

## Skill Development at the CLS Administration Centre

Harpreet and Fatima are artists at Studio73 in Surrey. They both expressed the desire to learn new skills to advance their chances of obtaining paid employment. They became the third group of individuals to receive skill development support at the Administration Centre. For six months (since September) they have worked every Friday at the CLS Administration Centre, receiving guidance and support to learn new skills such as: answering and directing phonecalls, receiving visitors, processing mail, laminating cards, sorting documents and cleaning. This is a paid position and as you can see from their responses below, they love the money!!!!

**Q: How does having a job make you feel?**

*Fatima:* Happy

*Harpreet:* I like making friends

**Q: How do you like working at the Admin Centre, what's your favorite part?**

*Fatima and Harpreet:* Making more money!!!

**Q: How has your work experience benefited you or helped you in your everyday life?**

*Fatima:* Answering the phones at the Admin Centre has helped build confidence in answering the phones at Studio73

*Harpreet:* Builds confidence to try new things

**Q: What do you want to do with your new skills and what is your dream job?**

*Fatima:* Cop/Fashion Designer

*Harpreet:* Movie Star

**Q: What is the best part about having a paid job?**

*Fatima:* Making money

*Harpreet:* Having money, buying things, treating parents to dinner



Fatima (left) and Harpreet (right) working hard at reception in the Administration Centre.



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## INSIDE...

- Page 2 Eastlawn Garden Challenge
- Page 3 Update from the CEO
- Page 4 Holidays at the CLS
- Page 6 Clothing Bin Surprise In Loving Memory
- Page 7 Out & About Isabelle's Social Debut
- Page 8 Employee Profiles
- Page 9 Pottery Works
- Page 10 We are All Canucks From the Archives
- Page 11 Terry Fox Run Find Support BC Jo Dickey Foundation
- Page 12 Anniversaries & Promotions Baby News

## Eastlawn Garden Challenge

Every year the CLS offers additional support and funding to locations that wish to participate in a gardening challenge. Eastlawn was one of the homes that took up the challenge in 2016. They created a wonderful vegetable garden. Joe, Ernest and Kathy participated in the planting of the garden, maintaining it and eventually harvesting the vegetables. Ernest was supported to can a number of savory treats that everyone can enjoy throughout the winter. New flower gardens were also created in the front yard.



### CLS Administration Centre

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[contactus@communitylivingsociety.ca](mailto:contactus@communitylivingsociety.ca)

## Update from the CEO

by Ross Chilton, CEO

### Happy New Year

As you will be aware, in our last strategic planning process we committed to 'promoting organizational responsiveness', as one of our strategic priorities. As part of this, we want to share with you a project we are embarking on - what its purpose is, why we are doing it, and how you can provide input if you are interested.

#### What is the purpose of the project?

To ensure frontline support workers and coordinators, across CLS, are able to continue to provide your family member with the best quality of support, both today and into the future, we are embarking on a review of how we are organized. We need to ensure we are able to meet the needs of the individuals we support and our staff now and into the future.

#### Why are we doing this now?

With changes and greater diversity in the nature of supports required by individuals, and increased requirements for reporting, feedback from staff indicates the need for a review so as to best adapt to the changes. The overall goal is to continue to be able to provide the best person-centered support to individuals.

#### How will the review be completed and recommendations made?

We have engaged a senior consultant from WMC (Western Management Consultants) to conduct the review. Over the next few weeks, the consultant will be meeting with various individuals and groups within the Community Living Society to understand what makes it easy to support people to be full citizens, and what gets in the way.



We want interested families to have a chance to find out more and ask any questions regarding the review. Families are encouraged to attend one of the sessions that will be held at:

CLS Administration Centre  
7th Floor - 713 Columbia Street  
New Westminster, B.C. V3M 1B2

Monday February 6, 2017 4pm to 5.30pm  
Wednesday February 8, 2017 6pm to 7.30pm

While we don't know what the recommendations will be at this time, we do know they will be aimed at enabling staff to do their best work as they engage with individuals.

