

Bonaventure Support Services Ltd.

The Bonaventure Buzz

From the Helm

Christy Sudyko, Executive Director

With much appreciation and gratitude, Bonaventure thanks the continued support by dedicated and committed front line workers and the leadership team. Your incredible hard work and loyalty to our individuals continues to awe us all. Some aspects of our personal and professional lives will be forever changed by the COVID-19 pandemic. But we will continue to be guided by our core values and our Mission to be “dedicated to common-unity, holding space where people are empowered.”

In March, Bonaventure earned a 3 year Accreditation. The accreditation process applies CARF’s internationally recognized standards during a site survey conducted by peer surveyors. The leadership team and all employees are to be complimented and congratulated for this achievement.

The Bonaventure Team demonstrated substantial conformance to standards and person-centered supports, upholding the rights and dignity of each Individual supported. This journey is ongoing therefore Bonaventure is committed to continuous performance improvement.

One focus area the leadership team recognized during their strategic Planning workshop was the need for Bonaventure to improve community partnerships and presence. With this goal in mind, 4 committees were created:

- 1. Cultural and Inclusion Awareness Committee:**
- 2. Interagency Committee:**
- 3. Volunteer/Community Contribution Committee:**
- Recruitment & Recognition Committee:**

All planned committee events will be posted to the home page calendar and flyer posted to the announcement page. Stay tuned for upcoming events. Please feel free to connect with your program manager if you wish to know more or help out with a committee event.



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Special points of interest

- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
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Head Office Happenings

Some incredibly busy times here at Head Office over the past few months! We thank you all for your flexibility in accessing the many Head Office team members during hectic moments!!

We welcomed **Devon Saylor** back to Bonaventure Support Services, this time as our Financial Assistant! Devon returns to us following his education at Vancouver Island University, and he has stepped in wonderfully amongst the gaggle of geese at HO!

We also welcome **Miranda** to the team! Miranda comes to us from VIU's STEPS Forward program and will be acting as a bookkeeping assistant and occasionally at the reception

We congratulate **Antoinette** on her promotion to the new Director of Adult Housing! There were a number of excellent applicants and Antoinette soared to the front of the pack! Her start date is set for September 1st, 2023 and he are excited to see you put your stamp on this position!



Human Resources

We wish Khya a wonderful maternity leave as she enters into an exciting new stage of life! We will certainly miss you and cannot wait to meet your little one!



With Khya now on leave, we have hired a new Human Resources Coordinator, so please welcome Eve John to the Head Office! Eve started August 1st and is getting up to speed on our organization so for the time being, Feranmi will be your main point of contact for all thing HR-related...we appreciated your patience in the coming few weeks!

Community Inclusion

A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words...



Community Inclusion

The Party in Parksville!

Parksville Inclusion has been enjoying the summer with lots of group outing with the individuals to different sites. July's outing was to The Deep Bay Marine Field station and swimming at Illusion lake. The program has been utilizing the courtyard in an amazing way this year. We have planted many different types of vegetables, and the individuals have been enjoying tending to them and watching everything grow. The plan is to reap a great harvest of tomatoes, squash, peppers, cucumbers as well as a myriad of other vegetables so that we can do a canning class for some of our more domestically inclined individuals who are interested in learning this. We are also excited to see if we can grow our own pumpkins for a Halloween carving by fall. We have been using our Health and Wellness room on a more structured basis with Yoga sessions every Tuesday morning which our individuals all participate in and look forward to each week.

THE DUNCAN FOLLIES!

STAFF AND INDIVIDUALS AT DCI HAVE BEEN CONTINUING TO SETTLE INTO THE NEW PROGRAM SPACE, AND HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD TO MAKE IT COZY! AT THE END OF JUNE, DCI HOSTED ITS FIRST SUMMER KICKOFF BBQ, WHICH WAS AN ABSOLUTE BLAST. WE HAD OVER 60 PARTICIPANTS, WITH OUTDOOR GAMES, AS WELL AS WATER FIGHTS AND GRILLING! THE HOPE IS THAT WE CAN DO THIS ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. THERE ARE PLANS TO HOST A MOVIE/PJ DAY AT DCI CLOSER TO THE END OF OCTOBER AS WELL!

Community Housing

Beacon Bits!

Beacon Place has had So many changes in such a short time, it is hard to put it all into a brief commentary. But I will try.

