

imagine it - live it

the Communicator

Fall 2024



Kurtis' Official Book
Launch for *Art & Food
From the Heart*

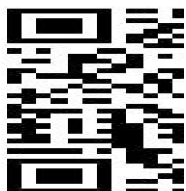
Art & Food From the Heart

Kurtis is a high spirited and motivated person who goes after what he wants, so when he said he wanted to make a cookbook, we got right to work. We formed collected some of his family recipes and favourite meals.

Midway through the assembly of his book, he decided to share some of his artwork, thus the title - *Art & Food from the Heart*. Kurtis was laser focussed on many of the details to ensure it was exactly what he wanted people to see.

He had a successful book launch at the CLS Administration Centre where his book sold out within a couple of hours and became back ordered. He also has his book available for purchase on Amazon.ca. This was a year in the making for Kurtis to release his book and he proudly lets anyone know of his accomplishment. Kurtis is currently working on his next book which will feature smoothie recipes.

Congratulations Kurtis!



Kurtis promoting his book through Vancity's Showcase Display



Landmark Grand Opening

On Sept 24th, Surrey Day Supports celebrated the grand opening of their newest location - Landmark - with an open house.

Located in the heart of Guildford, near the Landmark Cinemas for which it was named after, this fully accessible location is the meeting place for some of the people in the Community Inclusion program. It also has an open office space and is home to an incredible sensory room that was designed and set up by Kayley from the L.I.F.E. program.



Message from the CEO - Janice Barr

As the summer fades and fall approaches, CLS is busy with many exciting initiatives and projects.

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."

- Albert Camus

Housing

The CLS is in the process of selling an older home in Surrey that no longer met the needs of the people we support. We purchased a much newer home in Abbotsford, and after a few renovations we now have one person living in the downstairs suite and we anticipate more to move in the upstairs of the home

The redevelopment of Ross Road is well underway. The project is on budget and on time to be completed in December 2024. This will be a fully accessible home for up to four people.



Another home that we determined was past its useful life span is the Nelson home in Burnaby. Plans are well underway to redevelop this home in 2025. Given the lot size, we will be considering the construction of a home that can accommodate 4 people plus a separate in-suite that could provide housing to someone that wants to live more independently but requires intermittent support.

CLS has formed a partnership with another not-for-profit housing provider and in October Nadolie who we supported in a Supported Living Program will be taking the next step to live independently in the brand-new apartment. See page 9 for an article on Nadolie's exciting move.

Late Life Planning

Planning for the later stages of life is important for us all to do. CLS has been working on a provincial project with the BC CEO Network to complete a Late Life Planning Guide and resources that we are piloting now with a select group of people we support. We will be launching this planning process throughout the organization in the New Year. We are also currently working on an "easy read" version of the Guide with two self-advocates and a consultant to ensure that the information is accessible for everyone.

NTG Dementia Screening Research Project

Through our involvement in the Late Life Planning provincial initiative with the BC CEO Network, we connected with the National Task Group (NTG) on Dementia and Intellectual Disabilities. This connection has led to other exciting initiatives. CLS will be participating in a research project with Queen's University on the implementation of the NTG Early Detection Screen for Dementia (EDSD) tool for people with an intellectual disability. In November, the remaining CLS Leaders will be trained to use the screening tool. In January, CLS will be begin using the screening tool throughout the organization. The research team will track our process and progress. This is a nationwide research initiative that will involve other like organizations across Canada. The overall goal of this three-year research project is to learn about best practices regarding the use and implementation of screening tool by community agencies and families across Canada.

It's All About Relationship

When we met with Supported individuals during the development of our strategic plan – they were very clear that they wanted more connections and relationships. Therefore, CONNECTION became one of our 4 strategic directions. For three days in the first week of October, Janet Klees trained CLS leaders

on relationship building. Janet is the Executive Director for the Durham Association for Family Resources and Support in Ontario. This workshop combines a principled framework with a practical, straightforward approach for bringing about the two elements that will make the most significant difference in peoples' lives: valued roles and relationships.

Annual CLS Picnic

On August 24, 2024, CLS hosted its annual picnic. A record number of attendees enjoyed the games, food, photo booth, music and, most importantly, the company of others. Despite the rain in the morning, over 300 people attended the event. The people we support, their families and employees came from all over the Lower Mainland. It was a huge success! See page 8 for some great photos of this fun event.

