

Summer 2023 OUT & ABOUT

Community. Connection. Belonging!

Newsletter



Meet CSCL's Schedulers!

Meet the Schedulers

In April, CSCL began rolling out a new scheduling system with four new schedulers. Featured on the cover page and pictured left to right are: Baban Dheri, Tanya Sood, Angelika Koziok, and Bonnie McAvoy.

Baban and Tanya both have experience as schedulers, working at Fraser Health in a similar role.

Angelika worked as an Administrative Administrator in her previous role, in which she did bi-weekly payroll, department scheduling always ensuring a full complement of staff, and maintaining personnel files.

Baban, Tanya, and Angelika, all started at CSCL at the beginning of April.

Many will recognize Bonnie, who has been with CSCL since 2011. She brings with her, her administrative

experience from her previous roles as Admin Assistant in HomeShare and working within CSCL's Administration team.

The scheduling team work alongside Jasmine Ashe, in her new role as Human Resources Manager, which she began in March. Prior to that, she worked as an Human Resources Generalist with CSCL for nearly three years.

Jasmine began her new role by doing a deep dive into how filling shifts could be done in as consistent and effective way possible, in order to meet the varying scheduling needs of the different services.

Jasmine's team currently does scheduling for all Staff Supported Homes at CSCL and will be looking to expand their supports to other service areas soon.

Welcome aboard Scheduling Team!

A New Home to Love

Welcome Home, Kiara, Tyler & Michelle!

CSCL is proud to announce the opening of a new staff-supported home, Coote Place. Coote Place is a bright and modern half-duplex built in 2015 and currently home to Kiara (pictured) and Tyler, with plans for Michelle to move in as the third housemate once licensing is in place. Coote Place is very important to Kiara, Tyler, and Michelle, as all three of them have had many different living arrangements over the years, and this is their first time having a home of their own. Tyler enjoys telling everyone he meets about his “fantastic beautiful new house” and is proud to show visitors his living area. Kiara says about her home, “It’s beautiful and amazing. My room is huge; I love the ensuite. I am looking forward to meeting new staff and exploring the neighborhood.” Coote Place manager Taylor Laviolette says, “As with any big change, the transition is always challenging. The importance of familiarity has been a key component of this move – familiar staff and familiar routines. After having both of these individuals move through multiple places throughout the past year, it has been fulfilling to provide them both with their forever home.” Once Michelle moves in, all three individuals, with the help of staff, will host a housewarming party – stay tuned for details!



Exciting Changes at C.I.

Over the past few months there have been some exciting changes in some Community Inclusion services at CSCL!

The ACE services has recently moved into their new space on Yale Road. Meanwhile, the service previously known as ACE 2, is now called THRIVE, which stands for Teach, Honour, Reciprocate, Inclusion, Volunteer, and Enrich. The newly renovated space houses both ACE and THRIVE, as well as a small training space.

When asked how she feels about the new space, THRIVE participant Ashley Willier stated “I love it!”

Another major change happening in CI is with the RISE service, which is now known as LIFE. This is a new service being promoted by the funder, CLBC, with CSCL being one of the first service providers in the Chilliwack area to offer the service.

The letters in the name stand for each of the four pillars of the new service Learning, Inclusion, Friendship, and Employment. Like RISE before it, LIFE has an employment focus, but differs in that it offers mostly one to one support in a flow-through model. This means that supports are tailored to when and where they are needed in a person’s life, with a focus on creating social capital to best support individuals in creating and maintaining natural supports.

Additionally, the role of support staff has been changed from Community Support Workers or Direct Support Professionals, to Vocational Counsellors.

The other difference in how LIFE supports individuals, is by focusing on ‘Intended Differences’, as well as SMART Goals. While a goal tells us what a person wants out of life, an Intended Difference focuses on the ‘why’, allowing staff to support individuals in creating meaningful change in their lives.

CSCCL Employee Awards

In April, CSCCL hosted the annual Employee Recognition Awards Breakfast. Featured below are (L to R): Christian, Cristina, AJ, Natalie, Lorna, Julia.