Beacon has 2 new individuals in our home that are the same age, same cultural background, and same gender preference, but their personalities could not be more different. They are both amazing individuals that make everyday different, and exciting. I can not express the amount of gratefulness I have towards my amazing team and all of the above and beyond work they have poured their hearts and soles into making this house a home.

The countless and ridiculous number of hours put in by my senior supports Letia, Nancy, and Samantha, deserves the highest of recognition alone. I have never seen a more dedicated support team, than these ladies.. They are the Beacon to our light-house!!

BON VOYAGE – It is with GREAT SADNESS we are saying farewell to one truly outstanding support Hailey O, who has been with us at Beacon for the last few months, and I really wish her voyage wasn't over, but I do hope she has a wonderful vacation before continuing her education to become a teacher!!

WELCOME ABOARD – Beacon was once an all-female support staff BUT is now no longer! I would like to welcome our newest supports Samuel, Adetayo, and Ukeme who have just joined us recently and are proving to be some very great additions to our team!

Quarterway Quips!

QWP team and the individuals have been thoroughly enjoying summer festivities! Though we have been challenged with recent tricky behaviours, we remain strong, consistent, supportive, and collaborative.

Our individuals have enjoyed out of town adventures, including Hole in the Wall in Port Alberni and Parksville sandcastles. They will be heading to Victoria and hopefully checking out the dinghy dock and Saysutshun (Newcastle Island) the following week. A huge thank you to our entire team for the high level of support you provide in all situations!



Community Housing

Ross Place Gets Their Own Page!

As of June 2023, Ross Place suddenly moved from its longtime location on Ross Road to the sparkly new Silver Mountain Drive subdivision. It has yet to be decided what the new home will be called – “Ross Place” is no longer relevant nor marine themed.

While it was somewhat sad for the residents RM and JP to say goodbye to what had been their happy little homes of years, and a bit of an adjustment to move to the other side of Nanaimo for everyone, the move overall was a net gain rather than loss.

Both RM and JP upgraded their living arrangements, both getting their own suites.

JP in fact transitioned to an even more independent arrangement, signing a rental agreement with his landlord (TR) to live in his very own self-contained independent basement suite for the first time in his life and moving to a different 30 hours / week support structure, giving him more freedom to live his life the way he wants to (with a still a good safety net of support from BSS).

Pretty amazing to see JP go from a fully supported youth to a nearly fully independent adult over the years!

Moving house and settling in to living in a new environment can be both exciting and stressful for anyone and highlights the importance of stable and consistent support and communication from the people in one's community to make it more of a positive than a negative experience. The Ross Team was always super helpful and made sure RM and JP were reassured and encouraged and the whole move was really just busy fun!

The new location has a massive kitchen space, which is perfect for the Ross Team to improve their cooking and baking skills – eating and sharing food is a huge part of everyone's life. We're so lucky to have such a great space for it! Shout out to team member Martin for his amazing baking skills!

Other exciting features of the new place include fig, cherry, and goji berry trees in the garden, a huge garage which we're using for storage, an abundance of office space and bathrooms, a quiet neighborhood, some wasps, and closer proximity to downtown.

We had a nice little housewarming (I had such a great time, I forgot to take any pictures) – thank you all for coming out!

Currently, we're looking forward to a second person moving in to share this wonderful home with RM and to watch the next chapter of Ross Place slowly unfold.

Exciting Times!



Joint Health & Safety

JOINT HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE SUMMER BITS & BOBS



Being Safe in... the Sun

- Stay hydrated
- Sunscreen
- Dress appropriately – light colour clothes & hat
- Limit sun exposure between 10am – 4pm

& Indoors

- Keep curtains/blinds closed
- Set up a fan across a pan of ice water
- Cool showers and misting clothing with cool water

Fire Season

Monitor conditions
Check air quality
Follow fire restrictions
Report Fires by calling *5555

Heat Exhaustion Symptoms

Headache
Nausea
Dizziness
Thirst
Heavy sweating
Elevated body temperature

Outdoor Safety

- Hiking – let others know where you are going
- Tick Prevention:
 - Wear light coloured long-sleeved shirts & pants
 - Tuck shirt into pants & pull socks over pant legs
 - Wear closed-toe shoes
 - Use bug spray for ticks



Water Safety

Don't swim alone
Wear life jackets
Monitor water restrictions

Have fun and stay safe!!

Employment Program

Inclusive Employer Awards!

We can't thank our Inclusive Employers enough for helping our individuals reach their employment goals!



CBI Health



In The Beantime



Ladysmith Resource
Center



Take 5 Printing



United Church