

# North Shore Coast Community Council

## Strategic Plan: 2007-2009

### ***Background:***

Community Living B.C. is responsible for delivering services to people with disabilities. To ensure that it is accountable to local communities, councils are being set up throughout the province. The North Shore Coast Community Council first came together in February, 2007.

### ***Mandate:***

*Ensure that all communities have meaningful involvement in how services are delivered and outcomes are achieved for individuals with disabilities and their families.*

The council is made up of self advocates, parents, service providers and Community Living B.C. staff. In September and October, we worked on developing a strategic plan, to help us improve services by making them more responsive to individual's strengths and needs.

### ***What is a strategic plan?***

It is a way of helping us answer the questions:

1. What do we do?
2. For whom do we do it?
3. How do we make it better?

#### ***1. What do we do?***

Our purpose is to ensure that our community has meaningful involvement in how services are delivered and positive outcomes are achieved for individuals with disabilities and their families.

Our focus is on building welcoming communities; improving Community Living B.C.'s accountability to local communities; and providing input in financial decision-making.

There are many things we need to consider in order to make this happen. Although we could move in many directions, we have chosen to set two goals for ourselves for the next two years:

- a) to expand the resources for individuals with a disability aged 16 to 24, who are entering independent adulthood. These people need access to appropriate income, housing, recreation, education and employment.

- b) to expand the resources for families with younger children with a disability.

## ***2. For whom do we do it?***

The people we serve are individuals with disabilities and their families. To serve them well, we have a role in bringing together service providers, CLBC staff, public agencies, community members and businesses. Only when we work together can we ensure that individuals with disabilities are recognized as unique individuals who are valued and seen as contributing to local community life.

Change will require proper funding, as well as new and creative approaches by service providers to developing and managing a choice of services and supports for individuals and their families. Local communities must learn to work together, and provincial policies and regulations must align to provide the infrastructure to foster inclusion for everyone.

## ***3. How do we make it better?***

Our first step is to listen.

We hope to meet with many families, service providers, public agencies, community members and businesses over the next few months. We will be preparing a toolkit to explain what CLBC is and does, and we will be tracking our visits in each of the areas we serve.

We will set up a reporting system so that Council members can share their feedback with the entire council, and will also provide feedback forms so that groups and individuals can provide us with more information if they wish.

We will set up a reporting system so that all of the issues that emerge from our various meetings can be gathered together to help us formulate our next steps. We will also meet with our local Members of the Legislative Assembly, to ensure that they are up to date on issues, and so that we can create opportunities for individuals with disabilities and their families to talk directly with their MLA.