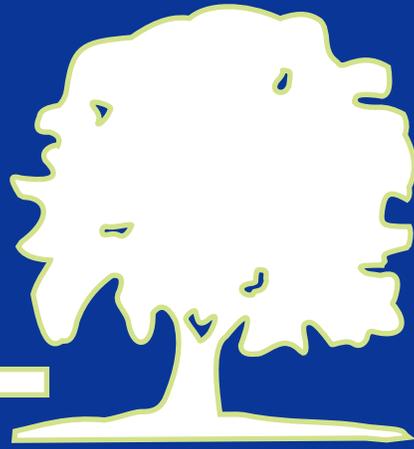


Summer 2015

RSCL VIEWS



列治文社區生活協會

ਰਿਚਮੰਡ ਸੁਸਾਇਟੀ ਫਾਰ ਕਮਿਊਨਟੀ ਲਿਵਿੰਗ

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Richmond Society for Community Living
170 - 7000 Minoru Blvd, Richmond BC V6Y 3Z5
604-279-7040 | info@rscl.org | www.rscl.org

Richmond Society for Community Living



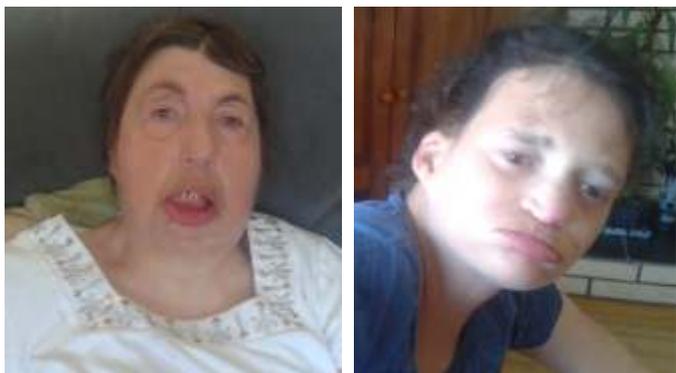
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Welcome DeafBlind Services to RSCL

Welcome DeafBlind Services to RSCL



Meet Catherine, Tiffany, Ryan, Amber, Heather, and Cory

Christina Road is home to two women. Catherine is an energetic, fun loving 63 year old woman who regularly meets up with her large social network for coffee, meals, parties and to see the latest blockbusters. She also loves to spend time outdoors biking and walking in local parks and along the river and enjoying all that the city has to offer by popping on the Canada Line to head into Vancouver or out to the airport to watch the planes come and go.

Cath is also a great Artist, attending the Artists workshop twice a month and frequently showcases her water colour paintings in exhibitions. Community involvement is important to Cath who actively participates as a volunteer at her church and at her Senior Centre. She feels most comfortable relaxing at home or sitting by the river looking out to the water. A cup of coffee seems to give Cath the opportunity to regain back positive energy, calmness and finds food for her soul.

Tiffany is 29 years old and is most happy when she is out in the community. She loves to be active, enjoying biking outside when the weather is good and going to the gym when it's not. She is really enjoying our recent sunny weather! Like many of her peers, some of Tiffany's favourite hang-outs are Starbucks, Tim Horton's and the mall. She also enjoys taking the Canada Line into Vancouver or out to the airport, going bowling with friends and going to parties. While at home she likes to watch sports on TV – especially to see all the cute, athletic men!

For the past 8 years Tiffany has volunteered weekly at Safeway by shopping for seniors. Each Sunday she goes to her parent's house for a visit and looks forward to her vacation with her parents every year.

In April, RSCL assumed operations of two homes and community inclusion services in Richmond that were previously operated by Deafblind Services Society (DSS). It is a pleasure to welcome all of the new faces from DSS to our Family at RSCL. These new faces include all of the supported individuals, their families, friends and staff. We are sure that you will soon feel the sense of pride we share being able to say we are part of the RSCL community.

