

Spring/Summer 2021 OUT & ABOUT

Community. Connection. Belonging!

Issued June 2021

Newsletter



Chilliwack Society
for Community Living

est. 1954



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for Community Living

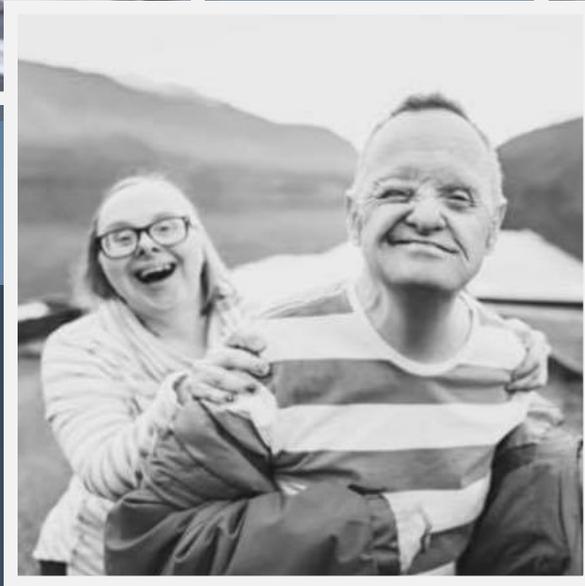
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Video projects

Did you know...

Kiara Teather (pictured above) is featured in 2 new videos produced by CSCL. More information inside this edition...

Bruce Hayens



In the early morning hours of May 1st, 2021, Bruce Hayens slipped quietly into his eternal rest.

Born March 7, 1945, William Douglas Hayens, or "Bruce" as he was known, lived to be just over 76 years old. His mother, Dorothy Hayens (d. 2014), was a founding member/Board Director for CSCL (then called the Upper Fraser Valley Society for Handicapped Children). Bruce is the "last of the firsts", he was the last living individual for whom CSCL was created way back in 1954. Bruce received supports

through CSCL for over 67 years, first attending the school, then as an adult participating in work at the Occupational Centre and then wood shop, and in his last years enjoying the slower pace of Oasis. He lived with his family until 2013, when he moved into a Shared Living arrangement with a contracted caregiver, and then in the last year moved to Carleton Place where he passed away.

He had a swagger and presence that brought lots of witty banter. Bruce was an entertaining story teller, a sports lover (Vancouver Canucks and BC Lions had a dedicated fan!), a Casanova, and he left a lasting impression on all he met. His life and legacy are rich and full of people who will miss him, and an entire organization that owes its beginnings and evolution, in part, to him and his family. Bruce and his family provided a great example for us all: don't settle for what's available, create what's needed!



CSCL is pleased to present the "Be Kind Be Calm Be Safe" Award to

Angeline Woodfield
February 2021

Richelle Marino
March 2021

Rene' Atkinson
April 2021

CSCL initiated this recognition to acknowledge the extraordinary work being carried out by employees on a daily basis during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Adopting Dr. Bonnie Henry's now iconic phrase, we wanted to recognize employees who demonstrate these characteristics: Being Kind, Being Calm and Being Safe.

Since November of 2020 CSCLers have been nominating their co-workers and providing beautiful examples of how they are providing exemplary support to individuals and their teams during this challenging time. Each month the Leadership Team (Pandemic Influenza Team) selects one of the nominees to receive a certificate, letter for their personnel file and a gift selected especially for them.

Past winners have been Sheena Davidson (Nov), Anna-Maria Keiner (Dec) and Carolyn Leadbeater (Jan).

On behalf of everyone at CSCL we thank our employees for showing up every day to do great work and for continuing to "Be Kind, Be Calm, and Be Safe".

Dr. Bonnie Henry



CARF SURVEY RESULTS!

CSCL is happy to announce it has earned a Three-Year Accreditation from CARF Canada and CARF International.

In February 2021, CSCL welcomed CARF surveyors for our 6th accreditation survey. Achieving this CARF accreditation means that we satisfy each of the accreditation conditions, demonstrate substantial conformance to the standards, and use continuous quality improvement practices. All three surveyors stated this was one of the very best surveys they had ever completed and were very complimentary about CSCL's services. Surveyors were also very complimentary of our Board members and the level of knowledge and commitment to the organization. The Areas of Strength section identified CSCL as a "pace setter for services in Canada" and singled out our organization as "an amazing and contemporary service that focuses on inclusion and supporting individuals to create their best life possible."