Truth & Reconciliation



Team Burnaby was excited to be a part of the Truth and Reconciliation Day with the community of Burnaby. Nader happily wore his shirt he picked out for the Team.



Kurtis was invited to create and design a t-shirt for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to share with his co-workers. Kurtis worked hard on the design and made multiple shirts he shared with others. He wore his T shirt proudly.

Employee Profiles



Kyle Mercer

Team Lead – Ayling

What is your favourite thing about working at CLS?

My favourite thing about CLS is the mission statement-. *Supporting people to live as full citizens*. When I read that, I knew then that I wanted to work here.

What is a passion or hobby of yours?

I love cool space stuff, like watching comets and meteor showers. I'll drive up north where it's dark and look up at the sky for hours.

If you could meet one person (dead or alive) who would it be?

Since I was a child, I have loved the works of Edgar Allan Poe, I would love to have an opportunity to meet him.

Where do you want to travel, but have never been?

I would love to travel to the places of my ancestry. Scotland, Ireland, Germany and Norway.



Ghazale Nazarishirzi

Team Lead - Garfield

What is your favourite thing about working at CLS?

My favourite thing about working at CLS is the incredible sense of community. It feels like we're all part of a big, caring family, which makes every day at work enjoyable and fulfilling!

What is a passion or hobby of yours?

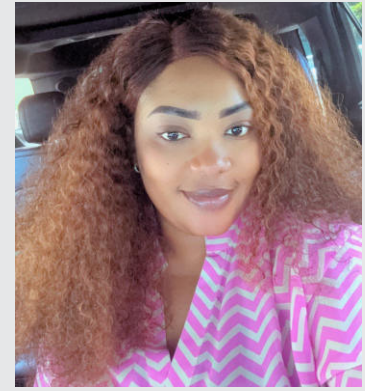
I'm a passionate reader, and nothing compares to diving into a good book. I also love animals; they bring so much joy to my life! Whether I'm cuddling with my pets or volunteering at local shelters, they always make my day brighter.

If you could meet one person (dead or alive) who would it be?

If I could meet anyone in this moment, it would be my mom and dad. Having been away for more than two years, I miss their smiles and warm hugs dearly. Their unwavering support has always been my anchor, and I cherish our video calls that keep us connected despite the distance.

Where do you want to travel, but have never been?

I've always dreamed of going to space! Just imagine floating among the stars and seeing Earth from a whole new perspective—it would be such an incredible adventure!



Amaka Mbadkie

Team Lead – Supported Living

What is your favourite thing about working at CLS?

My favourite thing about working at CLS is the opportunity to actively engage with individuals using Person Centered Active Support (PCAS), where I can ensure that they are fully participating in their lives. I particularly enjoy building professional, supportive relationships that nurture personal growth, self-determination, and informed decision-making. The ability to apply positive behavioral techniques, respect individual values, and contribute to a positive environment while supporting their goals and well-being is deeply fulfilling. Additionally, working with a collaborative, ethical team that values continuous improvement and effective communication adds to the rewarding experience of supporting individuals in meaningful ways.

What is a passion or hobby of yours?

I love sleeping and eating for sure.

If you could meet one person (dead or alive) who would it be?

I would love to meet Michael Jackson again. He was truly an icon.

Where do you want to travel, but have never been?

I would love to go to Las Vegas. Although I have travelled to other parts of the USA several times, I have still not been to Las Vegas. From what I have heard, Las Vegas is full of vibrant entertainment, world-class dining, and unique attractions. I hear the city is famous for its lively nightlife, with casinos, theaters, and luxury hotels. I would love to go there with my family for the variety of experiences—whether it's seeing spectacular shows, enjoying themed resorts like The Venetian or Caesars Palace, helicopter tours over the Grand Canyon, or skydiving.



Timilehin (Timi) Akinpeloye

Acting Coordinator – Individualized
Supports

Timi has worked with the CLS since March, 2024. After working in the LIFE program for a while he transferred to the Individualized Supports program and is currently in an Acting Coordinator role.

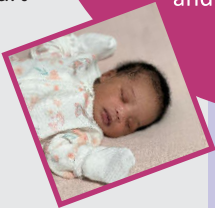
What is your favourite thing about working at CLS? *I think what I will call "Diversity Equity and Inclusion in action" stands out for me. I see how all hands, regardless of the size, shape or colour, get on the deck to get the job done. I do feel I am part of the organization rather than working for the organization.*

What is a passion or hobby of yours?

