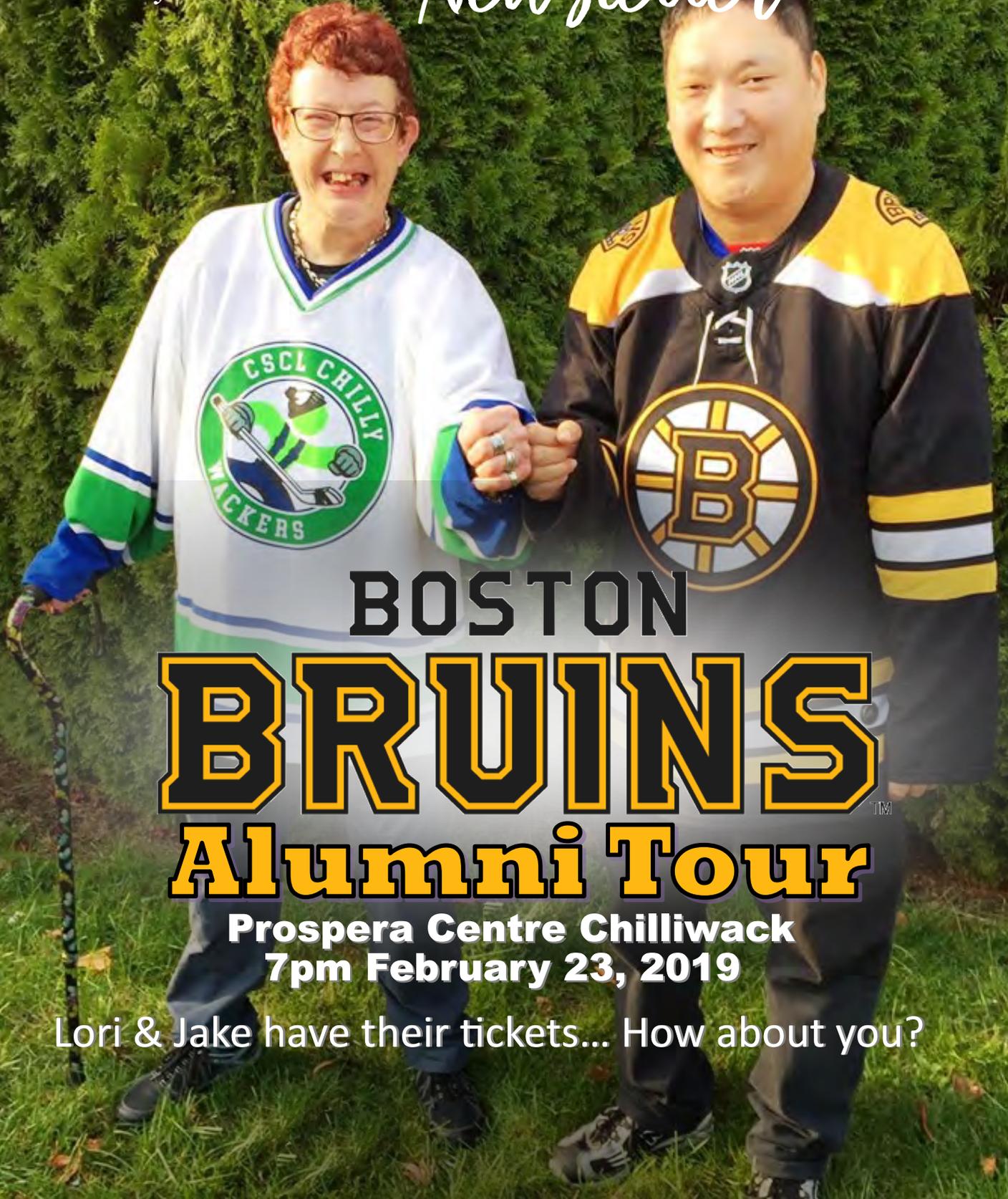
Winter 2019

OUT & ABOUT

Community. Connection. Belonging!
Issued January 2019

Newsletter


Chilliwack Society
for Community Living
est. 1954



BOSTON **BRUINS** Alumni Tour

Prospera Centre Chilliwack
7pm February 23, 2019

Lori & Jake have their tickets... How about you?