Other Areas of Strength included our

"remarkable team of long-tenured leadership and staff members who have created and nourished the evolution of the services."; Our awards and recognition efforts for staff members; our quality-by-committee philosophy; our use of ShareVision; our endeavour to "meet and exceed health and safety requirements."; our development of a diversity and inclusion committee; our recognition of the Canadian Non-profit Employer of Choice™ Award; our "strong focus on business continuity"; our endeavour to look "at the health of the social connections and building community drivers to expand social capital."; and our work with the NADSP - just to name a few.

The report even mentioned our own Out & About newsletter as a "comprehensive newsletter" that "keeps everyone connected to the organization and commended CSCL for the scope and vibrant appearance and the team assembling it."

The full CARF report is available on CSCL's website in the About Us section.

CSCL's Wellness

Committee has a new Logo!

In March, CSCL's Wellness Committee put out a request for staff to submit original ideas for a committee logo. The chosen submission, from Southlands staff Ashley Lord, reflects the committee's work in promoting health and wellness in the seven domains of emotional, social, intellectual, physical, financial, environmental, and nutritional wellness. While Ashley has worked at CSCL for over 3 years, she is also a part-time artist, mostly creating pet portraits. "I do it for fun! It's just something I do on the side." She has the same enthusiasm for her work at CSCL. "I love my job! It doesn't feel like work." Ashley has also taken time to volunteer doing



Wellness Committee

events with CSCL, such as the annual staff Family Day, doing face painting. When asked about volunteering her time, she said "Any way for me to be creative in community and to help out. I just enjoy it. It's creative therapy at its finest!" When asked about her motivation in submitting for

the Wellness logo, she stated, "I thought it would be a fun way to try something different than the portraits I do. A good way to do something creative and fun." Ashley has been an artist since she was a child and says that she actually failed art when she was in school. "I've had a lot of people telling me my whole life I can't draw and shouldn't do it as a career. It made me want to work harder." When asked for words of encouragement for someone wanting to achieve a goal, she said "Anything is possible. If you put your mind to it, you can achieve it!" Ashley can be followed on Instagram at ashleypetportraits and on Facebook at Ashley Lord Pet Portraits.



The Family Support Institute of BC (FSI) is a provincial not for profit society committed to supporting families and caregivers who care about someone with a disability. FSI supports and services are free to any family. We work on a peer to peer mentoring system and also offer lots of other supports. All our services can be found on our web site: including learning explorations, and Hangouts to connect with other caregivers over specific issues. We provide supports anywhere in the province, there are no wait times, and due to Covid, we are doing most of our support virtually. Some of our Resources include:

[FindSupport BC](#)

A current list of community supports available in your area based on the disability.

[Transitions Timeline](#)

Helps figure out what needs to be done and when as you move from childhood to adulthood and beyond!

[MyCommunity BC](#)

A community map sharing accessible and inclusive locations anywhere in the province

[MyBooklet BC](#)

A method of sharing information, personal communication styles and the history of an individual

[Support Worker Central](#)

A place to find support workers to help you or to find a job as a support worker!

[WayFinders](#)

A program to help individuals create life goals and then achieve them.

If you need support, please reach out to the provincial office at 1-800-441-5403 or explore our web page at www.familysupportbc.com