I have a flair for leadership and politics and say, policy since policy is a product of politics. I like to take responsibility wherever I find myself and serve to fill in the missing link that connect people.

If you could meet one person (dead or alive) who would it be? *Jim Allen Pattison.*

Where do you want to travel, but have never been? *I would love to visit and tour The White House someday.*



September 18th 2024

Olayinka Mirabel Akinpeloye

was born into the family of Timilehin and Comfort Akinpeloye. She was named on the 8th day of her birth in line with the culture and tradition of the Yoruba people of Nigeria. She was named Olayinka after her late Paternal GrandMother who she bears much resemblance with. As well, the circumstances of her birth aligns with what Olayinka connotes. She was also named Mirabel because her conception and birth left the parents in awe of God.

Happy Work Anniversary

New Baby Girl

5 Years
Titilola Babatunde-Alabi
Adonis Pusdan
Judy Wilson
Bee Murray
Daniel Bahng
Cindy Purdon
Aubrey Lussier
Brigitte Gagne
Hayley Miller
Shayla Lepin-Maclean
Nicolas Herrera
April Ordenez

6 Years
Catur Ningrum
Saeidreza Poursaeid Esfahani

7 Years
Anna Avefjall
Shu-Jen Yu
Sandy Basi
Christine Bateman
Sung Jin Lee
Hee Myeong Kang
Tiziana Nolet

8 Years
April Vance
Joel Kvarnberg
Susan Fawcett
Elysia Bernard
Caroline Sarich
Alexia Ntoutou Mbou
Shirley Villar
Shirley Delos Reyes
Sushila Sharma
Cheryl Jacques

9 Years
Xavier Luck
Jaclyn Macalpine

10 Years
Nancy Aguilar
Kesheiya La Haie

11 Years
Ralph Artiza
Mona Purewal

12 Years
Froilan David
Sheila McNeil

13 Years
Lan Gao
Dale Eady

15 Years
Min-Jung Lo
Josephine Lozano
Penny Palak

16 Years
Eduardo Villar
Josephine Wong
Jaspal Singh
Abdi Hussein

17 Years
Brenda Henderson
Oliver Samonte
Cary McCarthy

18 Years
Nieves Acero

19 Years
Cristina Caampued
Joseph Dube
Ausif Nawaz

20 Years
Jodi Leech
Rosa Mejia-Gonzales

21 Years
Ahmad Shahlouneshad
Nick Chitheka

24 Years
Ali Hosseinzadeh
Max Sumner

26 Years
Duncan Williams

27 Years
Shaun Vecchio

28 Years
Hassan Hussein
Harsha Soni

29 Years
Tina Chevalier

30 Years
Anish Ahmed

32 Years
Wayne Adams

33 Years
Janice Del Valle

35 Years
D'Alquen Jackson

36 Years
Graeme Weeks

37 Years
Jeanne Durnion

42 Years
Trudy McClughan

A Hard Goodbye - But the Start of a New Beginning

Don has been supported by CLS since 1978 and resided at Keith House in North Vancouver for 40 years. Trudy McClughan, Team Lead of Keith 1, has been supporting Don since 1981 when he moved into Trudy's home as part of a Home Share arrangement. When Keith 1 became a CLS home, Trudy continued to support him. Trudy's dedication, advocacy and support has been pivotal in Don's life and their bond is incredible.

Over the years Don aged and it became apparent that the structural layout of the home created challenges for him. Mobility became more difficult for Don as Keith 1 has a significant number of stairs throughout the entire home. The team worked hard to look for solutions that could support him to age in place, but it was ultimately determined that a move was necessary.

Don's community connection is strong within North Vancouver. Therefore, Don, his family, and Trudy wanted to ensure that he stayed in the community that he knows well and that knows him in turn. It was also important to Don and his network that the place he moves into has the same dedicated support that the Keith 1 team provided. Finding an accessible home in North Vancouver is not an easy task, and at times, the dream felt unattainable.

In 2024, a space became available in another home overseen by CLS. Paisley home is a fully accessible home in North Vancouver, and Don's roommates would be people Don has known for over 40 years. When the opportunity to move to Paisley became available, it felt like the once unattainable dream had turned into reality.

