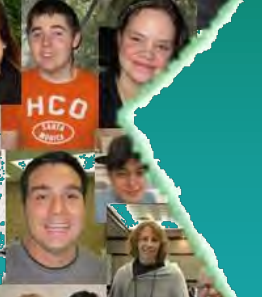


OUT & ABOUT

Community. Connection. Belonging!
Winter 2017

Newsletter



Did you know...

- CSCL will be involved in the Include Me project with CLBC this year. The project will ask to interview all people receiving CSCL services about their Quality of Life.
- CSCL's premiere staff training event iConnect will return again in 2017 for a 3rd year in a row.
- Former CSCL employee, Trish Taroni of Select Realty, recently received a Rotary at Work Award as an Inclusive Employer.
- Inclusion BC's annual conference will be held in Richmond this year from June 14-17.

A Year In Review

Mission Possible

CSCL Has 2020 Vision!



Some highlights from 2016

include sponsoring the first Inclusive Employer Award as part of the Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards; aligning with our vision for inclusive employment.

In March we recognized 28 CSCL employees, five with more than 25 years of service each; enhancing our employees' learning and engagement supports our strategic direction and vision to be a centre of excellence.

In May our work at Health & Safety Week won CSCL two awards from NAOSH, punctuating our commitment to quality services.

Photo Above: CSCL's combined Leadership and Management teams

A successful application for a City of Chilliwack Neighbourhood Grant assisted four roommates to host an ice cream social in their neighbourhood park and open a Little Free Library; building connections with their community that has seen relational dividends beyond what was hoped for.

An organization-wide social capital challenge was the catalyst for many individuals to form new relationships in community based on common interests. Some of these stories were

highlighted at our second annual staff conference in October where more than 250 CSCL employees participated to enhance their learning and skills.

In November CSCL co-hosted the 3rd Annual Rotary at Work Awards, recognizing more than 30 inclusive Chilliwack employees.

On December 3rd CSCL celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities with an award-winning float in the Christmas Parade.

We look forward to living our 2020 vision and implementing strategic activities that build a community that welcomes and includes everyone.

Mission & Vision

CSCL's Executive Director, Julie Unger, talks about our evolving direction.



As part of the Strategic Planning process in 2016, CSCL's Board of Directors and Leadership Team reviewed our Vision and Mission Statement, making some changes to reflect the continued evolution of the Society's services. Our revised Mission states:

"CSCL, in partnership with community, builds capacity for the inclusion of people with varying abilities. We promote

diversity and provide innovative, individualized services that enhance quality of life."

"Our vision is for a community that welcomes and includes everyone! We will be a centre of excellence that inspires belonging, connection and community."

As CSCL continues its focus on developing individuals' social capital, our work to increase

ties to our community also increases. Our vision and mission are reflective of CSCL's desire to engage community in our work; for it not to be solely the job of CSCL, but every citizen's wish to facilitate belonging and connection. Although the Board officially approved the Mission and Vision Statements and Strategic Plan in October, work towards the goals began much earlier in the year.

Wellness Corner

The Wellness Committee has been sponsoring the CSCL Seals, a Dragon boat team, since it was formed four 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 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.



4 Rotary Christmas Parade

International Day of Persons with Disabilities



CSCL certainly knows how to show off its' Christmas spirit! Once again CSCL was involved in the designing and building of a Christmas Float for the annual Rotary Parade. "It's become a holiday tradition," explains CSCL Associate Director of Child & Youth Services (CYS), Natalie Karam, "CYS looks forward to it every year and this year was extra special since the parade day also fell on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities."

"The Rotary Christmas Parade float has become an annual tradition!"

Plans were drawn up, lights were assembled and, with the help of Triton Transport Ltd, an awesome Christmas float soon appeared. The judges liked it too! Honouring CSCL with the Best Non-Profit Float and the Best Overall Float at the Chilliwack Rotary Christmas Parade Awards ceremony. Many thanks to everyone that helped out and braved the rain and cold that night. It was a night to remember! Hope to see you again in 2017!



CSCL Featured Service: SES (Supported Employment Services)



SES began operating in 1989 and has supported hundreds of people over the years. The SES team now consists of 5 Vocational Counsellors directly supported by Associate Director of Employment Services, Nancy Gauvin.