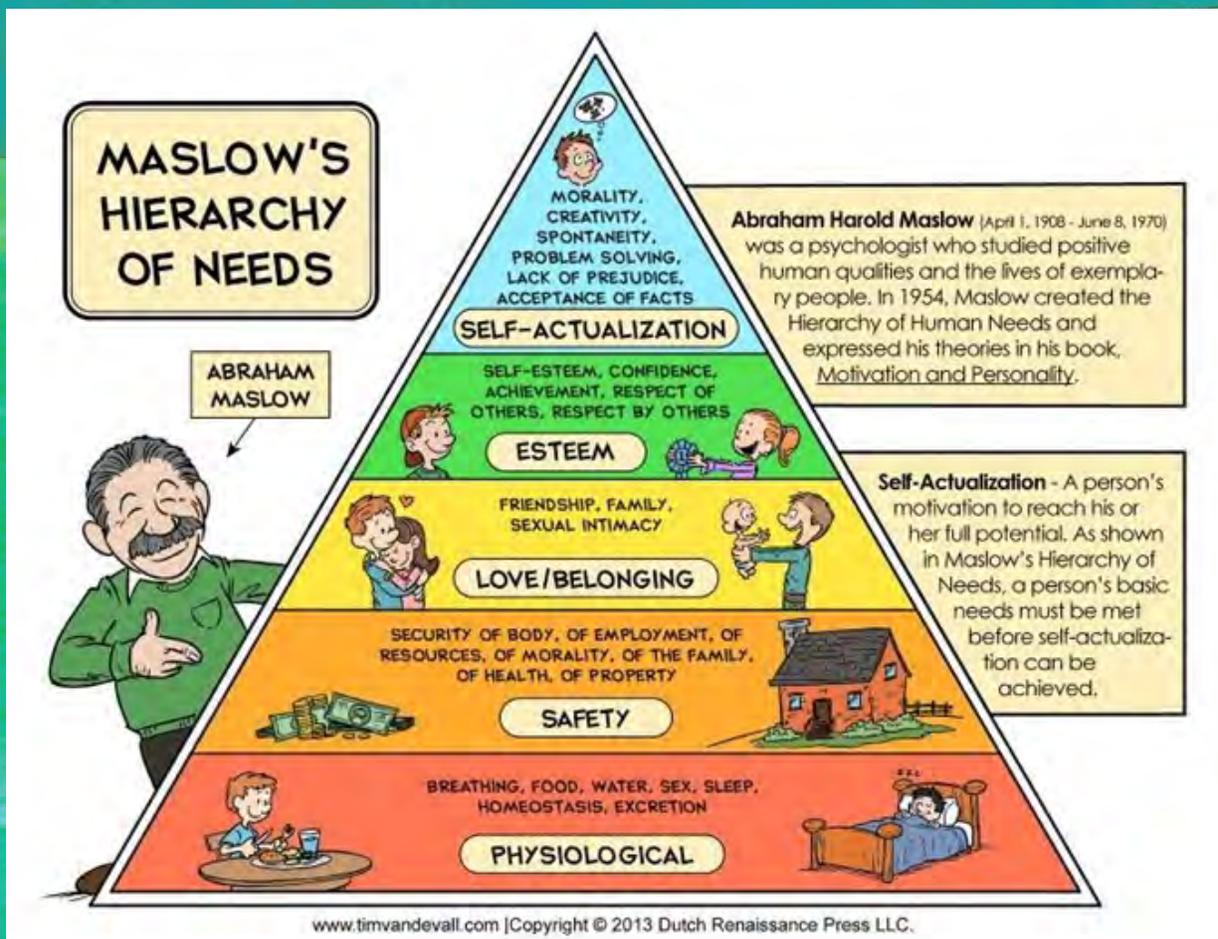
There's No Place Like Home!

CSCL has recently opened up two residential services for children and youth (two separate homes for two separate people). In partnership with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MFC) and the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children & Family

Services Society (FVACFSS); CSCL is working closely with the parents of the children/youth to turn these houses into homes.

“A home is where you feel loved, appreciated and safe. It takes hands to build a house, but only hearts can build a home”

Using this statement as our ultimate goal...CSCL, funders, families, and others involved can work together to ensure the five basic needs for these children/youth are being worked towards (as outlined in Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs).





CSCL's Individual Rights Project

What started out as a simple review on CSCL's Individual Rights policy turned into a 2 year project that ended with an excellent video and an even better experience. As members of CSCL's Individual Services committee, Sarah Bried, Karen Slingerland and Jeff Gilbank agreed back in 2019 to review policy in preparation for CSCL's CARF survey (originally

scheduled for the spring of 2020). In doing so, the group wanted to include other well-known Rights-based documents including the UN's Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This effort turned into inviting others to be involved and a video was eventually planned that would feature Sarah,

Kiara, Shawn, Katie and Irene (pictured above). The team worked hard to group CSCL's 25 Individual Rights into 5 domains and agreed each person would represent one of the domains. The video can be seen on CSCL's Facebook page and YouTube channel and has already received much acclaim and attention. Congratulations team!



