



LANGLEY ASSOCIATION
FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

Proud of our Past . . . Poised for the Future

Significant events that influenced the history of the
Langley Association for Community Living from 1959 to 2009

1950's

- ◆ Parents were isolated in the early 1950's. Woodlands School was the only source of residential and educational help for parents of children with special needs. Parents who chose (and were able) to keep their children at home, were unsupported and often felt isolated, especially families who lived in rural Langley. The Boundary Health nurse was the thread common to many of these parents, because it was not easy to network with each other as they do today. As a result, it took the leadership of a few parents to begin the process of meeting together at their kitchen tables, to talk about their hopes and dreams for their children
- ◆ By the mid 1950's, the waiting list for Woodlands had grown leaving school age children at home without educational opportunities. This prompted Langley parents to join together, to plan for a school for their children with special needs. On July 30, 1959, the Langley Association for Retarded Children was registered as a non-profit society to advocate and to plan for an education for their children
- ◆ This newly formed Association hired a teacher and opened a school in the basement of St. Andrews Church on 206th Street and Fraser Highway in September, 1959
- ◆ Some parents felt less isolated. At the same time, parents from the basement school formed an education committee to advocate for their children to be included into the Langley public school system. After many letters to the District Superintendent and Chairman of the School Board, there was an agreement to build a new school in 1961 on the grounds of Langley Central Elementary. Some community businesses and citizens were supportive of this plan

1960's

- ◆ In June, 1961, the Langley School Board began administering "Tillicum" as part of the public school system from the church basement
- ◆ Parents saw the successful results from their collective advocacy - Tillicum School. In March, 1963, the pupils moved from the church site into the new school on the grounds of Langley Central Elementary School on Fraser Highway at 208th Street. This first school administered by the Langley School District for children with special needs was called "Tillicum", which means "Little Friend". This two room building, with a covered play area, provided a segregated environment for all children with special needs

- ◆ The transition from church basement to public school was not without difficulty. Teachers hired by parents for the school at St. Andrews Church did not meet the criteria for the public school system. Some students with special needs also did not meet the requirements for the new school. New public school teachers were hired, and students unable to attend were admitted to Woodlands
- ◆ These changes resulted in discontent with some Association members. The Langley Association for Retarded Children Charter became dormant because it had served its purpose in having a public school for their children
- ◆ At the same time in 1966, initial Association members decided to discontinue meeting as The Langley Association for Retarded Children, and placed the remaining funds in trust, to provide extra financial support (\$25.00) per month for the students of Tillicum
- ◆ Students from Langley Central Elementary shared the library, gym, and playground with the students from Tillicum and they often shared lunch. This was the beginning of the integration concept, and was beneficial for all
- ◆ In 1966, it was decided that in place of a School Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), A “Mother’s Club” would be more effective. Parents began to benefit as a result of the networking within the Mother’s Club
- ◆ In June, 1966, this group of mothers having established effective teacher and parent communication with the school took on the tasks of raising funds for additional expenses and activities. In retrospect it was a friendly environment for effective parent support
- ◆ The community began to extend support. The Mother’s Club engaged service clubs to raise funds for student activities. Students were learning to cook, and once a month prepared lunch for the Principal’s meeting. Members of service clubs and fund raising groups also attended. The Langley community started to learn more about the abilities of children with special needs. This was the introduction to the community of the student’s skills and abilities, which opened the door for work experience, opportunities and partnerships
- ◆ Langley citizens also began to learn about Tillicum School. In 1965, the local newspaper printed a picture of a child with Down Syndrome which was the first time the face of a child with special needs was recognized in print and distributed to the general public
- ◆ Public awareness and fund raising to meet the needs of the children were very important. The Variety Club and the local radio station, CJJC, provided publicity and developed the Retarded Person’s Fund. This was one of the first fundraising efforts locally for people with developmental disabilities
- ◆ The local radio station CJJC, promoted our programs, which helped connect families. JJC also served as a channel for service clubs and businesses to connect to the Association
- ◆ In June, 1969, the Charter for Langley Association for Retarded Children was reactivated, and parents began to reorganize and hold monthly meetings
- ◆ Crises can sometimes create positive change. Summer vacations were stressful for some parents who only had Tillicum School to provide relief and support. Again, parent advocacy resulted in Pete Swenson, the Manager of the Langley Township, Parks and Recreation Department offering the use of Williams Park to the Association. In partnership with the Langley Township, the Mother’s Club began to plan for a summer program at William’s Park

