



Out & About!

Community, Connection, Belonging

Did you know...

- December 3rd, 2011 commemorated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- CSCL's 3rd Annual Biggest Loser contest kicks off later this month
- CSCL's Children Services is hosting a fundraiser by selling Chilliwack Chiefs tickets for the Saturday, February 28, 2012 game. For more information contact Natalie Karam at 604-846-7777
- Two new websites called ibelong.ca and icanbesafeonline.com are now available and specifically designed to provide information and resources for individuals with a developmental disability and their families
- Self advocates, Dave and Lorie Sherritt, along with a number of others, present the Community Living Show live on Co-op Radio CFRO 102.7 FM in Vancouver every Friday beginning at 2pm.
- March 2012 will mark the 2nd anniversary of Canada ratifying the United Nations Conference on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

CSCL History...

Over the years, the CSCL has found many ways to celebrate Christmas but perhaps the most enduring has been the event at the OC. Their annual Christmas Party tradition has held firm and people continue to look forward to this event!

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Early Risers



There is an old adage that says "the early bird gets the worm"...

CSCL's newest service, **Early Risers**, will assist individuals to learn enhanced skills that will increase their independence toward daily living.

The goal for the group will be to learn work-related skills, personal safety and transportation skills that will eventually enable them to gain community based work-experience, employment and access recreational resources more independently.

Meet the Early Risers:

Supported by CSCL staff Ken Bish and Terri-Lee Janssens on either side, Early Riser participants are (Left to Right): Doug Bird, Kara-Lyn Loewen, Marlita Simonson, Brent MacKay and Matt MacKay

To date the group experienced the opportunities to learn public transit, computer skills and literacy skills.

The group also recently completed Food Safe and are excited about their new opportunities on the horizon!!

CSCL's on Facebook

CSCL is now available on **Facebook!**

As part of our strategic planning for partnering with community, **CSCL's** official **Facebook** page is now online.

With a focus on communicating broader

issues concerning community living and how they connect to **Chilliwack**, **CSCL** is hoping its **Facebook** page will become a hub of activity to inform stakeholders and the general public about news, events and issues

that affect us all.

Check us out by searching our name at www.facebook.com



Appreciating Employers!

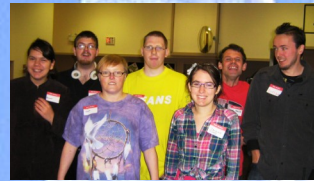
"CSCL's Supported Employment Program (SEP) provides opportunities for individuals to obtain real work for real pay."

The third annual employer appreciation lunch took place on **November 22, 2011** at the **Chili-Bowl lanes**.

It is an important event held each year to recognize employers who support our participants by hiring them for "real work for real pay".

Kerry Louie co-chaired and shared her employment experience at

the **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory**. "I am appreciated by **Frank & Marcy**. This job means so much to me".



Some of this year's SEP participants pose for a photo

Representatives from **Sears, Future Shop** and **Hofstedes** were presented the **Diversity Sticker** by their employee at the lunch.

A good time was had by participants, program staff and employers who enjoyed a catered lunch and let loose bowling.

It was the best turnout to date!

Welcome to Carleton Place

It was an extra special **Christmas** for **Dave, Mel, Rodney** and **Craig** who moved from **Yarrow** on **December 4th, 2011** into a newly renovated duplex in **Chilliwack** that better meets their individual needs.

While this transition was not easy for the individuals at **Yarrow**; some having lived there for more than

20 years; staff and family support have been great and all have settled in well and seem very happy to be in their new home.

The newly named "**Carleton Place**" was chosen to honour the former residents of the household that lived there up until last year.

Invitations to a **Open House** will be in the mail soon.



Carleton Place

A Self Advocacy Story

A new art piece hangs at **Chilliwack's Grey Art Gallery**.

Artist, **Jesse Gemmell**, is excited about her new found celebrity.

"I feel really good about people liking my painting, and some people said they think I am famous and that is really neat." **Jesse** explains, "It all started at school in art class when

the teacher asked us to paint a picture of ourselves. I used a lot of colours because that is how I see me. I see everyone with many colours."

Jesse has decided to try and raise money through sales of the painting for autism research.

"I also like that I'm helping other people with autism, especially the little kids."

Those wishing to purchase a print, can call 604-792-1408 for more information.



When she is not creating masterpieces, Jesse participates with CSCL's Children's Services

Self Advocacy On The Net

Check out this Website:

<http://lfz.nfb.ca>

Label Free Zone is a place for self-advocates to discuss opinions & stories.

Staff Recognition Awards - 2011

CSCL recognizes that its staff are an extremely important part of what we do as a Society.

As a result, **Staff Recognition Awards** are given out every year based on years of service.

Congratulations to the following **CSCL** staff for their ongoing commitment & dedication.

