



Out & About!

The Newsletter about the CSCL

April 2011

Volume 3, Issue 2

Did you know...

- Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger died on February 27, 2011. His contributions to the field of developmental disabilities are profound. Wolfensberger pioneered the theory of Normalization, shifting the concept of disability away from the medical model (that focuses on "curing" or "managing" disability) to one of social situation. His thinking paved the way for many after him to fight for the supports, services and accommodations needed by people with developmental disabilities to live a full life in community.

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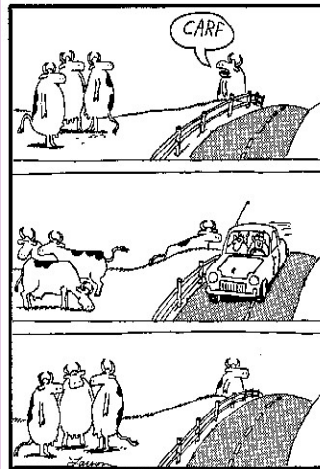
CARF Accreditation

CSCL's third accreditation review will occur for three days this month from **April 27-29, 2011**.

The review involves a comprehensive audit by three **CARF** surveyors based upon standards attributed to the community living field.

The audit will concentrate on every facet of the organization from direct service supports to administrative practices.

As the graphic to the right humorously suggests, action can occur when an external influence enters the picture.



Accreditation assists service providers like **CSCL** to improve the quality of their services and meet internationally recognized standards.

Individuals, their families,

and the public look for **CARF** accreditation as assurance that providers like **CSCL** strive to offer the highest quality services.

Although accreditation in the province of **B.C.** has been mandatory for many years, funders and government regulators like **CLBC** recognize that **CARF**-accredited providers are accountable and a more responsible way to spend tax-paying dollars.

CSCL would like to take this opportunity to welcome **CARF** to our **Society**. We hope your stay here is enjoyable.

COR Certified

All signs suggest **CSCL** will soon receive the **Certificate of Recognition** from the **BC Municipal Safety Association** for exemplary practices in **Health & Safety**.

As a result, the **Society** will be refunded **10%** of



its annual **WorkSafeBC** premiums resulting in an annual rebate of well over **\$10,000**.

A presentation will be

made later this year to the **CSCL Board of Directors**.

Thanks to everyone involved but special thanks to the **H&S Committee** who started this endeavour and to all **CSCL** staff for making it happen!

Adam Reimer

The **CSCL** had the pleasure of supporting **Adam Reimer** at the **REV** and **OC** day programs and in his family home before he passed away in **January**. **Adam** was known as a gentle spirit, with a great sense of humour and a fierce passion for hockey. He was a diehard **Canucks** fan and had bragging rights over a signed poster sized picture of him and **Mark Messier** on his bedroom wall for all to envy!

Adam had many friends and connections to the community; no matter where he went, people knew him and would stop and say, "Hi". **Adam** had an affinity for 90's sitcoms, in particularly **The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air**, where all would be sure to hear a boisterous and contagious laugh. **Adam** had a vast impact on the teams who supported him, and he is greatly missed!



Adam Reimer
1986–2011

Families Spoke, CSCL Listened

CSCL is very excited to announce the start of "**The BRIDGE**" a transition service for **Youth: "Building Connections to Adulthood"**.

For many years **CSCL** has recognized the need for formalized **Transition Planning Services** for **Youth**, and at a **Family Forum** on **October 25th, 2010** – families told us again how much this type

of service and resource was needed.



CSCL's proposal to **MCFD-CYSN** was submitted in **November**, and approval

was given earlier this year.

The Bridge service kicked off this past week, being managed by **Natalie Karam** out of the **Mathieson Centre**. For more information about this new service - feel free to contact **Natalie** at **604-858-6261**.

BRIDGE=Building Resources & Independence while Developing Goals & Employment

A Self Advocacy Story



Jacquie Monty - On Working at Galaxy Theatre

How are you feeling about being hired at the **Galaxy Theatre**?

I feel okay, I feel nervous, excited, overwhelmed, but because I will have a **SEP Job Coach** I feel more supported, more confident and less nervous than I normally would have been.

I think I will do good at the **Galaxy Theatre** because I love being around people,

I love theatre and acting. I am currently enrolled at **UFV** in the Acting 1 Theatre 111 course. I like my course and have found out that I am not the only one with special abilities there.

I am looking forward to being a cast member at the **Galaxy Theatre** and I can't wait to learn more on the job and meet new people!



Staff News

The **CSCL Wellness Committee** would like to thank all those **CSCL** employees who participated in the **2nd Annual Biggest Loser** contest. The next weigh-in is **April 6** and the final weigh-in will be **June 8**. Good luck to all participants!

Congratulations to **Bev Merrick** on her successful application for the **Jasper** manager position.

Congratulations to **Shelby Hagel** on her successful application for

the **ILO** manager position.

Congratulations to **Margaret Castle** on her successful application for the **Children Services** manager position.

CSCL supports **National Volunteer Week** on **April 10-16, 2011**

The **CSCL Social Committee** would like all staff to jot down the following events and dates:

- The next **CSCL**

Fundraiser at Duke's Pub will be held on **April 2, 2011 at 6pm**.

