

Being Known & Loved, the Heart of Inclusion

There are highs and lows in providing support to individuals throughout their lifespan, especially through some of the changes that come with aging and decline in health. However, I'd suggest that for many of us, nothing is as sacred or as challenging as preparing for death and dying.

Over the past couple months, MACL has said farewell to three individuals we cared for deeply. Jinnie, Alastair and Lillian. Each had been supported by MACL for many years, and each represents a significant loss across our association.

Those of us who knew Jinnie cherished her smiling eyes and joyful countenance; she lit up a room like few others. Those of us who knew Alastair appreciated his love for dancing, Shania Twain, Johnny Cash, his dance skills and special Olympic floor hockey and soccer prowess. And Lillian, well, Lillian was a larger-than-life personality whose sense of humour and passionate spirit engaged almost anyone she met. Those of us who know these things, know them because, rather than being secluded in an institution, Jinnie, Alastair and Lillian lived and played in our community.



“To love someone is to show to them their beauty their worth and their importance”

Jean Vanier

It is not an overstatement to say that each of these three individuals leaves a large wake of people who loved them and whose lives were better because of knowing them. Whether it was in close knit relationships with family, neighbours, friends or caregivers, Jinnie, Alastair and Lillian each had an opportunity to be known, to share their gifts, to love and to be loved.

Jean Vanier, a community living pioneer who also passed this year, said “to love someone is to show to them their beauty, their worth, and their importance.” I believe that through their relationships, Jinnie, Alastair and Lillian not only experienced this kind of love, but also had opportunities to demonstrate it to others. At the end of the day, it is the ability for people to weave these kinds of relationships, to identify with and value each other that is the heart of inclusion.

Dawn



Volume 8 Issue 4, November 2019

A Mission Association for
Community Living Publication

MACL Mosaic

OUR MISSION

- Our purpose is to
- support individuals with developmental disabilities,
- children who require extra
- Support and their families.

OUR VISION

- Our vision is an inclusive and caring community where
- choice, opportunity and fulfilling quality of life are realized.

Contact Us:
Phone: 604-826-9080
Fax: 604-826-9611
Email: macl@macl.bc.ca



We're on the web
www.missionacl.org



Residential Services

MACL offers a variety of residential services to Youth and Adults in the Mission Community. Our seven homes are warm and welcoming and our staff work hard to ensure that the rights of those who live in the home are respected and that they have full access to their community in a way that is meaningful to them.

MACL ensures that each residence is designed for and around the individual's needs and interests. Each of our residential homes are a clear reflection on the individuals who live in the home. Our residential programs offer full daily living supports that are safe, warm, person centered and inclusive.

Brent facetimeing with family



Cheryl braves the rain for "Mission Days"



Edward caught "the big one!", at our local community trout farm



Brent having fun with FaceTime and trying out Halloween costumes



Work With MACL



YOU'RE HIRED!
Welcome to the team!

Now Hiring

for casual and Part Time positions

If you or someone you know are interested in working for MACL, call our office to discuss your qualifications.

Visit our webpage and submit an employment application today!

www.missionacl.org

Enjoy what you do every day. Feel proud that you make a difference in someone else's life. We are seeking kind-hearted employees with an inherent ability to value people with disabilities and who share our vision for an inclusive and caring community where each person has choices, opportunities and a fulfilling quality of life. Earn livable and meaningful wages and comprehensive benefits package. We are looking for engaging staff in the following programs:

- Child & Youth Activity Program
- Staffed Residential
- Community Inclusion

"Your work could make a difference in someone's life!"



Sunfest 2019



Gardening & Baking Challenge Hosted by MACL's Employee Wellness Committee on August 26th

We Are All Citizens ...



Mission Self Advocacy Group

The Mission Self Advocacy Group is made up of people with disabilities. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. (no meetings in July, August or December)

For further information please contact:

Bryce Schaufelberger, President
Tel: 604-226-6591 (cell) 604-826-8818 (home)
Email: bryce_schaufelberger@msn.com

Arlene Schouten, Advisor
Tel: 604-855-3140
Email: arlene@FamilySupportBC.com

New Location!
The Boardroom
at Vancity Credit Union
Unit #150 - 32555
London Avenue
(At the Junction Mall)



New to Mission?