The Big Bad Bruins

As NHL franchises go, not many have attained the legendary status of the team that plays out in Boston. One of the "Original 6" teams, the big, bad Bruins have had their fair share of hall-of-fame players wearing their celebrated "black and gold" jerseys over the years. None more bigger than #77 himself, Raymond Bourque. Ray currently holds records for most career goals, assists, and points by a defenseman in the National Hockey League. Ray was also an Olympian with Canada and has become nearly synonymous with the Boston Bruins franchise, for which he played 21 seasons and became Boston's longest-serving captain.

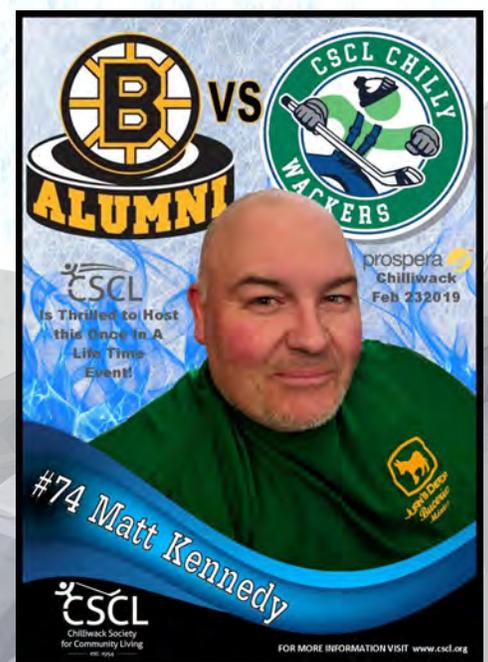
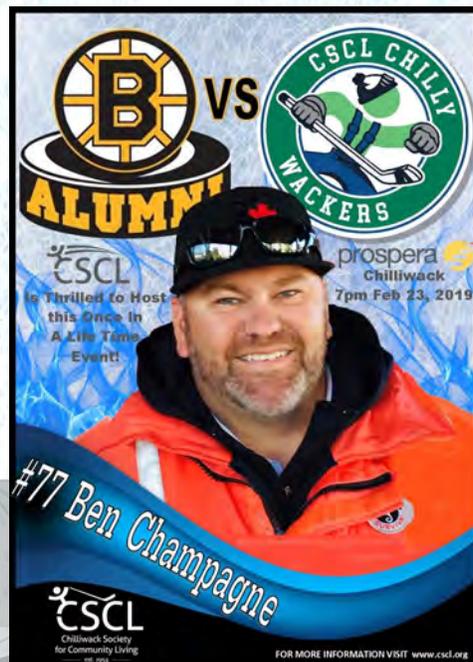
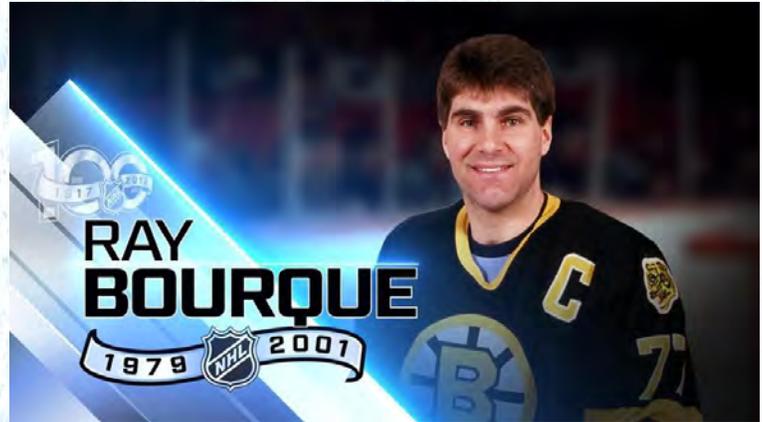
Playing against Ray and his Boston Bruins Alumni teammates on Saturday, February 23 at Prospera Centre in Chilliwack are a group of local hopefuls on a team called the CSCL Chilly Wackers.

