

Kelowna and District Society for Community Living (KDSCL) Newsletter website: www.kdscl.bc.ca



Volume 1 Issue 10

Celebrating 51 Years of Service

April 2005

COMMUNITY LIVING UPDATE

KELOWNA CENTENNIAL

THANK YOU

Rick Mowles took over as Acting CEO of Community Living BC, February 1, 2005. CLBC continues to be committed to devolving services from government to the new delivery model July 1, 2005.

If you would like to receive a copy the Newsletter for the Interim Authority for CLBC, please write or phone:

Community Living BC
2752 East 41st Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V5R 2X1
Tel: 604-660-3450
Website: <http://interimauthorityclbc.ca>

KDSCL is supporting Kelowna's Centennial celebrations by hosting a party in the park, with a carnival atmosphere, June 18, 2005 at Mission Creek Park.

This one day event will be open to the public. We invited other organizations to join us in celebrating the accomplishments of people with disabilities in our community.

KDSCL held a very successful 50th Anniversary Party in the Park in 2003 and will expand this project. The park will be filled with different booths from KDSCL and invited organizations. There will be entertainment with different performers throughout the day.

There will be a concession, games, crafts, information booths, face painting, dunk tank, raffles, etc. and all at a nominal fee.

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KDSCL would like to extend a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to:

* Biocam Communications for their generous donation.

* Stephanie Burtness and the Aktion Club for sponsoring a self-advocate to attend the BCACL conference.

* Rod Charlesworth and Athena Custom Framing for their donation to our Christmas silent Auction.

* Home Depot for their ongoing support!

BUILDING FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY

Andrew Mackenzie from Sutton Realty is assisting KDSCL to raise funds to replace our building at 555 Fuller Avenue.

Andrew has agreed to donate 25% of his commission generated from any referral associated with our agency.

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INTEGRATED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES (ICO)

By Susan Batch

ICO provides individuals with developmental and learning disabilities opportunities to learn skills to assist them to secure employment through contract work and independent employment by partnering with employers. ICO focuses on an individuals 'Abilities' not their disabilities.

We recognize that finding a job is only the first step in becoming successfully employed. ICO has designed a Job Readiness Class to provide insight and much needed information to those seeking their employment goals. Classes are run on a three week rotation (twice weekly) and begin on April 1, 2005. The course instructors are Don Bach and Leighton Cato. If you are interested in participating, please contact Susan Harney, Development Supervisor at 763-9499.

We are once again gearing up for our busy contract season. The ICO yard crew has begun and will be in full swing by mid April. We have secured all of our previous contracts as well as several new weekly contracts for lawn and yard care.

New this April, we expand our Community Recycling service. We have contracted with local business, organizations and institutes to collect their recyclables. Our members will arrange a convenient pick up schedule designed for each location. As well as the collection of refundable containers, ICO will also provide confidential and cardboard pick up to meet the needs of our customers and help our environment by keeping unnecessary waste out of our landfills. Thank you to Adaptive Outdoor Adventures for providing us with this employment opportunity.

We would also like to thank the Regional District for continuing to partner with ICO for many of their employment needs. Watch community events for the appearance of Ecosaurus throughout the spring and summer. Members of ICO work crew will again be assisting with the Illegal Dumpsite project, keeping our rural areas clean.

For further information on ICO, please contact Susan Batsch, Community Placement Developer at 763-9499 or email: SusanCPD@yahoo.ca).

Centennial Celebrations Continued from page 1...

Please mark your calendars now so you don't miss this fun, family event.

We require lots of volunteers for this event from 8:00 am set up to 4:00 pm take down and all the jobs in between. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Susan Batsch, Project Coordinator at 763-9499.

Individualized Funding (IF)

KDSCL has been fortunate to have been asked to administer 4 individualized funding contracts over the last 6 months. This has been a wonderful opportunity for the organization and our staff. While creating new positions, it has also allowed us to provide services that are family and person directed and flexible.

KDSCL is committed to providing the best services possible. We are very excited at having opportunities to continue to change our services to meet the needs of the people we support.

If you would like more information on IF please contact Charisse Daley at 763-4837.

Tube Much Fun

By Sharon Simms

It all started out one day as a drive taking pictures of all the snow we were blessed with this winter. When I mentioned to Lisa, "What a waste of all that snow in those "rolling hills." We should ask if we could take some people "sliding!!" When we went back for lunch we mentioned it to Donna-Lynn, and she said to make the arrangements and she would clear it with Charisse.

Grrrreat!!! "We're going "sliding!" So we mentioned it to Shane, he thought it would be a great idea, and leave the planning with him and he would tell us the details. The next day he said it was all arranged and we were going to Silver Star tubing!

