

Winter 2022 OUT & ABOUT

Community. Connection. Belonging!
Issued January 2022

Newsletter



Did you know...

Tracey, Jodi and the Vanmar Team won the Grand Prize in the 2021 CSCL Photo Contest. The Photo is shown above and displays Tracey tuning in to a "Video Message" from CSCL's Executive Director, Julie Unger.

NADSP E Badge

Last fall, CSCL began offering employees an opportunity to register in the NADSP's E-Badge Academy. It was developed out of employee's requests for more professional development. As the first Canadian member of the National Alliance of Direct Support Professionals, the E-Badge Academy was a natural fit for CSCL and a way to provide staff with an opportunity to develop their skills. There's not a lot of trainings available specific to our field so the NADSP has created this E-Badge Academy and it is absolutely specific to the work that we do. It aligns perfectly with CSCL's Mission, Vision, and Values. The badges are used to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and values that employees use every day, recognizing the professional development that might otherwise go unacknowledged. Through the online platform, registered employees can

submit specific examples, experience, and education that highlights their achievements and contributions to human services. While the training is optional and completed outside of work time, CSCL is offering an incentive to employees for each level completed, with job title changing to reflect qualifications; from 'Community Support Worker' to 'Direct Support Professional', followed by a number reflecting the level of certification completed. There is also a financial award for each level completed.

Penny Goryk and Sandra Leitner were among the first CSCL employees to complete the first level of certification and spoke of the benefit they received from the experience.

For Leitner, training reminded her that people come first "Everything I do is a person-centered approach." When asked what surprised her

about the training, Penny Goryk stated "When I reflected back on the things I'd learned about, it validated myself. I realized that I'd been applying the Code of Ethics more than I knew." When asked if they would recommend the training, Leitner stated, "For sure!" Goryk who was the first employee to complete all three levels of the DSP training, added, "Reflection and education are so important. Training brings them together." Nicole Howard, said what surprised her the most about the training is it emphasized how much learning she has done over the past 13 years. Howard, who was the first to complete the Frontline Supervisor Badge, said that it teaches what it means to put the individual first. "Nowadays, it means so much more to be person-centered. When I started it was mostly goals. Now it's around culture, sexuality, so many more layers."

