

## A Final Settlement - Finally !!!!

by Ross Chilton, CEO



Ross Chilton - CLS CEO and Arlene Schouten - CLS Board Member attend the historic announcement

On March 31st Health Minister Adrian Dix held a press conference at the Woodlands Memorial Gardens to announce that former residents of Woodlands who attended the school before Aug. 1, 1974 will finally receive compensation for systemic abuse suffered at the provincial institution. Former residents and disability advocates were on hand for this important announcement.

Prior to this announcement, people who resided at Woodlands and left prior to August 1, 1974 were denied any opportunity to seek compensation for abuse they suffered or witnessed. All former residents will now receive \$10,000 without having to prove they experienced abuse. In addition, individuals who resided in Woodlands after 1974 that have received a smaller settlement will be compensated up to the \$10,000 maximum. The payment will take into account settlement awards previously provided through the Woodlands class action settlement.

“This is a historic occasion that closes this dark chapter in B.C. history,” said Bill McArthur, a Woodlands survivor. “Today acknowledges and vindicates Woodlands survivors, who I hope can live the rest of their lives with a sense of self-respect and dignity.”

“I want to recognize the Woodlands survivors, many who I met on this issue more than a decade ago,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “They

have persisted against prejudice and mistreatment from the Province for decades, even after the school shut its doors and a settlement agreement was reached with some former residents. Today’s announcement brings some small measure of justice for them, and I am very proud of the Premier and many advocates for making it happen.”

“When I began working on this case in 2006, with the now-Minister Adrian Dix, it was clear that the road to justice would be long and difficult,” said David Klein, of Klein Lawyers, who acts for the Woodlands survivors in the class action lawsuit. “But, the morality of the survivors’ claims impelled me to persevere on their behalf. And we did encounter more than a decade of legal, political and financial challenges. We met those challenges and stand here today - a momentous day - to declare an important victory for the Woodlands survivors. We are also able to declare that our new provincial government is taking the correct and compassionate steps to remedy a dark historic wrong. This is a moral victory, not just for the Woodlands survivors, but for all British Columbians.”

A process will be developed over the coming months to confirm addresses and contact information of the former Woodlands residents. It is expected that monies will be paid out by March 31, 2019. We will be connecting with all former Woodlands residents supported by the CLS to ensure they get any compensation they are entitled to.

The payments are being made on an “ex-gratia” basis, without admission of liability on the part of the Province.

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## End of an Era!

by Carly Bartlett - Assistant Coordinator

It is an exciting time as we have ended an era in the Surrey Day Supports program with the closing of the Surrey Access Centre. As one door closes - four more have opened. We are happy to announce the end of the transition and the successful opening of our four new, smaller and community embedded Surrey locations.

The first to transition was Kwantlen Park which is located in the Whalley Presbyterian Church on 104th and 130th street. Kwantlen Park hosts 5 individuals who help with the set up and take down of the Music Program weekly at Chuck Bailey.

The second location to open was Guildford located in the Impact Plaza on 152nd and 101 street nick-named "The Office" by the 5 ladies who attend this location. These ladies have been enjoying being in the heart of Guildford and have actively been working on joining the Day Supports umbrella with the Adopt-A-Street program in their neighbourhood.

Our third location to transition was University Drive, located at the corner of 104th and University Drive in the Christ the King Lutheran Church. University Drive is the "hub" for the Surrey Day Supports community contribution with the Adopt-A-Street program. Anyone from the Day Supports can pop in and pick up the gear and go out and help keep our neighbourhood clean.

Last to open was the King George location in the London Corner Plaza at 104th and King George. The group at King George has built a community library box for the Newton Business Association, where people from the community can go take a book and in exchange leave a book.

The official last day at Surrey Access Centre was January 3rd, 2018. We would like to thank all who have been a part of the transition period and acknowledge everyone who has worked with us over the years.



The gang says farewell to the Surrey Access Centre



Open house at one of the new Surrey locations

## Update from the CEO

by Ross Chilton, CEO

### Construction on 43 Hastings Street Begins

After two years of detailed planning the Community Living Housing Society (CLHS) began construction on a New Westminster housing project in mid-March. When completed later this year, it will provide affordable and accessible one bedroom apartments for three individuals supported by the CLS. It will also offer affordable rental townhouses for three moderate income families.

