

1. What You Need to Know About Community Living BC

[Community Living British Columbia](#) (CLBC) is a Crown agency that funds supports and services that meet the disability-related needs of two groups of eligible individuals and their families in British Columbia:

- Adults diagnosed with a developmental disability
- Adults diagnosed with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder or autism spectrum disorder, who also have significant limitations in adaptive functioning

The term “developmental disabilities” is used throughout the Handbook and is understood to include individuals in both groups.

Some people who have a developmental disability require supports, often throughout their life, to live a full life in the community. CLBC funds supports and services that eligible adults and their families can purchase directly using individualized funding, or access through not for profit or private service providers, or other contractors, to meet their personal goals. With either option, goals can include:

- Learning new skills that help the individual achieve his / her goals
- Finding work or participating in activities that are part of an active community life
- Living in a shared living situation where needed support can be provided

All people benefit from living in a welcoming and inclusive community where their participation is valued; where they can pursue work or other activities; and where they feel safe. For this reason, CLBC not only provides supports and services but also focuses on building inclusive communities. This is where Councils play such a key role. CLBC supports people with developmental disabilities to participate more fully and experience belonging in their communities by:

- Using person-centred planning that recognizes and promotes individual choices
- Focusing its work and that of its contractors on the individual’s experiences of, and goals for, a good quality of life. You can learn more about the way CLBC measures how people feel about their quality of life by visiting www.communitylivingbc.ca/projects/quality-of-life/

Other resources to help you learn about how CLBC it does its work, including the strategic plan, service plan and annual report can be found at <http://www.communitylivingbc.ca/about-us/publications/>. An overview of CLBC’s vision, mission, and the values that guide its work is in **Appendix 2**.