

Inside this issue

- 1 Message from the Executive Director
- 2 CCS Employment Services: Making Connections
- 3 Partner in Learning Award
3. Bring a Friend to Breakfast
- 4 Our Thanks to Donors



Common Values Connect Us

Staff, volunteers, donors, partners all share in our vision

There is an unusual trait required in my position, not written on a job description, and not part of any agreement. It's an unspoken trait that helps me be successful in my role. It's job **DIS**satisfaction. Let me explain.

Most people work towards job satisfaction, as do I, but my role at CCS also requires me to carry a belief that we can always do better, whether that be in the quality of our programs and services, in the leadership we provide on behalf of the needs of clients and this community, in the relationships we have with partners and stakeholders. I believe we can always do better in engaging volunteers and donors to support the work we do. So I try in these newsletters, in the low key and subtle way that tends to be my style, to always provide encouragement to our donors to continue their support.

Now, for the first time in my eleven years with CCS, I feel a need to be a little less subtle. To be blunt, we need your help. Because without it, CCS is looking at one of its most difficult years I have experienced during my tenure.

While the news you read in the general media may be positive, and hint that the economy is strengthening, the truth is that for CCS, and many critical community organizations like us,

government funding is being cut. Costs are going up. And fundraising has never been more challenging.

This will have very real consequences, particularly for children and families and those we help through the employment services you can read about in this newsletter. An additional complicating factor is that in these tough economic times, the need for our services grows; grows precisely at the time when we're seeing a reduction in funding.

We are not in a desperate situation, but I see CCS putting one foot on that path and it would be wrong of me not to ask for the help that our donors and supporters have consistently demonstrated they are interested in giving.

And the help you can provide is very simple: bring a friend to our Share•Grow•Belong breakfast on May 19.

For several years now, we have used this event to educate the community on the work we do and to encourage individuals to support that work. Through funds raised at this event, we are able to provide continuing funding to programs that support early childhood development, support children and youth in crisis, support

families with a hand up, not a hand out.

We know you have a connection with CCS: we ask that you think about your circle of friends, and consider the values that you, one of your friends and CCS have in common. We'd like the chance to treat your friend to a delicious breakfast and introduce them to the services CCS has to offer.

We think the stories of the success and the positive impact CCS makes every day in the lives of people will speak for itself. When it does, we are confident many will join you in supporting the work of CCS.

For more details about our *Bring a Friend to Breakfast*, please see the article in this issue.

I trust you will forgive me for being blunt, and I thank you in advance for your concern, your compassion and your support.

*Dale Cuthbertson,
Executive Director*



**Chilliwack
Community
Services**

SHARE • GROW • BELONG

Stepping toward Employment

Small stepping-stones are vital in building self-esteem, and will pave the way for a person to reach his or her goals.

Allison Saulnier, the job coach with Chilliwack Community Services (CCS), could tell you a few stories about individuals finding success in landing the perfect job. But often her real pride can be found in the smaller stories.

“I recently put a newcomer from Iraq in touch with an organization offering volunteer work. A volunteer position may not seem like much, but it will help him practice his language skills, give him some important Canadian job experience and provide a great reference on his resume,” Allison commented. *“More importantly, the opportunity gave him confidence.*



These small stepping-stones are so vital in building self-esteem for an individual, and paving the way for a person to reach his or her goals.”

One-on-one interaction

Allison’s challenge is not as simple as passing on job leads to these individuals. Her role is to work one-on-one with the individual - either through Immigrant Services or referred from other CCS departments—to assess the person’s current situation.

Together they’ll determine any barriers that might need to be addressed before undertaking preparations to join the workforce. Some of these barriers could include lack of work history, health issues, mental illness, addictions, language difficulties or unfamiliarity with the job market.

“On the rare occasion these barriers can keep an individual from making a second appointment, but for the most part I’m able to work with clients where they are. I’m not confined to a specific time frame, so I’m able to achieve positive results in a one-on-one setting,” Allison explained.