We welcome you to contact us to learn about our group

We are always looking to recruit self-advocates, volunteers and sponsors to join!

Supported Living Service/Outreach

Community Connections for Our Young at Heart Individuals

Most of us want to grow older gracefully, with meaningful connections to the people in our community. If you live in Mission, there is a little building tucked among the trees, just steps from the Leisure Centre that provides the opportunity to do just that. The building itself is unassuming, but once you enter the doors, the opportunity to be part of a special group largely consisting of "Baby Boomers", provides a welcoming atmosphere. Maureen and her support workers have found this to be the case, whether participating in a fitness class, or an afternoon of Bingo. The Mission Seniors Centre offers the opportunity for Maureen to attend, and engage with other senior members of the community, in a safe and inclusive environment. After weeks of anticipation, Maureen experienced the thrill of yelling "Bingo". When asked for her thoughts on this new aspect of her life Maureen responded, "I really like it here, I have fun".



Supported Child Development Program

MACL's Supported Child Development Consultants – Emma, Rachel and Tammy

Expressing Gratefulness for Amazing Staff

MACL's Supported Child Development Program has been in existence for approximately 30 years in our community. Our program provides services to children who require extra support in their childcare setting and their families. Over the years, there have been very dedicated staff in the SCD program who go above and beyond to ensure that children's needs are met in their community setting.

You may recognize your child's current Supported Child Development consultant in the below picture. These 3 ladies work tirelessly to create environments that are inclusive for all children. They form strong relationships with the children, families and child care staff they support and are well known and respected in the community.

We are so grateful for these amazing women. May they be proud of the work they do, the people they are and the difference they make!



To access SCDP services parents may contact SCDP directly or children may be referred by community professionals such as Infant Development Consultants, Therapists, Public Health Nurses, Doctors, Social Workers, etc For more information about the Supported Child Development Program, visit the MACL website at www.missionacl.org or call 604-826-9080 ext. 280

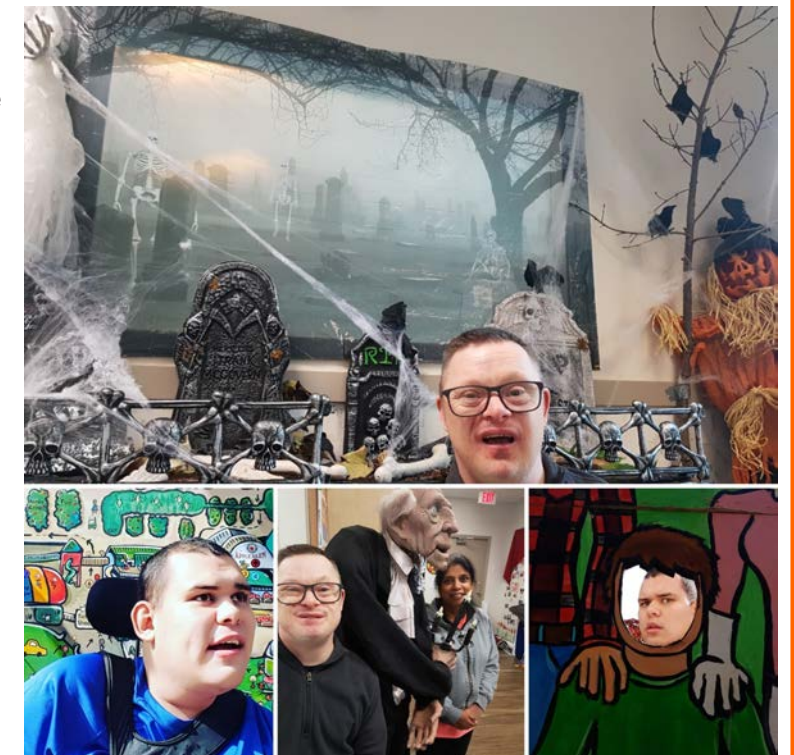
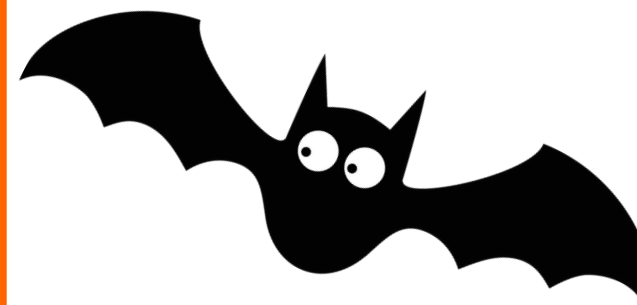


