

# Welcome from the CLBC Board of Directors Chair

Dear CLBC Community Council members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Community Living British Columbia, I join the Provincial Advisory Committee Chair in welcoming you as a CLBC Community Council member. Whether as a family member, self advocate, service provider or community member, your contributions through your Community Council are highly valued in helping to build communities where all are included.

CLBC Community Councils have an important mission to promote the participation of people CLBC serves in all aspects of life, helping ensure they have rich relationships and choices in how they live and work.

As described in this handbook, CLBC's 13 councils across B.C. represent diverse regions of our province and provide important feedback on issues facing those we serve and their support services. Councils also work collaboratively with community partners on projects that support community inclusion, citizenship and the full participation of people with developmental disabilities. Recent initiatives led or supported by Community Councils have included supporting self advocates to become leaders, mapping welcoming places in community, recognizing inclusive employers and building awareness of the need for inclusive housing. Feedback from Councils will also continue to play an important role in helping CLBC define its strategic goals for the years to come.

Thank you for partnering with us at CLBC as a Community Council member and for your dedication, enthusiasm and time to help achieve CLBC's vision of "lives filled with possibilities in welcoming communities."

Sincerely,

**Michael Prince**

Chair

CLBC Board of Directors



# Welcome from the Provincial Advisory Committee Chair

Dear CLBC Community Council members,

Firstly, on behalf of the Provincial Advisory Committee, a very warm welcome to you as a new Community Council member! Your willingness to give your time, energy and expertise is much appreciated.

Community Councils play a vital role in supporting CLBC to realize its vision of enabling individuals to live “lives filled with possibilities in welcoming communities.” The Community Council is a valuable resource to the local community. As you work with your local council, you will help to organize events, network with local businesses and collaborate with other engaged community organizations: in doing this you will build awareness of diverse abilities within your community, and will encourage and inspire your local community to be fully inclusive and supportive of those with developmental disabilities.

Community Councils are also an important source of information to the CLBC Board and Management as to how services might be better delivered. Issues of concern or any barriers to inclusion that have been identified can be communicated to the Provincial Advisory Committee via your council's PAC representative, and these issues are then reported to the Board. Likewise, the PAC is the mechanism by which information from the Board is communicated to local Community Councils.

I am sure you will feel that your contribution to your Community Council is both important and valued: thank you again for being willing to participate in this very important role!

Sincerely,

**Debbie Moore**

Chair

CLBC Provincial Advisory Committee