Video projects

CSCL has been busy lately promoting 3 new videos produced by the Society that contain important messages about our work.

The Individual Rights video features 5 individuals who receive support from CSCL and their view of Human Rights and what it looks like and feels to them. Sarah, Kiara, Irene, Katie and Shawn (pictured above) represent all 5 Rights Domains and give their unique perspective and what those Rights mean to them.

Kiara also wanted to make a video on what life is like living with Prader-Willi Syndrome or PWS. Kiara's insight is informative and courageous. "The reason why I want to advocate for individuals with PWS," Kiara explains, "is to let others know about how this disability affects myself and others. Living with PWS effects my day to day quality of life as it increases my health risks by, gaining weight faster than others, I can be unsteady

on my feet, as my balance is affected by softer bones and weaker muscles, I have higher risks of heart disease, osteoporosis and diabetes. I require an intensive support system to maintain my day to day mental, physical and emotional health needs. Living with PWS has been challenging to build my independence in my home and in the community because I struggle to control my unhealthy urges; however following my well-defined safety plan helps me live a happier and more fulfilling life."

The third video was about CSCL's commitment to Social Capital development as it continued through the pandemic. Recognizing that isolation and loneliness were now shared experiences with a larger segment of society, we wanted to highlight the human need for social connection. CSCL created a short video to promote connections, using the common experience of the pandemic.

What's Up at CSCL *Explore!*



This issue we look at “What’s Up at Explore!” with Caelan Sampson, Community Connector at CSCL:

Caelan recently set up supports that involved online Zoom discussions. “The goal of the Zoom meeting afterwards was to have conversations based on common interests and to hopefully build relationships based on those common interests.”, explains Caelan, “Using the Zoom format allows people to use technology to have those conversations in

a safe way, so they can continue to reap the physical, mental, and emotional benefits of having connection to other people.”

As the third wave of the pandemic has peaked, Caelan thinks some supports will continue to use remote platforms like Zoom. In the meantime, check out comakedo.ca for other examples of using technology to connect with others.

Interested in sharing what great things your service is up to? Contact Jeff Gilbank at jeff.gilbank@cscl.org

NADSP E-Badge Academy

CSCL is thrilled to introduce the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) E-Badge Academy, an online learning curriculum which offers Community Support Workers (CSWs) and Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) the ability to earn international certification through stackable electronic badges.

These badges demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and values that these professionals utilize every day, recognizing the professional development that might otherwise go unacknowledged.

Earn enough badges and a “DSP Certification Level” will be awarded to you. There are 3 levels of DSP Certification to achieve. For more information visit:

<https://ebadge.nadsp.org/>



Staff News!



Congratulations to Natalie Karam, CSCL's new Director of Human Resources. Natalie has a Bachelor's Degree in Child & Youth Care, together with over 20 years' experience at CSCL. She has already played an integral role in many HR developments at CSCL including the introduction of the NADSP, and the E-badge academy, the implementation of Relias, and she participates in Staff Training through orientation and Core Trainings. Natalie says her main focuses will be: To review current HR processes and look for ways to make them more efficient and streamlined; to develop staff retention Incentives (i.e.: E-Badge Academy); and to establish great working relationships with the HR Department for all CSCL Employees.

COR Audit

CSCL is COR certified through the British Columbia Municipal Safety Association or BCMSA.

Susan Bassett (pictured with her horse, Cash) of Glacierview

Consulting Ltd will be our external auditor for the next COR Audit in late June. Susan holds a Certificate in Public Administration with Honours and is one of eight Certified External Auditors with the BCMSA for the Local Government Certificate of



Recognition (COR) Program. She is well versed in Occupational Health and Safety, the COR Program and the COR Audit Tool and associated Acts and legislation. Almost half of CSCL's programs will be involved in this year's audit and preparations are occurring now.

Social Capital Update

One of the biggest challenges of the pandemic has been finding ways for people to stay connected and to maintain social capital.