As you know, affordable housing has reached a crisis point in British Columbia, especially in urban areas like Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. This project is possible due to the financial support of the City of New Westminster, Community Living Society (CLS), BC Housing, Vancity and Catalyst Community Developments. Collaborations of this sort will be required to tackle this large problem. The Provincial government has committed to build 114,000 units of affordable housing over the next year to respond to the need of low and moderate income British Columbians.

Residents of the supportive housing will also have the opportunity to trial technology solutions that will support their increased independence and quality of life.



### CLS Videos Unveiled

We welcomed everyone that was involved in the three CLS videos to see the final project and enjoy some pizza. These videos are prominently displayed on our relaunched website. One video explains our services to individuals and families that are interested in finding out more about CLS's services and approach. The video captures the many ways we are involved in supporting full citizenship. A second video is for people who are interested in learning more about working for the CLS. We plan to use this video as part of our recruitment efforts so that we can continue to find exceptional people to work for the CLS. Look out on Twitter for short excerpts of this video. The third video chronicles the story of one family and their ongoing involvement with the CLS. Nancy Clarke tells the story of her son Christopher and how he has grown to be a wonderful young man. Christopher is now looking forward to the next chapter of his life when he moves out to live on his own in one of the apartments being built in New Westminster.

If you haven't had a chance to see these videos we encourage you to visit the website and share them with anyone interested in working for or being supported by the CLS.

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

### Wage Increase

On April 5th we implemented another wage increase for our employees. The new wage grid was sent to all employees by email. We value the work that you do and recognize that the cost of living continues to go up in this area. We are grateful to Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) and the Fraser Health Authority for providing the funding resources for this increase.



# In Loving Memory

## Sasha Reeves

Sasha passed away suddenly on January 28th at her home in Abbotsford. She had just celebrated her 25th birthday the day before. Sasha lived with a family in a home share arrangement and had lived with them for a number of years.

## Desiree Hamon

Sadly we are informing you that Desiree (Des) passed away in hospital on January 10th. She was 50 years old and long-time roommate to Yvonne. For the last 6 years they lived in the Southern home in Abbotsford.

## Ken Ham

Ken Ham passed away on March 16th, following a long battle with illness. He was the loving father to Chris Ham who is supported at TEAM, and husband of Nancy Clarke who is a former CLS Board member.

## Mavis Morris

Mavis passed away on March 31st. She was the mother to Dan Wakeling who lives at the 94A home.



## Brian Davies

P.Eng., MBA July 14, 1944 - March 15, 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Brian Davies. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife Donna, son Steve (April), daughter Ashleigh and sister Glenna (Peter). His two granddaughters, Alyssa and Kyla, adored him and will cherish their memories of wrestling and playing with Grandpa. Brian grew up in Vancouver and spent summers with family at Cultus Lake. During his 40-year career, retiring as Assistant City Engineer of Vancouver, Brian proudly led teams that built the Cambie Bridge, planned Expo 86, and launched the Blue Box program. He was a passionate chair of the board at Autism BC and the Community Living Society. During his retirement, Brian enjoyed golfing with his friends, especially at Gleneagles where he was also Treasurer of the Men's Club. Ever the superb athlete, Brian excelled at every sport he tried. From windsurfing and kayaking to mountain biking and skiing, sports were his passion. He passed doing what he loved, skiing on a beautiful sunny day on Cypress Mountain.

Donations may be made in his honour to  
Community Living Society  
713 Columbia Street  
7th Floor, New Westminster, BC, V3M 1B2



The last month at PotteryWorks has seen some exciting things!

Our artists Linda Raudonus and Sheri Lynn Seitz both had their submitted pieces of artwork chosen for first and second place to be used on the promotional material for the Inclusion BC Conference, Rise Up, in Kelowna! Linda's painting, **Seascape No.2** (below-left), was chosen for first place and will be featured on all the posters, banners and postcards. Sheri Lynn's photo titled, **Liquid Fire** (below-right), will be used on all the 'thank you' cards! Both artists were very excited and proud when they got the news.

As well this last month, PotteryWorks staff member Diane Ebner was asked to do an interview for French CBC Canada about the studio and what it's like to work here. The segment played on nationwide television!

PotteryWorks is also over the moon with excitement to be the recipient of a CLBC grant to purchase a Giclée printer! This will allow all the artists to sell various sized prints of all their paintings and photos, helping them make more sales!