After a lot of planning, training and support from both the Keith 1 and Paisley teams, Don moved into Paisley in July 2024. Both teams worked incredibly hard to support Don and ensure that the move was carried out with respect and following a person-centred approach. Trudy and Caroline Sarich supported Don and his family every step of the way. Having Trudy, who has known and cared for Don for over 40 years supporting this transition was instrumental to the success of his move.

Staff from Keith 1 also decided to continue to support Don at his new home. This transition required those staff to learn a new home, new routines and to become part of a new team. To them, the changes were worth the effort as they

continue to support Don going forward. Having familiar faces from his previous home has been extremely beneficial for him.

Due to everyone's efforts and support, the move went incredibly well. Not only did all of his belongings fit nicely into Paisley, but his new roommates and staff also welcomed him with open arms. Donald was very excited to bring his 2 (very full) bookcases of National Geographic Magazine collection (as seen in the photo), as this is one of his most valued possessions.

Since the move to Paisley, Don continues previously established routines from Keith 1, though now he can move around his house more freely and even has his own accessible washroom. If anyone asks where he lives, he happily states "Paisley"!

Don started to go to his church again every Sunday, which is something that he enjoyed before COVID hit in 2020. His church community was happy to have him return, and he is very excited to be back. Don continues to draw in his room (one of his favourite pastimes) at his desk which is in front of a large window that looks onto the garden and forest in Paisley's backyard.

Every Friday, Don goes out for lunch with his old roommates and Trudy. This is a tradition that they always have looked forward to. Even though they do not live together anymore, they have continued their friendship.

It is incredible that Don was able to find a second place to call home that provides him with the accessibility that he needs, while at the same time allows him to keep his long-standing community relationships that he has built over the many years.





Getting Pampered

Cari has a personal goal to get professional spa treatments on a monthly basis.

Her staff have been great with consistently taking her to the Village Spa in Ladner where she enjoys, facials, pedicures and manicures. Cari loves to go and has built great relationships with the ladies that work there. She gets pampered and enjoys the girl time together so much!



Lorraine Gets a Lift

Lorraine has struggled with her stairs due to a fear of heights and losing strength as she ages. In September a chair lift was installed to assist her to get up and down her stairs safely and with confidence.

Lorraine and her housemate have lived together for 22 years. Now that she can get up and down her stairs, she can remain in the home she loves with the housemate she loves.

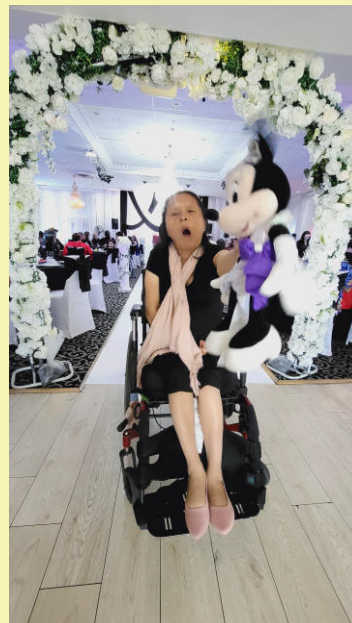
Miranda's MARRY Moment

Miranda had been looking forward to her niece's wedding for months. The black and white theme had added extra excitement to the occasion. She bought her outfit four months in advance.

Upon arriving at the venue, her family and the Haisla people welcomed her with warm hugs and smiles. She was among her nation, the people she had grown up with. Miranda's face lit up as she recognized everyone there; she was happy and felt a strong sense of connection.

Miranda was elated knowing that her family was by her side to celebrate her niece's wedding. She paid attention as her nieces walked down the aisle, and she was very focused on everything that was going on around her. Miranda loved witnessing the heartfelt promises! The bride and groom exchanged vows they had written for each other and repeated traditional vows after the officiant and the exchange of rings. She could see the pride and happiness in her niece's eyes. The day was filled with love, laughter, and heartfelt moments.

Witnessing her niece's wedding was a truly unforgettable experience for Miranda. From the beautiful decor to the on-site ceremony and the last dance, the memories made that day will stay with her forever.



Summer Picnic Fun!

On August 24th we said “no way to rain” and had a fabulous time at the CLS annual summer picnic. We added a few things this year that were a hit—a caricature artist and a world map where everyone could mark where they were born. Once again the band was great, the food was great, and the company was the greatest !!!!! The photo booth team took some wonderful pictures of the crowd – you can find them here –[Photo Gallery HERE](#)

Thank you to Save of Foods and ScriptCare for providing us again with the nummy cakes. See you next year – save the date – it is going to be one week earlier on August 16, 2025.





