



REFLECTIONS - Heather Archer Executive Director

The sun is shining as I begin this Reflections column for our March Newsletter and it is beginning to feel like spring is coming. Spring of course doesn't just signal the end of winter but also the season of change as we shed our heavy winter clothes along with that feeling of confinement. I've endured a temporary disability this winter and am very much enjoying being free of a cast that has coloured so many aspects of my daily living for 6 weeks.

Spring also means restarting our schedule of bus day trips out and about in the region which we hope will be enjoyed by many. When not in use for our programs, the bus of course is available for charter. Our Cedar Creek Camp at White lake also reopens in spring so if you don't have your reservation in yet, please do so quickly. Members with disabilities have reservation priority only until April 15th.

Filing your Income Tax return is a spring requirement as well and once again we have Canada Revenue Agency Community Income Tax Volunteers joining us twice a week through to the end of April. April 22 to 29 is National Volunteer Week - another spring tradition; we'll be recognizing our volunteers with a Garden Party on April 29th.

There is a spring in our step here at People In Motion with our much anticipated new Para Transit Bus ordered; we expect delivery in early June at the latest. We've reached our fundraising goal as well so that spring in our

step has lots of bounce! As well our newest project – to develop an adaptive recreation equipment inventory for adults and children with disabilities to enhance their recreation opportunities and enjoyment - is off to a good start with the donation of a hand cycle. We hope to see more items added this spring too.

Spring is also a transition time as we say good bye to TRU practicum students Saulo and Gregg and to Nicole as well who joined us though a job development contract. I anticipate we will soon be welcoming some students through the federal Canada Summer Jobs program.

We are delighted to have been chosen by the Kamloops Ridge Runners as their charity for the upcoming 'The River Spring Runoff' on March 18; their donation will go towards our Adaptive Recreation Equipment Program.

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As part of Disability Awareness Week this spring (May 27 to June 2) we are hosting our 3rd annual CAR TREK. CAR TREK 2007, on June 3rd, is an adventurous afternoon of fun exploring Kamloops followed by dinner, prizes and more so mark your calendar now and get your TREK team of 4 together.

And finally Spring 2007 has also brought us MEDlchair as a welcome sponsor of this edition of the newsletter. Here's hoping your spring is as promising as ours!

ON THE FEDERAL FRONT . . .

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES & TAXES: **www.cra-rc.gc.ca/disability**

This page has topics and pages about services specifically for people with disabilities. For pages of topics of interest to everyone, see *Individuals*.

Find out about the changes to the Child Disability Benefit and the Refundable medical expense supplement.

Topics for people with disabilities

Are you eligible for the disability amount?

Answer a few questions to find out if you might be able to claim the disability amount.

What can people with disabilities claim as a deduction or credit?

Deductions and credits that may be claimed by people with a disability and those who support them.

Services for people with disabilities

Special tax services and information.

GST/HST information

Find out some of the goods and services used by people with disabilities that are exempt from, or zero-rated for, the GST/HST.

Excess tax information

Find out how to receive a refund of part of the

federal excise tax on gasoline.

Customs information

Find out if you have to pay the duty on imported goods designated for use by people with disabilities.

Celiac disease - Medical expense

Find out the conditions you must meet to be able to claim these costs as a medical expense and the items that are eligible.

Persons With Disabilities Online

Get access to information on programs and services including the Guide to Government of Canada Services for People with Disabilities.

Forms and publications

- Individuals - People with disabilities
- Form T2201, Disability tax credit certificate
- Form T929, Disability supports deduction

Related topics

- Child Disability Benefit Multiple formats for the visually impaired

DISABILITY SAVINGS PLAN:

Most Significant Initiative for Families in 25 Years.

The Disability Savings Plan took a huge step towards reality in December. An Expert Panel established by Minister Flaherty recently recommended the creation of a Disability Savings Plan, a Disability Savings Grant and a Canada Disability Bond.