We hope that you will all take advantage of the many benefits that come with being part of RSCL such as activities, parties, groups, committees, training opportunities and new friendships. We also hope you will use the many groups, events and activities at Richmond Society for Community Living as a forum for the exchange of innovative ideas, as a place to build networks and friendships for both the individuals we support and the staff, and as a resource for current developments within the community living sector as a whole.

RSCL is known for promoting the highest standards of Community Living practice. Our members set the very foundation by which this goal can be reached and we encourage all of you to become actively involved.

Welcome!

Millie Becke, Director of Supported Living

When you visit the house on Woodward Road which is home to Amber, Ryan, Heather and Cory, you are sure to be greeted by Amber and her beautiful smile. Amber likes to connect with people through touch and especially by sitting down and sharing over a cup of coffee.

When asked to contribute to the newsletter, this is what Ryan, Heather and Cory would like readers to know about them and their home:

- Richmond 5728 home is green and white
- Wood paint glue picture
- Home Ryan live cool
- Ryan+Cory+Amber+Heather+Staff
- Woodward's Gardens
- 2004 new home live, new roommates and friends enjoy continue
- The end

Ryan J.

Thank you



Pendleton House is always looking for an excuse to celebrate and on Monday, April 20th, they hosted a barbeque to celebrate spring and to welcome the individuals supported and the staff that have joined RSCL from Deafblind Services Society. It was a beautiful day and individuals and staff from across RSCL programs and services were on hand to say hello.



Employment Services update...

We are pleased to report an exciting update on the progress of Rahul's customer service career. In addition to his part time job at the Richlea Square Starbucks, he just landed a second job at Real Canadian Superstore in Richmond. Rahul is looking forward to his role as General Services Clerk. His dedication, great personality and warm smile make him a favourite with customers.

Good luck at Superstore, Rahul!

Heather's Adventure and Experience in Victoria: I enjoyed my ferry ride to Victoria, I love sleeping in a hotel. I had a good breakfast, I had waffle and coffee. After breakfast I walk to see Parliament building, walk around the sea wall and sit. People smiling, enjoy sunbathing and music. I went to see the castle(big house). I ate lunch fish and chips at Barbs, it was delicious. I went to walk around the city and fed the sea lion. I went to see the butterfly garden, I saw different coloured butterflies, frogs and moth. The frog is beautiful. I went shopping for ring and t-shirt. I ate spaghetti at Old Spaghetti Factory, the famous diner. It is famous because I waited long to be seated. I went back to the hotel and sleep, It was a very tiring day. The next day I had coffee and lunch and took the ferry back to Richmond. I want to go again, I love beautiful Victoria. By Heather Champion

Cory works 2 jobs, one at Home Depot and he delivers newspapers in is neighbourhood. He loves going to his local pub, the Pumphouse, for beer and French fries. He has 2 favourite servers who welcome him warmly. Twice a year he flies to Prince George to spend time with his family, which is always a good time.





“What does inclusive education need to thrive?”

On May 15th students, parents, advocates, educators, therapists and administrators came together at Mathew McNair Secondary School to explore the question “What does Inclusive Education need to thrive?” Throughout the day there were guest speakers who inspired, questions that challenged and conversations which lead to identifying concrete actions to take to help move us toward ever more successful inclusion in our schools.

Bendina Miller, Chair of Inclusive Education Canada shared with us stories of inclusive education practices from across the country and she reminded us that Richmond is a school district that other districts across the country look to when establishing inclusive classrooms. Bendina also discussed Article 24 from the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which states “Countries recognize that people with disabilities have a right to an education. In order to realize this right without discrimination, countries agree to ensure the availability of an inclusive education system at all levels, as well as access to life-long learning. This means ensuring access to the general education system and the provision of supports and accommodations within the general education system” (from *A guide to celebrating Canada's ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* - BCACL).

Richard Steward, Director of Instruction - Learning Services of the Richmond School District gave us a brief overview of the history of inclusive education in Richmond. He also talked to us about the initiatives recently taken in the Richmond School District to support inclusion, focus groups that are currently being held in the district and thoughts on different models of inclusive practices.