- ◆ In the summer of 1969, the first summer parks program for pre-school and school age children with disabilities was provided by the Parks and Recreation department of the Township that included funding for staff. What was most significant was the value placed on this summer program by parents, other students, and many volunteers and community citizens who were instrumental in ensuring the program continued. With the assistance of the Township and other government funding grants this program ran for the next ten years at Williams Park. Playing together during these recreational programs was integration, at its best
- ◆ After this first year in 1969, the municipal recreation department, school district representative, and the Association met annually to plan for the summer program
- ◆ Tillicum students were invited to participate in a new event called Operation Track Shoes held in Victoria BC which provided an opportunity for children to travel on public buses and ferries
- ◆ Parents did not rest easy for long. The Mother's Club recognized that something needed to be done for students that would soon graduate from Tillicum School and they began to explore options for adult services with other lower mainland associations. At that time, the Variety Farm Training Centre in Ladner was building 10 homes and an apartment complex on their site. Their focus was vocational training, life skills and day programs

1970's

- ◆ In 1969/70, school age children from Woodlands were moved into foster homes in Langley, and by 1970 parents in the Association had to advocate for the inclusion of foster children from Woodlands to attend Tillicum School
- ◆ In 1972, there were no distinct adult services, but the high school students and a member of the Association began plans to build a building that would accommodate a wood working shop. This was located beside Tillicum School
- ◆ In 1974 changes in public policy and the need for parent advocacy in planning for adult services resulted in the Association, together with the Langley School Board, starting a work experience program for senior Tillicum students
- ◆ Suddenly, Langley Central became the new fundamental School! This came as a shock to parents who always thought that their senior children would move into the school for a continuation of education beyond elementary school at Tillicum. The building, built by high school students of Langley Central, would now become the Langley Adult Training Centre
- ◆ This site would now be used for work experience. In 1974, the Langley business community was very supportive of the work experience program that promoted community integration in a mutually beneficial way. The work experience program was very strong, and involved students who had already graduated, as well as those still in school. But pressure was mounting to find a site for a continuation of services that reflected an adult environment for learning
- ◆ In 1975/76, the School District had become very interested in this development and met with the municipal government to draft a 10 year plan. The Tillicum site would become a school for children, but "only" those with special needs.
- ◆ In the late 1970's, the Societies Act was revised so elected Board Members would serve varied lengths of time as board members. This continuity was essential for planning and stability into the next decade. This time frame would again see parents, and dedicated family members, serve as Board Members

- ◆ In 1975, The Langley Association for Retarded Children changed its name to The Langley Association for the Handicapped to reflect their service to adults. This name change was in keeping with a trend adopted by other associations in the province
- ◆ In 1976, the Municipality provided a piece of land in east Langley to the newly renamed Association and the original building was moved from Tillicum School to the 232nd Street and 44th Avenue site
- ◆ Parents of the students, who would attend this new woodworking shop for adults, spent many hours preparing the land for this building to have a new home
- ◆ Parents of the Association named the site "Bridge Achievement Center" and it was to be run by the Langley Association for the Handicapped
- ◆ In 1976/77, the first Executive Director was hired by the Board to perform administration duties and fund raise. His office was located in Sundel Square in downtown Langley. His role was "clerk of the works" and he had responsibility for developing the Achievement Center, in cooperation with the Chairman of the Building and Planning Committee and its members
- ◆ The Knights of Columbus assisted in the construction of the greenhouse and in 1977 they turned over the operations to the Association. Two Township employees donated their time to assist those who wished to train in greenhouse work
- ◆ Plans for an additional building were developed to expand services and provide an on-site office. This was completed in 1979
- ◆ In 1977/8 Tillicum School began preparing for integration into the regular school system, including high school. This caused a lot of distress for many families, and for others, it opened the door for new opportunities
- ◆ By this time, only parents who chose to attend the Association's general monthly meetings would have membership

1980's

- ◆ This decade recorded many contributions from Langley citizens and parents, as impending growth required the commitment and dedication of many Board members and the support from the Langley community
- ◆ In the early 1980's the Board began to organize itself to provide a more varied array of services to adults with disabilities
 - A woodshop developed marketable wood products for sale to the general community
 - A greenhouse grew and sold tropical plants to local businesses
 - A craft program was created to teach skills in weaving, using raw wool, to produce horse blankets and rugs for sale
 - A small contract with the Langley School District repairing school balls was implemented
 - The production and sale of "pom-poms" for weddings and other celebrations were initiated