The recommendations, if implemented, will be the most significant federal initiative for families of people with disabilities in 25 years: up to three quarters of a million Canadian families would benefit.

The next step in achieving a Disability Savings Plan will be its inclusion in the next Federal Budget. *"Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty expects the next budget will include a plan to allow parents of severely disabled children to set aside up to \$200,000 tax-free for their care"*.

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Minister Flaherty also discussed the plan with provincial finance ministers in mid-December. Provincial reforms are essential to ensure that family contributions are not clawed back by provincial disability income programs. Leading the way, BC Finance Minister Carole Taylor has signaled support for the Disability Savings Plan.

Globe & Mail, December 14, 2006.

PROVINCIALY SPEAKING . . .

10 BY 10 CHALLENGE EMBRACES THE WORKABLE:

VICTORIA – All British Columbians will benefit from having more people with disabilities in the workplace and that's why the government is issuing a province wide challenge to increase their employment by 10 per cent by 2010, Employment and Income Assistance Minister Claude Richmond said today.

The 10 by 10 Challenge – increasing B.C.'s current employment of persons with disabilities from 132,000 in 2006 to 145,000 in 2010 – was issued by Minister Richmond and Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan, co-chairs of the Minister's Council on Employment for Persons with Disabilities, at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention in Victoria.

"Many people with disabilities have tremendous talent and skill to offer to their communities and local economies," said Richmond. "With the upcoming 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, and B.C.'s current economy the strongest it's been in decades, there have never been better opportunities for all British Columbians to fully participate in the workforce."

There are currently 300,000 working-age people with disabilities in British Columbia. Thirty-four thousand have college diplomas, 30,000 have trade certificates, and 28,000 have university degrees – yet they only have a

44 per cent employment rate. It is also expected that B.C. businesses will need to fill one million new job openings by 2015.

"I know personally the struggles people with disabilities face trying to find their place in the workforce – and how much a person can achieve when given the right opportunities," said Sullivan. "As mayor of B.C.'s biggest city, I intend to lead by example, committing Vancouver to meet our 10 per cent goal."

The 10 by 10 Challenge is endorsed by 2010 Legacies Now, a community partner of the Minister's Council that is dedicated to promoting full accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities in B.C. as the province prepares to take its place on the world stage in 2010.

"Our goal at 2010 Legacies Now is to create an inclusive society that celebrates the diversity amongst our province," said Al Etmanski, a representative from 2010 Legacies Now. "Meeting the 10 by 10 challenge will definitely increase participation of people with disabilities in our workforce – one of the key goals of Legacies Now."

To assist B.C. communities, resources are available from the Minister's Council, including a WorkAble Solutions Tool Kit that consists of an employer's handbook, video presentation and information on accessing the WorkAble Solutions website, where employers and job seekers can directly connect.

B.C. communities will also be supported by 2010 Legacies Now's Measuring Up Guide – a tool that provides a step-by-step approach to topics ranging from creating fully accessible public spaces to promoting employment and community involvement for people with disabilities.

"We're providing communities with the focus, inspiration and tools to ensure everyone shares in the benefits of this dynamic and prosperous time," said Richmond. "Just

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imagine for a moment what B.C. will be like once we succeed. More generous, more inclusive, and more enlightened.”

News Release, Oct. 26, 2006

To find out more about the work of the Minister's Council on Employment for People with Disabilities, please visit www.eia.gov.bc.ca/pwd.htm.

For information on 2010 Legacies Now, please visit www.2010legaciesnow.com/content/home.asp

PERSONAL SUPPORTS INFORMATION

LINE: *Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance, Office of the Deputy Ministry, Feb. 12, 2007*

The Information Line is a single access point for information about equipment and assistive devices. By calling the Information Line, individuals will be provided with information or connected with the government program that provides the particular equipment or assistive device about which the caller is inquiring.

The Information Line is available to all British Columbians and is part of the provincial government's Disability Strategy, the purpose of which is to build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk, and seniors. The Information Line will help make it easier for British Columbians to access information about equipment and assistive devices.

