



Community Living BC presents



*"Widening our World!"*  
2009 CLBC Recognition Awards

**PROGRAM**

5:30 **Reception**

6:00 **Dinner**

7:30 **WOW!clbc Awards presentation**

7:45 **Special Tributes:**

**Donald Philpott Award**

**Dr. Brian Plain**



Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel,  
Richmond, B.C.

**April 20, 2009**



## Presenter — Claude Richmond, MLA Kamloops



CLBC is privileged to have long serving MLA and community living champion, The Honourable Claude Richmond, MLA Kamloops, on hand to present the awards to this year's recipients.

Claude Richmond has had an extensive career in public service starting with 5 years with the RCAF, a term on Kamloops City Council, and election to the Provincial legislature in 1981 as MLA for Kamloops which saw him serve in a number of cabinet posts over a period of 18 years—1981 to 1991 and 2001 to present—including Tourism/Expo '86, Social Services & Housing, Forests, Government House Leader, Speaker of the House and Minister for Employment & Income Assistance. Interspersed throughout his career, he held positions in sales & management and business consulting.

Mr. Richmond was a pioneer of the community living movement within British Columbia. He was instrumental in the closing of Tranquille and spear-headed Government's commitment towards de-institutionalization some 25 years ago. He has remained a constant and respected champion of inclusion and full citizenship for all people in communities.



## About WOW!clbc

The 2009 Staff Conference marks the launch of CLBC's community recognition award—**WOW!clbc**. WOW stands for "Widening our World" and reflects the exceptional contributions people have made and continue to make towards ensuring community inclusion and full citizenship for the individuals CLBC supports. Awards are presented to individuals and groups in five major categories from across B.C who work with creativity, compassion and commitment to foster "good lives in welcoming communities."

## Our Selection Panel

CLBC was honoured to have four dedicated Community Living partners serve as the 2009 *WOW!clbc* Awards Selection Panel. The panel chose from 50 plus deserving nominees to determine the top 10 award winners for 2009.

### Maria Glaze

Maria is the parent of 2 daughters, 19 and 25. The support needs of her oldest daughter, Rebecca, led to Maria's involvement in community living and her volunteer role as a Resource Parent over the past 15 years with the *Family Support Institute*.

### Pat Hanbury

Pat Hanbury is the Interim Executive Director at the Family Support Institute. In the early part of her career Pat worked in finance at companies in Vancouver and Calgary and then shifted her focus to the volunteer sector including an infant development committee, school district parent advisory, and program coordinator for the BC Special Olympics North Shore. In the past 5 years Pat completed a degree in psychology at UBC while working at PLAN as a community connector. Together with a partner she formed a consulting company focused on transition planning. Pat is passionate about the pursuit of a good life for her son and others who live with disabilities.

### Jane Holland

Since July 1997, Jane Holland has held the appointment of Advocate for Service Quality. In this role, she reports directly to the Minister responsible on issues respecting people with developmental disabilities, conducting impartial reviews, assisting with problem-solving and providing support to adults with developmental disabilities and their families in working with the Ministry staff, CLBC and service providers. Jane's commitment to people with developmental disabilities and their families began after the realization that her son required specialized supports and services to participate fully in the community.

### Andria Teather

Andria is currently the Executive Director at Vancouver Foundation's Giving in Action Society where she is responsible for two funds, *The Family Independence Fund* and the *Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund*. Over her 20+ year career in the financial services sector she has been responsible for community initiatives and corporate donations, and more recently has dealt extensively with the not-for-profit sector on a variety of projects involving such diverse organizations as *Volunteer Vancouver*, *Volunteering Western Australia* and *YWCA Vancouver*.





## 2009 WOW!clbc Honourees

### Family Member

Person(s) who is related, or who has served as foster family, to an individual with a developmental disability

### Arlene Schouten

Arlene works tirelessly for self-advocates and their families. She has been instrumental in promoting representation agreements and has personally supported over 200 people throughout the province to create a representation agreement. Arlene is always available to assist anyone who has requested her support on whatever issue they may be facing.