If you are interested and able to attend one of these sessions or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gillian Rhodes at [grhodes@communitylivingsociety.ca](mailto:grhodes@communitylivingsociety.ca) or alternatively call her at 604.523.0303.

# THE HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED AT THE CLS

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORTS CHRISTMAS DINNER



ADMIN CENTRE OPEN HOUSE



NORTH SHORE CHRISTMAS PARTY



## Clothing Bin Surprise Becomes Fire Department Donation

By Graeme Weeks, Coordinator

Twice a week, Bill and Curtis check and empty clothing donation bins and take the clothing to the Value Village warehouse in Vancouver. During one of their pick ups Bill and Curtis found two old fire extinguishers in the Edgemont Village clothing bin. The fire extinguishers are a Canadian product dating back to the 1930's or earlier and are called Liberty Tube Fire Extinguisher.

This discovery got us all thinking that it would be nice to donate one to the North Vancouver Fire Dept 13th Street Hall. We contacted the Assistant Fire Chief and arranged a meeting with Bill, Curtis, Doug, and myself. We all went up to the Fire Hall and had a very nice visit where Bill and Curtis donated one of the fire extinguishers and chatted with the firefighters. The Fire Hall will be displaying the extinguisher with other old artifacts. Bill and Curtis will display the other in their home. The Assistant Chief and a few fire fighters came to Bill and Curt's home to give them letters of thanks and NVFD ball caps for the donation of the extinguisher. All around this was a great community connection which we all enjoyed.



Out and About in the Community



## Isabelle's Social Debut

by Inthirani Arul



Isabelle knew that this day was going to be an extra special day as she was quite vocal, clapping her hands as soon as the staff arrived. Her regular Thursday friend who comes to bake with her made double chocolate chip cookies for all the guests. Isabelle's friends arrived one by one to visit and socialize for the hot dog social. It was a memorable day filled with laughter, great food, great company, hugs, and pictures. Isabelle even waved her hands saying "good bye" as each guest thanked her for inviting them. When asked how she felt about the turnout of 14 people and the liveliness of her home she excitedly said "ya". Isabelle was filled with joy as she spent quite some time with her friends at the kitchen table and even came out of her room once with her new slippers on. She was filled with gratitude to be surrounded by so many who cared and came out to be with her, even with the cold and snowy weather conditions.

A success filled social debut to end off a success filled year! Isabelle has always loved meeting people, being around people and socializing with her friends. After conversation and brainstorming about how Isabelle could reconnect with her friends and meet new friends, over time flyers were created, the message was spread and on Thursday December 15th Isabelle hosted her first social at her home.

When her friends were asked what theme they would like to have for the next social they all agreed on making pizza where each would bring a topping of their choice and will take part in creating their own pizzas. This success was because of the presence of every person that filled Isabelle's heart and their communication, interaction and physical presence created the warm atmosphere in the comfort of her home.

## In Loving Memory

### Babs Stewart

With great sadness that we announce the passing of Babs Stewart on November 1st. Babs and her husband Morgan were a part of the Woodlands Parents' Group that was instrumental in forming the CLS. Babs also served on the CLS Board. Their son Brock has lived at the Paisley home in North Vancouver for many years.

### Shamim Mitha

Shamim passed away on Nov 23, 2016. She attended the CRC and PotteryWorks regularly until her health started to deteriorate over the last while.

All of us at the CLS send our condolences to the families, friends and CLS staff in these two lady's lives.

The CLS Human Resources team is excited to present Employee Profiles. We have asked some of our employees to complete a brief questionnaire so you can learn a little about them.



**Annie Marcus**  
Human Resources Associate

Annie is a new member to our CLS Human Resources team. She is new to BC and has recently started working with CLS as the Human Resources Associate.

*What is your favourite part of being a team member of CLS?*

"My favourite thing is having the opportunity to work with talented people who are so passionate about the work we do."

*Do you have a hidden talent, and if so what?*

"I can learn languages very easily and love to sing in Spanish!"

