

# AiMHi Family & Friends Newsletter

Volume 2009, Issue 4

## October is Community Living Month

Throughout the month of October, communities across BC host festivities to celebrate the many gifts and talents people who have developmental disabilities bring to Canadian society.

We are grateful to the City of Prince George who annually supports our endeavors by proclaiming October as 'Community Living Month.'

We have planned two events and we **invite you** to join us in celebration of people who live with unique challenges in our community.

### AiMHi Fall Fashion Show

October 29, 2009  
7:00 pm—9:00 pm  
at UNBC Bentley Centre  
Tickets on sale now for \$10.00 each at AiMHi



The show features ladies and men's fashions from the Bay, Honey Tree, Value Village and Plateau Clothing.

### Another special event coming up!

We would like to invite you to attend the AiMHi Christmas Banquet that will be held on *December 11th, 2009* at the Prince George Civic Centre. The Banquet will start at 5:30 pm.

Tickets will go on sale November 18th at the AiMHi reception desk, 950 Kerry Street.



## October is Community Living Month!

### Newsletter Sections

AiMHi News  
Up & Coming Events  
Training Conference & Forums

### Inside this issue:

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### Special points of interest:

- *October is Community Living Month*
- *AiMHi goes for CARF Accreditation—Questions & Answers*

### Help us save the environment!

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email?

If so, please contact Vera Donald

@ 250-564-6408 ext 265 or

email [vera.donald@AiMHi.ca](mailto:vera.donald@AiMHi.ca) and we will gladly put you on the list!

## Value Village and AiMHi Partnership

With fall fast approaching, Value Village is in need of the following donations:

Clothing for the family

Jeans, long sleeve shirts, sweaters, coats, active sportswear, shoes and boots, bed and bath linens, home

décor, house wares and small electronics.

AiMHi benefits from all local donations at Value Village.

AiMHi employees can make donations at AiMHi's reception desk and receive a discount card for their efforts.

Its Fall—Donate now!!



## Why do we Celebrate Community Living?

October is Community Living Month in our province. Each year, throughout the month of October, communities across BC host festivities to celebrate the many gifts and talents that people with developmental disabilities bring to Canadian Society.



The Community Living movement was started by families who wanted a better life for their loved ones. By 1987 all three large institutions in BC were closed down and people moved back into their communities to live, work and enjoy community life.

**Read more at: <http://www.bcacl.org/1980s>**

The success of the Community Living movement has been immense and the wealth of our diverse community today is immeasurable. People who have disabilities have become contributing members of society; as self-advocates, they are working, volunteering and giving back to their community in a variety of ways. ***"The measure of a country's greatness should be based on how well it cares for its most vulnerable populations." Mahatma Gandhi***

People who live in institutions are isolated and usually segregated from their community. They live behind walls and are denied the right of full citizenship and community participation. Many people are working to influence change; people and family members who want their loved ones to return home to live in their community, but in many provinces their messages have not been acted upon.

Unfortunately, this movement of acceptance is unique to only three provinces in Canada. In fact, many people across Canada remain trapped in institutions. ***"Large institutions continue to be funded in seven (7) of our provinces." Taken from the website: [www.institutionwatch.ca](http://www.institutionwatch.ca)***

It is a wonderful legacy for BC to be the first province to really listen to families and self-advocates. This legacy lives on through continued commitments from our provincial government commitment such as in The Five Great Goals. ***"GOAL 3: Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk, and seniors." <http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2006/stplan/#Goal3>***

Our AiMHi Mission Statement says it well:

**"One Community—One Vision**

Strong communities recognize and celebrate the value of all citizens. AiMHi contributes to a strong community by providing advocacy, supports and services to people who have special needs and their families. Our culture supports people to have good lives at work, at home and in the community."

Therefore, in recognition of the success of BC's Community Living Movement, AiMHi plans multiple activities to highlight October as Community Living Month and encourages community members to involve themselves in the lives of people who live with unique challenges in our community.