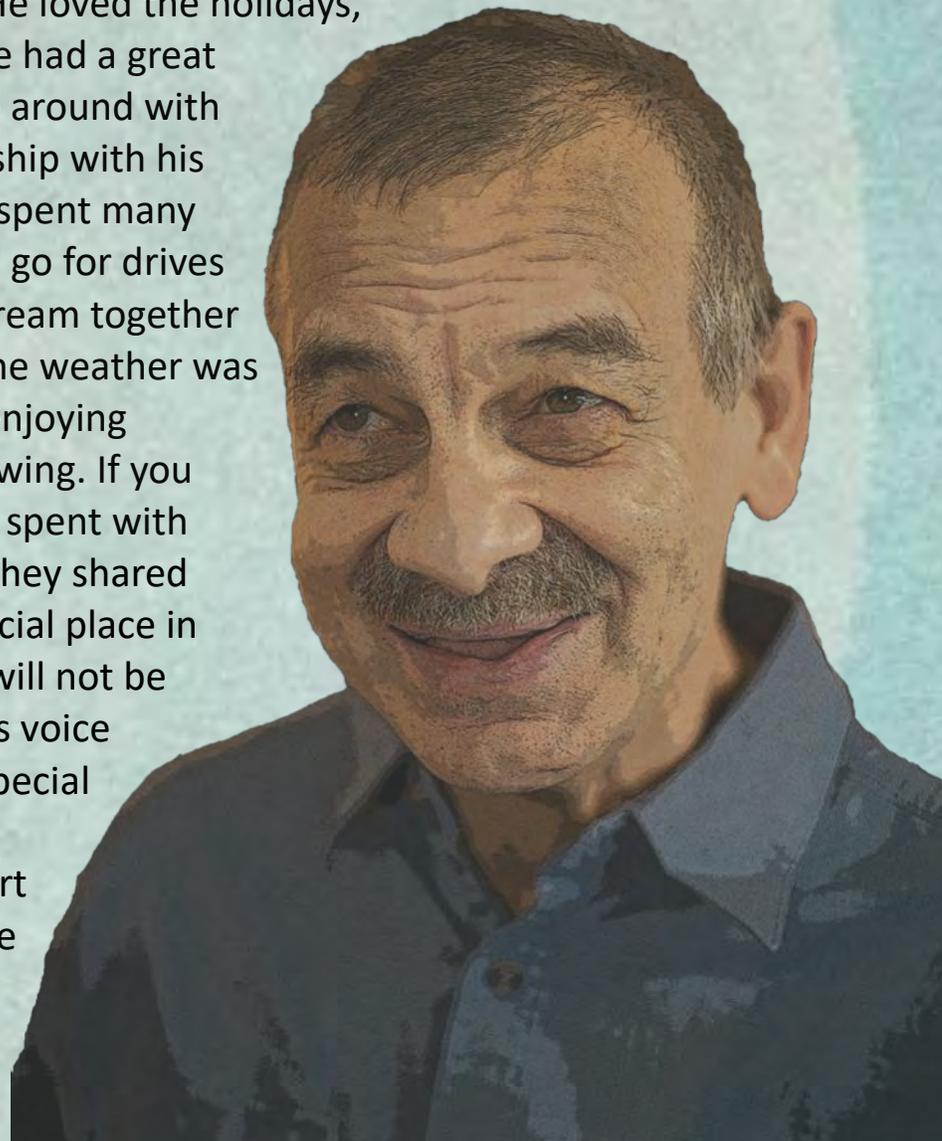


George Younie

You will be dearly missed

George Younie passed away on November 22, 2021 at his home. He was born June 15, 1948 in Chilliwack. He is survived by his mother, Betty, his brothers, Bryon and Robert, and his sister, Jo-Anne. George grew up on a raspberry farm in Chilliwack. In later years, off the farm, he was the master potato peeler at his family's restaurant and always enjoyed the social aspect of restaurant work. He loved to tease people and joke with his co-workers and friends. When the family moved, he met new neighborhood friends, and together with his brother Rob, they all played street hockey for hours on end.

George moved to Wilmada Place in 1998, where he enjoyed gardening, sitting in the backyard and social outings. He loved the holidays, parties, music and movies. George had a great sense of humor, and loved to joke around with staff. He had a very close relationship with his mother Betty, and over the years spent many happy times with her. They would go for drives up to Harrison, or out for an ice cream together to the local Dairy Queen. When the weather was nice, you would often find them enjoying a visit while sitting on the porch swing. If you were to ask George, any time spent with Mom, was time very well spent. They shared a special bond. George held a special place in everyone's hearts, and Wilmada will not be the same without the sound of his voice ringing in the halls of his home. Special thanks goes out to all the staff at Wilmada for their care and support over the years. George, you will be very dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing you.



Annual Photo Contest



CSCL's Annual Photo Contest continued with the theme of "be kind, be calm, be safe" to highlight some of the activities during Community Inclusion Month. Every year Community Inclusion Month is celebrated in October in Chilliwack and other communities across our province. 2021 is the second year where we had to celebrate during an ongoing pandemic. After months of isolation, we understand more deeply than ever the importance of being connected and being part of a community of friends and neighbours. Yes, photos of people wearing masks are still with us in our efforts to support our "be kind, be calm, be safe" theme but we are hopeful for the future.

There were some really great examples but ultimately the photo of Tracey tuning in to one of CSCL's Video Messages (you can see the photo on

the cover of this newsletter) best represented the spirit of the theme.

Here are some other great notables from the Contest.



Hero Award

Shaaron Enright

At the Employee Service Awards Breakfast, hosted on October 1st, 2021, CSCL presented a Hero Award to Shaaron Enright. The award is presented by the Leadership Team to an employee who has demonstrated heroic efforts.

Shaaron is the administrative coordinator at CSCL. As an over 31 year employee, her knowledge and understanding of the work at CSCL is invaluable, and that, combined with her genuine compassion and desire to help others, contributed to her heroic work over the past year. HERO defined: a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities.