RESOURCES...

Broadcaster MAGAZINE:

CAB Broadcasters Launch Three Major Initiatives In Support of Persons with Disabilities.

These initiatives, all available on the CAB web site (www.cab-acr.ca), include:

The launch of a Public Service Announcement campaign, entitled “Open your Mind”, to air in 2007 on private television stations and specialty services;

Release of recommended Guidelines on Language and Terminology - Persons with Disabilities: A Manual for News Professionals and Glossary developed in consultation with RTNDA Canada;

A brochure on Employment Opportunities in the Canadian Broadcasting and Affiliated Production Sector.

The research conducted by the CAB in support of its final report pointed to concerns of negative social attitudes, misperceptions and misinformation concerning persons with disabilities, and life with a disability. Private broadcasters' multi-pronged initiatives are directed at improving the participation of persons with disabilities in the broadcasting industry and influencing a positive shift in public attitudes about persons with disabilities.

The PSA is to be aired over the course of 2007 and will feature four individuals from the disability community from various occupational backgrounds. The PSA is aimed at demonstrating and encouraging the employability of persons with disabilities in a variety of fields.

<http://www.broadcastermagazine.com/issues/ISArticle.asp?id=62951&issue=12012006>, 12/04/2006

A GUIDE TO TOYS:

Toys 'R Us has developed a guide to toys for children with disabilities. It is only available on the company's U.S. website, but a Canadian version is coming. Go to www.toysrus.com and select Toy Guide for Differently-Abled Kids on the lower left-hand side.

Abilities, Winter 2006, p.15

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MICROSOFT ACCESSIBILITY:

Microsoft's Accessibility Wizard tool helps users optimize settings to accommodate vision, hearing and mobility disabilities. Other utilities include Magnifier, Narrator, StickyKeys and more. www.microsoft.com/enable/

Abilities, Winter 2006, p. 38

AssistiveMedia

Expanding the world of reading

www.AssistiveMedia.org

This U.S. - based organization provides free audio access to high-quality reading materials from popular publications. Volunteers record magazine articles and other short works for download or in a podcast format. There are over 800 recordings of articles from magazines including The New Yorker, Condé Nast Traveler, Esquire, Vanity Fair, Smithsonian.

Abilities, Winter 2006, p.10



Welcome to the following members who have joined People In Motion since December 2006.

BC Paraplegic Association	Shirley Bird
Daryl Busch	Ruth Butala
Donna Clarkson	Donna Daines
Klaus Hildebrandt	Jasmine Johnston
The Lawsons	Sarah Lounds
David Melvin	The Studers

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: we had a great turnout for this event which saw a revised set of Bylaws passed and new members added to our Board of Directors. The Bylaws have been accepted by the Registrar of Companies.

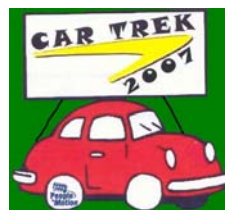
2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS: we welcome Rob Davis back to the position of **President**, Judy Treherne to **Vice-President** and Doug Bragg to the position of **Treasurer**.

They are joined by Sarah Lounds as **Secretary** and **Directors** Terry Hairsine, Jeff LeBlond, Judy Nichols, Liz Oakley, Tom Passmore, and John Weller. We also welcome Donna Daines, newly appointed to the Board in February.

**PARA TRANSIT BUS REPLACEMENT:**

WE DID IT!!!! With a generous donation of \$35,000 from the Rotary Club of Kamloops, we have reached our goal of raising \$100,000 to purchase a new bus. The Bus is ordered, now we are like kids waiting for Christmas! Delivery is expected in early June.

CEDAR CREEK CAMP: if you are a member with a disability don't forget you have a protected reservation period to April 15th; after that date reservations open to other members and groups. For readers not aware of our camp on White Lake, we have a rustic but accessible site on 10.2 acres of Crown Land that, as our members say, 'is a little piece of heaven'. Call us for more details.