Nadie's New Pad

Nadie is a strong and independent person who has wanted to live in her own home for quite some time. When she first joined the LIFE program, she was living in a home share arrangement and started her journey to find housing that reflected her living goals. She went from a home share, to living with a roommate, to supported living at City Club, where she lived for almost 2 years. Working with her LIFE staff, she began looking at independent housing options and making applications to BC Housing to make her goal a reality. On Sept 27th, Nadie's dream was achieved, as she signed the documents and received the key to her new home at New Vista Society.

Community Living Society's (CLS) Independent Living Program is designed for Supported Individuals who already live, or want to live, in their own homes, and who need targeted support to assist them to manage independently. Some individuals choose to find their own accommodations, others are hopeful that they can move into a unit within one of our partnership buildings, with subsidized rent. In both circumstances CLS provides support services that help them with their identified needs. This service is not intended to provide 24/7 support, but rather to complement the ways Supported Individuals can successfully manage on their own and/or with other resources and their personal support network. Services focus on optimizing independence to the level appropriate to each Supported Individual and to facilitate engagement with their personal support network and community connections. While the intention is to fade types and levels of services over time as Supported Individuals gain competence and confidence living independently, many Supported Individuals need ongoing services that may vary over time and not fade completely. CLS continues to partner with housing organizations to provide increased independent living options. And, in early 2024 we formed a new partnership with New Vista Society. We look forward to growing this, and other, housing partnerships.



Congratulations to a few CLS employees who had wedding celebrations this spring and summer.

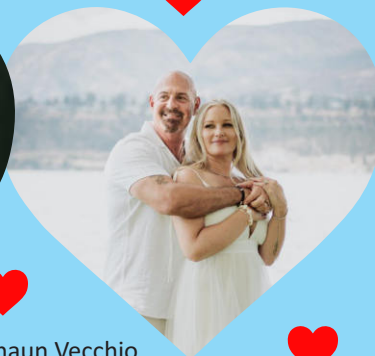
If you have wedding or birth announcements you would like to share with us in the newsletter, please send them to vpascoe@communitylivingsociety.ca



Alicia George
– Human Resources Advisor



Melanie Ma
– Property and Fleet Design Administrator



Shaun Vecchio and Chrstina Montonen
– Managers of Staffed Homes



Scavenger Hunt

This summer, the Day Support teams participated in a Summer Scavenger Hunt, where they explored many different locations in community and took photos at each place.

Not only did they have a lot of fun seeing new places and trying new activities, but they also were able to keep and share these memories with some amazing photos.

This is a sampling of some of the activities the ladies from the Surrey Day Supports locations participated in.



THANK YOU from Studio Seventy-Three

It's been a little while since we had the donation box at the Administration Centre! We continued to collect donations and ended up with over 10 bags in total. Thank you so much for your donations!! Recently, we met with Sara - the Program Manager for the Downtown Eastside Drop-In Centre to give her the donations. We met some of the volunteers and women who access their service. At this one location they serve meals for 200 to 300 people per day. They run programs as well and offer a place for people to come and chat. They host the yearly event HERstory (Jill donated her Red Dress art piece to their silent auction in March - where they met Sara) and raised over \$175, 000 this year.

Up, Up and Away To Edmonton

Doug had been eagerly anticipating his trip to Edmonton for months, but health issues had kept him from planning. Determined to overcome these challenges, he focused on improving his well-being and after much effort, he finally felt ready for the vacation he had longed for.

On Monday, August 26th, Doug boarded a plane with his support staff Rita. Excitement buzzed in the air as they took off for Edmonton. Waiting for them at the airport was Doug's step-brother, who greeted them with a warm smile and took them to their hotel. That evening, they shared a delightful dinner, filled with laughter and meaningful conversations about life, family, and cherished memories.

The next day, Doug explored the North Gate Mall, where he happily purchased supplies he needed. He was in high spirits, relishing the opportunity to be out and about. Later that day his brother picked him up again for a tour of the city. They visited the famous West Edmonton Mall, and Doug couldn't contain himself as he wandered through its vast corridors, reminiscing about the old days.