The team at REV has come up with a real great way to stay connected. They had a wheeled, plant stand built for them to sell donated plants to raise money for the community garden. In the meantime, they are using a table to start their venture. They raised \$35 so far



and even got a donation from a community member. This will be an ongoing thing in the summer months as the team will also sell crafts that individuals have made

such as the pallet wine rack made by Jamie T. On the first day, Chris H and Lorne H (pictured) set up and manned the stand for an hour and a half to help start things out. The plan is to have the plant stand open on each Tuesday and Friday mornings until the end of summer. They

got plant donations from Fraser Valley Garden club and St. John's church plus individual community members as well.

Child & Youth News!

Summer is fast approaching and CSCL's Child and Youth Services are ready to put on an amazing summer program. With sports days, nature exploration and water games, our campers will be engaging in a large variety of energetic activities while socializing and making friends. Each week will have its' own theme such as Space Week, Disney Week, Superhero Week, Under the Sea Week, Dinosaur Week, STEM Week, Olympics Week and Hawaiian Week. All Provincial Health Directives will be followed in the delivery of these summer programs. Bring on the Summer!



Inclusion BC Grant

Inclusion BC is a federation working with partners like CSCL to build community and to enhance the lives of children,

youth, adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their



inclusionBC

result of the pandemic. These candidates are either returning to a

families. In January, CSCL successfully applied for the Supported Employment COVID-19 Recovery Fund grant. Offered through Inclusion BC, this grant allows CSCL to support 10 job seekers, in the Supported Employment Program, to return to work after losing their job as a

previous job, requiring supported employment or seeking customized employment. With the funding, CSCL will hire and train one temporary fulltime Vocational Counsellor. We look forward to the opportunity to help people get back to work in these difficult times.

Board Update

CSCL's Board of Directors is elected by the Membership every year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The Board of Directors met monthly, January through April, attending to the governance of CSCL:



review of quarterly financial statements, approval of annual budget (April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022) and approval of annual reports (including Health & Safety, Human Resources and Critical Incident Reporting). Additional support was provided to the Accreditation process with CARF, where three board members participated in interviews with the survey team.

More recently Directors have been preparing for the annual general meeting coming up on June

8th, 2021. The membership and nominating committee recommended nominees to fill the upcoming board vacancies, and the whole board will be meeting with KPMG on May 31st to review the audited financial statements.

CSCCL By The Numbers:

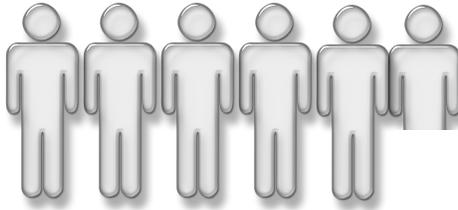
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As of June 1, 2021

of
Individuals

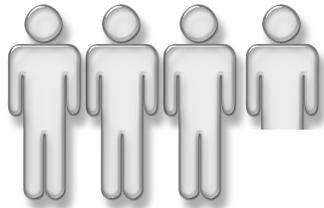
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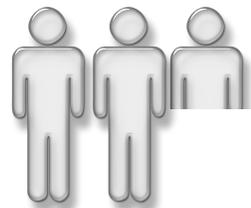
of
Employees:

352



of
**Active
Caregivers:**

242



39%



60%

1% Self Describe



0-18	19-29	30-49	50-64	65+
31%	28%	27%	6%	8%

Serving Communities in:

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



CSCL is
100%
Non-Profit

9
Services

56
Service/Program
Options

ONLINE PRESENCE:



1437 Likes



723 Followers



519 Followers



6966 Views



384 Followers

CSCL Reports

Measuring Up!

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

Human Resources Report:

Increase cultural safety and create opportunity for employee contribution to cultural diversity and inclusion activities at CSCL (RDI, NEOC). Create a Cultural Safety (Inclusion & Diversity) Committee, 50% of membership from direct support professionals. Committee Terms of Reference to include: ongoing mechanisms to solicit input from employees; developing cultural competency at CSCL through mentorship; review of complaints processes as it pertains to cultural safety; review education/training materials; develop cultural awareness activities



Caregiver Award

Congratulations to Faye Birston, the latest CSCL Caregiver Award winner for excellence in her supports as a CSCL contracted caregiver.



