



**Executive Director's Report to the Annual General Meeting
September 10, 2007**

“Building on Success”

During the last year we have been focusing on **building on our strengths** in looking to the future for the organization and those we support.

- We have continued to work towards implementing and maintaining the new measures needed to meet the rigorous standards for **Accreditation**. This has been a challenge as we have struggled for consistency and excellence not only in the level of support and care that we provide to people but in building a successful organization.
- We continue to deal with an **aging population** and the increase in health-related issues and onset of dementia that come with it. We saw one individual move out of our services and into a health facility. Another individual moved into an attached suite at the 25th Ave Group Home We are continuing to offer courses and training on dealing with people with dementia and health issues.
- We have continued to look at ways in which we can **expand our services** to meet the needs of the community.
 - We are in the process of taking over a 26-unit **Senior's apartment** building, which offers subsidized housing for those with low income.
 - We have increased our contracts to provide support to **two new individuals** in the Supported Living Program.
 - We again hold the contract for **Town Clean Up**, providing work for people with employment barriers.
 - We have committed to making the **Therapeutic Riding Program** financially viable without utilizing funds from CDSCL's operating budget and are on our way to achieving this goal. This very successful program has expanded with an increase in riders, mainly from the School District. We also offered a summer session this year in addition to our spring and fall sessions. We are also offering public riding lessons for non-disabled riders as well as integrated events and camps. The TRP has also provided with a huge opportunity to expand our public awareness in the community.
- A residential review done by Community Living BC resulted in the **affirmation** that the individuals living in our **Residential Programs** (Group Homes) are indeed where they should be and will be able to remain there as long as CDSCL can support them.



Creston & District Society For Community Living

- We continued to provide opportunities for **respite** at 25th Avenue and Purcell Place, most of which were very short-term. An individual from Orchard House has now moved into Purcell Place again due to issues regarding aging. This leaves one vacancy at 25th Avenue. There is still a need to develop more resources for respite and emergency placement.
- We continued to place an emphasis on **staff education**, providing a number of in-service opportunities for employees as well as running a newly revised 8-session Community Living Skills Course for new employees in conjunction with the College of the Rockies. The Education Committee is committed to review and revise this program in order to provide a good introductory course for new employees.
- Due to the addition of new service recipients as well as a restructuring of our maintenance program, we were able to create two new part-time **positions** as well as **increasing hours** to four other positions.
- We continue to have **success in the area of finances**. We concluded the 2006/07 fiscal year with a slight surplus after making substantial transfers to our Reserves. We are carrying forward an operating surplus of over \$30,000. Our net asset position increased to a healthy \$158,400 – an increase of 36% from the previous year. We are now concentrating on building up our reserves, especially for vehicle replacement and future capital expenditures related to property. We are also well on our way to building up our reserve for employee sick time to fully cover our “Un-funded Liability”.
- We continued our new tradition of **recognizing staff and volunteers** at annual functions and look for other ways of expressing the appreciation and gratitude for the most important assets of our organization – the people.

We look forward to the future. We have a great foundation; let's continue to build on it, keeping our focus on what we do best – providing quality care and guidance for people we support, enabling them to achieve their full potential and helping them to maximize their independence as valued citizens of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Feltham
Executive Director