MACL's Supported Child Development acknowledges the financial support of the Province of British Columbia.

ISS

Right top: Shawn and Rubi helped transform ISS into a place where ghouls, ghosts, and creepy characters lurk in the corners and walls throughout. Many have experienced the moving parts, creeps sounds and lights as the characters come to life.

Right bottom: Jeremy celebrates his Birthday at the Apple Barn.



Community Development Program



Happy Fall from all of us at CDP!!

With the transition from the nice weather of the summer to the rainy fall weather we are back in the full swing of our fall programs of swimming and open gym at the Mission Leisure Center. Individuals have been focusing on physical fitness and skill development with the variety of activities available at the Leisure Center. Our folks have also been working hard on some very creative and fun fall craft ideas as well. We have also started a learning module focusing on the different customs and traditions from around the world!



Doug in front of one of CDP's many great craft projects



Pierre showing off his basketball skills

Family Support Program



Photo: inclusionbc.org

In 1996, Inclusion BC launched a community development initiative called "Community Living Day". It was a way to celebrate the successes of individuals and groups in community inclusion activities. The project's success evolved into a month long celebration of events and activities all over Canada.

This year, The Province of British Columbia has proclaimed October 2019 as Community Inclusion Month. The theme this year is "the future is accessible". This means that opportunities should be made available to people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of life. Contributions people make at home, at school, at work and in the community should be recognized.

Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, has released the following statement in celebration of Community Inclusion Month: **"Every person with an intellectual or developmental disability has the right and should have the opportunity to live life to the best of their unique abilities and interests."** We invite families to share their stories with others in the community. Celebrate how far you have come and continue on the path of making the future accessible for all!

Family Support Services provides supports to families with child/youth and adults with special needs. Our family supports are designed to assist or tie families to available resources in the community. We assist families/caregivers to navigate through the referral and assessment processes.

For more information contact Kerridan @ 604-826-9080 ext. 280

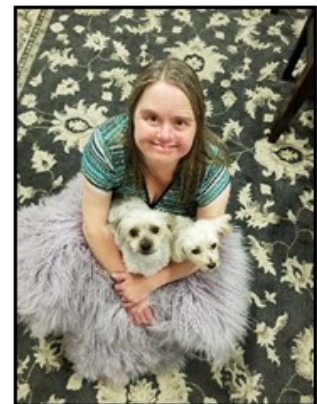
Sandcastle Preschool

Sandcastle is happy to be welcoming both our new and returning families to our Preschool! With many new families joining us this year, it's a lot of new names and faces to remember, but we're getting there!

We have started making playdough with the children. They are very excited to help us measure, pour, and stir to make our sensory friendly playdough. We will be doing this with all children and so if your child did not get a turn this time, do not worry...they will. It is awesome to see faces light up as they help each other make this wonderful creation.



We are looking forward to an awesome year at school!