One of the highlights of Doug's trip was reconnecting with family. He spent precious moments with his brother's



granddaughter, who brought him much joy and laughter. For the first time in a while, Doug walked confidently without his walker, a sign of his progress and newfound strength.

A barbecue at his brother's home capped off the trip, filled with delicious food and family moments. As the time to depart drew near, Doug felt a bittersweet pang at saying goodbye.

When he boarded the plane to return home he was filled with fond memories and looking forward to future adventures. Doug returned not only with souvenirs but with a heart full of happiness and gratitude for the time spent with loved ones.

Whistler Adventure

James is an active guy who is always looking for an adventure. He went for a day trip to Whistler two years ago and in June he was able to return for an overnight trip.

The trip began with a quick stop for dinner at one of his favourite restaurants after a scenic drive. A short while later they arrived at the hotel and settled in for a good night sleep.

The next morning, after enjoying a few of his favourite foods for breakfast, James set out for a stroll through the village. He took time to check out the Olympic rings and local shops. When he was asked about going to see more places, James replied by saying that he wanted to go see his roommates. Sometimes time apart can remind us of how much we like the people and comforts of home. James headed home to get ready as he had a new roommate moving in the next day.

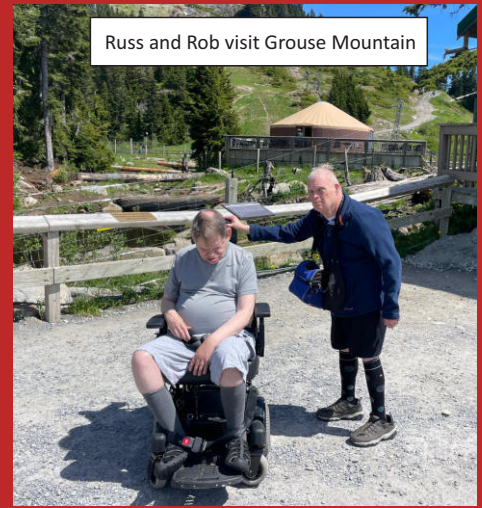




Kevin visiting the Bloedel Conservatory



Ed attends an Indigenous event



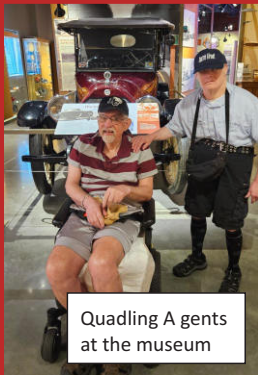
Russ and Rob visit Grouse Mountain



95th Summer Party



Team Burnaby at English Bay



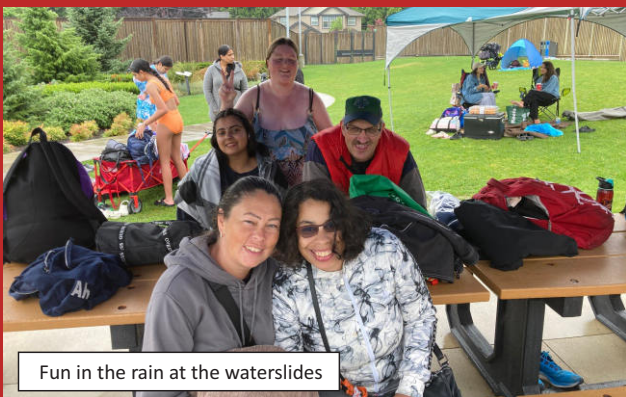
Quadling A gents at the museum



Cecilia enjoying the sun at Rocky Point



Neville Harvest



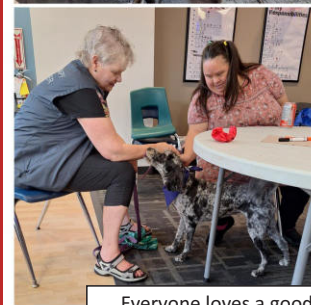
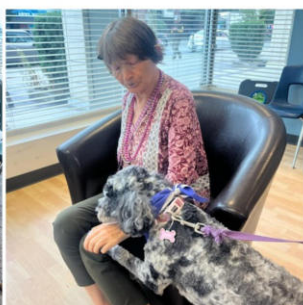
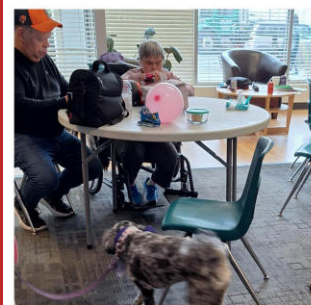
Fun in the rain at the waterslides