- ◆ In June, 1980 a house donated by Langley Memorial Hospital Society was moved to the Bridge Achievement Centre, and was slowly renovated by parents to be used for adult respite and life skills training. This house, affectionately called “Dainty House”, received a forgivable federal loan, and donations paid for the renovations
- ◆ In 1981, as a result of vandalism, a caretaker moved his trailer to the grounds to provide security for the Bridge Achievement Center site. The craft area, greenhouse, woodshop and Dainty House had suffered extensive damage but the vandals were eventually caught
- ◆ A new constitution and by-laws were registered in April 1982 and the Association and parents began to focus on the development of adult pre-vocational training and residential services
- ◆ A logo and mission statement was designed for the Bridge Achievement Centre site that was reflective of their first mission statement

The roof is a symbol of shelter. The independence of the clients is depicted by the hands no longer held by a supervisor. The clients are on the bridge, ready to participate in our community of Langley

- ◆ Dainty House officially opened to provide respite in 1983. Unfortunately, there was no government funding so the house was often used for other purposes, including life skills training and other day service activities. The Association often used some of the rooms for administrative purposes
- ◆ In 1984, the greenhouse expanded to two greenhouses to support new marketing opportunities
- ◆ In the 1980s the provincial government pursued a policy of closing the province’s four residential institutions for adults with developmental disabilities
- ◆ In 1984 government provided funding to the Association to offer life skills training. Service was based out of Dainty House
- ◆ In response to the closure of Tranquille Institution in Kamloops, the Association opened Brookwood Residence in 1985 enabling four former Langley residents to return to their home community
- ◆ In 1985, the British Columbia Association for Community Living was the provincial advocacy body supporting organizations like the Langley Association to develop self-advocate groups
- ◆ In 1986, a federally funded training program known as the Permanent Alternative to Long Term Unemployment (PALTU) was established to train potential employees by working with clients of Bridge Achievement Centre in a ground cover nursery
- ◆ Additionally, in 1987, a pilot project, funded by PALTU established opportunities for some individuals from the Bridge Achievement Centre to experience supported employment in community businesses. Another work initiative was established through a pilot program called Mobile Crews to support "small crews" of persons with developmental disabilities. One group worked as landscapers and another crew worked in a local production bakery. One landscaping contract included the surrounding landscape at W.C. Blair Pool

- ◆ In 1987, the Association adopted its second mission statement which read:
The Langley Association for the Handicapped is a non-profit community based agency that strives to enhance the quality of life for all mentally handicapped residents of Langley and surrounding communities by providing habilitative and rehabilitative programs. All programs are oriented to the goal of development individual potential to adequately equip trainees for community integration
- ◆ The greenhouse amalgamated with the newly developed ground cover nursery. The growing of tropical plants was eventually discontinued as the ground cover nursery took precedence
- ◆ Day programs were developed to serve the residents of Brookwood, as well as four people living in a group home operated by another organization in Langley and one individualized service. These services were based at Dainty House
- ◆ In October, 1987 three new community based programs began: Respite Care for Children, Community Life Skills, and Supported Employment
- ◆ In 1987 Supported Employment, Day Program services and Community Life skills began in offices in downtown Langley on Fraser Highway. An 8 am to 2 pm program offered additional support for eight individuals at Bridge Achievement Center
- ◆ In November of 1988, employees ratified their first British Columbia Government Employees Union (BCGEU) contract
- ◆ The federally funded PALTU program continued through 1989 to train inexperienced people to work in vocational and residential settings
- ◆ In 1989, Newlands Residence and 5 Corners Residence (formerly Brydon Park) welcomed eight people who had spent most of their childhood and early adult years at Woodlands to Langley. Staff trained through the PALTU initiative gained employment in these two homes