We have been continuing to hold classes and are starting to book more each month. We are grateful to Pat and Co. as we now refer to them. Pat is a very supportive community member who has booked more than a handful of classes, bringing different people each time.

In January we attended Raw - natural born artists in Vancouver - an international arts organization, for artists-by-artists. It was our biggest event so far with over 700 attendees. One of the cool things about being immersed in our community is that the artists/artisans are being recognized outside of our



Pat and Co participating in a class! Misha selling Studio 73 art



Top Left: Linda's "Seascape No.2" - Bottom left: Diane Ebner on CBC - Right is Sheri Lynn's "Liquid Fire"

store location. One fellow by the name of Don has become a regular around here. He even purposely booked a class on one of the artist's birthdays and showed up with a card and present for her. He also dropped a Christmas gift around for all of us to share. A local artist has been volunteering to teach painting to those that are interested. Much thanks to Lynn!

Coming up on May 11th we will be attending The Art World Expo at Telus World of Science in Vancouver with over 100 vendors and thousands of attendants. Studio73 has purchased 2 tickets to this event and are raffling them off at our store location as well as at CLS Administration Centre. You can check out their website for more information at

<https://theartworldexpo.com>

# 2018 Employee Awards Gala

This year we celebrated employees who reached milestone years of employment, and those who received nominated awards on, March 6th at the Vancouver Golf Club. And what a great evening it was !!! We enjoyed a wonderful venue and food, listened to the stories of Sheila Palmer (family member), and were entertained by the very funny Julie Kim (Comedian). We would like to congratulate everyone who was acknowledged this year and thank you for your hard work and dedication to the individuals supported by the CLS.



## Years of Employment Awards

- 5 Years** Mobeena Azad, William Crowe, Froilan David, Monica Dowdell, Evan Fragoso, Sylvia Park, Julie Lampitt, Jetnor Martika, Sheila McNeil, Amanda Peacock, Gillian Rhodes, Megan Richter, Michael Turner, Tyler Vittie
- 10 Years** Bel Acero, Simi Bate, Stacey Chen, Ross Chilton, Ali Fard-Behbahani, Brenda Henderson, Ruki Lawal, Janet Maure, Cary McCarthy, Margie Miller, Patricia Rhone, Oliver Samonte, Shelly Sandhu, June Sheck, Richard Vecchio, Shu-Chi Wang, Jared Gillard
- 15 Years** Shemuel Moses, Munira Vahanvaty, Jane Welch
- 20 Years** Carl Danroth, Marni MacGillivray, Lynde Manning, Rani Marwa, Laura Pedersen, Shaun Vecchio
- 25 Years** Wayne Adams, Rena Krossa, Connie Lumayag, Myella Quinn, Tracy Quinn, Yvonne Ritmeester, Daniel Watson
- 30 Years** Jeane Durnion, Lenore Frank, Brenda McCormick, David Kasper
- 35 Years** Trudy McClughan

## Woodlands Parents Group Award



The Woodlands Parents' Group Award is awarded perpetually to someone who demonstrates a sincere motivation towards Vision, Courage and Creativity in their approaches to support and thinks consistently outside the conventional mindset to get things achieved for an individual or group. Congratulations to this year's recipient - **Zane McCarthy**.

Nominees: Inder Dhami; Kristian Reyes; Dawn Berryman; Zane McCarthy; Graeme Weeks; Ashley Mann; Neville House

## Community Inrtgration and Inclusion Award



The Community Integration and Inclusion award is presented to someone who consistently and significantly achieves success in a community inclusion and integration goal for an individual or group, specifically which engages them in a number of differing and creative ways. Congratulations to this year's recipient - **Jodi Leech**.

Nominees: Stephanie Webster; Charlotte Casson; Kris Okomoto; Simon Cheesman; Connie Clark; Jodi Leech; Dee Blackmore; Andrew Malin

## Team Award



For the second year now we presented a "Team" award, whose nominations are voted on by the Management team. This is an award that recognises a team in CLS that deserves special recognition:

- A TEAM that has gone above and beyond others to embrace and live the CLS values
- A TEAM that has accomplished / achieved / reached a goal that has significantly enhanced and improved the quality of lives for individuals
- A TEAM that has demonstrates a true TEAM spirit

There were several TEAM nominations this year:

- Surrey Day Supports (led by Dawn Berryman, Tiziana Nolet, Carly Bartlett and Alanna Bellamy)
- Employment Team (Simi Bate, Amy Saip, Tyler Vittie)
- Neville Team (led by D'Alquen Jackson)
- Madison 2 Team (led by Anna Gao)
- Keith 2 Team (led by Graeme Weekes)

Congratulations to this year's Team award recipients at **Keith 2**

# Out & About in Our Community



Cheryl and friends adopted a street in Surrey and volunteer once a week keeping it clean, way to go Cheryl :)



Thank you to our CANUCKS community partner friends for sending 28 CLS friends and family and support staff to the March 27th game against Anaheim ! The last game for the Sedin brothers :(

Everyone had a great time and received commemorative Sedin bobble heads!