“Faye has worked very hard this last year to ensure the individuals she supports continued to receive supports but also worked to teach them to keep themselves safe, and has always been open to ideas on how to encourage safety, and keep busy during a pandemic. She has gone above and beyond at times to help families and the individuals she supports.”

STAR Award

Congratulations to Kerry Kurpiela (pictured up front) who received the latest CSCL STAR Award for excellence in her job as a CSCL employee. Kerry’s nominator(s) wrote:



“Kerry has found several different events in the community for people to participate in. She is always trying new things to gauge peoples reactions for activities and skill building as well. She has a firm grasp of how important it is to keep people engaged and learning constantly and their valuable place in the community. She works tirelessly searching for things even outside of her work hours. She is flexible and always willing to jump in for anything. She is a great asset to the REV team and is well liked by everyone and a joy to work with. Her enthusiasm is very contagious and inspires us to try harder to find things to enhance quality of service and life for the people we serve.”

CSCL Events...



BINGO Wednesdays!

Did you know about ZOOM BINGO

Come join us for BINGO every Wednesday, hosted by the gang at Vanmar! Email them for more details!



ZOOM into connection!

Do you have a great idea for a ZOOM activity?

Send us your ideas for using the ZOOM platform to help stay connected to community, friends and family!



CSCL Wellness Committee!

There's more to come...

Your Wellness Committee is hard at work coming up with new way to encourage and inspire, stay tuned!



COR Audit

June 2021 (Last two weeks)

CSCL will be welcoming Susan Bassett, a BCMSA Certified Auditor in June to audit our H&S practices and policies.



CYS Summer Registration

Registration Now Open!

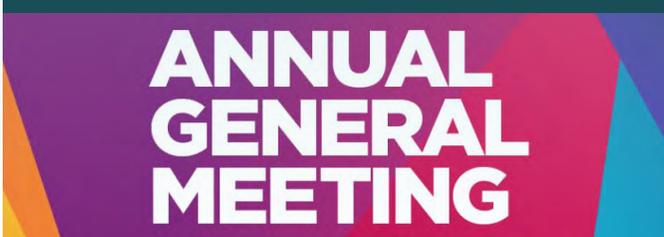
Please contact CSCL's Child & Youth Services for more information.



Sunshine Community Garden

Do you have a passion for gardening but no yard space?

Get connected with the Sunshine Community Garden!



Annual General Meeting

June 8, 2021

CSCL's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be announced soon.

Brian Nordal

Brian Nordal was well known in Chilliwack and the CSCL community, where he attended various services on Sunshine Drive since 1997. Brian attended the Woodshop, the OC, REV, and then Oasis, and was always happy to tell people about his work. Brian's passion was helping others and making people feel good about themselves, whether by giving them a compliment on how nice they looked, or helping them with something like getting their lunch out or cleaning up their mess. Brian loved building with his red Lego blocks, that was his favourite thing to do. Family was important to Brian - he loved talking about his family, and did so often. He visited his family, who lived out-of-Province, and always looked forward to his next trip to see them. Brian was a spiritual man, who often spoke of God and how God represented mother nature. This was very important to him, and he would often say "God has created mother nature, mother nature runs all things". Brian lived with his caregivers, Dan and Nancy Gauvin, for more than 20 years. He loved his caregivers dearly, and had an especially strong connection with

Nancy. Whenever he arrived at Sunshine Drive, he would tell the service manager, Natalie, "Nancy said to say hi to you". Brian is missed deeply by his caregivers and his housemate and friend, Mark. Brian was a punctual guy, who valued the same in others. He had a great deal of integrity, and was honest, kind, and thoughtful. He had deep, long-standing friendships and is very missed by his friends, particularly his "besties", Terry and

Robert. Natalie says Brian has left a hole in Oasis, and is deeply missed by the other participants and the staff. Brian loved music, particularly Elvis. The highlight of his year, before covid, was always going to an Elvis impersonator show with his roommate. He was really proud of his Elvis hoodie, which he wore regularly. He loved getting his picture taken, and loved anything that had to do with nature. Perhaps Natalie has summed it up best, by saying, "he was such a benefit to our society as a human being".



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 Julie Unger, Brenda Alexander, Natalie Karam, Dan Celella, Danielle Cross, Ellen Peters, Mary-Lee Tondreau and Aileen Mathews 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.