Shaaron was the constant presence at our Admin offices over the past 20 months – she provided support to our receptionists; she was the “go to” for answers when others were unavailable. She was the friendly face and often the voice of encouragement and comfort for employees, individuals and families arriving at our office with questions. Shaaron could have worked from home for a lot of her tasks, and she recognized early on, her need for people (part of what makes her so amazing) and the need for a

constant presence at our Admin Offices. So, while others of us shared our time between home and office Shaaron was the constant, faithful, ever present, rock-solid, reliable, supportive, kind, calm, helpful, informative, Admin Coordinator. She is our Pandemic HERO, with the super powers of generosity and kindness! Congratulations Shaaron!

Shaaron (left) is presented CSCL's Hero award by Julie Unger



The graphic features the year '2021' in a large, white, stylized font with a slight shadow effect. The numbers are set against a dark background with several bursts of white and blue fireworks exploding around them. The overall aesthetic is celebratory and festive.

2021

Year in review

With cautious optimism we look towards 2022, remembering our hopeful start to 2021 and not imagining that we would still be in the throes of a world-wide pandemic. While it is easy to become despondent and cynical, it is the review of the past year and our collective success (in the face of many challenges) that brings renewed hope for the year ahead.

CARF Accreditation: for the sixth time CSCL achieved a full three-year certification of accreditation; participating in a completely virtual survey via MS Teams with surveyors from around North America.

NEOC: for the fourth year running, CSCL received the Non-Profit Employer of Choice Award for the 2020 Year

Leadership Changes: We welcomed Natalie Karam (20-year CSCL employee) as our new Director of HR/LR and Dan Bibby as our Associate Director of Child & Youth Services.

COVID-19 Pandemic: Vaccines and variants, circuit breakers and start-up plans, curve flattening, boosters and restrictions; a whole new language as we navigated our way through another year punctuated by a pandemic. The loss of individuals, family members who became

ill from COVID-19 at the beginning of the year, and saying goodbye to employees who left because of the vaccine mandate at the end of the year has book-ended these 12 months with a range of emotions and challenges.

Weather Events: From heat domes and drought to atmospheric rivers and flooding, to arctic outflows and freezing rain we have endured our share of weather events. Extraordinary efforts on the part of many employees to ensure people continued to receive the supports they needed.

What stands out as we look back over the months is our unwavering commitment to our mission. Caring for each other through this past year is the story that needs to be told; despite differing opinions or events beyond our control we continue to work together to ensure individuals supported by CSCL can find a place in their community. As we cross the threshold into a new year, we optimistically hope for the best, offer gratitude for the people we share this journey with and resolve to continue working towards our vision for a community that welcomes and includes everyone.

Meet The Board

Karen Steegstra



Karen is a new Board member joining in 2021.

Q: What do you do for work?

A: Quality improvement and change management coaching with family physicians.

Q: What is your favourite television show and why?

A: I think Chicago Med because I see all kinds of Quality Improvement projects that could improve patient care.

Q: What is your favourite

sport and why?

A: Whatever team one of my kids and now grandkids happen to be playing on.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Gardening, planning events for my community of Columbia Valley.

Q: What is a good quote to live by?

A: "Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own"

Alec C. reached out to the Out & About staff and advocated for this picture to be submitted to the next newsletter. Your wish is our command Alec!

Thank you for your contribution and keep up the good work!



BC Lions

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Stories for Our Services!

BC LION's Part Deux – August 19, 2021–
Submitted by the RISE service:

“Hey Jodie, we have a great idea...let’s do the BC Lions game again. It has been two years,” stated Mark, “and we need to do something exciting this summer.” Mark advocated for himself and his peers to attend the season opener of the BC Lions game against the Edmonton Elks on August 19, 2021. With staff assistance, Mark and his friends obtained \$10 tickets with a little help from CSCL and after arranging to borrow the van from Early Risers, this dream became a reality. Mark and his friends along with staff Cliff (Chief Navigator) and Jodie (Chief Engineer) made their way from the safety of small town Chilliwack to the big city of Vancouver. Burgers and Brew (POP) were had, shopping at the official BC Lions store and listening to the sounds of the half time show...that’s right the band CHILLIWACK played. All seemed to enjoy the experience and of course the Football Game. Final score BC Lions 16 and Edmonton Elks 21...close game. The score did not matter the smiles and laughter, the shake your bumper dance and the wave was what counted. The #1 priority was having fun, being in community and with friends.

Staff News!

There have been a few changes with some management positions over the last few months:

Colette Bohach is the new Manager at Sapphire and Topaz.