We thank the City of Prince George who has supported our endeavors by proclaiming October as Community Living Month in Prince George! We would like to invite everyone to come and join us in celebrating Community Living Month. The following events are already scheduled. Call AiMHi at 250-564-6408 for more information visit our website: [www.AiMHi.ca](http://www.AiMHi.ca)



**AiMHi  
contributes to a  
strong  
community!**

**People Receiving Services** (persons receiving services, families, guardians, friends, etc.) may have an opportunity to speak with our Accreditation Surveyors from CARF during their visit on October 14<sup>th</sup> to October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Here are some examples of information that they are collecting about the work we do:**

Describe recent meetings and discussions with staff members and management.

***(Such as during home visits, meetings or phone conversations)***



Have you developed or participated in satisfaction surveys?

***(AIMHI surveys are distributed throughout the year)***



Has the organization improved its services?

***(AIMHI has copies of our survey results and our goals for improvement to share. AiMHi has the Performance Improvement report published on our website [www.AiMHi.ca](http://www.AiMHi.ca))***

Do you have a say in your goals, objectives, and services during your individual service planning and review meetings?

***(Think of the discussions during planning meetings)***

How does your plan get revised?

***(AIMHI promotes person centered planning where people, parents/caregivers all provide input)***

Can you tell me about your rights and responsibilities?

***(Such as the right to see your records, to decide how AiMHi will provide service to you, as well as how and when supports happen. Information sheet on 'Right and Responsibilities' is handed out during Intake and reviewed annually)***

Have you had a chance to review your records?

***(AIMHI supports people to view their documents upon their request)***

If you wanted to review your records, how would you do so?

***(Your information is kept on a secure site called 'Share Vision' and copies are kept in a binder which is stored in a secure location at the appropriate worksite)***

How do you participate in the community?

***(To facilitate community participation AiMHi provides a 'Links to the Community' during your Intake. Think of your own personal connections in the community)***

## Accreditation questions



How did you learn about this organization?

***(Most families are referred by Community Living BC or have learned about us through School District #57, Child Development Centre, Health Professionals, Community Resource Guide, or through a friend)***

Describe the process of being accepted for services.

***(Community Living BC provides a referral to AiMHi or AiMHi bids on a Request For Proposal to support a new person)***

What natural supports are being developed for and by you?

***(Natural supports are usually those that you can access easily and on your own, like family, friends and community)***

How will you know when goals are met? What will happen then?

***(Learning can be a lifelong process. Review, identification and achievement of your goals is an ongoing process based on your personal plan. AiMHi can refer you to other community resources at your request when you exit our services)***

How are family members and friends involved in the service design and delivery process? ***(All family members are welcome and encouraged to be involved in their child's development. Adults who are receiving support identify people in their support network and draw on these people for their natural supports)***

How do you know that you are doing a good job?

***(AiMHi celebrates your achievements and successes on a daily basis)***

How do you know that you are receiving the *right* services?

***(Have you learned anything new? Did you get what you needed?)***

### **More about Accreditation.....**

Any organization that contracts with the BC Government (receiving funding over \$500 000.00) is required to seek accreditation from a certified organization. AiMHi is seeking accreditation through a company called CARF.

This certification, if earned through a site survey, will prove that AiMHi is fulfilling its contractual obligations.

The process of accreditation is a positive experience for everyone involved. We gain opportunities to celebrate our strengths and identify areas for improvement.

To learn more about Accreditation, just contact the Accreditation Coordinator, Wendy Goyer 250-564-6408 ext 239.



# PRINCE GEORGE THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION



## PUB NIGHT

Riverstone Bar & Grill

October 25, 2009

\$ 20.00 per person

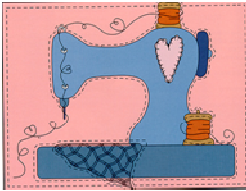
Fun starts at 5:00 p.m.