Sean Jeffery is one of them. Sean is especially motivated for the Bruins game as his uncle through marriage, Boston Bruins Alumni player, Rick Middleton, will be lining up against him.

Sean's brother, Kevin, is also playing on the

Chilly Wackers side so this event is shaping up as a true family affair. Ben Champagne is another one of the Chilly Wackers. Ben runs a program called Little Heroes Hockey Academy for children with disabilities such as Autism, Down syndrome and Cerebral Palsy and is sure to have many of his players cheering him on that night. As will Matt Kennedy who is a husband to long-time CSCL employee, Jennifer Kennedy.

So come out and support Ray, Sean, Ben and Matt when the CSCL Chilly Wackers face-off against the Boston Bruins Alumni team on Saturday, February 23, 2019. All proceeds go to CSCL to support unfunded therapies for people in our services that need them most.



SOCIAL CAPITAL VIDEOS



CSCL recently produced a short video explaining how to create Social Capital for people in their communities by following 4 simple steps.

To date the video has been viewed over 750 times on CSCL's Facebook, Youtube and website pages making it one of the most popular CSCL produced videos of all time!

To keep this momentum going, CSCL is working with chillTV (a local, web-based, live-streaming service) to film and produce personalized social capital stories about the people that use CSCL services.

Look for John's (pictured above) Social Capital video soon!

We've been working together over the fall months (and into the new year) story-boarding, interviewing, and filming to highlight some great examples of social capital (relationships) individuals have developed in community.

We are excited to be able to launch these videos early in 2019 and continue highlighting some of the ways individuals are expanding their network of friends. The past month of celebrations has also shone a light on the relationships that people are building in their neighbourhoods.

We have seen many beautiful examples and heard stories of reciprocal neighbourly kindness; helping each other out when basements flooded, watching each other's houses when on vacation, sharing Christmas baking, and hosting a carol sing in the neighbourhood park.

Perhaps one of the favourite quotes was from a neighbour, in response to one of our staff praising their efforts, "It's just what neighbours do!" Isn't that the truth, and certainly our hope for everyone living in community – that they would experience great relationships with their neighbours!

CSCL's Mathieson Centre

"Accessibility Certified"

The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC) program works to help improve accessibility in Canada at various locations where we live, work, learn and play. The RHFAC is a rating system that uses trained professionals to evaluate the meaningful accessibility of buildings and sites.

In Canada, almost 50% of adults have or have experienced a permanent or temporary physical disability, or live with someone who has, so accessibility is more important than ever!

Once a site is rated, it may be certified at one of two levels, 'RHF Accessibility Certified' or 'RHF Accessibility Certified Gold.' Organizations can then publicly list their certification level on the RHFAC Registry.

CSCL's Mathieson Centre started this process in December 2017 and was informed in November 2018 that it received the RHF Accessibility Certification. This is a five year certification that CSCL is proud to have obtained.



**MATHIESON
CENTRE**

RHF-622-00044
JUNE 7, 2018 - JUNE 7, 2023

REGISTRY IS HOSTED BY
CSA GROUP. VISIT AND LEARN MORE:
RHFAC.CSAREGISTRIES.CA



Our next steps? CSCL has partnered with Kelly Spriggs, a local Youth Accessibility Leader in Chilliwack, to apply for the 'Enabling Accessibility Fund for Youth Innovation Project' through the Government of Canada.

If successful with the grant application – we will focus on improving the accessibility of the Mathieson Centre (based on the improvement recommendations from the RHFAC report).

As a member of Inclusion BC, CSCL celebrates the "Accessibility Includes" 2018 theme of Community

Inclusion Month. It is inspired by the proposed new Accessible Canada Act and BC's plan to introduce accessibility legislation.

Why is Inclusion BC celebrating accessibility?

Accessibility is important because it means that everyone can live, work, play and share in their community, whatever their ability. When we improve accessibility, we build more inclusive communities and everyone benefits.

Meet the Board

Ben
Honeyman



CSCL's Board of Directors plays a pivotal role in the strategic direction of the work we do as a Society. Ben has been a CSCL Board Member since 2018.