Paul Pallan, former Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Education spoke to us on the impact of our voices on policy. Yes our voices do have an impact! To be most effective we need to consider both the hearts and the minds of those to whom we are presenting our case. According to Paul not only do we need to identify and connect with the people who champion inclusive education but we also need to identify who the people are who would support us if they better understood our cause and then work to engage them.

Most of the day was spent in conversation. We began with identifying what is working well that we can build on. Then, through small group discussion and large group work we developed a list of “top ten” questions and issues:

- How do we educate teachers to embrace inclusive philosophy in all aspects of our children's education? (*especially secondary teachers)
- How do we ensure that parents of typical learners understand the value of inclusive education for all students?
- We need to provide education for all adults in the system that inclusion is good for society (politicians, parents, educators, policy makers).
- How do we involve universities in improving teacher training so that graduating teachers know how to plan for diverse classrooms?
- How do we ensure that all school principals and classroom teachers have the tools needed to practice full inclusion?
- How do we get better at telling the stories so we can influence decision makers and the community?
- How can we educate the broader community about the benefits of inclusive education for all?
- How can we bridge home, community, and school supports to increase consistency with our kids?
- What can I do?
- How can we help each other?

Many thanks to Laney Bryenton for her thoughtful and energetic facilitation of the day. And thank you to Chef Ray and the students of the McNair Culinary Program for the wonderful lunch and snacks! As well, many thanks to RSCL and the Richmond School District for co-hosting this event and their ongoing support of the RSCL Inclusive Education Committee.

We are looking forward to the full report on the Think Tank which will be available in the fall. The contributions of all the attendees are much appreciated and will inform and guide the future work of the RSCL Inclusive Education Committee.

Annette Delaplace, RSCL Inclusive Education Committee

Residential options at RSCL

Richmond Society for Community Living offers a range of residential options for the individuals that we support. These options are based on the individual's needs and have evolved to respond to the changing needs of those we support.

Independent Living - staff work together with individuals to live successfully on their own. The service is based on the needs of the individual and strives to create a clear and strong natural support system in the community. Individuals also work one-to-one with staff to build skills in a variety of different areas including cooking, cleaning, budgeting, volunteering, social skills, post-secondary education and goal setting.

Home Share - The Supported Living program is changing names to better reflect the service that is being provided. It will now be called Home Share. Home Share is when an individual that needs support with their daily living, lives with a family or a roommate. RSCL has been providing home share for over 20 years in the Richmond community.

Supported Living - RSCL has been providing staffed supported living supports for more than 25 years and is a recognized leader in "quality of care" in the City of Richmond. We currently support individuals in 6 homes all across the Richmond community. In our supported living program, individuals live in their own homes with roommates and have 24 hour staff support. RSCL staff help to create a warm, nurturing home environment for the individuals supported. We also ensure that the people living at each home are supported to build authentic, reciprocal relationships at home and in the community therefore they will enjoy the opportunity to contribute and experience full inclusion. Each home operates as an "extended family" which includes the individuals supported, their families and support networks, and staff.

Individuals who are looking for residential options outside the family home must be eligible for residential funding through Community Living BC.

For more information contact Millie Beckel, RSCL's new Director of Supported Living.

Board and Staff annual evening of sharing

On Tuesday, May 26th the RSCL Management Team and Board of Directors met for our annual dinner together and for an update regarding RSCL programs and services. This is a special night for our Board of Directors. Not only do we hear about what's happening throughout the agency, we get a glimpse of the passion and connection that the staff have for their programs and for the individuals that

they support. We saw creative juices flow and competitive spirits rise to the internal challenge to make the "best" presentation. It would be impossible for me to award a winner in this category though the LIFE Services lip synch was definitely a highlight!

This evening was made additionally special as we were able to officially welcome two new Board members to

the group – Ellen Faustman and Karen Robson join us from the DSS Board of Directors. We also welcomed back RSCL founding member Mac McCallum to the Board. It was my pleasure to share with them this lovely evening of information and camaraderie.

Tanis Reimer, President
RSCL Board of Directors

With the addition of services formally operated by Deafblind Services Society, along with a continued growth in adult services, RSCL has added a new Director position. Adult services are now overseen by a Director of Community Supports and a Director of Supported Living.