Full roast beef dinner at 6:00 p.m.

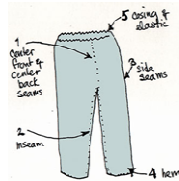
A great evening for a great cause—lots of action & fun

**For tickets contact Barb at 250-962-5082**

Need Help with Sewing Hems and Replacing Zippers?



Call Betty Upton at 250-614-0562



## COMMUNITY LIVING MONTH STARTS WITH 'HI'

Please join us to celebrate **Community Living Month** and help raise awareness about how to build safe, welcoming communities for people with developmental disabilities.

**DATE:** October 24, 2009

**LOCATION:** Pine Centre Mall - (close to the Food Court)

**TIME:** 9:30 am - 12:00 pm



[www.startwithhi.ca](http://www.startwithhi.ca)

## AiMHi's Bike Warehouse

The Bike Warehouse is closing for the summer season but you can still view or purchase a bike during the winter months, by contacting Barry at 250-564-6408 ext 303.



## INFANT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

### Infant Massage & Toddler Playgroup

- \* Birth to 3 years
- \* Drop-in
- \* No fees
- \* Snacks
- \* Certified Infant Massage Instructors

**When:** Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**Where:** 950 Kerry Street (AiMHi)

For further information, contact the Infant Development Program at 250-564-6408





## COMMUNITY LIVING BRITISH COLUMBIA SERVICES

Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) has been a great support to AiMHi throughout the years. Many of the services provided by AiMHi to children, adults, and families in Prince George are funded through contracts with CLBC. For the most part, AiMHi's services require a referral from CLBC before service can be accessed. These are services that many individuals and families in Prince George have come to rely on.

While funding contracts is an important task on the part of these CLBC representatives; more noteworthy, is their genuine dedication to ensuring that children, adults, and families who are seeking services in this community have their needs met and their dreams realized! The long standing partnership between AiMHi and CLBC is a partnership that AiMHi is very proud of.

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT



Ministry of Children and Family Development

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) has worked with AiMHi for many years in this community to ensure that children are provided with quality supports and services. Many of these services are critical to families who are raising children who have special needs. The funding provided by MCFD makes a real difference to many families here in Prince George and surrounding areas.

We wish to acknowledge this long-standing partnership between AiMHi and MCFD and we look forward to continuing our work with some of the most vulnerable people in our society. Our thanks to MCFD for the difference you are making in this community!

### Services offered by Infinite Employment Solutions

#### UPHOLSTERY & CARPET CLEANING

Call A&H Crew

564-6408 Ext 303

Operated by AiMHi – Prince George Association For Community Living

Fast, Fun and Fair



#### INFINITE EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS

We can help you to meet your employment needs!

Call Dawn @ 564-6408 ext 297 or by email: dawn.taylor@aimhi.ca

#### Now Selling POM WIZARDS POM-POMS

Operated by AiMHi



To brighten any event or occasion

Call us at 564-6408 ext. 298

## AiMHi Policy # SD 11

POLICY : SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

DATE : NOVEMBER 1994 REVISION DATE: JANUARY 2006

APPROVED : EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REFERENCE #: SD-11

### POLICY:

It is the responsibility of each employee to ensure the safety of people during extreme weather conditions. Guidelines specific to a person's needs will be developed for each department. Management Team members will ensure employees are aware of these guidelines.

### SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS GUIDELINES

#### 1. Extreme Heat: 38°C

- ensure people are dressed in light clothing
- remain indoors or in shade
- offer up to 80 ounces (10 large glasses) / 2.37 litres of water
- ensure people wear a hat (or use a portable shade device e.g.. umbrella) if in the sun
- ensure people wear sunscreen

#### 2. Extreme Cold: -40°C

- remain inside except in emergency situations
- consider chill factor if low temperature and/or wind conditions

#### 3. Cold Weather

- ensure all people are appropriately dressed; i.e. warm boots, hat and scarf, mitts, slacks, ski suit; coat

#### 4. Road Conditions

- obey RCMP road reports except in emergency situations
- use alternative routes when road reports warn about avoiding particular areas

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## AiMHi Policy # SD 32

POLICY : SERVICE PROVISION

DATE : OCTOBER 2001 REVISION DATE: JANUARY 2006

APPROVED : EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REFERENCE #: SD-32

### POLICY:

People receiving services, family members, and others, are encouraged and supported to actively participate in planning for and receiving appropriate service. Each person will be informed of the range of services available to them and assisted with managing any diverse requirements.

### PROCEDURE:

Employees will:

1. Assist people in getting information about the services they are receiving and other related services in our community.
2. Advise a person of any consultation that has occurred between themselves and other service providers concerning the services they are receiving.
3. Endeavor to ensure that information given is not contradictory.
4. Endeavor to ensure that services provided are coordinated and to the extent possible, integrated with those of other relevant service providers, and directly involve the person.
5. Solicit the person's views and inform them of the impact their views have had on the services received by them.
6. Include opportunities for people, their advocates, guardians, others of significance, and appropriate aboriginal communities to participate in case conferences, program reviews, and the development of Plans.

Executive Director, Direct Care

## *AiMHi Respite Program*

In the AiMHi Strategic Plan it was identified by families that there is a need for opportunities for parents to rejuvenate while their children access respite. AiMHi recognizes that many families who care for their child with special needs in their home may experience additional financial, physical and emotional stressors.

In response to this need we have designed a program called 'Respite' which is based on a similar program currently operating in Victoria B.C. Today we are pleased to say that we have received the support of many local Prince George Hotels. Therefore we are offering you an opportunity of access to one overnight stay for free or at a reduced rate at one of the sponsoring Hotels.

We would like to hear from you if you are interested in accessing the AiMHi Respite Program. **There are some requirements on your behalf:**

- **You must be a parent/grandparent supporting your child who has developmental disabilities or special needs in your own home.**
- **You must have respite organized for your child/children for the night you are requesting to access the Respite Program.**

AiMHi looks forward to working with you to make this a successful venture for all parties. Please contact me at 250-564-6408, ext 228 or e-mail: [julie.oreilly@AiMHi.ca](mailto:julie.oreilly@AiMHi.ca).

### **OUR SPONSORS**

The Respite program would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsoring hotels and we look forward to our continued relationship.

- [Coast Inn of the North](#)
- [Esther's Inn](#)
- [Treasure Cove](#)

### **A Great Opportunity!**

## ~Home Sharing~

Are you interested in a unique experience? Are you willing to share your home with someone? Would you welcome someone into your family who will contribute to the daily joys and experiences that life has to offer?

### **Home Sharing—What is it?**

Home sharing is a living option for a person with a developmental disability where they share a home with someone who provides ongoing support. Support may include assistance in daily living skills, training to develop skills and independence, self-care, relationship-building, life skills, use of community resources, activities and generic services.

This living option includes a wide variety of arrangements and relationships. This may be having someone live in your home with you and your family, two people sharing a home or apartment as roommates with the supports offered by the roommate.

When a decision is made by someone receiving support to choose the Home Sharing Program, it is AiMHi's role to seek out the best Home Sharing Provider possible. The person and their personal support network may be involved in the selection of a suitable home. They are provided with the opportunity to meet with the potential family, visit the home, learn about family values, likes and dislikes, and any other information they feel they need to enable them to make an informed decision about this option.

For the family of the Home Sharing Provider this is a lifestyle. You do not go to it every day like a job, this is your home and theirs. It requires commitment from all members of the family and may be a significant change in your lifestyle.

Home Sharing Providers will be matched with the specific needs, interests and lifestyle preferences of the person receiving the support. There will be many considerations involved in selecting an appropriate Home Sharing Contractor for each person.