1990's

- ◆ Bridge Achievement Center continued to be the administrative site for all Association services, as well as the ground cover nursery, craft and woodworking programs. Individualized service was provided under contract for an adult with developmental disabilities and mental health issues
- ◆ Further revisions were made to the Association's mission and philosophy statement to read:
- ◆ Langley Association for the Handicapped is committed to help citizens with mental and/or physical handicaps lead full and meaningful lives in their communities. The Association's goal is to provide quality service that respects the individual's dignity and right to self-determination
- ◆ In 1990/91, plans were underway to design and build two additional group homes to assist eight more individuals to return to Langley from Woodlands. These homes, known as Hunter Park and Belmont, were built to accommodate the needs of individuals with higher medical and physical needs
- ◆ In 1991 the community based programs (Respite, Life skills, Supported Employment Services, and the Program Director's office) moved to the Bay Tree Office building in downtown Langley

- ◆ In response to a family's need for assistance for their child's unique medical needs, the first residential service provided to a child known as Benz Crescent Residence opened in 1992
- ◆ In June, 1992 the Branch office in Brookwood was purchased in response to the need to deliver day services to residents as well as meet the need for more space for different community programs such as life skills and supported employment
- ◆ In October, 1992 eight residents from Woodlands moved into their new homes at Hunter Park and Belmont
- ◆ In 1992 a summer program for teens was offered as a pilot program
- ◆ The Box Shop business was established in 1994 to create work opportunities for individuals served through the Bridge Centre program, and a self-advocate managed shredding business was initiated
- ◆ In 1994 mandatory membership in the Community Social Services Employee Association (CSSEA) provided human resources consultation and support with labour relations negotiations in the social services sector
- ◆ July 1994 marked the 35th anniversary of The Langley Association for the Handicapped. At an AGM on June 8, 1994 a resolution passed to change its name to The Langley Association for Community Living (LACL). Individuals and their families, staff and community guests joined together to celebrate at Bridge Achievement Centre
- ◆ Changes to the Employment Standards act in December, 1995 had a significant impact on the delivery of vocational services at the Bridge Centre Program. Parents again gathered to provide input and guidance to the Board of Directors and management
- ◆ In 1996 the federal subsidy grant to Bridge Achievement Centre was discontinued. The Ministry of Children and Families became responsible for direct funding of services offered through Bridge Centre. At the time, approximately 50 individuals were served at this site, with a staff team of 5
- ◆ As a result of changes to the Employment Standards Act, work activities had to be discontinued unless people receiving program services were paid the minimum wage. Unfortunately, not enough income was generated from the services to meet this requirement. The Employment Standards Act no longer provided a variance to wage earning for persons with disabilities, a decision that would have a significant impact on the lives of persons with disabilities
- ◆ The Act protected people with developmental disabilities from exploitation at work in the community but did not address the impact on the many people being served through sheltered workshops or achievement centres in BC. After considerable consultation with those served, families, the Board of Directors and management, it was decided to discontinue the work activities and offer other options
- ◆ If individuals desired employment, people were referred to our employment service for support to find part or full time work that provided minimum wage. For people who did not choose work, recreational and community based options were offered. This posed new challenges as funding was limited, transportation was needed and a completely new way of providing services to adults with developmental disabilities was needed
- ◆ At this time, government was not aware of the impact of the Act on services to persons with developmental disabilities and did not offer any funding to accommodate the changes needed.

- ◆ This restructure would provide people with the opportunities to participate in a broader array of activities within the community such as leisure and volunteering
- ◆ In 1996, Supported Employment Services were expanded and renamed Partners in Employment and relocated in the Langley business community at McBurney Lane
- ◆ In 1997, the Association advocated on behalf of persons served, resulting in HandiDART providing transportation to and from people's homes to Bridge Centre and Connections and other services. This was significant as LACL was no longer responsible for transportation
- ◆ A focus on more individualized day programs resulted in a refocus for ten individuals. This was designed to provide three distinct and separate services to respond more effectively to the unique needs of each person
- ◆ Individuals within the Individualized Services division received an array of supports, including residential, day time supports, recreation, respite, and a family care model of support. Some individualized day services were located at the Branch office
- ◆ In 1998, a planning retreat resulted in a revised mission statement to be presented at the June AGM. The spirit of the community was reflected in a new mission statement:
The Langley Association for Community Living supports the participation and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in the community
- ◆ October 1998, was proclaimed Community Living month in BC and the Langley Association for Community Living was chosen as one of 20 communities to plan and participate in celebrations to increase public awareness. LACL partnered with the Langley Child Development Centre to organize a local event. This first celebration presented plaques of appreciation to businesses who offered an inclusive and welcoming employment opportunity to adults with developmental disabilities. A picnic was held at Williams Park on October 3rd and this event has continued on an annual basis
- ◆ In August 1999 an individualized residential contract was initiated to support two ladies who had spent many years living in BC institutions to live in their own apartments
- ◆ LACL recognized and informally celebrated its 40th anniversary with a dance and BBQ at Bridge Centre. A reflection of the past 40 years and a more formal celebration was planned as part of The Langley Association for Community Living Christmas party and held at Newlands Golf and Country Club. Founding parents and community members were honored