2016 was a year of successes for SES! As the year ended, 23 out of 26 individuals were working in permanent paid employment!

For the first time, this past December, three individuals worked together on the early morning shift at London Drugs, and independent from SES supports!

SES moved to a new location in April! Our new office has more office space for staff, individuals and a larger

area for meetings. SES launched the first Employment website csclworks.org in 2016!

Staff worked diligently to create a site that featured employment services for Adults and Youth, business partners and candidates, encompassed in an informed, user friendly layout.

We can't wait to see what 2017 has in store for SES!

Check out our website: www.csclworks.org

CSCL History

"My First Year at CSCL" by Brenda Gillette

Thinking back to over 40 years ago takes me to any number of "firsts". Truly, this was my first real experience with people who had developmental disabilities and for that reason alone, the year holds a special place in my memory. I started my career in the small office to the immediate left as you enter the old O/C (now REV). I had an old desk, a multitude of old metal locking filing cabinets, a manual Underwood typewriter, a huge manual calculator and a myriad of journals, ledgers and other accounting records taking up all the shelf space. All accounting and payroll processes were completed manually and took up a substantial amount of time. There were 18 adults receiving services at the O/C and 6 teens living at the Sunshine Drive Hostel (now Chadsey House) and attending the Sunshine Drive School (now the Mathieson Centre). Others used the Hostel on weekends, holidays and joined the 6 teens during the week.

My first year also saw the start of Bingo. Those who don't share this experience have no idea of the commitment and sheer hard work this took to operate. Bingo required a volunteer crew of 10 – 12 people every Thursday night from 5 -10 p.m. and really was hard work. Bingo brought together families and many friends in a way that nothing else could have done and also brought prosperity to the organization. Many of the things we now take for granted came from the hard work of this group of people; Bingo and the volunteers who took this on laid the foundation for the future growth and financial success of the Society. Some other highlights for me now seem very trivial ... a used IBM Selectric typewriter and eventually an electric calculator (which was still sitting on my desk when I retired). It's hard to capture that era in a few words but what remains clear to me is the tightknit group of families who openly shared their concerns about their children and their desires for the future and worked together to achieve those things. These were the people who informed my practice and without whom CSCL would not be where it is today.

Staff News!

Pay Increase

A pay increase of 0.35% will be applied to the paycheques of eligible employees over the next few months.

CSCL Email Address

All CSCL employees will be given a unique CSCL email address. Payroll & Benefit messages and other time-sensitive messages will be some of the types of emails sent out.



Winter Gala

CSCL's premiere event will return in 2018 at Harrison Hot Springs.

ShareVision Update

CSCL's ShareVision Working Group will be meeting regularly in 2017 to ensure the old database is no longer needed starting next year.

Manager Temp

Stephen Peters has posted into a Temporary Homeshare Manager position to cover a temporary vacancy.

Disability Pride

Inclusion BC is launching a year-long celebration of Disability Pride as part of the official Canada 150+ celebrations, marking our country's 150th anniversary.

Funded in part by Canadian Heritage, the group is offering grants to help include people with intellectual disabilities as leaders and contributors in existing community activities, causes or celebrations across British Columbia. Citizens with intellectual disabilities are

essential to the Canadian mosaic. Throughout 2017, CSCL will be promoting Disability Pride with the goal of inspiring action. Visit DisabilityPride.ca to view *The Story Behind Disability Pride*, a short documentary that covers the exploration of pride and its role in civil rights movements.



inclusionBC

Conversations Matter

A random sampling of CSCL employee reflections (with explicit permission) after watching a selected Conversations That Matter video from Norm and Emma's website.

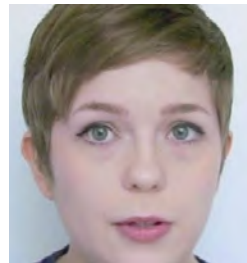
Video: Amythest Schaber (photo)

Ask an Autistic: What is Autism?

CSCL Staff Reflection: It is interesting to watch Schaber talk about Autism and scrutinize how I really view autism. It helps to hear Schaber fill in the term: pervasive neurological condition, affecting 1% of the population. To me, it means that it affects a percentage of the

humanity, and it manifests as part of a continuum in the diverse way a human brain can develop. It is not an illness to be cured from, but instead to be accepted as a way of being, and the person to be supported and loved for who and what one is, rather than something to try and change.