To help a person prepare for entering—or re-entering—the workforce, Allison will review and share skills such as writing a cover letter, preparing a resume, practicing interview skills and talking about basics such as Canadian workplace practices, personal attire and hygiene. Individuals will learn how to research schools, find volunteer work and learn the proper steps of applying for a job.

Calling all employers

Not only does Allison’s role involve working one-on-one with individuals, she works with employers as well. She recently participated in an orientation at Stream Global Services to help her understand what jobs could be a fit for the individuals in Allison’s care. She meets regularly with employers looking for workers, and runs a job board at the CCS office.

“We’re excited about an upcoming practicum with a Chilliwack employer. This is going to give many individuals important language skills and Canadian culture experience, along with an injection of confidence.” Allison noted. *“I’d love to hear from other employers who can help newcomers to Chilliwack, and are willing to make a few accommodations to help them get their feet under them.”*

Allison’s approach is very true to the values of CCS. *“Interacting with individuals in our meeting places, a lot of times over breakfast or lunch, is a great way to make a connection with someone. It’s about being there when the person is ready to make a positive change in his or her life, and being ready to work side-by-side with them.”*

Here’s how you can help

If you’re a Chilliwack employer, or know of one who may be willing to step up to give an individual a chance, or if you would like to post a job opportunity, contact Allison Saulnier at 604-393-3251 ext. 226, or by email at saulniera@comserv.bc.ca.

Check out our website at www.comserv.bc.ca to learn more about CCS programs, view volunteer opportunities or make a donation online

Partner in Learning Award



**Chilliwack
Community
Services**

SHARE • GROW • BELONG

Chilliwack's young people are the beneficiaries of CCS's partnership with School District #33



CCS has been recognized with School District #33's Partner in Learning Award for its ongoing work with youth and children.

Central Gateway

Encouraging community involvement and lifelong learning. Preschool program, parent-child interactive programs with focus on positive parenting skills. *Central Elementary.*

Families in Motion

Introducing parents with preschool children to the lifelong benefits of family literacy including the joy of reading. *McCammon and Central Elementary.*

Strong Start Centres

School based drop in centres for families or caregivers with preschool children that encourage play-based learning and kindergarten readiness. *Central, Cultus Lake, Little Mountain, McCammon, Rosedale, Strathcona, Unsworth, Watson Elementary.*

Youth Buddy Program

Matching immigrant youth with a volunteer buddy within their own school and grade to facilitate adaptation to their new home and Canadian culture. *Middle and High schools.*

School Based Youth Workers

Support to students who may be at risk of dropout or expulsion (eg. help with anger management, self-esteem, body image, bullying, gangs, recreation, etc.). *Middle and High schools, Ed Centre, Sto:lo Alternate.*

Suicide Prevention

Support to youth who are thinking about hurting themselves or having feelings of suicide. *All schools.*

Settlement Workers in Schools

Helping immigrant families to understand Canadian culture and fit in the best way they can. *Middle and High schools.*

Bring a Friend to Breakfast on May 19th

Help us share the CCS story by inviting one of your friends to breakfast.

So many people in our community depend on the services CCS provides. And unfortunately, we are facing a period of great need.

Cutbacks in provincial funding and an increase in the community's need for our services is creating a gap that will be difficult to fill without your help.

You have a passion for the services CCS provides, and we know you think the work we do is important. We respect and appreciate our donors, and would never ask more of you than you could give.