Q: You work as an Education Assistant, what made you decide this career?

A: I've been working with youth since I was 19 years old. I decided I wanted to continue working with kids professionally as my experience was mostly volunteer work. I have young children so school hours fit nicely with our family schedule.

Q: I hear your family likes to camp – care to share any local spots? Any epic road trips with the family yet?

A: Yes, we camp a lot. We've spent time throughout the Fraser Valley and many spots in Northwest Washington. As for road trips, we've gone to the prairies, down the Oregon Coast, and several

Disneyland trips.

Q: I understand you are involved in an art called Intarsia woodworking – what is that?

A: Intarsia is a woodworking craft where you cut several small pieces of wood into shapes that fit together like a jigsaw puzzle to make larger pictures or scenes. It is a craft my Dad and I work on in my garage

A: Why did you decide to become a board member for CSCL?

Q: I believe in a fully integrated society. We should all not only accept our differences but embrace them. Every human being has some value, even if its hard to find in some. CSCL shares those values with me.

CSCL History

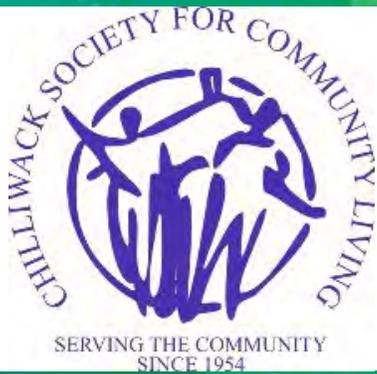
"Accessibility"
by Brenda Gillette

"In our daily lives we have come to understand accessibility as a right for all of us. We recognize that the principle of accessibility



applies equally to all people and would quickly make efforts to address an accessibility issue in our communities. It is interesting to speculate how much impact the community living sector has had on eliminating accessibility barriers. Historically, CSCL ensured that those it supported could access their community and enjoy all the activities of their choice. Initially this meant physically carrying people in and out of buildings, swimming pools and other locations. When this often was unsafe, or became impossible, the response became developing alternatives that were segregated and not part of community. Recognition of all people's rights to participate fully led to the identification and correction of accessibility barriers. We began to see things like lifts at community pools, wheelchair accessible transportation and ramps to buildings. Today, accessibility is an accepted and expected part of community planning and concerns are quickly recognized and corrected wherever possible. This is at least in part due to the hard work and commitment of CSCL and its fundamental belief that people of all abilities have the right to a full life in their community."

Staff News!



10 Years Gone

This issue marks the 10th anniversary of CSCL's Out & About newsletter. CSCL employees were asked at the time to take part in a Name the Newsletter contest. Pam Lawes of Jasper won with her submission of "Out & About". Pam summarized her idea for the name this way... "CSCL is such an active organization and I am sure our newsletter will reflect all the things that we do in the community...so I thought this was a fitting title for our newsletter."

Movin' On Up!

CSCL's Outreach department is relocating from Mary Street to Marco Plaza on Young Road while the REV 2 program will be moving into the Mary Street space. This is an exciting move for the teams and everyone involved.

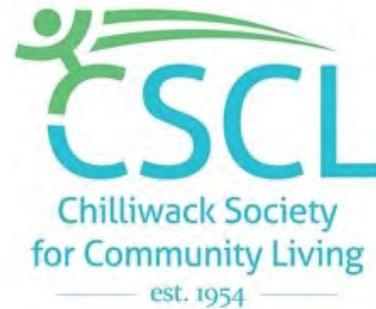
Welcome Aboard!

CSCL has welcomed two new employees into our management team. Lyle Downey in CSCL's Community Inclusion department and Christine Toop in CSCL's Homeshare department.

CSCL Turns 65!

On January 6th, 2019 CSCL celebrates 65 years of providing services to the residents of Chilliwack and the surrounding areas!

While no official celebrations are planned for this milestone, it does offer reason to pause and consider how the Society has grown and evolved over more than six decades of service provision. We are ever mindful of the



pioneering spirit of those early parents who came together to do for their children what no government or school was prepared to do.