CSCL News!

The promise of improved financial stability for people with disabilities living in poverty is now within reach as Bill C-22, also known as the Canada Disability Benefit, receives Royal Assent.

Provincial shelter increases will also be applied to the Monthly payment to SSH and Home Sharing Providers (\$125 per month increase to the current \$716). It will become effective July 19, 2023.

The new collective agreement for our sector includes a wage lift to unionized staff, 100% sick pay (effective in 2024), a fair and equitable compensation package, meaningful recognition and reconciliation for Indigenous workers, supports for psychologically safer and healthier workplaces and more. This round of bargaining was one of the longest in the history of this sector.

Congratulations to Craig Yendall, this year's recipient of the CSCL Excel Award for outstanding contribution in his role as a manager/coordinator.

CARF Survey

CSCL is pleased to report that we have received another 3 Year Accreditation status with CARF International.

This is CARF's highest award and ensures CSCL's viability as an important organization in our community. One of the many strengths noted in the report mentioned "The enthusiasm, dedication, and application of the professional skills of the organization's staff members are one of the organization's most noticeable strengths. This level of



commitment is evident throughout the organization, from the executive team to the direct service providers. The staff members are dedicated professionals who display genuine care and support for the individuals served. They are innovative, give of themselves, and go above and beyond to provide needed services

In Memoriam

Robert (Bobby) Tarko recently passed away. A poem written by his sister/caregiver, Tammy Bagg, memorialized him.

"I knew everyone thought I was different. Is there something wrong with seeing the world through a different lens? People could try to ignore me all they like. But the smile I harbour allowed me to put up a fair fight. No matter how hard

each day was. I would fill my family's hearts with love. "How was your day?" he would ask with a beaming smile brighter than the northern lights themselves.

Now when we gaze into his room with the remnants of him. We will come face-to-face with the empty shelves. He always wanted us to hold our heads high. "Don't cry." He would say, "Everything will be ok." This is not the end. Not forever. Until we meet again, we will hold our heads high and keep thinking of you.

For, wherever someone is thinking of you with love in their hearts, that is the place you call home.

Forever and always, your sister and family."

Robert "Bobby" Tarko

October 11, 1962 – July 13, 2023



People First Update

Matt Yeomans is the current President of the Chilliwack Chapter of the People First Group.

One of the most recent projects the group is undertaking is getting their minutes transcribed in a “visual” way.

To do this, the group is working with CSCL employee, Monica Dikkes, by sharing with her their meeting minutes and having her skill as a visual artist transcribe the notes.

Matt explains, “This helps us remember the tasks at each meeting and who should be doing



what. It’s a great way of reading the minutes. It helps a lot!” Matt has also been featured in CLBC’s most recent newsletter “Celebrate Diverse ABILITIES” as a new member to the Editorial Board and was part of a video series promoting CLBC’s new Strategic Plan along with CSCL Executive Director, Julie Unger. www.communitylivingbc.ca

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 four times in the last quarter; three regular monthly meetings, and an extra meeting to review and approve financial statements with the KPMG auditor. These statements will be presented to the membership at the September 20th AGM.



Mike Robinson, CSCL President

activities during this season included Board Rep participation in the CARF Survey, Employee Service Awards, iConnect Staff Conference, and a dinner meeting with the leadership team to learn about

The board has reviewed the annual Human Resources, Compliance and Risk Management Reports; the recommendations now form part of our Organization Improvement Plan (OIP). Other

new services and plans. The Board Nominating committee ensured a full roster of candidates will be brought to the membership at the AGM, and the Property Planning committee has continued consultation with the architect to move forward our building plans.

Kim News!

Kim just bought a piano board that attaches to her phone and says she is having so much fun playing music she wants everyone to know! Thanks for sharing Kim!