Welcome to Millie Beckel, Director of Supported Living!

I come from a long and varied career with Spectrum Society for Community Living and I am very excited to join the team at RSCL. I've worked for over 22 years in the community living field. At Spectrum Society I had the opportunity to work in various roles. During the last 15 years of my time at Spectrum Society I was the Associate Director of Operations.

I hope to bring to this position my experience, knowledge and the ability to guide the organization through its continued development of quality services. I am committed to individualized person centred services that are directed by the individuals and their networks. This will ensure the promotion of meaningful lives and genuine community contribution for all the individuals we support.

At the same time without great staff none of what we do is possible. I believe we attract and keep staff through good communication, training, team building and respect. I look forward to my contributions to lives of meaning for the individuals that receive services from RSCL.



Millie and
Olivia Newton John,
her rescue pup

Thank you

Donors

February 2015-June 2015

Janice Barr
Bottom's Up Entertainment
(Union Jack Pub)
Margaret Campbell
Eileen Chen
CKNW Orphan's Fund
CUPE Local 718
Lisa Cowell
Teresa Edmondson
Joanne Enemark
Paul Flesher
Noboru and Miyoko Hamade
Jason and Corinne Hindson
Kannon Kamalakannen
Maria Lavotha
Leanne Martin
Eva May
Ministry of Children and Family
Development
Terence Nishi
Anna and Luigi Panicelli
Ann Phelps
PNE Playland
Ellen Sin
Chris Sepp
Daniel and Kitty Tam
Tapestry Church
United Way of the Lower Mainland –
Success by Six
Vancity
Yaletown Brewing Company

RSCL Art featured at Art Show



"Set Sail" by Robert Grad

Art About Finn Slough Art Show was held at the Richmond Cultural Centre April 9-11th. This non-juried show featured submissions that were inspired by a visit or connected to Finn Slough and included submissions by 9 RSCL artists including "Sam" by Meagan Leahy and "Set Sail" by Robert Grad.



"Sam" by Meagan Leahy



This year, to celebrate Earth Day, the RSCL Green Committee organized a trail clean up of the lovely Shell road trails. A conservative estimate brought 50 people from across RSCL programs: IDP, SCPD, Synergy, Quantum, Transitions, Residential services, Independent Living and Outreach, truly making the event a collaborative effort. A special thank you to Woodward House for joining us! It was great to see you there.

Our efforts took a massive two truck-fulls of garbage off the trails and earned us a huge amount of "Thank you's" from passers-by. The gratitude of the community was wholeheartedly felt!

Also thank you to the City of Richmond for providing our equipment and removing the trash after we'd collected it.

The Green Committee and the Earth thank all who participated.

Denise Abegg, RSCL Green Committee

Tulip Festival Excursion

It was a glorious day to visit the Tulip Festival at Mt. Vernon, Washington for Heather, Marni and Veronica on April 18th.

They started their adventurous trip driving from Richmond to RozeenGaarde owned by Rozeen family who has been growing bulbs in the United States and Holland since the early eighteenth century.

The garden spreads across 1,000 acres with over a quarter of a million of bulbs and an authentic Dutch Windmill. Today the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival encompasses more than 1 million visitors every year to enjoy the celebration of spring as tulips burst into bloom.

The ladies were ecstatic to experience their first visit to the garden. They described the garden as "amazing, beautiful, it's like paradise".

They toured the entire garden for 2.5 hours taking pictures and appreciating each variety of tulip – the vast colours and the size of the garden. The beautiful weather made this trip to the garden even more enhanced.

The ladies enjoyed a lunch at Applebee's after viewing the Tulip Festival. Then they went shopping at the Cascade Outlet Mall and various other stores. On the ride home they continued to chat about their wonderful trip and planning for future trips.

Jessica M. Gonzales, Senior Counsellor RSCL Residential Services



Photography Opportunity

Shoshanna Turner is a professional photographer and mom of two busy boys. Last fall her youngest was diagnosed with a genetic condition which has resulted in developmental delay. Shosh sees photography as an opportunity to capture the fleeting moments and memories as families grow and change. She knows, however, that a traditional photography session can often be frustrating to wrangle busy kids who might find it difficult to stand still and pose for the camera.