WHAT!!! I was wondering where was the comparison, rolling hills, fluffy snow, maybe snowmobiles – to - BIG MOUNTAIN, SPEED, BUTT IN TUBE, NO CONTROL!!!!!! Somehow just doesn't register with me as the same thing!!! Oh well, the good sport that I am, agreed this would be a lot of fun!!! So the day before we were to go I was talking to Evedene and Heidi and they said that they did it before and it was a lot of fun and that I would enjoy myself. I must say with me it does take a little more convincing than that! But here we go!!!

The next day KDSCL was all a-buzz... and I felt like a sheep going to be sheared... Ok I know it won't kill me but how can you say that this is going to be FUN!! O'K did I mention that I am a good sport.

It was beginning to take on a new picture as we got closer to our destination, we were breaking through the heavy fog and suddenly everything became clear and we were above the clouds! I had to clear my mind to be the same way "above the clouds." Getting rid of all the negative thoughts and put it in my mind, this is going to be a lot of fun! We were in the parking lot and I looked ahead of me and saw the beautiful view of the, gulp, ski hill??? That thought was broken by "there it is, right ahead of us, "tube town! Yeah, let's go!!!!" You've got to be kidding!!!! You're goin' to make me go down there?!!! O'K it's the end for me!!

After paying for our "hours" of fun, I was told to grab a tube, sit down in it, hold on and "shut up!!" Well the trip up was ok I didn't die, it was kinda fun!!! Except I had to get up really fast. Easy for you to say when you aren't "wedged" into the TUBE! I got my bearings stood up with the little dignity I had left, climbed to the top and looked DOWN, down, down that hill! "Please you go first, oh no that's ok you go ahead of me, are you sure you can go really." O'k snap out of it you are going to have to go down there at least once or how are you going to get HOME!!!

I picked the hill which the young fellow said wasn't that fast. By the time I decided to go some people were down and back up again, urging me to go down again. "Go down again!! I haven't even got down the first time yet, Yeah, yeah just go ahead, I don't mind!!" Did I tell you that I lived in Alberta for sixteen years, isn't that one of the prairies?? I think so the last time I checked. Finally after watching Damiana go down by herself many spinning times, I had to go down. I wedged my butt into the tube again and warned the fellow from Australia not to spin me, well maybe I begged him not to spin me, please just give me a gentle push, after all, there's just a bit of hay at the bottom to stop me.

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COOL ARTS GROUP

COOL ARTS is dedicated to providing Fine Arts opportunities to adults with developmental disabilities living in the Central Okanagan.

Upcoming Workshops:

Cost: \$4.00 per Workshop

Location: 555 Fuller Avenue (KDSCL)

Wear old cloths and bring your lunch.

April 16/05 10:00 am - 2:30 pm Rip & Snip Workshop

Instructors Judy Burns & Helen Kilsby

Painting, Designing and Creating your own work of art. This workshop is really going to be neat.

May 14/05 10:00 am - 2:30 pm Art Workshop

Instructor Renee Burgess

Try lots of cool art stuff in this workshop.

June 4/05 10:00 am - 2:30 pm Painting on Canvas Workshop

Instructors Patti Kilback & Helen Kilsby

Wear your paint shirt.

For more information or to register call Sara Lige at 768-5548 or tslige@shaw.ca.

ART FOR SOCIAL CHANGE Evening MAY 4, 2005

Rotary Art Centre

COOL ARTS will be displaying some of our artwork at this evening - participants in our April 16 class will have art in this event and are welcome to attend...

So Much Fun, Continued from page 3...

Please radio down there and tell the girl to put down the whole bale, please pleeeesssse.

I just got my push. I think it was more than just a "gentle push" because I was going down faster and faster and faster! My stomach was flying faster than my feet hanging down the front of me; well they were in the front at first now they are behind me, now in front. Oh this is soooooo much fun but my stomach won't let me enjoy it! My feet are in front now maybe if I put my feet down to slow me just enough for my stomach to catch up. BAD idea, now I can't see a thing!!! glasses are full of snow and I can't even see if the girl had enough time to put out the "full" bale of hay!!!! Well at that speed I had enough time to scream, spin a couple times, get my face full of snow and... land on a great space of hay that did slow me down and stop me before I did myself some real damage.

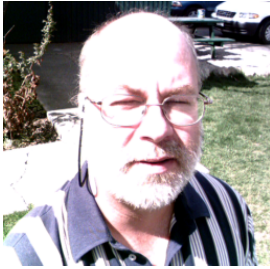
"So how was your ride down?" broke my scardy-cat feeling. "It was "Tube much Fun" was all I could say I can't wait to go again"!!!!