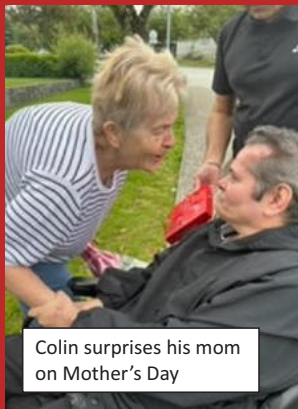
Toni working on a new art project



Byron at the Cats Performance



Everyone loves a good dog cuddle



Colin surprises his mom on Mother's Day



A trip to Science World



Ed gets some puppy love



Cari meets a new friend at the mall



Kristin at Kangaroo Creek Farm in Kelowna



Justin celebrating mid autumn moon festival

The First Year of the CLS Self-Advocate's Journey

It's been a journey since we began the self-advocate group in September, 2023. The group has 9 members. We are from different walks of life, ages and programs. CLS staff recommended we help start the group. We meet once a month.

We have done a lot at this point of time. Two members made a presentation to the CLS Board of Directors. The presentation was developed by the whole group.

We successfully met with four other self-advocate groups. We wanted to learn about what they did and learn from their mistakes. The CLS group came up with some questions to ask. Members volunteered to talk with the groups. We talked to Self-Advocates from Mission, Semiahmoo (Surrey), Langley and Nanaimo. We met on ZOOM, in person and on a conference call. We learned about how to use these different ways to have meetings. We got some ideas about what self-advocates do in their community. We also heard about how their groups are organized.

Three members attended the Inclusion BC conference in Nanaimo. They came back and told us about their experience. They told us what they had learned from the workshops they went to. They recommend people attend this conference in the future.

We are in the early stages of figuring out our focus and what projects we want to work on. To do this we need to listen to each other and become a team. So we decided the group will be no bigger than 12 members. We want to learn about CLS and important issues to people. We want to represent everyone in a professional way when we talk to groups and to the community.

In the future we want to work on a few projects. We want to come up with a name and a logo.

It's been a busy and educational year. It's been inspiring and uplifting. And we are just getting started!

Written by Aaron Pietras and Byron Schiller, members of the CLS Self-Advocate Committee





This beautiful bear paw was created by Jarred, and recently sold! He designed it to express his Indigenous culture. The bear paw is a symbol of both strength and protection. The colours were chosen to represent the

Sacred Hoop (Medicine Wheel). It was created for an anti-racism exhibition we attended.

Over the summer we attended a National Indigenous Peoples Day event in Mission. The event was centered around the theme: healing through mind, body and spirit. We also attended Surrey Pride, where we met so many wonderful people and had the opportunity to chat more with Annie Ohana, Social Justice teacher, L.A. Matheson Secondary.

We received another grant through City of Surrey's Cultural Grant Program. Our intent with this grant is to offer free glass classes to community members, with the aim of including folks with diverse cultures, backgrounds and identities. So far, we have hosted 2 large classes at Newton Cultural Centre and we have a few more to go! Douglas College Training Centre had us host another mobile class with this semester's students. Their program is designed for students to build confidence and develop skills through art projects, while learning English. We were invited to attend their final presentation. The students were grateful that we attended and we enjoyed meeting them all. Jill went to her second pride event in Chilliwack and recognized a couple folks from Surrey Pride. They had purchased some of her items in Surrey and had taken a photo together. So, of course it made sense to get another photo together in Chilliwack!

Carrie applied for and received a grant through Neighbourhood Small Grants Program. Carrie chose to make care packages for community members that would find them useful. We set up tables outside the shop and invited neighbours and passerby to make the packages with us. It was a great success. Carrie had another accomplishment this quarter. Through perseverance, many phone calls and emails, she has secured her HandyDart subscription to include the use of taxis – which is a much better fit for her. Some of the emails included the office of Minister Harry Bains, Chief Accessibility Officer, Stephanie Cadieux and the HandyDart Customer Community Stakeholder Experience Manager. She also ended up getting an email from Minister of Transportation, Rob Fleming!