Shosh offers an alternative for RSCL families by offering free photography sessions - in your home or a location of your choice. The session can be used to capture traditional portraits or you may choose a more casual approach to capture "lifestyle" shots.



Space is limited so please contact Shosh directly through her website www.STimagery.com and don't forget to tell her you're part of the RSCL family to take advantage of this generous offer.

Community Supporters

Since 2009, Boston Pizza (Ackryod) has been a strong supporter of RSCL as a donor, an awareness partner during Community Living Month, and as an employer.

This summer Chloe, one of the servers at BP Ackroyd, will join a team through Boston Pizza Foundation to travel to Dominican Republic on a humanitarian trip with Live Different. To date, 105 Boston Pizza franchisees, store and corporate staff have attended the BPF Live Different Builds in the Dominican Republic and 14 families lives have been transformed and they are now living in safe, dry homes!

During the 2014 BPF Live Different Build, videographer Mark Andrew Bone filmed the trip. You can watch the video here: <http://youtu.be/enFDpvnALH4>



Youth Connection participants enjoy a spa day getting pampered by products donated by Tao Day Spa. In the last few years, the award-winning Tao Day Spa in Steveston has graciously donated nail polish, lotions and make up products to Youth Connections. Thank you Winnie and her team at Tao Day Spa!

“We're going to be ok”

To say that “little” Richard is a surprise is an understatement. In the spring of 2011, mom Christine visited her family doctor because she had a cold that would just not go away. During the visit she mentioned that she'd been feeling run down lately and to be safe, her doctor ordered a pregnancy test. To her shock, she discovered she was pregnant! “I went in for a cold and minutes later found out that we were going to have a baby,” Christine tells me. She continued, “within a short time we discovered that I was pretty far along. I guess I should be happy that I had an 'easy' and fast pregnancy.”



More surprises would follow – Richard was born prematurely and was admitted to the NICU. A few days later their doctor requested a meeting. “Richard (Sr.) had gone back to work so I called him and he came right away,” says Christine. The diagnosis was Down syndrome. In just 2 short months Christine's and Richard's world had been turned upside down.

The early days of the diagnosis were very scary for the couple as they tried to imagine what life would be like for their baby. Christine is from the Philippines where people with disabilities are not typically accepted or included in community. She worried about what little Richard would experience as he grew up. Richard Sr., already of father to two grown children, preferred a “wait and see approach”.

The social worker at the hospital connected the family to RSCL's Infant Development Program while little Richard was still in the hospital. Their first consultant was Alex who was replaced by Bergen when Alex returned home to England. “You know how a house needs a solid foundation so that it can be strong and sturdy? That is what IDP is for me,” says Christine. “Our consultants have offered personalized support in a prompt and caring manner. We have never felt like we are just another number. I am so grateful to IDP Staff”.

With support from the IDP program, Christine and Richard have been given the tools to support little Richard's best development at home. They attended the weekly family playgroup and are connected to other community resources, therapists and healthcare professionals that have helped them to ensure that Richard meets his full potential.



Last Fall, with support from RSCL's Supported Child Development Program, Richard was enrolled at Treehouse early Learning Centre. “We were nervous,” Richard Sr. tells me. “Richard wasn't walking yet and we worried that he'd get hurt while he scooted around on the floor”. Other than IDP Playgroup, Richard had very little contact with other kids so Treehouse was a new experience for everyone in the family.

The staff at Treehouse quickly eased the parents' worries and Richard settled into a routine, making friends and discovering new interests. Within a short time, Richard began to walk and very soon to run so that he can keep up with his peers. Through programs like Seeds of Empathy he has become more sensitive to others

around him and improved his own social skills. He has also improved his independence skills and is much more able to demonstrate his likes and dislikes. For Christine and Richard, this is perhaps the biggest surprise of all.