CAR TREK 2007: our 3rd annual event - an afternoon of fun exploring Kamloops followed by dinner, prizes and more - takes place Sunday afternoon on June 3rd. Mark your calendars to set this date aside, start forming your TREK Team of 4 adults and give us a call to be pre-registered for this fun event in support of our transportation services. We welcome Weyerhaeuser on board this year as a new sponsor.

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THEY ARE BACK: we welcome our wonderful Canada Revenue Agency Community Income Tax Volunteers back to our office for March and April.

Volunteers will be available at **People In Motion** on these days and times:

Mondays from **1:00 to 3:00 pm**
Wednesdays from **9:30 am to 12:30 pm**

Note: Monday, April 9th the office will be closed.

This service is free, started March 5th and is available until April 25th. Bring all your tax papers and tax forms with you.

OPENING DOORS 2006 CORPORATE

RECOGNITION AWARDS: we are delighted to recognize these key corporate supporters of our agency's programs, services and operations in 2006.

Platinum - Penny Pinchers
Silver - Weyerhaeuser
Bronze - Interior Savings Credit Union
 Kamloops This Week
Valued Contributor - Pitney Bowes/Danka
 Radio NL/The River
 Technatica

ACTIVE LIVING PROGRAMS:

Bowling – Our bowling group meets Mondays from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at Bowlertime. Cost per week is \$6.50 for shoes and 2 games. We are always looking for new players so if you interested in having some fun in a competitive environment please come on out and give us a try.

Cards – Our cards group continues to meet here at the office on Tuesdays from 10:30 – 12:00 p.m. New players are always welcome.

Social Club – This is a group of individuals that like getting out and enjoying each others company at various community events. The

group has put together a schedule to the end of April that is available at the office and on-line. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Aaron at the office for more details.

Young Adults – For individuals 19 – 29 years of age that are looking for some fun group activities at a reasonable cost. This group is currently looking for new members.

Youth Club – For individuals 13 – 18 years of age. This group meets weekly for various social events and has a schedule through until the end of June. Currently, the group is full but we have begun creating a waitlist for the fall. If you are interested you can contact the office for an application.



VESTS FOR SALE:

People In Motion vests are available for sale @ \$35.00. They are black fleece with our new logo in blue. Prepayment is required; the next order will be placed in late March.



If you are interested do come by the office; we have one on display.

BUS TRIP FALL SCHEDULE -

Spring Bus Tours: our schedule is just about complete. Call us to go on the mailing list for these day tours or watch for our monthly announcements in the Senior Connector and Echo. A gift certificate for a day trip is a great gift; ask us about them too.



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PEOPLE IN MOTION BOOSTERS

(Whose donations, grants and contracts have supported our program & service delivery in this past quarter)

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ROTARY CLUB OF KAMLOOPS
WEYERHAEUSER CANADA

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John Woolner

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DISABLED PARKING PERMITS

Tips: Do not leave the parking permit on the rearview mirror when vehicle is in motion.

Valid when hung from rear view mirror **ONLY** when parked in designated space.

Use space only when **YOU** are leaving vehicle and returning later.

**This newsletter is produced with support from
Pitney BowesDanka Canada Inc.**

THE PEOPLE AT PEOPLE IN MOTION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| President | - Robert Davis |
| 1st Vice-President | - Judy Treherne |
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| Secretary | - Judy Nichols |
| Directors | - Donna Daines |
| | Terry Hairsine |
| | Jeff LeBlond |
| | Sarah Lounds |
| | Liz Oakley |
| | Tom Passmore |
| | John Weller |

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TERM

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Assistant (STEP)

CASUAL

Kim Aspinall, Active Living Program Worker

Norm Foisy, Driver

Bill Luca, Driver

Lianne Muir, Active Living Programs Worker

Joyce Roberts, Active Living Programs Worker

Alicia Rowden, Active Living Programs Worker

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Fri: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
closed on all Statutory holidays.