

The

INCLUSION NEWS

V.I.S.A. Café People First.

Visa Café People First has been a fantastic success so far. With support from 2 other Self Advocates from the Comox Valley, Visa Café People First has been working hard on important issues. One most notable being the fight against the PWD Cheque Changes taking effect on September 1st. Visa Café People First Advocates have all written letters explaining the reasons why they'd like to see the \$77 dollar increase be just that, an increase. Furthermore, with support from Michael McLellan, the word is spreading. This past meeting we've discussed ensuring letters are being written to CLBC as well as our local MLA Don McRae to ensure our voices are heard. The next meeting will be on May 9th from 3:30 to 4:30 at Vancouver Island Community Connections at 100B-2270 Cliffe ave.



Transitioning Youth Fair.

April 27th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at Mark Isfeld Secondary 1551 Lerwick Road Courtenay. The Transition Fair is for students or young adults who have extra support and are searching for career and resource options from Post secondary Institutions, Community Living BC, Ministry of Children and Family Development and Multiple Employment Agencies to name a few. We hope you can join in this year's Transition Fair. Coffee and Snacks provided.



WE MAY NOT HAVE IT ALL TOGETHER...
BUT TOGETHER, WE HAVE IT ALL.

BC People First Conference.

British Columbia's People First is holding a Conference here in our lovely Comox Valley on May 4th and 5th at the Coast Westerly Hotel starting on May 4th at 5:30 to 8:30 check in starts at 5:00pm. May 5th starts from 9:00am to 6:00pm. The event features guest speakers as well as fellow Self Advocates who are looking to educate those attending on personal stories and experiences as Advocates as well as the Self Advocate movement and issues we feel collectively, need to be addressed. I hope all those who are looking to attend come away with an uplifting experience, information that is beneficial as well as a new outlook on how people with Diverseabilities are received. Remember, we are all people looking to make positive changes and increasing knowledge so that Self Advocates, Service Providers as well as family and friends are appreciated in the goal of changing attitudes moving forward.

Ignite Conference.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

The Inclusion BC Conference annually draws over 650 self advocates, family members, service providers, support workers, community leaders, advocates and allies of the inclusion movement together to explore and engage in discussions on inclusion, citizenship, innovation, supports and access, and leadership.

IGNITE YOUR IDEAS in a series of keynote presentations, workshops and social events, and a few new conference features:

Catalyst Labs where research, best practices, and self advocacy initiatives that support inclusion in education, employment, and all aspects of community will be explored.

Transformational Talks short talks about something you are familiar with that is helping to change the lives of people with disabilities and support them to be full citizens. We are thrilled to be co-hosting the Conference with AiMHi, Prince George Association for Community Living, a member organization in Prince George known for its amazing hospitality, community engagement, and supports and services to people who have special needs and their families.



This news letter was created by Public Speaker and Self-Advocate Sherwin Strong. If you would like any more information regarding these articles or would like to know more about inclusion within your community please contact Sherwin at thesherwizzle2013@gmail.com