*What is your favourite book or movie and why?*

"My favourite book is *The Secret Garden*. It was my first full novel as a young child and after finishing the book I was allowed to watch the movie. My favourite movie is *Singing in the Rain...* with Gene Kelly of course!"

*If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?*

"I would go back to the 1920s, just to wear a flapper dress and go to Jazz clubs."

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

"I would love to travel anywhere! I have always wanted to go to Italy, so that would be next on my list."



**David Musa**  
Community Living Counsellor

David is a new Community Living Counsellor with the CLS. He has recently joined the team and works at one of our residential locations.

*What brought you to CLS?*

To be part of the dynamic care team, enabling the people to live in dignity, and realize and enjoy their individual goals within their communities.

*If you could meet one person (dead or alive) who would that be and why?*

My father. He struggled a lot to make me what I am today with little or no resources. He brought me up in a way that makes it easy to adapt to the norms of any human settings.

*What is your favorite book or movie and why?*

*The Dilemma of the Ghost*. It compares and contrasts the Western and the African cultures, exposing rich cultural values as stepping stones as one explores both cultures.

*If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?*

The Late 60s and early 70s



**Adrienne MacRitchie**  
Human Resources Generalist

In September Adrienne joined the CLS as the Human Resources Generalist.

*When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up?*

"I wanted to be a lead singer of a band; however, my inability to stay on key has been a bit of a deterrent."

*What is a passion or hobby of yours and why?*

"I love to travel and explore different cultures and sites. I also like to read, run and kayak."

*If you were an animal, which one do you think you would be?*

"If I were an animal, I would be a dog - loyal, fun-loving, social, and loves to eat."

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

"If I had to choose right now, I would pick South America."

*Would you rather go to the beach for a day or go hiking in the mountains?*

"I like both but I would probably choose beach on most days."



On October 20th the PotteryWorks Studio proudly opened its doors in its new location at 612 Victoria Street in New Westminster. The following day the artists and facilitators were paid a special visit from the Minister of Development and Social Innovation, Michelle Stilwell. See all of the great photos at the sites below.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/communitylivingbc/albums/72157674274059021>

<http://www.communitylivingbc.ca/2016/10/potteryworks-nurtures-artistic-diverseabilities/>



The ribbon is cut by artist Rob Bell, Biliana Velkova - Arts Coordinator, Mayor Jonathan Cote, and Elke Tilgner - Director of Community Inclusion



Donna shows Minister Stilwell around the new PotteryWorks studio



On November 30th, PotteryWorks attended the Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Association Holiday Party at Taverna Greka. It was a really fun evening, great food and a chance to meet other businesses in the downtown area.



PotteryWorks was featured in the December 8th edition of the New Westminster Record in a section entitled "Get to Know the Not-for-Profit Organizations in Our Community" - see page 39 of the edition for the full article.