**For further information on this opportunity including requirements for the contractor, please contact Wendy Brophy at (250)564-6408 extension 286 or [wendy.brophy@AiMHi.ca](mailto:wendy.brophy@AiMHi.ca).**





President's Choice Children's Charity is dedicated to helping children who are physically or developmentally challenged. Our aim is to remove some of the obstacles that make everyday living extremely difficult and make it a little easier for the child or family to cope with the disability. We provide direct financial assistance in the purchase of expensive mobility equipment, environmental modifications, and physical therapy and more. Do you have a child with a physical or developmental disability? Are they 18 years of age or under? Do they need help with mobility equipment, an environmental modification or therapy?

To obtain a Financial Assistance Application Form go to:

[http://www.presidentschoice.ca/DocDownloads/EN/PC\\_Childrens\\_Charity\\_form.pdf](http://www.presidentschoice.ca/DocDownloads/EN/PC_Childrens_Charity_form.pdf)

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## Training, Conferences and Forums

### Workshops

#### **Self-Injury Behaviour in Youth - Issues and Strategies**

Self-injury refers to deliberate, self-inflicted tissue damage, such as cutting or burning. Self-injury has reached alarming proportions amongst our youth, with North American studies indicating adolescent prevalence of between 14 and 18 percent. Helping professionals are therefore increasingly encountering young people who are engaging in self-injury. This workshop will begin with a general overview to assist participants in understanding the experience and motivations of adolescents who intentionally injure themselves. The content will then focus on practical strategies for working with youth struggling with this complex issue. Visit the [CTRI website](http://www.ctrinstitute.com/fall09/bc.html) for more information - <http://www.ctrinstitute.com/fall09/bc.html>

Victoria - Nov. 12-13

Vancouver - Nov. 19-20

Kelowna - Nov. 19-20

#### **The Early Years Conference 2010 - The Rights of the Child**

UBC Inter-professional Continuing Education invites you to the Early Years Conference 2010. This conference will explore early childhood, family and community development through the lens of Child Rights. [Click here](#) for more information on registration and how to apply to be a presenter.

Website: [http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Early\\_Years\\_2010.html](http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Early_Years_2010.html)

**When:** February 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Where:** The Victoria Conference Centre  
720 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC, Canada

#### **26th International Seating Symposium**

This international symposium addresses current and future developments in the areas of seating, positioning and mobility. As this seating symposium follows the Olympics and precedes the Paralympics, we will be highlighting the Paralympic experience, sport and related equipment. Topic areas include service delivery, product development, research and evaluation. Visit the [Seating Symposium Website](#) for more information.

[http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/26th\\_Seating.htm](http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/26th_Seating.htm)

**When:** March 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Where:** The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

**Safe & Secure offered for FREE to families across BC**

AiMHi has ordered the Safe & Secure book for families.

**The Safe & Secure – Six Steps To Creating A Good Life For People With Disabilities** is now available at

AiMHi.

For your free copy please contact Julie O'Reilly 250-564-6408 ext 228.

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## Respite Learning Portal

This site is devoted to those who are interested in learning more about respite work and those already providing respite support services who want to access more information or simply share ideas.

<http://www.respitecourse.ca>

### BC Nurseline - Please also see [HealthLink BC](#)



Anywhere in BC: **8-1-1**

TTY (Deaf and hearing-impaired): 7-1-1

Speak to a nurse: Call **8-1-1** to ask a registered nurse your health questions, any hour of the day or night.

Nurses are available 24/7 to help you with non-emergency health concerns, to discuss symptoms and procedures and recommend whether you should see a health professional.

Speak to a pharmacist: Call **8-1-1** to ask medication questions. Pharmacists are on call at **8-1-1** when your community pharmacist may be unavailable, every night from 5 pm to 9 am.

For nutrition advice, call **8-1-1** and we'll connect you with a dietitian.

