



COMMUNITY LIVING
BRITISH COLUMBIA

April 12, 2016

Smithers Secondary School
Jakson Grice, Principal
4408 3rd Ave.
Smithers, BC, V0J 2N0

Dear Principal Grice,

On behalf of the Community Living BC (CLBC) North Region Community Council (NRCC), I am writing to thank and recognize you for the work you do to build inclusion in Smithers for people of all abilities.

The NRCC is one of 13 Community Councils across the province. Our role is to make sure people with developmental disabilities, families, community members and service providers play a major role in achieving the shared vision of fostering good lives in welcoming communities. As a Council, we work collaboratively with community partners and local CLBC offices across the North to support and recognize community inclusion and to foster full participation in community for people with developmental disabilities.

Inclusion in the school setting means that all students have opportunities to build relationships, enjoy all of their school life, find employment and contribute as full citizens in society. These goals cannot be accomplished without the dedication and commitment of community partners like you. Through your example, you are encouraging, inspiring and supporting others to contribute to inclusion and the participation of the people CLBC serves in all aspects of your community. In particular, I would like to recognize the staff in the Bases Program for their tireless efforts to find the right fit for each student as they are integrated into the mainstream classes of their choice. Be it an academic interest, skill development, or pure pleasure, students are assisted to be successful with their peers at their own pace. The entire student population benefits from inclusion as students work, study, socialize and graduate together. For many students, the opportunity to return after graduation for an additional year to further ease the transition from school to community life has been extremely important.

We look forward to working with you as a community partner to build inclusion for people of all abilities. If at any time, you would like to learn more about the NRCC, or are interested in partnering with us, please don't hesitate to contact me at north@clbccommunitycouncils.ca

Thank you again for your caring, commitment and leadership.

Yours truly,

Gordon Robertson, Chair
North Community Council