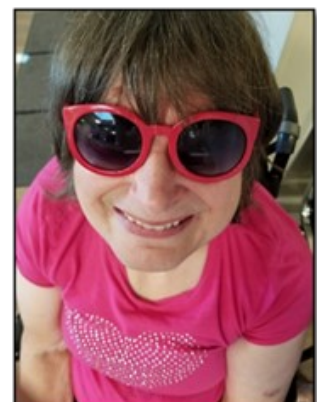
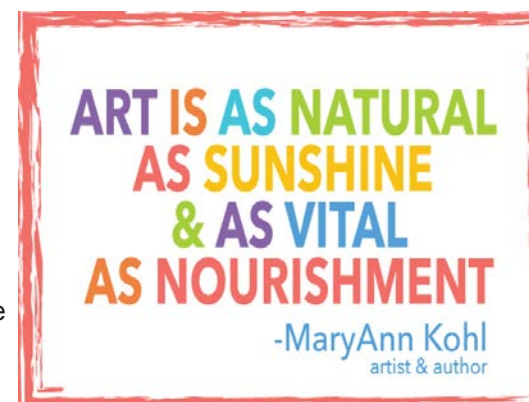
Happy Autumn; we hope everyone is getting their fill of various pumpkin spiced delights! Often times we focus these articles on the individuals who live in HomeShare and try and relay a highlight of their journey. But this quarter we want to highlight an example of a contractor who has really put the "Home" in Homeshare.

Recently we were at one of our HomeShare residences and were heartened to see a real example of creating home for the three individuals who live there. Each was involved in a recent remodeling that had taken place since our last visit.

Recognizing the power of self-expression, the Homeshare contractor included an "Art Wall" in the remodel. This space was designed to proudly display the creative and artistic abilities of the folks she supports.

The wall is fabricated from corrugated board and includes Velcro; an element that allows for art projects to be easily interchanged with a variety of art pieces and configurations.

If you have any creative ways to ensure our supported individuals feel at home, whether they are new to the house or a long time resident please submit them to nathan.murdoch@macl.bc.ca



Bridge Skills Development



FVHS

Marianne says "I like kittens and cats and volunteering at the Fraser Valley Humane Society" If you're looking to add a cat or kitten to your family check out he FVHS on N. Railway Ave.



The Penny
ny"

Kyle stated "he likes the cozy atmosphere. The drinks and treats are delicious. He recommends you stop in "The Penny" if you ever downtown in Mission"



Taves Family Farm"

Tomato Soup tasting for Healthy Living



A fall favorite we picked up apples for our Healthy living series and made Apple slushies and Apple chips.



Highlighting the Right to Vote

The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees every citizen who is 18 years of age or older of Canada the right to vote

Canada has implemented many Bills and Amendments to make voting more accessible for people with disabilities, these are some of their most recent initiatives:

- Mobile polls
- level access at polling stations
- a template for use by electors who are visually challenged
- public education and information for people who would be most likely to experience difficulties in voting
- interpreters to enable communication with an elector with a disability



Did you know?

According to a recent study of electoral laws in 63 democracies, only four countries – Canada, Ireland, Italy and Sweden – have no restrictions at the national level on the right to vote for persons with mental disabilities

In addition Elections Canada has:

Paid to have 724 ramps built – resulting in an accessibility rate of 99% on polling day, created a total of 434 mobile polls, serving 1,182 institutions for the elderly and persons with disabilities, developed an inventory of all sign language interpreters across the country and, because of a shortage of interpreters at that time, encouraged electors who communicate through sign language to go to the polls accompanied by a friend or relative familiar with sign language, printed the referendum question in Braille, in consultation with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, added visual symbols to the Notice of Enumeration cards, to assist electors with little or no reading ability, replaced the instructional text behind the voting screen with graphics showing electors how to mark and fold their ballot papers, sensitized and trained election officers on the needs of persons with disabilities and how to provide them with appropriate services

But wait, there's more.... Since the 2000 General Election they have also:

Provided a general information kit in Braille and large print, and on audio-cassette and diskette, prepared the information householder in plain language, worked with the Canadian Association of the Deaf to produce an American Sign Language video, highlighting important dates in the election calendar and information on the voting process, promoted access to its teletypewriter (TTY) phone service for electors with a hearing impairment, aired news releases on VoicePrint and La Magnétothèque (an audio news and information service for people with impaired vision) hired special needs liaison officer to communicate with target associations during elections

Mission Association for Community Living

Is excited to host

A Holiday Breakfast

Tuesday, December 3rd 2019 9:00am—11:30am
Parkside Church, 33837 Prentis Avenue, Mission

We look forward to sharing our Christmas Spirit with the individuals we support, their families, our employees, contractors & community partners!