2000s

- ◆ Associations in BC with government funding exceeding \$500,000 were now required to attain “accredited status” to maintain contractual agreements with the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Accreditation meant that LACL’s services must meet or exceed standards set out by CARF for community services. CARF surveyors conducted program reviews, and provided feedback to the Association and its stakeholders about how families and individuals were supported, and the quality of services provided. The Association’s first survey was in 2003
- ◆ The Board and Management developed the following draft mission statement that was presented to the Annual General meeting for acceptance in June 2000:

- ◆ Langley Association for Community Living, in partnership with the Ministry for Children and Families, families and the community, will deliver quality services to people with disabilities with respect to their choices
- ◆ In keeping with the focus of providing smaller, more individualized day services, the Branch Office was sold on October 31, 2001. Connections and Life skills programs relocated to a downtown location on 56th Avenue
- ◆ In 2001, a pilot program for teens with disabilities to be included in a teen drop in with the Boys and Girls Club program at the Timms Centre was very successful
- ◆ In 2001, LACL hired David Hingsburger to develop a Self-Advocates Bill of Rights, based on input from individuals we serve. This document continues to serve as a training tool to educate employees regarding the rights of self-advocates which is central to how they carry out their role
- ◆ In 2002, LACL produced a theatre production called PlayRights, based on the Self-Advocates Bill of Rights. On April 26, PlayRights made its debut at Brookwood Secondary School to an audience of over 300 people. The performance was a huge success. All the actors were participants from the Bridge Centre program. At the same time, LACL provided support and assistance under the direction of Video in Studios to produce a video based on the theatre production. The entire video was created, produced and edited by four self-advocates from the Bridge Centre program. This video is used as a staff training tool to educate employees about the rights of persons with developmental disabilities
- ◆ In 2002, Individualized Day Services remained in the Brookwood area and moved to their new program site on 200th Street
- ◆ The Bridge Centre building received extensive renovation. The newly named Bridge “Clubhouse” program continued to provide opportunities for personal development and recreation for those attending Bridge. The original building would become a testament to the vision of the initial parents who saw this as a place of opportunity
- ◆ Respite Services for aging parents was finally funded and became a reality: hourly and overnight respite was offered
- ◆ Dainty House, now known as Bridge House, received a complete renovation and a wheelchair accessible suite was now available. Families embraced the availability of using Bridge House for respite care for their family member
- ◆ Change and growth was again evident at Bridge Centre, as the Clubhouse was again renovated to accommodate a new Youth Day Service, aptly named, Explorations. Six young adults who graduated in June, 2002 began their transition from high school to adult services
- ◆ In June, 2003 the Association was awarded a 3 year Accreditation status from CARF, the highest award offered through CARF
- ◆ The direction of services focused on person-centered planning, and in supporting families and individuals in the best way possible

2005 - 2009

- ◆ The Association continued to be recognized as a creditable and willing community partner supporting projects and activities to enhance the quality of life for all Langley citizens, and thus, contributing to build a stronger community

- ◆ We developed strong relationships with:
 - The Langley School District
 - Kwantlen University College
 - Downtown Merchants Business Association
 - Langley Chamber of Commerce
 - Langley Child Development Centre
 - Langley Senior Resource Centre
 - Timm's Recreation Centre
- ◆ During this period, ongoing support of younger families was recognized at a series of Sibling Support Information workshops organized for families with children with special needs
- ◆ Individuals who wished to learn more about self-advocacy were assisted by LACL
- ◆ A Parent leadership team began meeting quarterly to discuss issues of importance to families and individuals. This eventually resulted in a change in direction focusing on housing options for young adults
- ◆ Several families with Microboard funding began to make request for services such as staffed residential, daytime services and/or administrative support
- ◆ The Association enhanced the provision of family support services to families who live in Langley, by offering advocacy and/or referral information

