

## CANDICE – INDEPENDENT LIVING



Candice is an independent, free-spirited young woman who has her own studio apartment at the edge of Vancouver's trendy Yaletown district. She lives there with support from Spectrum Society for Community Living. The agency provides Candice with ten hours of staffing support each day. They help with personal care, homemaking, and transportation on those occasions when Candice wants to leave her power chair at home. She is on her own overnight, but has the security of a "lifeline" she can call at anytime if she needs help.

During her adult life, Candice has had a variety of living arrangements including a group home with four other individuals and a condo that she shared with a roommate who provided around-the-clock support. Each of these arrangements helped her develop the skills and confidence she required to make the step to moving into her own place. Although Candice continues to work with her staff to make her new living situation even better, she is very happy with this model of independent living. When asked if she would consider a return to group living, she says that would feel like moving backwards. Candice is all about moving forward in her life and feels she is doing just that with the support of her community.