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

20 Year

Gloria Frey
Julie Unger

10 Year

Brenda Alexander
Joseph Beatty
Catherine Smith

5 Year

Janice Boylan
Anne Brown
Heather Campbell

Susan Kelso
Mike Knight
Patricia Reid
Jodi Whitehead
Allan Wright

15 Year

Shannon Gehman
Ellen Langton
Aaron Van Beest

Nicole Sydor
Dayle Thiessen

Ernest Franz
Jeff Gilbank
Cindy Graff

Carolyn Leadbeater
Jessica Masse
Kelli Paddon
Samson Philips

What's Happening! (Jan-Mar)

- | | |
|--|--|
| Jan 1 - New Years Day | Feb 9 - Combined Meeting |
| Jan 12 - Biggest Loser Contest Begins | Feb 14 - Valentines Dance |
| Jan 9 - Board Meeting | Feb 28 - 1st Aid/CPR |
| Jan 24 - 1st Aid/CPR | Feb 28 - CSCL Fundraiser Chiefs Hockey |
| Jan 24 - Casting Call for Rights Video | March - CSCL Strategic Planning (TBA) |
| Feb 6 - Board Meeting | Mar 5 - Board Meeting |

Accessibility Update:

- **Issue: REV - The program requires a replacement wheelchair accessible vehicle.**
- **Solution: A purchase of an additional, larger capacity wheelchair accessible vehicle for REV was completed.**
- **Issue: CSCL - Personal Service Planning process is not understandable for individuals receiving service.**
- **Solution: The Personal Planning Committee has reviewed and implemented an alternate planning method and revised the existing model.**

Board Update!

The **Fall** months have seen a start to the new **Board** year and a welcome to two new members, **Jeannine Walsh** and **Bev Keswick**, elected at the **May 2011 AGM**.

The **Board** was pleased to be able to vote in favour of the proposed **Collective Agreement** in **October**.

While the agreement expires on **March 31**,

2012 it does ensure no disruption to services for the time-being.

The **Board** continues to carefully review its membership and composition as part of its ongoing commitment to successorship planning and continuity and has linked its **Successorship Committee** to the **Nominating Committee**

to ensure that these objectives are met. The **Board** has also spent time reviewing progress on all annual plans and reports to ensure the **Society** is on-track with its activities.



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

“Belonging, Connection and Community are some of the major themes CSCL will recognize and embrace in all service areas.”

Belonging, Connection, Community!

Annually, as part of its Strategic Planning exercise, the **CSCL** reviews its Mission Statement to ensure that it fully reflects the work of the organization.

This year the Mission Statement was amended slightly to the following:

“CSCL in partnership with community provides quality, individualized supports to enhance the lives of adults with developmental disabili-

ties, children and youth with special needs and their families.”

A new Vision Statement was also agreed upon that supports both the Strategic Plan goals as well as the ongoing work of the Society:

“Our vision is for a community that welcomes and includes everyone. Through organizational leadership and innovation we will be a centre of excellence



that promotes belonging, connection and community.”

CSCL will be using both statements in all its policies, procedures and messaging to community.

“The Mathieson Centre has been the home of CSCL’s Children’s Services since 2005. ”

A Visit from Santa

CSCL’s Child and Youth Services hosted their annual **CSCL Children’s Christmas Party** on **December 10, 2011** with about **100** people in attendance.

Everyone enjoyed the **CYS’s Drama Programs** presentation of **“The Grinch That Stole Chilliwack”** directed by

Linda McRae, a sing along led by **Bryce Bennett**, a visit from the jolly



CYS participant, Nicole Nuttal enjoys a ride on the CSCL float

guy himself, **Santa Claus**, and lots of good food and socializing.

CSCL’s Child & Youth Services also entered a float in **Chilliwack’s 2011 Santa Claus Parade** and won **“Runner-Up”** in the Groups and Associations Category. Many thanks to the **Andersen** family of **Greendale** for their help!

“Strategic planning is an organization's process of defining its strategy, or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to pursue this strategy.”

Let’s Talk Strategy!

The current **Strategic Plan** focuses on **5** main themes:

- Quality of Life
- Organizational Sustainability
- Home Sharing
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Leadership

Several goals were established in each of these key areas and



substantial progress has been made in some specific areas. The **CSCL** faces ongoing challenges in obtaining feedback from

members, families, individuals served and the community as a whole. This **Strategic Plan** addresses some of the recommendations we have received that include research into greater use of social media, the implementation of a **CSCL Facebook** site and a review of existing partnerships with a view to strategically develop new ones.

CSCL Staff - STAR Award

CSCL's Human Resources Committee awarded the second **STAR Award** in **December 2011**.

The **STAR Award** program is intended to recognize employees who demonstrate exceptional service or contribution to the workplace.

Glenn Caulfield of **Taylor House** was the brightest **STAR** this time around. **Glenn** has been employed at **CSCL** for 21yrs and was nominated by his co-worker for being "such a

caring and kind person" and "making **Taylor House** a great place to live for the individuals and work as a staff member". His efforts have positively influenced and enriched the lives of the residents



Glenn Caulfield is presented the STAR Award by Brenda Gillette

and staff at Taylor House.