Their spirit remains and CSCL continues to evolve and innovate in response to unmet needs.

Social Capital Update

CSCL's Social Capital Innovators Group continues to work on the development of new information and support strategies to enhance the Society's Social Capital focus.

So many great stories about social capital development have been uncovered lately. We were made aware of them through happenstance; casual conversation. We wondered why they hadn't been submitted when we were requesting examples and thought perhaps we are all thinking "social capital" has to be something fantastic, an inspiring story, when really it's just about relationships; specifically, relationships with people who aren't paid to be in your life. Does thinking about social capital as simply relationships



Letitia and Karena At the ChillTV shoot back in November

make it easier for us to understand the concept? Have we overcomplicated the idea and created angst about 'getting it right'?

Since a new year brings with it thoughts of resolutions and starting again – let's start thinking about social capital as

relationships; relationships with family, relationships with neighbours, relationships with co-workers and volunteers, relationships with club members and the guys/gals at the pub. Social capital is simply relationships.

ShareVision Update

The ShareVision Working Group is happy to announce that all operations of CSCL's "old" ShareVision site will cease on March 31, 2019

The group has been hard at work implementing the new features in "new" ShareVision while ensuring all previous data has been transferred over from the "old" site. To assist with the data transfers and archiving, CSCL has hired a



Database Assistant, Karsten Renaerts. Karsten has an extensive expertise and background in Information Technology and is currently attending the University of Fraser Valley. Welcome aboard Karsten!

Board Update

CSCL's Board of Directors is comprised of members of the Society elected by the General Membership each year at the Annual General Meeting.

At the October board meeting, directors and leadership team members participated in a workshop with Capacity Build Consulting.



CSCL Board President,
Ron Laser (pictured above)

This was a first step towards CSCL's property development plan and feasibility study. The consultants also spent time visiting several of CSCL's owned properties and homes.

The Board's finance committee met in November to review

financial statements for the first half of the year and reported back to the board. Additionally the board reviewed the quarterly update for the Organizational Improvement Plan.

December's annual celebration meeting included reports and service stories from several leadership team members, as well as a "Year in Review" highlight reel of CSCL's successes in 2018.

Child & Youth News!

A Visit from Santa!

Santa Claus came to town on December 21st at the Mathieson Centre to deliver joy and laughter to all of the Child & Youth Services (CYS) staff, children, youth and families. Carols were sung and gifts were given and a great time was had! Our Glee club performed at the Chilliwack Community Services Annual Christmas party! CYS is excited for the New Year and looking forward to all the fun events it will bring!



CSCCL By The Numbers:

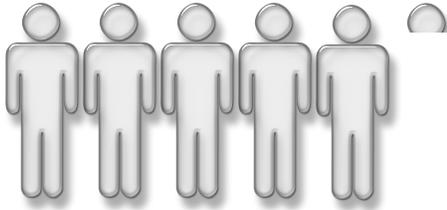
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As of January 1, 2019

of
Individuals

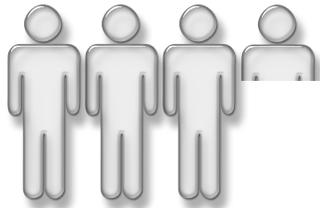
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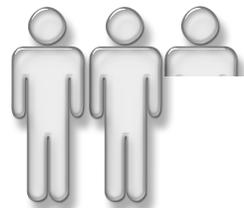
of
Employees:

330



of
Active
Caregivers:

224



39%



61%



0-18
30%

19-29
35%

30-49
22%

50-64
10%

65+
3%

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:

Communication Report:

Prepared annually by CSCL's Communication Committee

Internal/External Communication:

- A high percentage (almost 20%) of CSCL employees have not logged into their email accounts within the past 2 months. Goal: Research ways of ensuring regular engagement with employee email accounts is maintained

Communication Training:

- Goal: Ensure training opportunities that will benefit committee members are available

CSCL is
100%
Non-Profit

7
Services

56
Service/Program
Options

ONLINE PRESENCE:



1114 Likes



687 Followers



230 Followers



2555 Views



Caregiver Award & STAR Award



Hugo Romero (pictured left) has been a CSCL caregiver for 8 years. He has supported Aaron for about 5 years and they have built a close bond. Hugo has always been there for Aaron so when Aaron and his family were facing a crisis. Hugo, without hesitation, helped out however he could. Although the stress was tremendous for everyone, Hugo worked hard to be there for the family to support them through it all. Hugo and Aaron continue to get together on a regular basis, enjoying their time together, and the family has been very grateful to Hugo for his support.

