

The

INCLUSION NEWS



Voting is Important!

As you know, the election for a new party and Prime Minister is coming up. This election is very important and voting is very necessary to ensure the best outcomes for our country in the next 4 years. One helpful website I used was:

canada.isidewith.com

It consists of a multiple-choice survey that not only covers all the important issues, but also helps you determine which party to vote for. Once you've completed the survey it tallies up all your responses and then gives a percentage with each party and where you stand strongest in your beliefs. As a Self-Advocate, it's natural my results matched up highest with what the NDP party stands for in their campaign, which is support for social change and support for those with Diverseabilities. Your voice matters, along with your friends and family and others out in the community. The best way to have everyone's voice heard is by voting this October 19th to ensure the best change for yourself, friends and family so please vote.

Employment: Why it's Important to Have More Than One Job Idea

As many know, finding a job can be a struggle. Making sure you have a updated resume and cover letter along with good references and that it sets yourself apart so the employer would choose you as best choice for hire. One of the most important things I found when I tried finding employment was finding what my best strengths and skills are. I was able to do this by exploring what my biggest interest: Music, Making a positive impact in the lives of people I meet and speaking up and relating to those who also had Diverseabilities. I started off exploring music first, doing research on the history of the music which interested me most. As time went on, I was able to build my skills in creating music, understanding how to record and produce it. This became a hobby as finding work in the field was tough within the Comox Valley. That being said, I then began expressing my goal of having a job where I could make a difference in people's lives. Once Lesley Gibson of Vancouver Island Community Connections heard of how strongly I was advocating for myself, the position of Self Advocate came up and now I am happily employed Advocating and presenting to those around the Valley as well as anywhere else I'm needed. That being said, I think it's important to know that even if one strength or skill doesn't quite work into a job, if you have another skill or strength that can be built on and employment made possible regarding it, that yes, it is possible with the right supports, mind set and drive for success.



This news letter was created by Public Speaker and Self-Advocate Sherwin Strong. If you would like any more information regarding these articles or would like to know more about inclusion within your community please contact Sherwin at thesherwizzle2013@gmail.com

Information for Families & CLBC Services in First Nations communities.

As of August 2014, all people residing within First Nations communities, regardless of ancestry, that meet CLBC eligibility requirements, can access CLBC funded services based upon their diverseability-related needs as well as local CLBC resources. Community Living BC funds services and supports for eligible adults, and their families, who have been diagnosed with a developmental limitation, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, or autism spectrum disorder who require extensive help to complete basic daily living activities. The following Frequently Asked Questions can be found here: selfadvocatenet.com/information-for-families-on-clbc-services-in-first-nations-communities

Disability VS Diverseability

These are two words used to describe those with mental or physical limitations. The term disability has been used over the past century as one of the descriptive terms for people of mental or physical limitations and is currently still used. There is a movement for change within communities, in schools, workplaces, and social support programs to have it changed to the word Diverseabilities. Diverseabilities is a term that is fairly new and is creating a far better understanding of people along with strong support for change. It represents accepting someone fully for who they are, and focuses on the strengths, abilities, skills and dreams that he or she may have. You can help become a part of this movement by encouraging friends, family, co-workers or anyone you feel would also support the movement by using the word Diverseabilities.

PWD: The Switch Between Yearly or Monthly Deductions

As many may know, people who receive a PWD cheque to help support with things such as groceries, rent and other needed items sometimes have difficulty in being assured they receive the full \$906.24 a month. The reason being, they are only able to make up to \$800 a month from outside sources (like a part time job). If an individual makes past \$800, they then have deductions taken off their PWD. The Social Development and Social Innovation office have recently implemented a new change, one that isn't so well known. The change is that the deductions have been put on a yearly basis. This means people are able to make \$800 dollars a month with the cap being \$9,600 per year. However, if a person makes over \$800 it won't be deducted from the month previous, but the month coming up. For more info: <http://www.eia.gov.bc.ca/pwd.htm>