CSCL By The Numbers:

1 2 3

As of July 1, 2023

of
Individuals

Supported:

565



of
Employees:

388

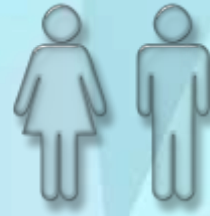


of
Active
Caregivers:

207



39%



60%

1% Self Describe



0-18	19-29	30-49	50-64	65+
33%	28%	26%	6%	7%

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:



1830 Likes



739 Followers



16391 Views



524 Followers

CSCL Reports

Measuring Up!

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

CARF Accreditation Report Recommendations:

Workforce development activities should consistently include documented assessment of competencies. It is suggested that CSCL ensure that this is done for all staff positions.

CSCL is encouraged to develop a method to consistently ensure that all records are complete throughout all of the programs in the primary source of Records (ShareVision).

Although CSCL has set standards for timeframes for documentation, it is recommended that CSCL implement policies that address timeframes for documentation in the records of the persons served.



STAR Award

Congratulations to Adriano Serviati (left) who received the latest CSCL STAR Award from HR Director, Natalie Karam, for excellence in his job as a CSCL employee.

Adriano's nominator(s) wrote:

"Adriano helped multiple individuals in our service to receive free laptops and took the time to train each person individually to learn basic computer skills (which helped them stay connected to friends, their community and creating more job possibilities). Adriano arranged training at the office as well as at individuals' homes (if needed). Adriano showed patience and motivated individuals when they were feeling discouraged. Thank you, Adriano, for helping individuals feel empowered."



EXCEL Award

Congratulations to Craig Yendall who received the latest CSCL EXCEL Award from Brenda Alexander for excellence in his job as a CSCL manager/coordinator.

Craig's nominator(s) wrote:

"Craig is amazing, incredible, compassionate, and encouraging. He's approachable and makes time for those who require his attention. I've always admired Craig's intelligence and ability to help people problem solve all situations both big and small. Craig is an inspirational teacher and mentor as noted in the way he invests his time and energy to his CPI training responsibilities. Craig knows when to laugh and has an uplifting sense of humour. It is really encouraging to see how dedicated Craig really is to his profession."

CSSL 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!

Have a great idea for a Zoom activity?

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



Battle of the Businesses

August 15, 2023

16 teams compete for charities of their choice in a slo-pitch tournament! CSSL has been selected by Hofstedes!



Chilliwack Pride Festival

August 19, 2023

CSSL will once again participate in this event that creates a space of belonging, inclusion, and celebration.



CSSL Job Fair

August 24, 2023

CSSL will host a Job Fair between 10am and 1pm on Thursday, August 24 at the CSSL Home Office



CYS Summer BBQ

August 2023

CSSL will once again be hosting and Open House Summer BBQ at the Mathieson Centre



CSSL Annual General Meeting

7pm - September 20, 2023

CSSL's AGM will be held at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre—Rotary Hall

Matt's Fun Day with Friends!

Matt has been working at the local RCMP Chilliwack detachment for many years so when he and his support staff, Jodie, were at the RCMP for a shift one day, they came across something very cool. A commercial for the RCMP Musical Ride was being displayed on one of the big screens as a communication video. Jodie spoke to Matt's supervisor, Riley, about the event and she said that it was being organized by the Chilliwack Fair. Jodie made a call to the Chilliwack Fair and spoke with Nicole and Ashleen (seen pictured with Matt) and asked if they could get

complimentary tickets to support other people supported by CSCL that might want to go. When Nicole replied, "Yes" a fun day was in the works! In the end, the Chilliwack Fair gave CSCL thirty complimentary tickets and individuals from Early Risers and the new LIFE program joined in the fun! The event was

held June 29th and the RCMP k9 unit had a demonstration and a horse acrobatic team also performed. Everyone seemed to have an amazing experience! Matt later thanked Nicole and Ashleen with a letter and some flowers (seen pictured).



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, Natalie Karam, Dan Celella, Danielle Cross, Ellen Peters, Jodie Dessau and Kim Small for their contributions to this edition.

And, of course, to Baban Dheri, Tanya Sood, Angelika Koziok, and Bonnie McAvoy 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.