After a couple more times down we had a break for lunch, some by the fire and others by a heating post that they turned on for us. We took some great pictures, had some snow fights and returned to do some more tubing and then packed it in for a beautiful ride back to Kelowna.

Yes, I do recommend anyone that loves to have fun to get some friends together and go Tubing at Silver Star.



STAFF PROFILE: D'ARCY BELL



D'Arcy grew up in an army family and lived in different parts of Canada and overseas before settling here in Rutland with his wife Mary and their two daughters. D'Arcy joined the staff at KDSCL in 1994 and has worked in several departments over the years. He is a gentle man who communicates well with the service recipients. He has endless patience and anyone who works with him knows you can always count on him if you need help. The individuals he has supported over the years are always happy to see him again.

A few years ago he and Mary discovered motorcycles and now that the spring weather is here you will find him pulling up to work in his leather jacket and helmet riding his motorcycle.

He worked in the woodshop for many years before being transferred to ICO. He continued working as a job coach out in the community until he made his way into the Day Service. He could be seen riding the bus and doing lots of walking with the two gentlemen he supported. After the Day Service he went to work at First Choice doing contract work with the women who made up that group. The women always enjoyed his company and missed him a great deal when yet again, he was transferred to the bike shop.

D'Arcy worked with Rod getting the bike shop established on Doyle Avenue. They worked hard bringing in customers and helping the service recipients gain skills and knowledge about bikes, bike assembly and repair. He left the bike shop to work part-time back in the woodshop and part-time job coaching with ICO.

He now has come full circle and works as a job coach in ICO again. I guess we could say that he is versatile and likes a change of environment every few years. He has proven to be a valuable and flexible support staff with his mild mannered way of dealing with other staff and the individuals he supports.

He has also been involved with the union in one aspect or another over the years and spent time going to meetings and sorting out issues to assist all to understand and benefit from a good working environment.

In the past few years, since his daughters have grown up, his love of travel with Mary has now come to be realized. They have just returned from their second trip to Thailand and he is always willing to talk about his holiday.

Building Fund raising Opportunity Continued from page 1...

If you are planning on buying or selling a house and use Andrew as a your realtor, KDSCL receives 25% of the commission.

Andrew has a wealth of experience and has worked in real estate for 14 years. Prior to marketing properties, he worked in Social Services for 15 years.

If you are thinking of buying or selling, please consider Andrew and help support KDSCL. Andrew can be reached by calling 250-863-5106 or via email at can-star3000@shaw.ca. Remember to tell Andrew that you were referred by KDSCL or you can come by our office and we can provide you with a referral form.

Mission Statement: To assist people with disabilities to reach their individual goals and to participate and contribute as equal members of the community.

Vision Statement: Ours is one of welcome. Join us in building communities that support the diverse abilities of all people.

WAYS TO HELP: *Become a member of KDSCL *Be informed and involved
*Volunteer a few hours each week *Involve yourself in a Committee *Support people to be included in their community *Make a tax deductible donations or be-queath *Just be a friend and we will all be winners!!

Services: KDSCL provides opportunities for people to learn employment skills, work (both volunteer and paid), participate in community recreation and leisure activities and live as independently as possible.

Integrated Community Opportunities (ICO), 555 Fuller Avenue, 250-763-9499
Wedding Belles and Baskets, 539 Lawrence Avenue, 250-862-8113
Day Service, 555 Fuller Avenue, 250-763-4484
Kelowna Diversified Industries Wood Shop, 555 Fuller Avenue, 250-762-4915
Larry's Cycle & Sports, 535 Lawrence Avenue, 250-762-4920
Residential Supports
Special Events/ Community Participation
Advocacy
Administration, 555 Fuller Avenue, 250-763-4836

From Good to Great: Developing Person Centered Agencies in British Columbia

At the Prestige Inn, Vernon, BC Thursday and Friday, June 16 & 17, 2005

Opening remarks by Lois Hollstedt, Chair, CLBC and Amanda Lennard, Board Member
Keynote address - Michael Smull

Sponsored by the Interim Authority for Community Living BC for service providers, their staff and family caregivers.

CONTACT: Brian Salisbury

Phone/Fax: 604-888-1856 / Cell: 604-897-1856

Email: bsalisbury@shaw.ca

Website: www.langleyacl.org/conference/index.htm

KDSCL Closure Dates

Victoria Day: May 23, 2005

Canada Day: July 1, 2005

Summer Shutdown: August 1 - 12, 2005

Labour Day: September 5, 2005

Thanksgiving: October 10, 2005

Remembrance Day: November 11, 2005

Christmas Shutdown: December 26 - 30, 2005



**Support the
United Way**