Tickets can be purchased at the **Mary Street Office**

- This year's **CSCL Staff Family Fun Picnic** will be held on **September 17, 2011** at **Cultus Lake Community School**

The **CSCL Staff Xmas Party** will be held every second year with the next one occurring in **2012**.

"Staff are the cornerstone of our organization."
- **Brenda Gillette**
(**CSCL Executive Director**)

What's Happening! (Apr-Jun)

Apr 1 - New Fiscal Year Begins	Apr 13 - Combined	May 24 - CSCL's Annual General Meeting
Apr 1 - Orientation Day	Apr 14 - CPI Full Course	
Apr 2 - CSCL Fundraiser at Duke's Pub	April - H&S Program Reviews	
Apr 4 - Board Meeting	Apr 27 - CARF Review 28, 29 Accreditation	
Apr 5 - OH&S Meeting	May 5 - Labour/ Management	
Apr 6 - Biggest Loser 2nd Weigh-in		
		May 30 - CSCL hosts the Provincial Home Sharing Coordinators Meeting
		Jun 8 - Biggest Loser Final Weigh-in
		Jun 21 - Summer Begins! :)

"Coffee & Jam Friendship Club happens every Monday morning at the Broadway Church from 10:00am to 11:30am."

Board Update!

The **Board of Directors** held regular meetings in both **January** and **February** but opted to cancel its regular meeting in **March** to accommodate a 2-day **Strategic Planning Retreat**. Over the past months the **Board** has focused its energy on housing and succession. These are two areas that have been identified as priorities for the **Board**.

The **Housing Committee** is working to identify the current and future needs of the organization and the individuals it supports and conduct a review of existing properties to determine if there are alternate uses for some sites. The **Board** is also investing time in developing appropriate measures for the replacement of both **Board** members and key staff. This

will include some research of best practices in this area. Over the winter the **Board** reviewed and accepted a number of Annual Reports including: Human Resources Report, Occupational Health & Safety Report and the Critical Incident Report. **Board** members also completed a Board Survey to assist in reviewing **Board** function over the past year.

"The Board of Directors is elected by the general membership at the annual meeting."

My Romania

"For more information on Carolyn's work in Romania please contact her directly at carolyn.putt@gmail.com"

Carolyn Putt is a current **CSCL** staff member that has spent time in **Romania** working with people with developmental disabilities. **Carolyn** was nice enough to share her story with **O&A** in her own words:

"In **2007** I moved to **Romania** to work with underprivileged children – but plans soon changed."

"In **March 2008** I coordinated our first camp for kids with autism and their families, and soon after

started a project called '**MOZAIK**' supporting individuals with developmental disabilities. I found some inexperienced but passion-



Lizuka Pleter, a camp participant in Romania and Carolyn Putt

ate volunteers and we started running camps, doing family support visits, and running a weekly day program aimed at encouraging social interaction and teaching life skills."

"The project is run by amazing volunteers, and funded solely through private donations."

"I spent 3 years in **Hunedoara, Romania** (pop. 80,000), and now am excited to head back for the summer, to visit the project and run more camps."

Strategic Planning

"Strategic planning is an organization's process of defining its strategy, or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to pursue that strategy"

Over the weekend of **March 5-6, 2011** the **Board of Directors** together with the **Leadership Team** and a representative group of **CSCL Managers** met to develop a new **Strategic Plan**.

The **Draft Report** has just been received and will be reviewed by the **Board of Directors** at its upcoming

meeting on **April 4th**.

While additional work to develop the specific actions is still required, the group established the following 5 strategic directions: **A Focus on Quality of Life; Organizational Sustainability; Home Sharing; Stakeholder Engagement and Leadership**.

Following **Board** approval of the document, operational plans for the strategic directions will be developed together with a plan for monitoring the actions, evaluating progress and revision to the plan as required.

Further details should be available later this spring.

People First Update

"People First of Canada is the national voice for people who have been labeled with an intellectual disability."

Gerald Oesch is a member of the **People First of Chilliwack** group and a strong Self-Advocate in our community. Together, **Gerald** and **People First** advisor, **Rob Battis**, put together this update:



The **Chilliwack People First** group now has **16** members, the largest the group has ever been in its history.

We are planning to co-host an **Employment Forum** in May with the **Burnaby** self advocates group **SAFE**.

We are sending a petition letter to government leaders to close down the remaining institutions in

Canada.

We are doing another fundraiser selling chocolate bars to raise money.

We have been talking about emergency preparedness and getting people to make up **Grab and Go** kits.

We recently donated \$100 to **Canadian Red Cross** for disaster relief in Japan.

Did You Know?

CSCL has a **Parent Reference Committee** that meets several times a year to plan family forums and seek input about how we interact and respond to families of individuals we serve.

The committee will be meeting again on **May 12th at 9:30 a.m.** in the **Board Room** at the **Mary Street Office**.

To offer your input or to become a committee member: Go to the **Families** site in **ShareVision**,

click "**Contacts**" and drop a line to **Bev, Karen or Rene**.



