

The Ripple Effect IV NARAMATA, BC

Exploring the Power of Advocacy and Community Development

**A training weekend for local family members who have a child or family member
with a developmental disability**

Hosted by the BC Association for Community Living

February 6- 8, 2009



Your behaviour influences others through a ripple effect. A ripple effect works because everyone influences everyone else. Powerful people are powerful influences.

If your life works, you influence your family. If your family works, your family influences the community. If your community works, your community influences the nation. If your nation works, your nation influences the world. If your world works, the ripple effect spreads throughout the cosmos.

Remember that your influence begins with you and ripples outward.

- John Heider

Over the past 50 years, families have built momentum and created a ripple effect for a tidal wave of positive change in the Community Living movement by advocating for a better life for their children. From promoting more inclusive schools, to ensuring more appropriate and responsive services, to building more welcoming communities, families have been at the forefront of community change and action.

In order to continue to secure a bright future for their children, BCACL would like to provide a unique opportunity for families to come together to continue to build their strengths, nourish their passions, and expand their knowledge.

- *Do you want to continue to ensure your child has the right to a productive and healthy life in your community? And are you interested and open to strengthening your commitment to ensure this occurs for your family and others?*
- *Do you want to learn about why supports and services are the way they are? And about how you can make them better?*
- *Do you want to learn practical steps to assist you to contribute to a better life for your child?*

Come explore and contribute to some of these questions with BCACL facilitators and families from your region in a thought-provoking and educational retreat weekend. You will learn about the history of the Community Living movement, the concepts of community development, individual advocacy, systems change, and gain valuable information to help ensure a good life for the person you love and support - all this in an atmosphere of fun, celebration, and inspiration.

**MOMS, DADS, BROTHERS, SISTERS, AUNTS AND
UNCLES FROM VERNON, PENTICTON, KELOWNA,
AND THE OKANAGAN AREA ARE ENCOURAGED TO
APPLY!**

Key requirements include: having a willingness to learn and a commitment to making communities more inclusive and welcoming. It is also essential that applicants are present for the entire weekend.

All expenses will be covered including accommodation, food and transportation. In addition, some respite funds can be provided to help support your family member at home.

LOCATION:

The Naramata Centre is located in the heart of the Naramata Village on the eastern side of the Okanagan Lake at 3375 3rd Street, Naramata, BC (www.naramatacentre.net).

Please send your completed application to:

ATTN: Karen De Long
BC Association for Community Living
227 Sixth Street
New Westminster, BC
V3L 3A5



Deadline: Friday, January 16, 2009

For more information please contact Karen De Long at kdelong@bcacl.org or Laney Bryenton at lbryenton@bcacl.org or by tel: 604-777-9100

This is the third in a series of retreats occurring throughout BC. Here's what some family members have said about their experience.

....a very positive feel to it

....interaction with the rest of the group left us feeling not so alone

.....the weekend was very inspiring

....the weekend has definitely affected my thinking

B.C. Association for Community Living
The Ripple Effect: A Training Weekend for Family Members

Application Form:

Please submit to
227 6th Street, New Westminster, V3L 3A5
Fax: 604.777.9394
The application deadline is Friday, January 16, 2009

Name _____

Relationship to person with disability _____

Age of person with disability _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ **Postal Code** _____

Telephone _____ **Fax** _____ **Email** _____

There is some funding to help subsidize cost for respite. Please indicate if you would require respite funds, and what supports are needed.

Would you like to be included in information updates from BCACL? _____

In an attempt to get a sense of applicants' background, situation, and experience, we ask that you please answer at least 3 out of the 5 following questions.

- 1) Tell us about yourself and your family's situation.

2) What have you done in your community in an effort to make a positive difference for others?

3) Provide a brief overview of your experience as an advocate for your child, your family, and/or on behalf of others? What have been the results?

4) Describe the community as you wish it to be with respect to people who have a developmental disability. What is the ideal community you are working towards?

5) What are current public advocacy issues that you are interested in or passionate about?

**Please contact Karen De Long at BCACL with questions
Phone: 604-777-9100 email: kdelong@bcaccl.org**

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