<https://issuu.com/royal-city-record/docs/nwrthu20161208>

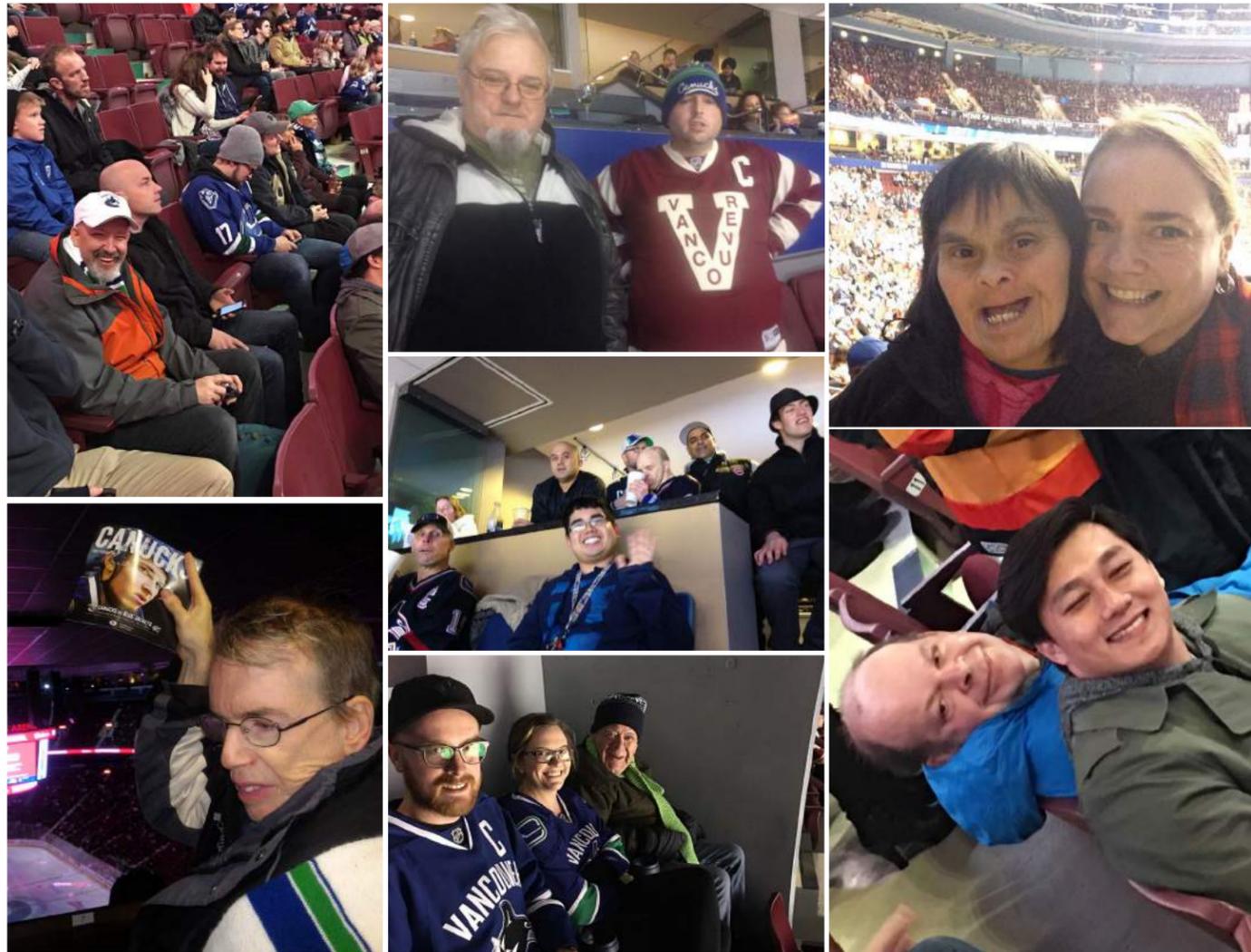


PotteryWorks was nominated for a Platinum Award for non profit business of the year through the New Westminster Chamber of Commerce. The awards banquet was on November 16th at the RedBar Lounge in the Starlight Casino. The winner was the Youth Ambassadors of New Westminster; however the nomination gave PotteryWorks a huge amount of exposure to the business community.



# We Are All Canucks

Through a connection with the Canucks Community Partnerships the CLS received tickets to two Canucks games. Below are some of the lucky fans who attended the games. Thank you to the Canucks for the generous donations and to Roxanne Wiseman for helping to organise these fantastic events.



## THE TERRY FOX RUN FOR CANCER RESEARCH



For many years Chris has been running in the Terry Fox Run in memory of his mother and to raise money for cancer research, raising on average \$200 every year. This year Chris wanted to do more so he decided to start a team and set a goal of raising \$1000. In the end 15 people joined Chris on the Terry Fox Run and many more sponsored the team and it's members, blowing past Chris's goal of \$1000, raising \$1240 for cancer research. Furthermore the event was a blast and everyone had a great time. Chris is looking forward to next year's event where he hopes to have even more people join him in raising money for cancer research and rolling with him in the Terry Fox Run.