“The staff and the other children at Treehouse are amazing,” Christine tells me. “Richard looks forward to going to school. The kids all play together – the other children make sure that he is included. This spring he missed 2 weeks because he was sick. When he returned it was very clear that he had been missed and that the other children were happy to see him. Our first few years were scary, but with support from RSCL I really realize that Richard is going to be ok. We ARE ok.”

Quality Improvement at RSCL

I am pleased to provide you with a summary of our 12th annual Outcomes Management Report. Each year we track the results of identified performance indicators for our programs and services. We call this Outcomes Management. The information and analysis derived from the Outcome Management process is used to highlight areas of strengths and identify areas requiring improvement. The annual Outcomes Management Report is part of Richmond Society for Community Living's continuous Quality Improvement Program. The 2014 Outcome Management System underwent some significant changes, however the results are consistent with previous years in that it shows RSCL is an effective, accessible and efficient service provider and families/individuals/funders continue to report high levels of satisfaction with our programs.

Information for the report is gathered from all stakeholders (families, individuals, funders, employers, customers, professionals) by sending out surveys, interviewing people and reviewing files. Many of the individuals we support questioned what we do with the feedback they provide, therefore this year for the first time, RSCL also produced a "Quality of Life" report card summarizing the Outcome Management results in a meaningful format which was presented and made available to all individuals receiving services through RSCL.

Richmond Society for Community Living provides services to children and adults in the following program areas:

1. Infant Development Program for families with babies and toddlers (0-3 years)
2. Supported Child Development for families with children and youth using Child Care (0-19 years)
3. Preschool & Daycare – Treehouse early Learning Centre (3 - 5 years)
4. Youth Connections
5. LIFE services (19 and older) - Avenues, Transitions, Quantum,, and Synergy
6. Employment Services and the Richmond HandyCrew Cooperative (19 and older)
7. Residential Services for adults with developmental disabilities (19 and older)
8. Supported Living (Home Share) for adults with developmental disabilities (19 and older)
9. Respite for adults with developmental disabilities and children/youth with special needs (all ages)

For each of these program areas, we set goals/targets and collect information about:

Satisfaction – what the people using our programs think about the services they receive and RSCL

Effectiveness – how well things work compared to the results we expect

Efficiency – how well we make use of the resources we have

Service Accessibility – how easy it is for people to get the services they need

The demographic information that we gather provides us with a better understanding of the people we serve. In 2014 RSCL served 1016 children and adults (24% adults & 76% children). We also learned that RSCL service recipients reflect the ethnic diversity that exists in the boarder Richmond community.

RSCL strives to obtain input from as many individuals, families and stakeholders as possible. This year our family satisfaction survey response rate was 41.6% consistent with previous years. Although we ask a multitude of questions that relate to satisfaction by individuals and families, overall the level of satisfaction for each criteria was above 90%.

We also solicited input from external stakeholders about their satisfaction with RSCL programs and services. Stakeholders included agencies that provide funding to RSCL, other service providers, professionals, and organizations that refer individuals or families to RSCL. The following quote from an external stakeholder summarizes the general feedback:

"In working with RSCL for many years I have nothing but high regard and feedback as one of the most inclusive, accountable and approachable service providers I have worked with in the community of Richmond."

As a result of the information gathered and analyzed over 12 years, we have improved services, created new program areas, advocated for expansion of supports for families, explored alternative funding sources, modified programs to accommodate for unique and changing needs of individuals, and more. Although positive, the results of the 2014 report produced several recommendations in the following areas:

- adjust the outcome system (adjustments to specific indicators)
- improve data collection processes
- provide additional staff training in data management
- develop additional reporting processes

If you would like a copy of the full Outcome Management Report or the summarized Quality of Life Report Card, have a comment or would like to know more about our results, you can call us @ 604-279-7040 or visit our web site – www.rscl.org.

Janice Barr, Executive Director

Busy Spring at Treehouse!



The last few months have been busy ones in our program, with lots of fun activities for Easter, Earth Day, Mother's Day, and more. We look forward to the coming spring/summer where we can spend our days playing outdoors and planting in the Treehouse garden. Our graduation ceremony was held the end of June, when we wished farewell to our friends who are moving on to Kindergarten.