Schaber concludes strongly with the neurodiverse view, that there is no 'right' way to be, that being autistic is different, and in no way worse than another way of being, with those differences adding to the society as opposed to burdening it.



The inclusion message that Schaber conveys from a self-advocate perspective is important for us to hear, at a time when the rhetoric of division can distract from what we value, which is to live in a world where we try to look for the greater good for all of us. You don't want to ever forget anyone. You don't ever want to feel that someone is unimportant.

Board Update

CSCL's Board of Directors held monthly meetings in October, November and December to complete the 2016 annual cycle.

Each meeting is fairly structured with reports from Board committees and the Executive Director, and review and approval of organizational reporting. The Board is in the process of updating CSCL's constitution and bylaws to be in compliance with the new Societies Act that came into effect in November 2016 (organizations have until November 2018 to transition to

the new Act). It is the intent of the Board to have recommendations ready for the June 2017 AGM, where members will have the opportunity to vote to approve the new Constitution and Bylaws. The Board's December meeting included a celebratory dinner together with CSCL's Leadership team, reflecting on the achievements in 2016

Matthew's Caches

Since Day 1, Matthew (left in photo), showed tremendous interest in Geocaching as he enjoys being outdoors, getting exercise and making friends.

He jumped at the idea of creating his own group where he could build his Social Capital, get a workout and do some geocaching. He worked with his Explore staff to create the Facebook group "GeoCaching Chilliwack" so that he can connect with others who have the same interests. He has connected with people from his community by holding monthly Geocaching hunts, where he plans an afternoon of hunting/hiking somewhere around Chilliwack. So far Matthew has had 5 Geocaching days and has had a

lot of fun doing them. He looks forward to seeing who shows up and to see how many caches he can find in. His record so far is 7 in an afternoon!! He has also built and placed two more Geocaches of his own-one on Teapot called "Lost in the woods" and one in Garrison called "Little Hippie library cache"- just in case you want to try and find his caches in the wild! Matthew is looking forward to making more caches in the future and meeting many new Geocachers in his travels, so watch for his next Geocaching event coming soon!



7 Child & Youth News!



Glee Club

This holiday season the Child and Youth Department was spreading some Christmas cheer around our local community. The youth Glee Club performed at both the Auburn and Waverly seniors homes here in Chilliwack; performing songs from present day as well as some classic Christmas tunes for everyone to sing along. The youth love to perform and do an amazing job! Great job guys!

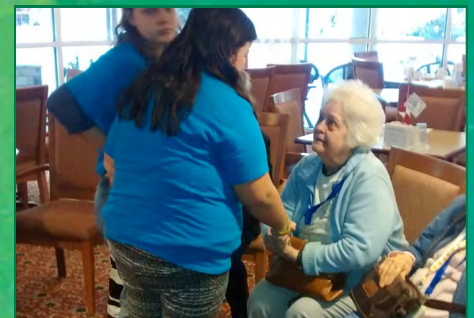


Photo Above: Glee Club member, Melissa, meets a new friend.

CSCCL By The Numbers:

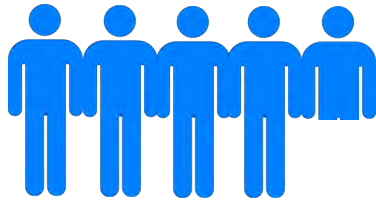
1 2 3

As of January 1, 2017

of
Individuals

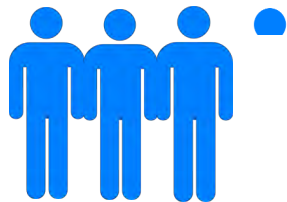
Supported:

452



of
Employees:

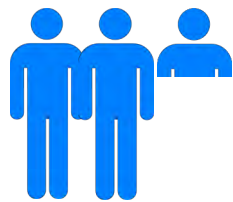
308



of
Active

Caregivers:

232



40%



60%



0-18
29%

19-29
34%

30-49
22%

50-64
12%

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:

Goals Report

Excerpt from CSCL's Goals Report:

Goals to Think Twice About Before Writing:

1. Goals about participating in a fire or earthquake drill. Are earthquake drills important? Of course! But unless it is a personal goal for something specific during the drill then it is more of an expectation than a goal.
2. Goals about activities people have been doing for years and years. Activities that are regularly scheduled for people might need a second look if a goal is going to be written about it – especially if these are activities the person has been doing for years!
3. When goals that are “important FOR the person” outnumber goals that are “important TO the person”

CSCL is
100%
Non-Profit

7
Services

48
Service/Program
Options

ONLINE PRESENCE:



820 Likes



552 Followers



172 Followers



STAR Award



Audrey (right) is presented her award by CSCL's Executive Director, Julie Unger. Audrey works as the Administrative Assistant in CSCL's Child & Youth Services.