From the Archives

### University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

"The Woodlands Parents' Group was an independent group of parents whose children were residents in Woodlands. They organized themselves as a support and advocacy group for deinstitutionalization and community living. Through their efforts, they successfully lobbied the Government of British Columbia to close Woodlands and support community living for residents of Woodlands.

Series consists of records created and collected by the Woodlands Parents' Group, of which Jackie Manigo was a member. Records include meeting minutes, reports and briefs written by the Woodlands Parents' Group, general correspondence, news articles and other records related to Woodlands and the services provided there, and records related to the lawsuit brought forth by survivors of Woodlands."

Interested in taking a look into the past and seeing how the CLS was formed? Check out these archives at <https://woodlandparentgroup.wordpress.com/history/>

### Jo Dickey Foundation

The Jo Dickey Foundation was established to help mentally and physically challenged members of the community in improving their quality of life.

It is the mission of the Jo Dickey Foundation to help provide the funds necessary to afford these unique individuals a chance to live in respect and harmony with the rest of society. We welcome grant requests all year round; however, the best time is September to May as the Foundation is off June to August and grants requested during that time will be delayed. To find out more about the Foundation, donate, or apply for assistance, contact:

#310 - 800 West Pender Street  
Vancouver B.C. V6C 2V6

[www.jodickeyfoundation.ca](http://www.jodickeyfoundation.ca)

### findSupport BC

BC's first user-friendly, searchable database of disability related supports, services, and community activities  
[findsupportbc.com](http://findsupportbc.com)



# Congratulations to the following employees who have now been with the CLS for five years or more in January, February and March 2017



**5-9**  
**years**

- Jacob Bridger 6
- Robyn Holmes 6
- Ron Torres 6
- Zane McCarthy 7
- Jessica Hopkins 7
- Zach Jansen 7
- Aneesha Marwa 7
- Henry Nagel 7
- Sara Marwa 8
- Darlene Holland 8
- Diane Ebner 8
- Heidi Cain 8
- Jeane Rogers 9
- Lynn Smith 9
- Inder Dhama 9
- Lila Johnson 9
- Nick Istvanfy 9



**10-19**  
**years**

- Stacey Chen 10
- Stephen Bain 11
- Lorraine Lepine 14
- Heather Goranson 16
- Barbara-Ann Avery 16
- Parminder Dhillon 16
- Amy Saip 16
- Charlene Francis 17
- Musare Iya-Songa 18
- Paul Hetherington 18
- Marta Mierzwinska 18
- Kristi Wilken 18



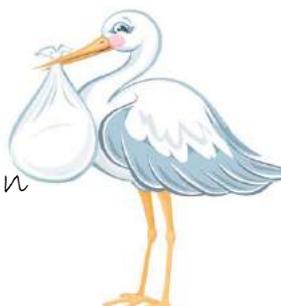
**20+**  
**years**

- Rani Marwa 20
- Laura Pederson 20
- Jean-Pierre Daspe 21
- Agata Leks 22
- Paul Beauchamp 22
- Janis Sinclair 23
- Subhag Chand 23
- Tokasa Franssen 24
- Rena Krossa 25
- Yvonne Ritmeester 25
- Doug Smith 26
- Elizabeth Symmers 28
- David Kasper 30
- Bill Alexander 32
- Kris Okamoto 34

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Samantha Dickson and her husband Troy. They welcomed their first child - Robbie to the world on November 18th.

Samantha is the Manager of Human Resources.



## We would like to welcome all new CLS team members and congratulate the following employees who have recently been selected for these following positions:

- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Judith Copeland | Home Share Coordinator |
| Amanda Pike     | Coordinator - Rosewood |
| Marcela Herrera | Mandt Trainer          |
| Cary McCarthy   | Mandt Trainer          |
| Tara Walker     | Coordinator - Duthie   |
| Nicki Roberts   | NVCI Trainer           |



Congratulations to Jessica Mclean, from the Administration Centre who won this year's Christmas painting by Dan Tell at this year's Open House.