

NEWS RELEASE

THOMPSON-CARIBOO COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL FOSTER INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

Kamloops, February 22, 2007 – Community Living BC (CLBC) has now finalized the members of its Thompson-Cariboo community council, which will give community and business leaders the opportunity to work with families to enrich the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

The Thompson-Cariboo council has a combination of individuals with developmental disabilities (more commonly known as self-advocates), parents, service providers and community members. The members represent the communities of 100 Mile House, Kamloops, Pritchard and Williams Lake.

The councils are being established across the province to ensure that communities have more meaningful involvement in how their services are delivered and outcomes are achieved for individuals with disabilities and their families.

The Thompson-Cariboo community council is comprised of the following members:

Self-Advocates	Tony Cuglietta	Kamloops	A board member of Kamloops Society for Community Living.
	Jenna Fowler	Kamloops	A young adult committed to ensuring people with developmental disabilities have a voice on the council.
Family Members	Edward Kozuki	Williams Lake	Parent to an adult daughter and board member of Williams Lake Association for Community Living.
	Sharon Bedford	100 Mile House	Parent of an adult daughter receiving service through a microboard.
	Susan Elder	Kamloops	Parent of a youth in care who is transitioning to adult service in 2007.
	Mary Hunter	Kamloops	Parent of a youth and representative of the Family Support Institute.
	Carol Richards	Kamloops	Has an adult sister who receives services and sat on the Community Living Services advisory committee.
	Ross Spina	Kamloops	Is a parent of an adult son receiving service and is a board member of Kamloops Society for Community Living.
	Denise Tessier	Pritchard	Parent to a daughter who is transitioning to adult service in 2007.
Service Providers	Ian McLaughlin	Williams Lake	Executive Director of Williams Lake Association for Community Living.
	John Olynick	Kamloops	Is an adult family care service provider.
	Karen Adkin	Kamloops	Director of Smart Options, a company providing supported work services to youth and adults.
Community Members	Susan McKay	Kamloops	Instructor in the Human Service Worker program at Thompson Rivers University.
	Jeanette Robertson	Kamloops	Professor of social work at Thompson Rivers University.

The councils will review financial information about CLBC's budget and participate in determining how to best utilize limited resources. They will also work with CLBC managers to identify gaps, overlaps, issues and service delivery problems within the area. In addition, they will help set priorities for new or existing funding and participate in determining the impacts of financial decisions.

Each community council will act as an ambassador and a bridge to creating inclusive communities and participate in shared decision making. Together with CLBC staff and managers they will enhance the creation of safe environments, improve access to community resources and acknowledge the gifts and contributions of people with disabilities.

In addition, they will help develop and promote creative solutions which improve community access and inclusion. The councils will also identify research that will enhance our knowledge of how best to support people in community.

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Contact: Sally Greenwood
Director, Communications
604-664-0101