

The SD33 Career Education Dept. has compiled a series of monthly articles for families, profiling important community resources for students transitioning from high school to the post-secondary world of work and adulthood.

Inclusion Chilliwack Society

Profile of Inclusion Chilliwack Society

Overview:



Inclusion Chilliwack Society, formerly known as the Chilliwack Society for Community Living (CSCL), is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting inclusion and enhancing the quality of life for individuals with diverse abilities in the Chilliwack area.

Mission and Vision

The organization's mission is to partner with the community to build capacity for the inclusion and belonging of people with varying abilities. They promote diversity and provide innovative, individualized services that enhance the quality of life. Their vision is for a community that welcomes and includes everyone, striving to be a center of excellence that inspires belonging, connection, and community.

Community Engagement

Inclusion Chilliwack Society actively collaborates with families, friends, and community members to advance the inclusion and belonging of people with diverse abilities. They encourage community involvement through volunteer opportunities, partnerships, and events that promote awareness and acceptance.

Services for Youth

Inclusion Chilliwack Society offers flexible support options tailored to meet the needs of children and youth with support needs and their families. Programs are designed to accommodate various schedules, including after-school and weekend availability:

- **Individualized Support**: Personalized assistance to help youth achieve their goals, develop new skills, and foster independence.
- **Community Inclusion Programs**: Opportunities for youth to engage in community activities, build social networks, and enhance their sense of belonging.
- **Transition Planning**: Support for students transitioning from high school to adulthood, including guidance on post-secondary education, employment, and community involvement.
- **IMPACT Youth Employment Program**: An innovative research project designed to support early interventions and enhance employment outcomes for youth with diverse abilities who are transitioning to adulthood.



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Services for Adults

- **Community Inclusion Services**: These programs offer adults with developmental disabilities opportunities to engage in community activities, build social networks, and enhance life skills. Activities may include recreation, leisure, and skill development, all aimed at fostering independence and community involvement.
- **Employment Services**: Dedicated to building community inclusion by empowering individuals with diverse abilities, these services partner with local businesses to develop employment opportunities. Support includes job search assistance, resume building, interview preparation, and on-the-job support to ensure successful employment outcomes.
- **Outreach Services**: These services support adults with developmental disabilities living independently or with family members. Assistance includes developing life skills, accessing community services, networking with community resources, and establishing healthy social connections.
- **Residential Services**: Inclusion Chilliwack Society offers various housing options and independent living support for adults with developmental disabilities. This includes staffed residential homes and a HomeShare program where individuals live with contracted community caregivers.

Application Processes

- **Child & Youth Services**: Families interested in these services are encouraged to contact Inclusion Chilliwack Society directly to discuss their specific needs and determine the most appropriate programs.
- Adult Services: Access to adult services typically requires a referral through Community Living British Columbia (CLBC). Individuals or families should contact CLBC to initiate the referral process. Once referred, Inclusion Chilliwack Society will work collaboratively to develop a personalized support plan

Contact Information

For more information or to begin the application process, please contact Inclusion Chilliwack Society:

- Address: 9353 Mary Street, Chilliwack, BC V2P 4G9
- **Phone:** 604-792-7726
- Email: <u>administration@cscl.org</u>
- Website: <u>https://cscl.org/</u>



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Additional Resources

- IMPACT Youth Employment Program Brochure (attachment)
- IMPACT Youth Employment Program Flyer (attachment)
- SD33 Career-Life Transitions Website



DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO

- Gain Skills
- Make Friends
- Create a Resume
- Get Experience
- Meet a Mentor
- Look for a job

Program Runs June-August

Applications Due MAY 15th, 2025

SIGN UP TODAY!





LOCATION

Mathieson Centre 45195 Wells Road Chilliwack, BC V2R 1H6





778-539-6791 alayna.heppell@cscl.org





This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

REACH Youth Employment Program

IMPACT

Employment Services for youth with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism

Ages 16-19







Growing up is hard

Today's youth are faced with some of the biggest challenges when it comes to gaining independence and real life work experience.

ICS offers extra support tod youth with diverse abilities tod get them work ready

- Make New Friends
- Achieve Your Goals
- Get Experience

THE PROGRAM

The Employment Workshops:

Structured group workshops in employment related topics designed to meet the needs of all learning styles

1:1 Employment Counselling

Youth will have access to a vocational counsellor with whom they can work individually with on their specific employment goals

Opportunities

Youth will have opportunities to engage in different projects including vocational skill assessments, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Life Skills Groups, Volunteer placements, Customized employment and more

- Gain Relevant Skills
- Update Your Resume
- Meet With Employers



I gained a solid new resume, learned some new skills, and now I am motivated to look for work



IMPACT 2.1

Youth Employment Project



An innovative research project designed to support early interventions and enhance employment outcomes for youth with diverse abilities who are transitioning to adult hood

About IMPACT:

The IMPACT project strives to improve employment outcomes for youth with developmental disabilities and/or autism spectrum disorder (ASD). This project occurs in collaboration with researchers from the University of British Columbia, as well as nine other agencies across BC that support youth with developmental disabilities and/or ASD. The information gathered through IMPACT will provide insight into the best approaches for early employment interventions, as well as their advantages for youth who are transitioning to adulthood.

As a member of the British Columbia Employment Network, ICS has extensive experience in providing employment services to people with developmental disabilities. Our team has seen firsthand the benefits of providing employment support to youth with diverse abilities. These benefits include higher rates of employment and independence, as well as improved levels of selfesteem.

We look forward to learning more about the best practices and approaches that can be used to support the success of today's youth! IMPACT 2.1 has been made possible thanks to funding provided by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

Further Information

Contact us to learn more about IMPACT:

Karen Slingerland: Karen.Slingerland@cscl.org - 604-798-0717 Alayna Heppell: Alayna.heppell@cscl.org - 778-539-6791

Supports for Participants:

Individualized supports include:

- Transition planning
- Pre-employment classes
- Hands-on employment training
- Personalized employment plans
- Work experience placements
- Job coaching
- Potential paid employment

Eligibility:

- 16-19 years of age or enrolled in high school, grades 10 through 13 (over year)
- Preparing to transition from secondary to post-secondary school and/or employment
- Has a developmental disability and/or ASD

Potential Benefits:

IMPACT 2.1 provides an opportunity to participate in an engaging summer program, tailored to uncovering unique strengths and interests, in order to improve employment outcomes

Program runs from June to August, with on-going support if needed. Applications will be accepted until MAY 15th, 2025



This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

BRITISH