## Canucks Superfan!

For the second year Paul Keirans has been lucky to attend a Canucks game on behalf of \*Construction Labour Solutions (CLS). Ted donated the tickets knowing that Paul is a Super Fan. This year his L'Arche housemate Aurelie attended with him. Not only was it her Birthday but she has come from France to work at Paul's house and had never seen an NHL game.

Thank you to \*CLS and Ted Bodell for this fabulous experience!



Paul with his housemate Aurelie at the Vancouver Canucks Game!

Yvonne has been a volunteer for the City of Abbotsford for more than a year now. She does her regular Adopt a Park duty at Southern Park, one that she frequents, especially during nice sunny weather.

On one of her volunteer days, as she was busily doing her work, out of the blue, a truck pulled over to the side of the road and stopped. The driver approached Yvonne and staff, and expressed his thanks and appreciation for what they were doing. He then gave them hoodies as a token of his appreciation, went back to his truck and drove away. This gesture took them by surprise and they both came back home feeling really good about themselves and their contribution to the neighborhood. Indeed, no good deed goes unnoticed.



Above is Yvonne and staff volunteering cleaning up Southern Park



On Feb 9th, Surrey Day Supports went to support Team Canada on the Opening Day of the 2018 Winter Olympics. We celebrated by making signs and heading down to the Olympic Cauldron at Jack Poole Plaza in Vancouver, showing our Olympic Spirit. We all had a great time!!!



The gang from the Waterfront Opportunity Centre was super excited to visit Douglas Lake Equipment in Cloverdale. They had a tour of the facility, some of the folks went for a ride in some fun machines, and they gave us cool "swag" to take home. A great time was had by all!

# From the Human Resources Team



Congratulations to the latest group of Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators to who completed the Leadership Training course

## Welcome, Jeffrey Tobar



Jeffrey has been with CLS since February! He currently works as a Community Living Counsellor at Madison and Southern

### What is your favourite part about being a team member at CLS?

"The professionalism of the Coordinators, staff members and all other members of CLS. Everyone makes you feel welcome and generally makes you feel like you want to come to work.

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

"That's funny. The very first thing I remember wanting to be when I was young was a fireman. Definitely being a community living counsellor was not on my mind. But I'm glad it went this way.

### If you could choose a theme song for your life, what song would it be and why?

Circus theme as that's what my brain is like 90% of the time

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

When the dinosaurs were around so I could see them in real life instead of in books.

### If you could travel anywhere in the world right now, where would you go?

Tokyo, Japan to see the advancement in technology.

### 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)

# CLS Employment Services

by: CLS Employment Services Team

On March 14, 2018 The CLS Employment Services & the Rotary Club of Coquitlam hosted a Rotary at Work Inclusive Employer Event. Champion Inclusive Employers & Employer Mentor Partners were invited to celebrate how they are leading a wave of inclusive employment throughout the region. The event was very well received having been given overflowing feedback from all involved.

We would like to thank the following organizations from their excellence and leadership in building diverse and inclusive workforces:

- A&W (Coquitlam - Schoolhouse)
- Abbotsford Entertainment Centre
- Aldergrove Credit Union,
- Canadian Tire (Coquitlam)
- Canuel Caterers
- Capriole Academy
- Foam Only Recycling
- Fresh St. Market (Fleetwood)
- Galaxy Plastics
- Home Depot (Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam)
- Integra Adhesives
- Redline CNC Manufacturing
- Lush Cosmetics
- McDonalds (Coquitlam - Austin)
- Massey Theatre
- Parsec Intermodal of Canada Ltd.
- Real Canadian Superstore (Metrotown)
- Salvation Army
- Vancity
- Vancouver Prop and Costume
- Paladin Security

- Petland
- White Spot
- Thrifty Foods
- Value Village

As we move forward in building relationships with Employers and increase the employment outcomes of the people we serve, we would like to acknowledge our Employer Partners in the CLS Newsletter. Each Newsletter we will highlight an Employer and share with you all the great work they are doing to build inclusive workplaces and increase employment equality in the community.