Cristina Stanciu is Acting manager at Alexander.

Jessie Lang is the new Manager for Vedder, WAVE and Individualized Services.

Wanda Dartnell is now the Manager at Chadsey, Lear and Jasper.

Mike McMillin is CSCL's new Facility Fleet Manager working with Luke Pranger, CSCL's new Maintenance Personnel.

Be Kind, Be Calm, Be Safe Award Winners are: Stephen Peters (October); Anna –Jean Beute (November); and Cristina Stanciu (December)....Congratulations!



Service Awards

CSCL's Annual Service Awards honour employees that have achieved 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 year tenure.

Although this year's award ceremony was pushed back a few months, CSCL was thrilled to host an in-person event for the first time in a long time (following current provincial health orders). Many thanks to all who attended

and a special thanks to Natalie Smith-Klassen (pictured on the right with Nancy Gauvin) who was awarded this year's EXCEL Award for excellence in her managerial position based on Team Leadership.



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.

CSCL's Child & Youth Department is excited to share a new venture with Chilliwack Learning Society!

StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time.

Laminated pages from a children's book are attached to wooden stakes which are installed along an outdoor path. As you stroll along



the path, you're directed to the next page in the story. This combines three critical elements for overall family health: early literacy learning, family engagement outdoors, and physical activity. Everyone is welcome so

please stop by CSCL's Mathieson Centre at 45195 Wells Road and enjoy reading outdoors!

Story Board

In October, CSCL posted our first story on the front lawn of Mathieson Centre, "Too Much Glue", by Jason Lefebvre.

Our second story, posted in December, "Standing Like a Cedar", by Nicola Campbell, uses Nte?kepmxcín or Halq'emeylem languages to name the animals. As this story has a local connection, we are hoping to keep this one up for a longer period. Each of the stories we



post will have activities that compliment the story. For example, in "Too Much Glue", you as the reader are asked to make the sound of

squishing glue, or b-o-i-n-g to the next page!

Please stop by Mathieson Centre, 45195 Wells Road and enjoy reading outdoors!

Child & Youth News!

The kids went to Pete's Christmas downtown and also learned about Canadian history by visiting the Cenotaph on the base. We've been baking Christmas cookies and getting ready for the holiday season. Visually the Mathieson centre has had some fresh paint and updates to the building- looking at having a big mural on the wall soon as well as the program rooms painted.

Board Update

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

CSCL's Board of Directors held regular meetings on the first Monday of October, November and December. In addition to full Board meetings, several committee meetings were held. The Finance Committee met in October and December, reviewing the financial results from the first two quarters. The Membership and Nominating Committee met in December to review new member applications and discuss board member succession planning and



Mike Robinson, CSCL President

the Executive Committee met in October to discuss leadership compensation. Board work through the fall included review of the Compliance Report/Plan and quarterly updates to the

Organization Improvement Plan. On December 6th Board Members rounded out their year with an in-person gathering with the leadership team (observing all COVID-19 protocols) to celebrate the season.

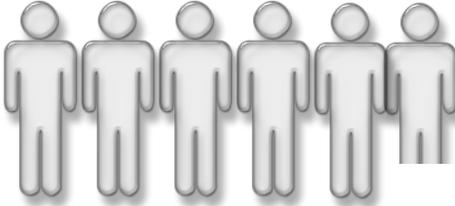


CSCCL By The Numbers:

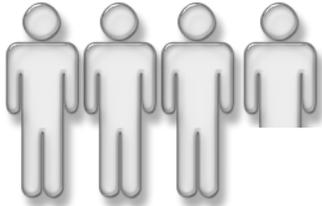
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As of January 1, 2022

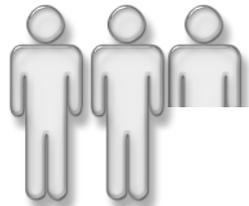
of Individuals Supported:

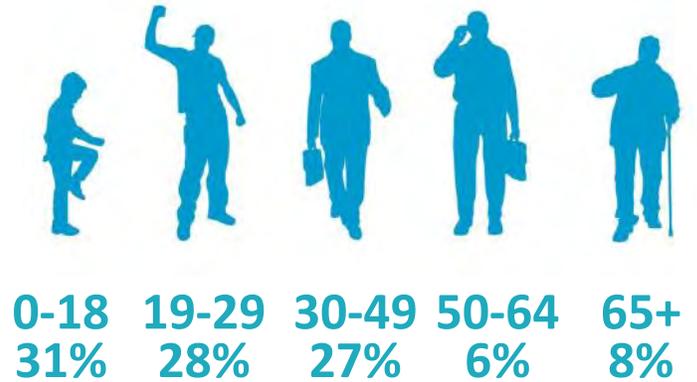
596 

of Employees:

345 

of Active Caregivers:

217 



Serving Communities in:

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



CSCL is
100%
Non-Profit

10
Services

56
Service/Program
Options

ONLINE PRESENCE:



1460 Likes



731 Followers



565 Followers



10271 Views



424 Followers

CSCL Reports

Measuring Up!

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

New 2022 Reports:

CSCL is excited to announce a new "Family of Reports" to help us understand how our services are impacting people. From a broader way of reporting on our satisfaction surveying, to reporting on Quality of Life outcomes, these reports endeavour to give us better analysis about our services so we can make better decisions on ways to improve them. Look for these new reports to appear in the CSCL Reports section of ShareVision throughout 2022



Caregiver Award

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

Roberta is a retired, local school teacher, and has been an active Respite Caregiver for CSCL since 2006. During her years as a Respite Caregiver, she has provided supports to several families, has been available for emergency respite, and most recently, is supporting a family who is going through a serious medical situation. Although Roberta paused her Caregiver role during the Pandemic, she agreed to support this family as much as she can during this challenging time, often without full compensation. Roberta has a heart of gold and always strives to provide a home away from home for these children. This recognition is well deserved!



STAR Award

Congratulations to Stephen Iqualdo (pictured) who received the latest CSCL STAR Award for excellence in his job as a CSCL employee. Stephen's nominator(s) wrote:

"Stephen is such an amazing support worker who not only cares for the individuals he supports but goes over and above to ensure their lives are fulfilled with consistency and a gentle approach. Stephen always has a smile which brings a smile to the individuals he supports. Stephen works with people whose support is completely different and yet he uses his skills to adapt to make everyone happy, gives nutritious meals and always is there for both clients to help and ensures both guys have the best in life. Stephen is also a great support to the team he works with.



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!

COR AUDIT



COR Audit

CSCL's Annual Review of our H&S systems
Spring 2022



Zoom into Connection!

Have a great idea for a Zoom activity?

Send us your ideas to help everyone stay connected to community, family and friend!



CSCL WELLNESS COMMITTEE

CSCL Wellness Committee

There's more to come...

Your Wellness Committee is hard at work coming up with new ways to encourage and inspire! Stay tuned!



Services for Children & Youth

CYS Winter Registration

January 2022

CSCL's Child & Youth programs for the winter are back. Registration dates to be announced soon!



Sunshine Community Garden 2022

Get connected with the Sunshine Community Garden!
Sign up for the 2022 growing season now!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Annual General Meeting

To Be Announced

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

Forever in our hearts

Garth Upton

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Garth Lorne Upton was born on April 26, 1993 in Chilliwack. He was a happy and energetic baby according to his Mom, Colleen. At the young age of two Garth earned the nickname Dreamy from two young teenage girls who fell in love with him, watching him play at the playground, one looked to the other and said, "Isn't he just dreamy?" It was at this moment Colleen's heart melted and Garth became Dreamy for his next 26 years. Garth was an incredibly funny guy with a wicked sense of humour. His musical taste lent itself to a darker side, and he

often tricked staff in letting him stream it through their car stereos. Listening to Garth's music was an experience in and of its own, as many staff can attest. Garth tried living in HomeShare over the years and decided it wasn't right for him. He proceeded to rent his own apartment, which he much preferred, despite the costs associated with living independently. Garth was a gentle, kind, loyal soul who touched the lives of many people. His passing has left a huge hole in the hearts of those who loved him, and a strong

sense of loss for the team that supported him. He will be forever missed and remembered.



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



Follow us on Social Media:



Your Voice!

Many thanks to Julie Unger, Dan Cella, Danielle Cross, Ellen Peters, and Aileen Mathews for their contributions to this edition. And to Tracey for gracing our cover.

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.