### Community Partner

Individuals or groups (organizations) that provide generic community services or programs that are inclusive of people with developmental disabilities.

### Comox Valley Youth Project

This project, a consumer-governed model of service, is the first of its kind in BC. It began with a small group of families pooling their energy and ideas to come up with ways to ensure supports for their sons and daughters transitioning to adulthood that would offer them a meaningful life. It has progressed with funding for the pilot project, now in place for over a year, which has seen a pooling of support hours to hire a shared Coordinator/Support Worker and five of eight individuals obtaining paid employment in the community to date. With transitioning youth being a high priority, this group of self-advocates and their families have pioneered an innovative approach that will pave the way for others in communities throughout BC to follow.

### Safeway — Powell River

As a private sector employer, Safeway Canada serves as an exemplary role model to others. The Powell River Safeway store is one example of how the parent company employs and develops people with developmental disabilities. The Powell River store hired and trained 5 self-advocates with very little outside support, one of whom works on a fulltime basis.

### Ross Spina

Ross Spina is a long time advocate for people with developmental disabilities. He started his career as a learning assistance teacher in 1976, eventually becoming the principal of Overlander school for the mentally handicapped working to integrate students into mainstream schools. Now as Assistant

### Service Provider

Individuals and/or agencies that are funded by CLBC to provide direct services, supports and/or programs to people with developmental disabilities and their families.


Superintendent of Secondary Schools in Kamloops, he continues his work on behalf of students, also volunteering as Chair of CLBC Regional Council. For many years Mr. Spina was involved in the special education programs and support in the Kamloops/Thompson School District. He was also an advocate outside the school system supporting many events for children with special needs in the community and sitting on a number of committees in the area. He also has worked within the aboriginal community and was instrumental in the District having the first Enhancement Agreement for aboriginal education. Mr. Spina is well respected by students, educators, parents and community members for his tireless behind-the-scenes commitment to helping others.

### Dan Collins — Executive Director, Langley Association for Community Living

Dan is well known for his caring and compassionate work with families. His ability to lead people is commendable. He has many accomplishments as a community leader in Langley. He is involved with almost every community initiative and sits on numerous community committees. He advocates for people with disabilities to have the right to "live good lives in welcoming communities." In recent years he founded the "You've Gotta Have Friends" initiative that opens its doors to anyone in community who is lonely and is looking for relationships and a more meaningful life. Even though he is a very busy Executive Director he meets personally with many families who are struggling. He also ensures that his agency is person-centered and family-centered and has initiated a series of training for his entire staff team that looks very closely at the importance of friendships and family in people's lives.

### Tina Fabbro — Program Coordinator, Ladysmith and Area Community Link

Tina runs the *Ladysmith and Area Community Link*. In her work, she has challenged both participants and the community to break down barriers by working and socializing together. Through work employment, volunteer activities, performing and recording with their band (Peace, Love & Joy), involvement in the community garden, Tina has helped to instigate positive changes in the lives of those with whom she works and has successfully knocked down barriers to community perceptions about inclusion.



## Self-Advocate

Self Advocacy means speaking up and speaking out for your rights. Many people with developmental disabilities who are speaking up for their rights call themselves "self advocates."

## Nolan Fallowfield

Nolan has been instrumental in revitalizing *Quesnel's self-advocates'* group. Through Nolan's leadership, the group now meets monthly; organizes forums for self-advocates involving guest speakers, opportunities for fund-raising and other special events. Plans are in the works for a Spring Fling. An inspiration to his peers, Nolan runs his own web-based business—*A Taste of Braille*—that produces menus, documents & books in braille and large print.

## Jean Scriver

Jean is a high profile community volunteer who is active in activities both inside and outside the community living world.

She acts and sings with *Quesnel's Kersley Musical Theatre*, including the *Cottonwood Roadhouse* production of *Tales of the Dangerous Roadhouse Brides*. She volunteers with *Youth Entertaining for Service* which ties in with the *Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program*. She tirelessly hands out posters and helps with concessions for the *Yellow Ribbon program* and offers support and encouragement to teens with or without disability. On top of this, Jean is involved with the *Quesnel Self Advocacy Group*; *Special Olympics* bowling and sometimes soccer. And as if that wasn't enough, Jean serves on the *CLBC North Regional Advisory Council*. For her countless hours of selfless community service, Jean is being honoured with a WOW! CLBC recognition award.