The Abbotsford Centre has hired 4 job seekers through our Employment Services, 1 working as a Condiment Runner, 1 in Customer Service/Tickets & 2 staffed as part of the Conversion Crew team. They have a very strong vision of equal opportunity and believe in building a person's confidence to reach their true potential. They give everyone the time to learn at their own pace and value the unique skills of all employees. Team work is very important to their success as there is always a lot to do to set up, run and take down a show! Working in a safe team mixed with the perks of working at a place of entertainment, The Abbotsford Centre can be a really fun place to work!

Please think of them when shopping for your entertainment needs!!



Inclusive Employers Event group picture. Employers presented with Awards.



Showcasing CLS Employment Services & Rotary@Work's Inclusive Employment Award to the Abbotsford Centre Team @ The Abbotsford Centre

# Congratulations to the following employees who have now been with the CLS for five years or more in April, May, June 2018



## 5-9

### years

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Amanda Johnson         | 5 |
| Stephanie Waterdrinker | 5 |
| Chantelle Hyde         | 6 |
| Evan Fragoso           | 6 |
| Julie Lampitt          | 6 |
| Isla Powell            | 6 |
| Sylvia Park            | 6 |
| Michael Turner         | 6 |
| Monica Dowdell         | 6 |
| Brandie McDonald       | 7 |
| Danielle Holtjer       | 7 |
| Matthew Cale           | 7 |
| Ioana Marian           | 7 |
| Cindy Williams         | 7 |
| Elena Unabia           | 8 |
| Naewon Jang            | 8 |
| Bruce Debruyne         | 8 |
| Hamid Khatami          | 8 |
| Emmanuel Johnson       | 8 |
| Katelyn Lund           | 8 |
| Jennifer Hart          | 9 |



## 10-19

### years

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Terry Greenwood    | 10 |
| Alan James         | 10 |
| Gregg Kiely        | 10 |
| John Davidson      | 10 |
| Leilani Mapanao    | 10 |
| Dawn Berryman      | 10 |
| Ross Chilton       | 11 |
| Rukayat Lawal      | 11 |
| Ali Fard-Behbahani | 11 |
| Persimmon Bate     | 11 |
| Jared Gillard      | 11 |
| Janet Maure        | 11 |
| Shu-Chi Wang       | 11 |
| Patricia Rhone     | 11 |
| Bel Acero          | 11 |
| Comfort Coker      | 12 |
| Natalie Philp      | 12 |
| Chad Ford          | 13 |
| Chris Hopkinson    | 13 |
| Dominique Gard     | 13 |
| Michelle Wilson    | 16 |
| Shammi Singh       | 17 |
| Evelyn Tunac       | 17 |
| Tony Maravilla     | 18 |
| Yvonne Fraser      | 18 |
| Kelly Hooper       | 18 |
| Deidre Blackmore   | 18 |
| Purnima Maharaj    | 19 |
| Alexandra Francois | 19 |
| Mobina Ali         | 19 |
| Jackie Farmer      | 19 |



## 20+

### years

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Kulwant Sidhu    | 20 |
| Carl Danroth     | 21 |
| Marcela Herrera  | 22 |
| Kasia Hislop     | 23 |
| Ginny Lord       | 23 |
| Wennie Tabobo    | 23 |
| Dawn Mahovlich   | 23 |
| Patricia Powell  | 24 |
| Delia Fabros     | 25 |
| Gregory Joiner   | 25 |
| Tracy Quinn      | 26 |
| Concisa Lumayag  | 26 |
| Daniel Watson    | 26 |
| Teena Shaw       | 27 |
| Elke Tilgner     | 28 |
| Francine Seaman  | 30 |
| Lenore Frank     | 31 |
| Farren Gillaspie | 35 |

# Congratulations!

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

- Ashley Milligan, Coordinator - City Club
- Collin Stone, Coordinator - Duthie
- Steven Campbell, Assistant Coordinator - Duthie
- Tara Walker, Assistant Coordinator - Holdom, Team Burnaby
- Jody Dickerson, Assistive Technology Developer

## CLS Administration Centre

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