2005 - 2006 - Introducing CLBC

- ◆ Perhaps the most significant change to the history of The Langley Association for Community Living was the movement of services for people with development disabilities from the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to Community Living British Columbia (CLBC). MCFD turned over their role and responsibilities to CLBC on July 1, 2005, a change resulting in people with disabilities and their families having a stronger voice
- ◆ Families and individuals with developmental disabilities shared their stories, their experiences, and expressed their frustrations to CLBC to make changes in the system. They also learned about the benefits of direct respite funding for both children and adults. Direct funding to enable families to purchase respite services and other supports came as a response to families advocating to be empowered to make key decisions for their sons and daughters
- ◆ At CLBC, social worker roles were replaced by facilitators and quality service analysts. LACL employees, parents and their adult children, parents of children with special needs and community partners needed to learn to adjust to the new roles and responsibilities
- ◆ Parents were involved in developing support plans for their sons and daughters, with expectations that services could be tailored to meet individualized needs. Parents learned about the benefits of planning tools such as PATH and MAPS, and about personal networks and Microboards. Parents also learned they could expect more than the status quo
- ◆ In June 2006 LACL was awarded its second CARF accreditation. An exemplary status report was awarded for most LACL services. LACL met or exceeded expected CARF standards

- ◆ A significant change in direction was the move towards more individualized residential services from group homes. This reinforced the importance of person-centered planning to help map out residential options and identify the unique needs of each person. The resulting plan identified what parents and individuals described as a good quality of life.
- ◆ The planning process also served as the basis for determining the best possible match with a home sharing family. The difference in the "home sharing" approach is that the home environment is shared with an emphasis on similar lifestyle choices and values between the person and the home sharing family. Historically, caregiver needs were the primary consideration
- ◆ In 2007, the name of this service changed to "Home Sharing" to reflect the scope of new possibilities. This service expanded to approximately 40 placements in 2009
- ◆ In 2008, the Langley Association enhanced the focus of support provided to each of our program areas towards creating meaningful volunteer and employment opportunities for all of our services
- ◆ Quest, a new day service for young adults graduating from high school was developed in 2008. Located in downtown Langley, this program provided support to youth desiring an academic and employment focused service

1998 to 2008, 10 years of Community Living Day Fun!

- ◆ The Community Living Day "Celebration in the Park" committee, chaired by LACL published a collection of stories and poetry and posters submitted over the previous 10 years. The "Everybody Belongs" contest of Langley students expressing their thoughts about the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities was the focal point of each year's celebration
- ◆ In 2008/9 a significant advancement in employment services, focused on individualized planning that resulted in support staff of LACL, going into high schools, and planning "Customized Employment" opportunities for selected students. The goal of this partnership program was employment upon graduation
- ◆ Person-centered planning continued to guide our services and support for individuals and their families
- ◆ In June, 2009 the Association underwent its third CARF Accreditation survey to ensure that our services continue to meet or exceed standards and that quality services remain the hallmark of LACL

1959 - 2009 PROUD OF OUR PAST AND POISED FOR THE FUTURE . . .

Langley Association for Community Living's history is similar to many other communities across Canada, where parents in the 1950s joined together around the kitchen table to discuss, plan and create educational opportunities for their children.

These parents were the founding members of The Langley Association for Community Living. Their belief in a better life where their children could have access to school, work, and to be able to participate and to contribute to their communities is what continues to drive community change.

Today, 50 years later, The Langley Association for Community Living continues to benefit from the guidance and determination of families and persons with developmental disabilities.

In the past 50 years, we have been witness to significant changes in the delivery of services and supports to persons with developmental disabilities such as:

- ◆ Most significantly, the deinstitutionalization of people with developmental disabilities
- ◆ The School Act of 1989
- ◆ The changes to the Employment Standards Act in 1995
- ◆ The development of the self-advocacy movement in identifying issues of importance to those with the lived experience of disability
- ◆ The empowerment of families as a result of direct funding and more individualized services on behalf of their family members
- ◆ The transfer of responsibility for the provision of services for those living with a developmental disability from the Ministry for Children and Family Development to the Community Living BC

LACL embraces partnerships with families, local and provincial communities, other social service agencies, service clubs, and with municipal governments to continue building an even better place for all citizens to live.

In the reality of today's society, we must continue improving services and supports for people with disabilities and their families.

The journey continues . . .

