



Dawson Creek Society for Community Living

Bi-annual Newsletter

Issue # 01 | October 2019 | Dawson Creek Society for Community Living

Announcement

With our inaugural issue complete and subsequent issues already being planned, we are pleased to announce the launch of our new bi-annual newsletter. It has long been a goal of ours to create a newsletter that is candid, genuine and beneficial to our readers. We chose a bi-annual schedule to ensure that our correspondence is never overwhelming and that the content delivered is relevant.

We are excited to offer our readers engaging, thought provoking and informative content. As with everything DCSCCL does, we welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have and will seek to continually improve with each issue. We hope you will enjoy our Newsletter.

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Disabled Person or Person with Disability?

Disability is a sensitive topic and fear of saying the wrong thing stops some from saying anything at all and makes us avoid having important conversations about disability. People with disabilities are routinely denied the rights we all know they are entitled to. A poll commissioned by the Rick Hansen Foundation, found that 90 per cent of Canadians agree that accessibility for people with physical disabilities is a right, not a privilege but there is still a clear prejudice in how disabled people are treated. The Human Rights Commission says that almost 60 per cent of people cite disability as the basis for discrimination.

Things to remember:

The Canadian government has implemented “people-first” language which emphasizes putting the person first and the disability second; for example, saying a person with a spinal cord injury, or a person with a down syndrome.

Avoid euphemistic language. Language like “differently-abled” or “diverse-ability” suggests there is something wrong with talking honestly and candidly about disability.

Avoid unnecessary emotional tone. Disability is a fact of life for almost one-quarter of Canadians. Having a disability doesn't make someone a hero, a saint, a victim, a burden, or a soldier.

Avoid calling non-disabled people ‘normal’. If non-disabled people are normal, then that means that disabled people are abnormal (Mary Ann McColl is Associate Director at the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, Queen's University, Nanaimo News Bulletin).

“Able does not mean enabled. Disabled does not mean less abled.” — Khang Kijarro Nguyen

“You're not disabled by the disabilities you have; you are able by the abilities that you have.”
~Oscar Pistorius

Sectoral update from CLBC

- CLBC board appoints Ross Chilton as CEO
- Minister releases report on Re-Imagining Community Inclusion, complete report can be found on (www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/social-development-poverty-reduction/re-imagining-community-inclusion-march-2019.pdf)
- CLBC has been supporting efforts by the Ministry of Health to find former residents of Woodlands Institutions and Woodlands School to extend compensation to survivors

October - Community Inclusion Month and Disability Employment Awareness Month!

This year the theme of Community Inclusion Month is “The Future is Accessible”. As such, the BC Government is preparing to announce Accessibility through Legislation. To have your say and tell the government what you need, go to engage.gov.bc.ca/accessibility.

Where do you want to live? What does your ideal home look like? If you are a person with a disability, or you support a person with a disability, you can help improve access to housing by taking the Inclusive Housing Survey. Simply Google CLBC Inclusive Housing Survey to participate.

For Disability Employment Awareness Month, Inclusion BC is directing MentorAbility. This is about matching job seekers with disabilities to individual mentors in the community, to explore career opportunities, for a full or half-day. If you are an employer interested in taking part in this amazing initiative, please contact our Supported Work Program!

A team from CARF International* will be visiting on November 4 and 5, 2019.

We invited the surveyors to evaluate how well we meet international standards for quality. The survey will tell us what we are doing well and ways we might improve.

As part of the survey, the surveyors will interview people who receive services, their families, our staff, and others.

If you would like to talk with one of the survey team members or want to learn more about CARF International, please let one of our staff members know or contact CARF International directly.

www.carf.org/contact-us

Telephone: (520) 495 - 7001

Dawson Creek Society for Community Living

YOU COULD WIN

A GRAND PRIZE OF UP TO \$10,000

50/50 Draw

GRAND PRIZE:
50% OF TICKET SALES

DRAW DATE: **OCT 25, 2019 @ 7:30 PM**

DRAWN AT: **DAWSON CREEK SENIORS
CITIZEN HALL, DAWSON CREEK**

\$5
per ticket

To purchase tickets look for us at various locations around town or Call our Office @ 250-782-2611 or visit 1334-102 Avenue

“Nothing about me without me”

Family Get-Togethers...Have you had the chance to join your loved one for an evening of good food and some networking? We'd like to encourage all families and caregivers to do so. With familiarity comes relationships and what better way to ensure the individuals counting on us get the best support possible??

Please watch for notices for upcoming gatherings in the Scoop!

FAMILY SURVEY

It is that time of year and we are looking for your input. This is your opportunity to share with us what you think is working great and ways you think you can help us make things even better. It's a short 10 question survey and we'd greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete it. It will be available at all family gatherings through the month of October or you can follow the link below. Thank you for participating!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Family_Survey2019

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Dig out your best costume and join us for a goolish night of fun and dancing on Oct 25th.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Seniors Hall from 6 - 10pm

Refreshments and snacks provided



READY WILLING & ABLE is a national initiative that engages, educates and supports employers to hire people with intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorder.

Creating an inclusive workforce with RWA is just one click or phone call away.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Ross MacMillan

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(604) 685-4049

Keep your eyes open in the new year for our Freedom Tour Viewing Party!

Meant to engage individuals, family members and community partners, the Freedom Tour is a powerful documentary aimed at raising awareness about institutions both nationally and internationally since 2008.

Join us for what's sure to be a moving film followed by some lively conversation over some refreshments and snacks.

More to come...

Community Resources

The Nawican Friendship Centre is proud to offer some great new resources. They are piloting a 7-week project in partnership with SPCRS called a Youth Mindfulness Group. It's designed for youth aged 18-30 who are experiencing stress and anxiety during the transitional period from youth to adulthood. The program is to roll out Oct 15th and with luck will continue well into the future!

They are also fortunate enough to have a new Mental Health & Addiction Counsellor, Devon Silver. With over 15 years' experience, he has worked as an intake worker, mental health clinician, addiction counsellor, and psychiatric social worker. If you or someone you know is in need of help, the Nawican Friendship Centre welcomes EVERYONE.



Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning by Plan Institute

Becoming well-informed about wills, trusts and estate planning is necessary to secure the financial future of your loved one with a disability. In this course, estate-planning attorneys, Halldor Bjarnason & Ken Kramer, explain how to arrange your estate, prepare a will, and the various ins and outs of setting up a trust specifically for your relative or loved-one with a disability. Webinar sessions allows British Columbians from across the province to access Plan Institute’s highly successful Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning Workshop. See Nidus.ca to sign-up and/or view this or the many other informative webinars they offer.

Thursday, November 7, 2019 | 7:00pm – 8:15pm



Have your say on legislation to make B.C. more accessible and inclusive.

engage.gov.bc.ca/accessibility



CLBC Inclusive Housing Survey



MentorAbility

#IAmVoting Campaign



#IAmVoting: October 21, 2019 Canadian Election

We all want to engage our community and get out the vote for the 2019 Canadian Election. Please see [#IAmVoting Campaign](#) for election information and participation guide.

- There are more than 926,000 British Columbians over the age of 15, or almost 25% of the population, who have some form of a disability.
- Community Living BC serves more than 20,000 people in B.C. who live with a developmental disability or who are diagnosed with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders or autism and have significant limitations in adaptive functioning.

Feel free to contact us at:

Dawson Creek Society for Community Living

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Phone: (250) 782-2611 Email: info@dcscl.org

www.dcscl.org

Or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DCSCL.ORG/

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