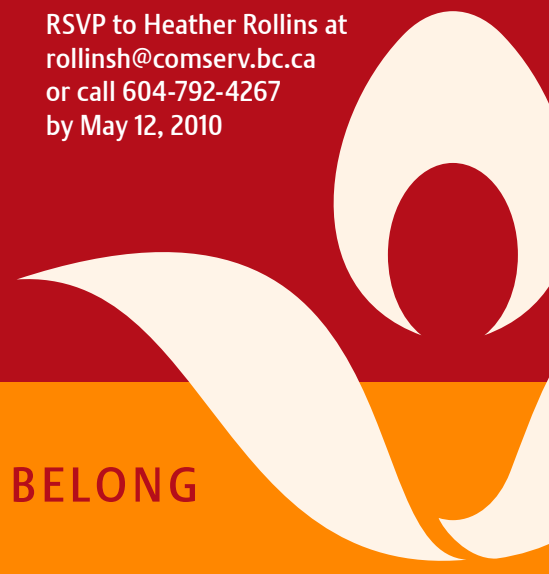
Instead, we're asking you to bring a friend to hear firsthand how CCS helped someone create positive change in his or her life.

We want to introduce what we do to someone like you, who feels our services are as necessary to our community as you do.

Please join us for breakfast on Wednesday, May 19th at 7:30–8:30 am at the Coast Hotel, 45920 First Avenue in Chilliwack - our treat.

RSVP to Heather Rollins at rollinsh@comserv.bc.ca or call 604-792-4267 by May 12, 2010

SHARE • GROW • BELONG



Many thanks to our dedicated donors

On behalf of the families, youth and seniors we serve, thank you to the individuals and organizations who made leadership donations since our last newsletter. Your generosity supports our community funded programs.

Friends (\$100-499)

Alliance Truss
Auld Phillips Ltd.
Gilles Baddock
Clifford Baldwin
BDO Dunwoody Chartered Accountants
Walter and Blanche Beutler
Charles and Del Bivar
Bart and Nini Bolwyn
Alide Braun
Brodell Development (North West) Corp
Steven Brouwer
Camp River Ladies Circle
Chuck Cavanagh and Sue Hopkins
Chilliwack Fire Fighters
Chilliwack Humanists
City of Chilliwack - Staff Contributions
Don L. Clark
Frank and Dierdre Clegg
Coast Hotel Chilliwack
Margaret Coish
Cooke's Presbyterian Church
Bonnie-Lou Corcoran
Countryfolk Fabrics
Tony and Stella De Witt
Dentsply Canada - BC Team
Yvonne Dods
Carol Dyck
Elmido Farms Ltd.
Empyrium Technologies Inc.
Envision Credit Union
Donald and Anna Erho
Jason Evans
Lea Foreman
Fraser Valley Physiotherapy
Kathleen Fraser
Kathy Funk
Evert Geelhoed
Neil Grainger
Wally and Doreen Guenther
Arthur Hawkes
Heather Heier
Kenneth and Shaaron Hetland
Holiday Trail Resorts
Ken and Dianne Holland
Orland Hooge
Willi Huitema
Ironside Design Manufacturing
Jake's Contracting
Doug and Diane Janzen
Ken and Christine Jessiman
Heather Johnson
Mike Johnston
Wells Jones
Rita Kelly
Kel-mor Enterprises
Nazlin Khamis & George Mathew

Sylvia Lambert
Casey Langbroek
Langbroek, Louwerse & Thiessen
Denis and Ghezalene Larochele
Jason Laynes
Lazure Clinique
Robert LeComte
Lois MacGregor
Doug May
Julie McCaffrey
James A. McCaughan
Christl McCracken
Frank and Rose McDonald
Ed McGrath
Anne McIntyre
Tom McMahon
Betty Meagher
Ian Meissner
Henk Methorst
Meyers Norris Penny
Jean Mitchell
K. Myrna Mucha
William and Marlene Nash
Norm Keller and April Neave
Omega & Associates Engineering Ltd.
Julie Pariseau
Jason Payne
Henry and Helen Peters
Bob Plowright
Preceptor Alpha Preceptor
John and Barb Pousseau
Prospera Credit Union
Bob and Ann Ramsbottom
Ray Rei Moving
RBC Royal Bank - Chilliwack
Remarkable Uniform Mat & Towel Ltd.
Neil and Lynn Robinson
Ray and Vicki Robinson
Brian and Heather Rollins
Marion Rollins
Marinus Roos
Wouterina Roseboom
Rod Santiago
Sardis Chiropractic Corp.
Robert Shaw
Mary Short
Soul2Sole Esthetics and Bodycare
Spruceland Homes Ltd.
Steeltec Industries Ltd.
Doug and Donna Steinson
Dave Stephen and Astrid Beugeling
Mhairi Stewart
The Chili Chix (Red Hat Ladies)
The Gwynne Vaughan Park Society
Bill and Valerie Tunbridge
Will and Shirley Van Esch
Bert Vanden Brink
Carol Vandenbrink
Johanna Vogels