### Leisure Access Program

City of Prince George

The Leisure Access Program is designed to make recreation opportunities within the City of Prince George Leisure Services Department financially accessible for all residents.

Eligible participants will receive complimentary swim/skate passes. Contact Leisure Services at 250-561-7640  
[ls\\_admin@city.pg.bc.ca](mailto:ls_admin@city.pg.bc.ca)   [www.city.pg.bc.ca](http://www.city.pg.bc.ca)

### Prince George Kidsport

City of Prince George

Part of a provincial and national network providing financial assistance to children and youth who need it to participate in sport programs. Grants of up to \$100 per child per year for sport registration fees are offered.

Application forms available at the Leisure Services Department at City Hall, 1100 Patricia Blvd.

Contact Leisure Services at 250-561-7640   [ls\\_admin@city.pg.bc.ca](mailto:ls_admin@city.pg.bc.ca)   [www.city.pg.bc.ca](http://www.city.pg.bc.ca)

### Help Lines

- BC Family Net Society: <http://www.bcfamilynet.org/> Phone: 604-535-0903. Family Net is an independent provincial network that provides a provincial voice for children and youth with special needs, adults with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Representation for Children and Youth in British Columbia: <http://www.rcybc.ca> Phone: 250-356-6710
- BC Coalition of People with Disabilities: <http://www.bccpd.bc.ca/> On this website you will find Help Sheets when applying for BC Disability Benefits.

## Children and Family Information Line

Northern Health - Children and Families Team

Public health nurse available to address concerns regarding children's health, childcare, and parenting.

Mon-Fri, 9am-12pm

Contact the Information Line at 250-565-7478

## Crisis Line

Crisis Prevention, Intervention and Information Centre for Northern BC. No cost, confidential, anonymous peer support and referrals. Handles TTY (hearing impaired) calls. Access to the language line for those requiring an Interpreter. 24 hours per day 7 days per week. 1600-3rd Ave. 5th floor, PG, BC. Contact the Crisis Line at 250-563-1214 or 1-888-562-1214. email: [pgcrisiscentre@telus.net](mailto:pgcrisiscentre@telus.net), website: [www.northernbccrisissuicide.ca](http://www.northernbccrisissuicide.ca)

## Canadian Grandparents Rights Association

Promotes, supports, and assists grandparents and their families in maintaining or re-establishing family stability. Guides people in the initial process of obtaining custody of and access to their grandchildren. Contact Donna at 250-617-2622 or 250-962-9250

**Foster Parent Support Line** Contact the Foster Parent Support Line at 1-888-495-4440

## Helpline for Children

24 hour toll free phone line for children needing help. Takes reports of child abuse and neglect from any concerned party. Contact the Helpline at 250-310-1234 website: [www.gov.bc.ca/mcf](http://www.gov.bc.ca/mcf)

## Medical Crisis Line

Northern B.C. Friends of Children Society Assists parents with children from birth to 19 years who are experiencing a medical crisis. Offers counselling, resource referral and financial grants for: travel, therapy, medical equipment and prescriptions. Referral area from Williams Lake to Yukon. No cost. 9am-4pm, Mon-Fri. 221-1600 3rd Avenue.

## Other Provincial Offices

### Vancouver Foundation

#### Giving in Action (supported by Vancouver Foundation)

- \* Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund
- \* Family Independence Fund

#### Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund

The fund offers one-time capital grants to help enhance or improve the individual's health, development or ability to participate in daily activities at home, in school and in the community. Eligible expenses may include such things as home renovations and vehicle modifications.

#### Family Independence Fund

For complete details on both the Family Independence Fund and the Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund, please visit our website:

[www.givinginaction.ca](http://www.givinginaction.ca).