This year's Seeds of Empathy program wrapped up; the last family visit was June 18th - just in time for baby Leona's first birthday! The children have really enjoyed getting to know Leona this year and watching her grow.

In May, Treehouse participated in Natural Pod's Invitation to Play contest, hoping to win the grand prize of a \$5000 classroom update. While we did not win the grand prize, we are very grateful to all those who showed their support and voted for Treehouse!

“What is an Invitation to Play?”

An Invitation to Play is simply a moment, created by an educator, child care provider, parent or loved one that invites children to engage in play and learning. It could be a simple collection of natural branches and sticks and an invitation to create a small fort. It could be a collection of fabrics used to transform a table or bench into a place of wonder. It could be a collection of found objects made into an animal or special scene. There are limitless ideas for natural Invitations to Play.”



In other exciting news, this spring Treehouse was awarded the honour of Employer of the Year by the Kwantlen Access Programs for People with Disabilities, in recognition of our support with Kwantlen's student Work Experience placements throughout the year. All of us at Treehouse are honoured and excited to be chosen for this award.

Lori Mountain, Treehouse Supervisor

Annual Child Care Fundraiser

On April 9th, RSCL's Supported Child Development Program and Youth Connections hosted the 5th Annual Child Care Pub Night Fundraiser. The event is designed to bring together child care workers from across the city for an evening of networking and fun. This year more than 50 child care workers came out to the Pumphouse Taproom to support the Supported Child Development Program.

It was a fun evening for Richmond child care staff to come together over some burgers and beer, watch the hockey game and play games to win great prizes, including Canucks Playoff tickets for one lucky winner!

Thank you to those who helped make this evening possible and to everyone who came out to support us. Thank you to the Pumphouse Taproom for their great service and to all the donors who provided door prizes for our child care workers; this year everyone went home with a prize! Last but not least, a BIG thank you to Jason Liu, from Youth Connection who was the driving force behind this event.

The evening was truly a success as we raised \$610 for the Supported Child Development Program's Lending Library! The Lending Library is an important resource which provides books, sensory toys, games and equipment to Richmond Child Care Programs.

Thanks again for all your support and hope you to see you all again next year!

Thank You to the donors:

- Pat's Galley
- Chan's Nursery
- Christine Fawcett and Brent Hayman
- Time Escape
- Richmond Go Karting
- The Yaletown Brew Pub
- Cadillac Fairview Corporation

Eveliina Salameh, SCDP Consultant

Message from SCDP

RSCL's Supported Child Development Program has recently had some changes with long-time consultant, Debra Akhurst, leaving in March. Due to her depth of experience, Debra's departure has left a huge gap but we are happy to announce that Lucia Rincon will replace her. Lucia comes to SCDP after 12 years as a preschool teacher and Senior Counsellor at RSCL's Treehouse early Learning Centre. Lucia brings with her a wealth of hands-on experience working in a fully inclusive preschool and childcare centre and will be working both with child care and school-age programs.

We also extend our best wishes to Eveliina Salameh who will begin maternity leave in July. In preparation for her maternity leave during a busy time with summer programs in full swing, we hired Christie Remillard in May to ensure that there is a smooth transition. Christie has experience both in the child care field in Richmond for the last 5 years as well as in the elementary school system. We're excited to welcome new staff with new ideas to our SCDP team and we look forward to working together for the year ahead.

Peer Awareness



For the past several years, SCDP has offered a Peer Awareness Program for elementary schools in Richmond. With recent challenges due to job action, the program has had very little uptake in recent years.

On April 22nd, SCDP staff Carrie, Susan and Amanda were pleased to be able to facilitate a session with a grade 4/5 class at Thompson Elementary School. The Peer Awareness Program incorporates learning about the importance of inclusion, acceptance and being part of a positive community. The session proved to be a truly inclusive one as there were students in the class that receive services through our program. The principal reported that the session was a great addition to some of the anti-bullying work that is being done by the school. We are looking forward future sessions with some more planned for the fall.