Bertha Vogt
Chris and Ina Watson
Wedler Engineering
Brian Wenn
Doreen M. Whiting
Alfred and Glenda Zilke

Patrons (\$500-999)

Giselle Allen
Baker Newby
Canadian Western Bank
Chilliwack Progress Newspaper
Craven Huston Powers Architects
Dairyboy Sales
Dr. Lachlan MacIntosh Inc.
Jim and Sharon Gaetz
Robert and Wanda Gordon
Cornelis and Johanna Haan
HSBC
William and Stephanie Kirkness
Herm and Brenda Kovits
Richard and Christine Martens
Harry and Kathy Mertin
Matt Nadolny
O'Connor Group of Companies
Patten Thornton Barristers & Solicitors
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #4
Royal LePage Wheeler Cheam Realty
Scotiabank
Simpson & Simpson Notaries Public
George and Barbara Skinner
Walter and Beryl Sussel
Team TELUS
Vancity Savings Credit Union

Leaders (\$1,000+)

Canada Lands Corporation
Chilliwack Foundation
Coast Capital Savings Credit Union
Cultus Lake Memorial Church
Dogwood Monarch Lions Club
Barry and Susan Flynn
HUB International Barton Insurance
KPMG
Pioneer Building Supplies Ltd.
H. F. and Christine Preto
Lance Price - Fun in the Sun
Rotary Club - Chilliwack/Mount Cheam
Jim and Jean Servizi
Soroptimist International of Chilliwack
Waterstone Law Group LLP
Woodtone Industries
Young Foundation

Belonging

Anonymous
Marilyn Fane

Growing

Dan and Holly Matheson
Earl and Anne Shepherd
Joan Sutcliffe

Sharing

John and Helen Asprakis
Emmanuel Asprakis
Bob and Nanci Besner
Paul Burke
Jane Byra
Neil and Patricia Clark
Dale and Barb Cuthbertson
Robert and Vella Henderson
J. Ballam Furniture Gallery
Barb Kemp
Kinkora Recreation Ltd.
Myriad Information Systems
Owen Nelmes
Max and Gail Newby
Bob and Kay Pitcairn
Anita Rogers
Bill and Marlein Sheridan
Ted Shipley
Helena Stolze
West Karma Ltd.
Kevin and Marissa Wood



About the CCS Bulletin

The Bulletin is published by Chilliwack Community Services as a service to its members, supporters, and others interested in the work of the agency. Contact Chilliwack Community Services for information about the newsletter at 604.792.4267.

Board of Directors

President

Anita Rogers

Directors

Allan Billingsley, Nicki Bullock, Andre Cardinal, Neil Clark, Paul Donaldson, Liz Lynch, Tom McMahon, Bill Sheridan, Kevin Wood (Past President)

CCS Offices

Chilliwack—45938 Wellington Ave
Sardis Centre—7112 Vedder Road
Family Place—45845 Wellington Ave
Youth Services—45904 Victoria Ave
Central Gateway—Central Elementary
Mary Street—9214 Mary Street

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please send a note to rollinsh@comserv.bc.ca putting E-Newsletter Option in the subject line.