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

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

Audrey's nominator wrote this about her:

"Audrey gives exceptional service every day she comes to work; and this can be seen when she is talking to the many parents, staff and individuals coming into the building. She is the first face you see when you walk into the Mathieson Centre and she is always smiling and cheerful. Audrey has a wealth of knowledge and is more than willing to help someone out! She lightens up the building with her infectious laugh and kind spirit. Audrey is a breath of fresh air and always gives 110% every day. She takes initiative and is always on top of her work."

In Memoriam



Clayten Sinclair
(1991-2016)

On January 5, 2017 CSCL received an email informing us of some very sad news.

Clayten Sinclair, who had been supported in the past by the Outreach Department for years, had passed suddenly on December 22, 2016 at the young age of 25. Clayten was known for his entertaining stories, great sense of humour and his fierce sense of loyalty to his family. On Saturday, January 7, 2017 a beautiful service was hosted by his family, with his Aunt Shilo delivering the eulogy. Clayten will be terribly missed and greatly remembered.

CSCL Events...



CSCL's Chilliwack Chiefs Fundraiser

Jan 11, 2017

CSCL sold 50/50 tickets at the Chiefs hockey game and raised \$200. All proceeds benefit the CSCL Children & Youth Sponsorship Program.



Employer Appreciation Luncheon

Feb 21, 2017

CSCL will be hosting employers for an appreciation lunch at the Best Western.



Employee Awards Brunch

Employee Recognition Awards

March 2017

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.



Center of Excellence

CARF Audit

April 2017 will mark CSCL's 4th CARF Survey

Every 3 years, CSCL is audited by CARF to ensure its commitment to quality services is reviewed by an external accrediting body.



WORK SAFE BC
WORKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

COR Audit

May 2017 - BCMSA/Work Safe BC

CSCL's 6th consecutive COR audit will take place in May of this year conducted by an internal team of CSCL COR-certified auditors.



AGM

CSCL Annual General Meeting

June 6, 2017

CSCL will be hosting its 63rd Annual General Meeting. More information including the location and time to be announced.



Strategic Planning

November 2017

CSCL will be conducting its annual Strategic Planning review with participation from the CSCL Board and Leadership team.

“Knit One, Knit All”

Amanda's Vision

In the midst of one of Chilliwack's longest cold snaps, there's a warm and welcoming gathering taking place.

Every Tuesday afternoon, a small group of citizens meets at the library to share snacks, socialize, and knit. The group, dubbed “Knit One, Knit All” on the FVRL website, is as inviting as the name suggests – it is open to all ages and abilities and boasts a wonderfully diverse membership. The group was started, with some encouragement from library staff,

by Amanda MacDonald and is a shining example of social capital at work. With her ready smile and inviting attitude, Amanda has created a space that is fostering

relationships and community, notwithstanding differences in age, ability, culture, or language. The knitters include long standing community members, foreign



The Knit One, Knit All Club entered this photo in CSCL's Photo Contest and won first prize.

nationals, and several Syrian refugees, and vary in age from toddlers to senior citizens. They may have little in common, but the one thing they all share is a desire for connection. It seems fitting then, that knitting is at the heart of this group. After all, to “knit” means to

make something with interlocking loops of wool or yarn, but also means to unite, bond, or come together.

Chilliwack Society For Community Living

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

9535 Mary Street
Chilliwack, BC
Phone 604-792-7726
Email info@cscl.org
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 Danielle Cross, Julie Unger, Brenda Gillette, Ellen Peters, Kami Edwards, Natalie Karam, Nancy Gauvin, Shelby Hagel, Cindy Graff, Besart Hysniu and Stephen Peters 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.