Carrie McLellan-Haqq, SCDP Coordinator



Value Village Clothing Donation Bin

This spring, in partnership with Inclusion BC, RSCL has launched a Value Village clothing donation bin program in Richmond. We see this as an exciting opportunity both for RSCL and for our affiliated Richmond HandyCrew Cooperative (mobile work crew) which will service the bins. The donation bins will bring in a new funding stream for RSCL, promote our brand further in the community and provide a steady contract that the employees of HandyCrew can count on.

After many months of planning, RSCL clothing donation bins were delivered mid-May to three sites in Richmond.

Please bring your donations of clothing and small household items to our bins at any of the following 3 locations:

- Blundell Plaza (No 2 Rd and Blundell),
- Thompson Community Centre (Granville Ave)
- Tapestry Church (No 2 Rd).

Thank you to our community partners:

- Vancity - Blundell Plaza
- Conway Properties,
- City of Richmond,
- Thompson Community Centre,
- Tapestry Church.

All proceeds from the bins will benefit RSCL with 100% of the proceeds remaining in the City of Richmond.

RSCL will also be collecting bags of clothing at this year's annual Family Picnic in August so be sure to save your donatable items.

SAVE THE DATES

Join us for an afternoon of Board Game fun!

Richmond Society for Community Living

ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

Thursday
Aug 20, 2015
4 - 7pm
King George Park

Bag up your donatable clothing items for RSCL's donation pick up at the picnic!

Richmond Society for Community Living

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

& spaghetti night

Wednesday September 9, 2015
6pm - 9pm
Caring Place room 340, 7000 Minoru Blvd, Richmond

The Richmond Autism Interagency Committee Presents:
The 4th Annual Richmond Autism Resource Fair

Featuring:

- Keynote Presentation by Amethyst Schaber
- Autism Workshops
- Youth Panel
- Resource and Information Booths
- Market Place

Saturday, November 21, 2014
McMath Secondary,
4251 Garry Street, Richmond
9:00 am - 2:50 pm



RSCL Holiday Craft and Bake Sale

Calling all crafters and bakers! Plans are well underway for RSCL's 3rd Annual Holiday Craft and Bake Sale. This is a great opportunity for you to sell your handmade crafts and home-baked goods to holiday shoppers.

Saturday, November 14th
11am - 4:00pm
(set up at 10am)
South Arm United Church
11051 No. 3 Road,
Richmond B.C.

Entrance by donation with proceeds benefitting the construction of Richmond's first Snoezelen multi-sensory room.

\$45/6' table and \$55/8" table - \$5 discount for Friends and Family of RSCL.

For more information and to book your table, please contact Katherine Ollson. Phone: 604-839-7597, email: kollsen@rscl.org

Join Today! RSCL Membership Form

First Name _____
Last Name _____
Phone _____
Date _____
Address _____

Email _____

Individual Membership (1 vote)	Family Membership (2 votes)
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual: \$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual: \$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life: \$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Life: \$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal

Membership April 1 - March 31

Payment options: cheque cash visa MC

Credit Card No. _____ Exp Date _____
\$ _____
Signature _____ Total Amount _____

please make cheques payable to:
Richmond Society for Community Living

I would like to make a donation to RSCL

\$10 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____

one-time donation **monthly donation**

Monthly Donor Information:
 I have enclosed a cheque marked 'VOID' and I authorize RSCL to make automatic monthly withdrawals on the 15th day of every month in the amount indicated above.
 I authorize RSCL to charge my credit card in the amount indicated above on the 15th day of every month.

signature _____

Our guarantee: You can cancel or change your monthly donation at any time by contacting RSCL. You have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this Pre-authorized Debit agreement. Tax receipts are mailed annually.



Please send completed form to:
170 7000 Minoru Blvd. Richmond BC V6Y 3Z5
Fax: 604-279-7048 Ph: 604-279-7040 www.rscl.org
Charitable Registration Number: 107895591RR0001
Tax Receipts are issued for donations but not for membership dues.

Thank you for your support!