Phone: 1-604-683-3157

Fax: 1-604-683-3134

**The Advocate for Service Quality** is appointed by and reports to the Minister of Children and Family Development. The advocate's job is to help adults with developmental disabilities and their families get good quality services. Telephone number: 604-775-1238

**BC Human Rights Tribunal** is an independent quasi-judicial body created by the BC Human Rights Code. The Tribunal is responsible for accepting, screening, mediating, and adjudicating human rights complaints. Telephone number: 604-775-2000

**The Office for Children and Youth** provides children, youth and their families with information and guidance on how to access services that meet their needs, and advises government on the effectiveness, responsiveness and relevance of services for children, youth and their families. Telephone number: 250-356-6710

**The Office of the Ombudsman** receives inquiries and complaints about the practices and services provided by public agencies.

[www.ombudsman.bc.ca](http://www.ombudsman.bc.ca) or call 250-387-5855



## Community Living British Columbia

### TRANSITION CHECKLIST – TO AND THROUGH ADULTHOOD TRANSITION TIME LINE

<i>Prepare &amp; Plan – Age 16</i>	<i>Accessing &amp; Applying – Age 17</i>	<i>Putting the Plan in Place – Age 18</i>	<i>Ongoing Planning – Age 19 &amp; Beyond</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Develop a vision for life after high school</li> <li>o Network with others who have recently experienced transition or are currently in transition planning</li> <li>o Learn and gather information</li> <li>o Team building – make community connections</li> <li>o Apply for Social Insurance Number <a href="http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/cng/sc/sin">www.servicecanada.gc.ca/cng/sc/sin</a> or go to nearest Service Canada centre listed on website</li> <li>o Birth Certificate/Proof of Citizenship</li> <li>o Discuss with the school the inclusion of transition goals in the IEP (Individual Education Plan), and be sure to review these goals annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Contact CLBC for information about a Psychological Assessment which may be required to prove eligibility for Community Living Services</li> <li>o Clarify college options and other post secondary education entry requirements and eligibility criteria</li> <li>o Make arrangements to visit Community Living service agencies in your community (day programs, supported employment, or volunteer programs [see Resource Guide])</li> <li>o Apply for BC I.D. card <a href="http://www.icbc.com/licensing">www.icbc.com/licensing</a></li> <li>o At age 17 ½ - apply for Persons with a Disability (PWD) benefits with Ministry of Housing &amp; Social Development, page 11 or Resource Guide</li> <li>o Open a bank account for Persons with a Disability (PWD) benefits deposits</li> <li>o Contact a Facilitator from Community Living BC (CLBC) at your local Community Living Centre office to discuss planning options for life after high school. Identify and include requests for CLBC Community Living supports and services as well as community resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o One month before child’s 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, Ministry of Housing &amp; Social Development will confirm Disability Benefit eligibility, followed by an intake meeting</li> <li>o At Home Program medical coverage ends</li> <li>o Persons with a Disability (PWD) benefits medical coverage begins</li> <li>o Celebrate school graduation</li> <li>o If eligible, connect with Ministry of Health, re: CSIL Program for respite and home support</li> <li>o Build community connections; volunteering, working, social network, leisure and recreation</li> <li>o Develop a personal portfolio/resume on work and volunteer experience</li> <li>o Apply for bus pass for persons with disabilities (\$45 per year) by calling 1-866-866-0800</li> <li>o Consider whether to prepare a “Representation Agreement” (When children turn 19, parents are no longer their legal guardians). Call the Resource Centre at 604-408-7414, or visit their website at <a href="http://222.nidus.ca">222.nidus.ca</a> for more information (Resource Guide, page 16)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Celebrate beginning of new adult life</li> <li>o At Home Program respite ends at 19</li> <li>o If eligible, CSIL Program for respite and home support takes effect</li> <li>o Continue to build social networks; pursue hobbies and opportunities for leisure and recreation</li> <li>o Explore self advocacy opportunities</li> <li>o Will and estate planning (page 4 Resource Guide)</li> <li>o Future steps (Housing)</li> <li>o Continue to develop of life plan</li> </ul>