## Danny Houstie (post-humus)

Danny was an inspiration to his fellow self-advocates, the staff at the *Richmond Society for Community Living (RSCL)* as well as those who aren't able to speak for themselves. He was always telling individuals supported through RSCL that they could work or do whatever they wanted to do; he was their greatest cheerleader. Danny had an ability to bring people together. He brightened each person's day that he came in contact with.



In the past few years, Danny was the co-spokesperson and lead employee for RCSL's *Handycrew Cooperative* often speaking to groups to inform them of their services. Sadly, Danny recently passed away. The *WOW! CLBC* award honours Danny's infectious enthusiasm for life and the gifts of hope and inspiration he gave to those around him.

## CLBC Employee

## Rachel Schmidt

Rachel went well above and beyond her role as a Community Relations Specialist with CLBC when she created a short documentary film "*Freedom to Belong*" which followed the lives of self-advocates and others who champion their right to a full and inclusive life in community. The film was shown on local cable TV channels and at community events throughout BC. Following on the success of "*Freedom to Belong*," Rachel participated in "*The Encampment*" a three-day public art installation in Ottawa where she featured an exhibit inspired by Grace Chen, a young woman with Downs Syndrome who published a book entitled "*Cinderella Grace, Vancouver Princess*." Through her creative pursuits, Rachel has helped to raise awareness and understanding about the community living vision and the need to ensure that every person feels a sense of belonging.

## Recognition Webpage



We invite everyone to visit CLBC's WOW!clbc Recognition website at: [www.WOWclbc.ca](http://www.WOWclbc.ca)

Each year, the winners of the WOW!clbc awards will be featured on the site. They, together with their nominators, will tell their

own individual stories; what special contributions they've made and the impact they have had on the lives of others in their communities.





**Donald Philpott 1951-2008**

On November 12, 2008 CLBC lost a very special colleague and friend—Don Philpott—a long time employee of *Community Living Services/CLBC*, father of a child with a developmental disability and community volunteer. As an executive member of the *BCGEU Social, Educational and Health Services Component*, Don was an active participant in the transfer of employees from the *Ministry of Children and Family Development* to CLBC and served as Co-Chair of *CLBC's*

*Labour Management and Joint Occupational Health Committees*. His career in public service is distinguished by his concern for his fellow employees and his efforts in advocating on their behalf. Reasonable and good-natured, Don was able to convey staff concerns in a way that encouraged collaboration and brought about positive results for all parties.

CLBC is pleased to honour Don's memory through this annual employee award which will be presented to a CLBC employee, selected by his/her peers, for being an exemplary team member who brings passion and commitment to their work, respect for the families and individuals we support, and exudes energy and enthusiasm for the community living vision and mission.



**Dr. Brian Plain**

Dr. Plain has 35 years experience working for individuals with developmental disabilities; most recently as the provincial Medical Consultant.

Dr. Brian Plain took pre-medical training at the University of Calgary and his MD at the University of Alberta. In 1969, he moved to Kelowna, established Family Practice Associates, remaining in practice until 1998 when he moved to Vancouver

and assumed the position of Medical Consultant in Developmental Disability (Lower Mainland/Fraser Valley) for the BC Ministry of Health. A strong advocate for appropriate health care consent legislation and while in clinical practice, Brian supported a number of individuals with disabilities and complex health needs.

In 2000, Brian moved to Victoria where he worked with Dr. James Russell and became the first 'Provincial' consultant through a shared contract managed by Fraser Health Authority. He is a tireless advocate for persons with developmental disabilities and a champion of those who support them, thoughtful expertise and a perspective always reflecting his strong value base, integrity and a deep, compassionate commitment to individual autonomy and dignity. Brian retired at the end of March 2009, remaining an involved member of the advisory board of the Victoria Disability Resource Centre.