

KELLY, KEVIN, TYLER, ISABELLE, CRYSTAL – CLUSTER APARTMENTS



The Fort St. John fourplex started as a dream for privacy, choice, and the opportunity for growth. In 2005, the dream was constructed. Semi-independent living was created in a two-story, four apartment development that supports two roommates in each of the top floor apartments and one person in each of the downstairs apartments. There are also two respite rooms within the home available to help families in the community.

Key design elements identified by the people who would live there were: freedom to be independent and make their own choices, having their own apartment which would reflect their personal tastes, and having their families as part of the team of support. The planning process was not always straightforward. *"It's sometimes easy to lose focus on the vision and heart of what started a project when dealing with limited budgets and practicalities such as wheelchair accessibility and*

meeting needs of all possible future residents. During the process, we went through a few plans before ending up with something in which everyone could take pride" (Cindy Mohr, Executive Director).

Guests immediately get the feeling of being welcomed to each person's own home. Kevin enthusiastically shows his room and cherished computer. Tyler shows off his tidy apartment that Mom and Dad helped to decorate to truly reflect his personality and interests. Kelly proudly holds his head high and does not need many words to express his pleasure and pride. There really is no place like home.

Comments from the families include:

"Thank you for making Kelly and the family's dreams a reality and a hope for the future. It has enriched Kelly's life to enable him to live life to the fullest."

"It is a great relief for our family having Kevin living in a positive environment like the fourplex. The 4-Plex has been a very positive experience for our whole family".

The Fort St. John Association for Community Living feels very fortunate to have had the opportunity to create something for the individuals and families that we support and are very proud of this accomplishment. We are happy to share our knowledge with others.