In early September we hosted a retirement gathering for Minister Harry Bains. We are very grateful for his support over the years. He was presented with a couple of gifts, one of which he looked at before he left. It was a photo album with pictures of him and the Studio 73 team at various events. He was sincerely moved and offered some kind words to everyone. Then he surprised us with a gift of his own. He presented us with a framed certificate that reads –

"In recognition of your outstanding efforts in showcasing the talent of local artists and for celebrating the diverse community that makes up Surrey. Your commitment to providing a platform for creative expression and fostering an inclusive environment is truly commendable."

PotteryWorks has been a hive of activity, preparing for show season and welcoming new artists and their talent. Our newest artist, Lydia Kim, is an extremely talented woman who hit the ground running in our studio. The Snap Photo squad welcomed Sheldon Simon as our newest member. Sheldon is a talented wildlife photographer, and has already created a body of incredible work, including the adjacent horse photo.

The month of September saw a very important event for all of us, A Posthumous Retrospective of the Late Tom Mackie's Paintings, at the New Westminster Library. We attended the show and it was an emotional experience for us all, but an important acknowledgement of his incredible legacy.

Artists in the Gallery

September 2024 – Tom Mackie – Dance on the Earth



Dance on the Earth – September 2024

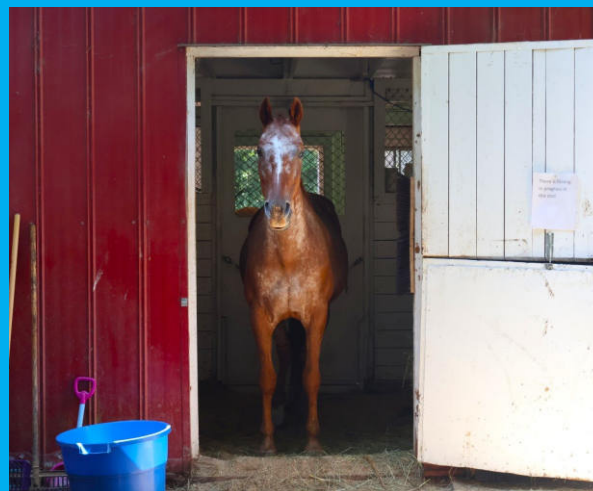
Tom Mackie's posthumous retrospective is a collection of his abstract palette knife and dry brush acrylic paintings on canvas. It is also a testament to the love his community had for this determined and talented artist, a non-verbal communicator who spoke only through his art and not through words.

Tom Mackie

Artist Sangeeta Rekhi is having an incredible year. Her paintings were chosen by the Inclusion Art Show for their poster, by CLS for the cover of their annual report, and her winter scene painting was chosen by CLS for their Season's Greeting card. Well deserved success Sangeeta, you've worked hard for this.

Artist Ryley Jensen Fisk is expanding her work with some new aboriginal themed paintings that are selling before they even get to a show. Incredible new work for Ryley and we are so proud of her.

We hope to see you at the Inclusion Art Show on October 23rd and later this year at the Anvil Centre Show.



DONATE TODAY!

Your generous donations provide real opportunities for the individuals supported by the CLS to live life to the fullest.

You can contribute by sending cash or a cheque to:

Community Living Society
7th Floor – 713 Columbia Street
New Westminster, BC, V3M 1B2

Donation receipts sent to our office via cheque or cash will be issued for amounts in excess of \$10.

Donations via credit card can be made by visiting our website:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/5841/donation>

If you have any questions, please contact us at 604.523.0303 or

contactus@communitylivingsociety.ca

Thank you for your consideration.



JOIN TODAY!

Become a CLS Member

Date _____

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

There is no fee to be a CLS member. Memberships are renewed on an annual basis at or after the Annual General Meeting.

Members must:

- be 18+ years of age
- be interested in advancing the purposes and supporting the activities of the Society

Members cannot be:

- An employee or contractor of the CLS
- An employee of the government of the Province of British Columbia or Canada whose duties are concerned with the affairs of the Society.

If you would like to be a member of the CLS, please send this completed form to us:

By Mail:

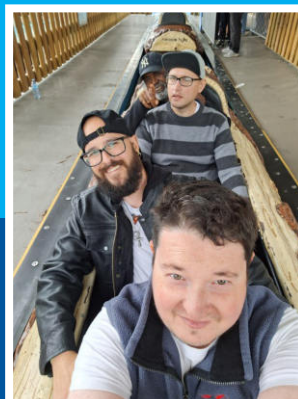
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