National Volunteer Week is April 10-16, 2011

We'd be happy to hear from you!

National Volunteer Week pays tribute to the millions of **Canadian** volunteers who graciously donate their time and energy.

This year's **68th annual NVW** takes place the week of **April 10 to 16**. It is **Canada's** largest celebration of volunteers, volunteerism, and civic participation.

"For more information about National Volunteer Week, visit their website at

<http://volunteer.ca/nvw/home>"

First Aid Certified

The **CSCL's H&S Committee** partnered with **Worksafe-T Solutions** to offer an **Emergency 1st Aid Course** for individuals that receive services at **CSCL**.

The course was held at **CSCL's Mathieson Centre** and **17** individuals attended!

The **1st Aid Course** that was offered was a true **1st Aid Course**; the only modification was that the content and material was spread out over two days as opposed to one day. This allowed lots of time to process the material, ask questions and practice the **1st Aid Techniques** on the 'Annie

Dolls'. Everyone enrolled in the course walked away with new skills, more self-confidence and a sense of pride in their accomplishment. **CSCL** would like to congratulate all of the individuals that participated in the course, not everyone received a certificate, but the experience and lessons were valued by all.

"WorkSafeT Solutions is a local Chilliwack family-owned and operated organization."

Safety Award of the Year

To recognize and reward programs or individuals that display exemplary performance or commitment in matters of health and safety, **CSCL's Health & Safety Committee** has awarded the inaugural **2010 CSCL Safety Award to Green Gables**.

Congratulations to **Ellen Langton**, manager of the program, and the staff

team and individuals at **Green Gables** for demonstrating exemplary health and safety practices. Throughout **2010**, **Ellen**



Ellen Langton accepts the award from H&S Committee member, Jen Kennedy

and her team conducted all their required **Emergency Drills**, reported zero **Hazard Reports**, did not have any **Staff Injuries** and achieved an overall conformance score of **97%** on their **Program Inspections**.

The **H&S Committee** reminds everyone that "Safety is a Shared Responsibility":

"CSCL's Health & Safety Committee publishes an annual report that is available to all CSCL employees in ShareVision"



Chilliwack Society for
Community Living

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CSCL

Providing Options for
Individuals with
Developmental
Disabilities

[WWW.CSCL.ORG](http://www.cscl.org)

CSCL Vision

"Full Lives in
Communities"

Mission Statement

The Chilliwack Society for
Community Living provides
quality, individualized
supports for people with
developmental disabilities
and their families.

"Your Voice!"

Did you know past editions of **Out & About** can now be accessed and downloaded through **CSCL's** website? Go see it by logging on to www.cscl.org and clicking the Newsletter link.

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 or send through the mail to the address on the left - Attn: "**Out & About**".

A special thank you to **Carolyn Putt, Julie Unger, Judy Friebe, Shaaron Enright, Jacquie Monty, Gizelle DeBad, Shelby Hagel, Brent Tolmie, Brenda Gillette, Natalie Karam, Gerald Oesch** and **Rob Battis** for their contributions to this issue.

Look for the next edition of **Out & About** to be available in **July 2011**.

Note: CSCL sadly said good-bye to Dwayne Ashdown on March 28, 2011. An article about Dwayne will appear in the Summer edition of **Out & About**.

"Meet The Board"

Brent Tolmie is a current **CSCL** Board member.

We asked Brent a few questions in a forum we call "Meet the Board"

Q: Your mom, **Helen**, is **CSCL's** current **Board President**. Did you or do you have any other family member involved at **CSCL**?

A: My dad was past **Board President**. My aunts have been involved over the years and we all used to help out at bingo back in the day. We actually used to rent the pool at **Sunshine Drive** and go swimming as a family. This was a tradition for a few years most Friday nights. My **Grandmother Ines** was very involved with the ladies auxiliary and my sister used to work at **Bordas** when it first opened. So yes, lots of family involvement. And of course, my **Auntie Susan** has received services for many decades. Also my wife did **Summer Fun** via the **YMCA**.

Q: The **Tolmie** family have been a **Chilliwack** presence for many years. Can you describe a history of the family in **Chilliwack**?

A: My great grandparents homesteaded in the **Chilliwack** river valley in the **1930's**. Although my grandparents moved around early on, they finally settled here in the **50's** and called it home from then on. Our legacy is with **CSCL** and forestry operations in and around the valley. A typical **Christmas** gathering for us includes over **70** people, with at least half under the age of **10!**

Q: So as a multi-generational **Chilliwackian**, what's the best part of living here?

A: The best thing about **Chilliwack** is the climate. Hot in the summer, mild in the winter, and the best falls anywhere. You can go fishing in the morning, golf for lunch, and go snowmobiling in the afternoon if



Brent Tolmie

you want. And don't forget, the rain keeps everything fresh and green.

Q: So as someone who was grown up knowing the **Society** your entire life, what would you say is the best thing about the **CSCL**?

A: The people by a long shot. Staff and individuals are the best. Amazing people with such dedication... something to aspire to!

Thanks **Brent**, we could not agree more, and thank you for participating in our forum!