Congratulations to Sheri Kurki who received the latest CSCL STAR Award for excellence in her job as a CSCL employee.

Sheri was presented with a STAR Certificate, a Letter of Recognition and a \$100 cheque. Sheri's nominator wrote this about her: Sheri is a very kind and generous support worker. She often brings in homemade canning for the individuals and her coworkers. She also recently made a gorgeous Halloween costume for one of the individuals she supports and took much of her own time to pick up materials and look for ideas. Sheri shares her sewing ability with all the individuals living at Southlands when she mends items or hems pants. She also took a worn out shirt protector for a pattern and made brand new ones from towels for one of the individuals living here.



Julie Unger

Sheri Kurki

Ellen Peters

Caren Davies

CSCL Events...



Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce Awards

January 19, 2019

CSCL will be once again be sponsoring and presenting the Most Inclusive Employer award at the 24th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala.



CSCL is thrilled to host the BOSTON BRUINS Alumni Tour

Saturday, February 23, 2019 - Prospera Centre, Chilliwack
Get your tickets today!



Employer Appreciation Luncheon February 2019

CSCL will be hosting employers for an appreciation lunch organized by CSCL's Employment Services.



Employee Awards Brunch

Employee Recognition Awards March 2019

CSCL will be honouring employees who have achieved 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service at an award ceremony organized by CSCL's Human Resources committee.



Transition Fair

April 2019

CSCL will be hosting this year's Chilliwack Transition Fair. More details and information to be announced soon!



COR Audit

May 2019 - BCMSA/Work Safe BC

CSCL's 9th consecutive COR audit will take place in May of this year conducted by CSCL's COR-certified auditor team



NAOSH WEEK

May 6-10, 2019 is Safety Week at CSCL

May 6 through May 10 is Health and Safety week! CSCL will be holding activities on each day that week, stay tuned for more details!

Thaddeus Leads The Way

12

Not many people can claim to be an expert in fun, but Thaddeus Trill arguably holds that title since winning Employee of the Year Award from the Chilliwack Landing Leisure Center, where he works as a “Fun Leader”.

Thaddeus has worked at the Leisure Center for about a year and says he loves his job. As a Fun Leader, Thaddeus is responsible for making sure kids use “slide safety” when groups of children (school or parties) use the waterslide.

Eventually, he hopes to be one of the birthday party staff who lead the children in games in the pool.

When asked what he likes about his job, Thaddeus says it is relatively stress free, he likes that

he works in the mornings, and he especially likes the variety in his days. He goes on to say he enjoys working because it gives him a task



to do and makes him feel he is doing his part in the community.

When asked why he thinks he received the award, Thaddeus, took a typical humble approach in his response. He said he might

have gotten the award because he does a “pretty okay job” and tries his hardest.

He wonders if he got the award because of his disability, but acknowledged it’s possible he’s underestimated how much he does in his job and there is a possibility he does enough to deserve the award.

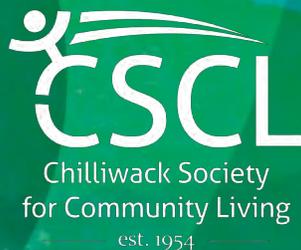
He went on to explain “when you compare the average person who just shows up (or maybe doesn’t even show up) to someone like him, who always shows up and does his best, that’s the kind of thing that deserves an award. Sometimes just doing your best is the above and beyond.”

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 Aileen Mathews, Ben Honeyman, Julie Unger, Brenda Gillette, Rachael D’Silva, Danielle Cross, Ellen Peters and Natalie Karam 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.