Glenn was formally presented his STAR Certificate by Brenda Gillette, along with a Letter of Recognition and a **\$100** cheque.

Other nominees included Gizelle DeBad (SEP), Christine Parkinson (Taylor), Alicja Kubiak (ACE), Gloria Frey (Yarrow), and Lindsay Lackey (CYS).

All nominees received a Letter of Recognition and a **\$10** gift certificate.

"To nominate your "STAR" today click the Star Awards link available on the Employees website in Share-Vision

Men's Fundraiser A Huge Success!

"**All The World's A Stage**" **Variety Show Spectacular** was truly that...spectacular! **ILP** staff member, **Daniel Berge**, led his cast of merry men through a dynamic, fun-filled show that highlighted the men's many talents.

Song, dance, theatre and art were enthusiastically

enjoyed by the **70** plus people who filled **Mathieson Centre** on **November 22, 2011**. Community support was fantastic with **\$600.00** raised benefitting the **Man To Man Club**, a men's group supported by **CSCL's Independent Living Program**.

The men worked diligently

to create this unique show and their efforts were well rewarded with a memory to last a lifetime.



Members of the Man to Man Club perform on stage

"Thanks to Daniel Berge, Gary Meyer, Muncie Knuhtsen, Dave Wegenast, Gerald Oesch, Tim Dixon and Rob Battis for hosting the event. Well done gentlemen!"

TLC Calendars



Not to be outdone by their male counterparts, the **TLC Club (Total Ladies Care)** is also fundraising

this holiday season.

Also supported by **CSCL's Independent Living Program**, the **TLC Club** is a women's group dedicated to addressing and discussing women's issues.

This year the group decided on creating a fun calendar to fundraise for their group.

Each gal is profiled on

each month of the year. Seen here on the left is **Sarah Bried** (Miss September), **Tracey Oesch** (Mrs. May), **Crystal Sellers** (Miss February) and **Irene Farlin** (Miss April).

Other "calendar gals" are **Joanne Bunnin**, **Sharen Corke**, **Ramona Harder**, **Tammy Holomay**, **Cathy Nicholson** and **Tammy Luzny**.

"TLC Calendars are on sale now and can be purchased at the CSCL Head Office."



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Follow us on FaceBook:

Follow us on Twitter!

Mission Statement

CSCL in partnership with community provides quality, individualized supports to enhance the lives of adults with developmental disabilities, children and youth with special needs and their families.

WWW.CSCL.ORG

Vision Statement

Our vision is for a community that welcomes and includes everyone. Through organizational leadership and innovation we will be a centre of excellence that promotes belonging, connection and community

CSCL Goes Green!

Congratulations to Jasper and Green Gables for winning the latest edition of the Big Green Challenge!

Both homes participated in the "Ease My Load" Campaign during Waste Reduction Week in October.

"Your Voice!"

Did you know past editions of **Out & About** can now be accessed and downloaded through CSCL's new look 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@cscl.org for your email subscription, 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 **Beverly Keswick, Shaaron Enright, Brenda Gillette, Nancy Gauvin, Becky Metcalfe, Natalie Karam, Corrie Webb, Heather Faucher, Daniel Berge, Rene Atkinson, Christine Beka, Brenda Alexander, Julie Unger, and Rob Battis** for their contributions to this issue.

Look for the next edition of **Out & About** to be available in **April 2012**.

"Meet The Board"

Beverly Keswick is a new CSCL Board member and was elected at the 2011 AGM. This is Bev's first term as a Board member.

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

Q: As a new Board member, please introduce yourself.

A: I am currently an accounting student at UFV and love to read, garden, travel and cook. I love Chilliwack for its outdoor activities whether it is swimming in Cultus Lake or the Vedder River, hiking, biking, everything! I consider myself a morning person because I like to have the whole day to get things done.

Q: Speaking of getting things done, the funder for Community Living has been in the news lately. How do you feel about this?

A: I can't help but feel frustrated about it. It is obvious that there are people in serious need, and this

"family focused" government is constantly on the defensive. I don't feel like it is enough for Community Living BC to admit that they have faults and made mistakes. I think that there should be no more deliberating over what needs to be done.

Q: What does the work of the Society personally mean to you?

A: I feel the work CSCL does makes me want to go beyond my normal course of life and get involved with the people and activities in our community. I have been noticing lately that it seems that there is a lack of "community" in the world and I think it is getting more and more important for us all to work together and be able to depend on each other. I feel it is important to go outside my day-to-day habits and know that I am doing something good for someone else that may need it. I feel that time is one of the most precious



Beverly Keswick

gifts a person can give. I know it sounds cheesy, but I really don't know how else to put it. :)

Q: So what do you feel is the best thing about the CSCL?

A: I love seeing the passion that CSCL has for helping people in our community. It takes a lot of hard work and time and I admire the Society's unending drive and commitment to make it all come together. It moves me to become a better person and more involved in our community. I am proud to be a part of it.