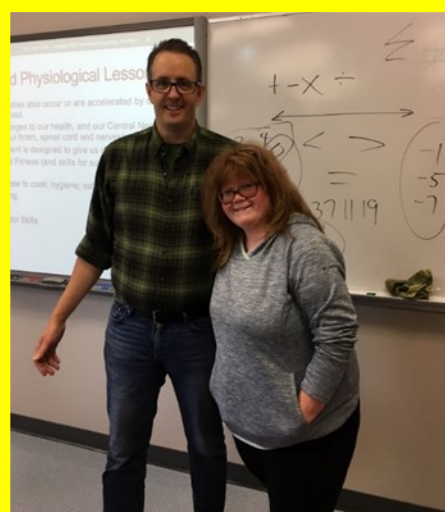
Employment Services

Along with being busy in supporting individuals to find and maintain meaningful employment we also supported jobseekers in work experiences and exciting skill building opportunities.

We partnered with Chef Victoria Snider and Chartwell Carrington House Retirement Residence, who welcomed two jobseekers into their kitchen and dining room. It gave our individuals hands on, skill building experience and a chance to carry out the duties required for these diverse positions.



(Left) Victoria Snider
(Middle) Carrington Kitchen staff
(Front right) Jobseeker Shawn



Left: We partnered with Paul Horn from Riverside College in giving Shea an opportunity to practice her presentation skills to his class.

Right: Andrew and Donna celebrate Donna's "L"

We recognize that transportation can be another barrier for many Job Seekers. We provide support in breaking down this barrier by providing transit training, finding funds to pay for taxi savers, ride sharing, etc.



Below, Sheldon, Donna, Andrew, Mitchell, Mike, Andrea & Shea

Most recently we partnered with Andrew Kim, the Managing Director of Needs of the Community Society (NOC).

Andrew facilitated two classes to assist MAACL Participants gain the knowledge required to pass their Learners driver exam. Both the "What the L!" workshops and exam license fees were funded by NOC.

After the workshops, many of the "What the L!" students were encouraged to continue studying the "L" knowledge booklet in preparing to take their exam.

Congratulations to all the attending participants and those of you who have recently obtained your license.



Our Champion Employers Are Growing!

Call us today to learn how YOUR business can become a Champion Employer!
(604) 820-1815

Kudos to the socially responsible businesses below for providing individuals with disabilities the opportunity for employment that showcases their talents, skills and abilities.

Employees with disabilities bring with them diverse perspectives, enhanced problem solving skills, greater adaptability, sensitivity to others and higher retention rates.

MAACL Mission Association for Community Living

Abbotsford Community Services People Helping People

LIBERTY TAX SERVICE

Tim Hortons

FIELDS.ca

What's On! www.whatsonbc.ca

431567 BC Ltd. Schecker Developments

SARA FOR WOMEN

Mission Hospice Society ...when time matters most

YAMAS GREEK RESTAURANT SOUVLAKI SEAFOOD STEAK

THE SALVATION ARMY

V.I.P. SOAP PRODUCTS SINCE 1951

LIFE 4 72 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ESSENTIALS

AGW

ELENIS Restaurant

Sandcastle Preschool

STARBUCKS COFFEE

Coffee News "News to Enjoy Over Coffee"

Pizza Hut

MISSION RECORD SINCE 1968

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

The HOME Society

MISSION SPRINGS BREWING COMPANY

Dignity LIFE WELL CELEBRATED

Value Village Good deeds. Great deals.

REAL CANADIAN Superstore big on fresh, low on price.

Meridian FARM MARKET

KLASSIC CATERING

MISSION Community Services

BURGER KING

PRO OIL CHANGE

WENTINGS CYCLE & MOUNTAIN SHOP

Sleep Depot

FVBS

RONA