

SPRING 2014 THE **star**

We have exciting new changes coming up for our website and as a result, the articles for this issue will not be on our website



## SPRINGING FORWARD!

BY ALANNA HENDREN

We now have five years of labour peace at DDA with increases for our employees that recognized their status as the lowest paid workers in the public sector!

When I first heard that the government's Public Sector Employers' Council (PSEC) and the Community Social Services Employers' Association (CSSEA) were going to try to negotiate a contract with the 15,000 or so community support workers in BC in October 2013 to be finalized by December, I was extremely sceptical. In the past, we have been at the bargaining table for over one year at a time, which was actually quite typical, so the idea of finalizing a deal in two months seemed incomprehensible. But thanks to the efforts of the Union Bargaining Committee (including the BCGEU, CUPE, HSA, HEU and a few other unions), the leadership of CSSEA and PSEC, we had a deal in December 2013 and will hopefully ratify by early February.

As the deal is five years long, we can now predict staff costs into the future and understand what this financial future looks like. Staff will also experience more stability, knowing what increases they will be receiving and when. Both staff and employers will not have to worry about a strike impacting their services due to conflicts about wages and working conditions. Most importantly, families and the individuals who we support will not have to worry about service disruptions. In the meantime, our staff will hopefully understand that we do value their work and want

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Visit our social media outlets to find out what's happening at DDA and your community.



Blog: [www.dda604.com/](http://www.dda604.com/)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/dda604](http://www.facebook.com/dda604)

Pinterest: <http://www.pinterest.com/dda604/>

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/dda604](http://www.twitter.com/dda604)

Youtube: [www.youtube.com/dda604](http://www.youtube.com/dda604)



Developmental Disabilities Association

Overcoming Obstacles, Encouraging Abilities.

to enhance their experience while they dedicate their time to DDA and the people we serve. Right now there is a big disparity between wages for workers in community health and we would like to narrow that gap over the longer term; this is a start.

The provincial government has also announced that the Minister of Social Development and Innovation will be touring the province to get input about how the lives of people with all disabilities could be improved in BC, "to better understand how government, businesses and 'communities' can increase accessibility and decrease the barriers for people living with disabilities. The feedback from these consultation sessions will inform the development of a White Paper that will form the foundation for a Summit on the issues facing British Columbia."

Having attended the Vancouver session, I am pleased to report that the consultation was given high importance by MLA Sam Sullivan, who attended in addition to the Ministry for Social Development and Innovation policy Assistant Deputy Minister, Molly Harrington. Minister Don McRae also attended to thank participants personally. There was no predetermined philosophy or outcome, just a frank discussion at one of several tables about innovation, housing & accessibility, work & contribution, social networks, asset accumulation and personal supports. In spite of the diversity of backgrounds and opinion at my table, everyone easily agreed on the core issues and made some positive recommendations.

For those staff, families and individuals who would like to make a contribution to the consultation process, go to the website: [www.engage.gov.bc.ca/disabilitywhitepaper](http://www.engage.gov.bc.ca/disabilitywhitepaper) where you can register your comments and suggestions until March 11, 2014. This input will then be incorporated into the white paper developed by the government that will form the basis of discussion at a disabilities 'summit' in June. Another face-to-face consultation meeting will be held in Richmond on February 11.

Although these accomplishments reflect an improvement in the government's willingness to consider positive change in social and community living supports and services, the province will continue to be challenged with escalating demand and diminishing budgets at least until us baby boomers pass through our years of need. The Ministry of Health will require a dramatically increased supply of supports for seniors as more boomers age and require long term care. We in social services will be competing with these senior's services for employees. In the meantime, we have escalating numbers of folks with developmental disabilities who need support right now and into the future because they are aging boomers with developmental disabilities who need more physical care, who can no longer count on aging or deceased parents to care for them, and who have little or no money. We can also anticipate a huge increase in the numbers of adults

with autism once the current 'spectrum' generation ages out of secondary school. This is just starting to happen.

We know government will not have the money to fund all this. The Health budget alone represents 50% of provincial spending right now, making government decisions regarding how to stretch dollars further to support more people critical at this point in 'community living'. Taxpayers clearly spoke during the last election and chose a path of lower, not higher taxes. Pretending everything will be OK based on untried, untested philosophical models has proved to be the road to ruin in reality. Pretending that CLBC has been a roaring success is so obviously out of touch with reality that few people continue to consider this the truth. The real answers will come from the people we support and their families, so it is encouraging that this is the group the Minister is listening to. We need a continued, concerted effort to implement any recommended changes that emerge from the Ministry's consultations. Our goal must be to help people with disabilities improve their quality of life and breadth of community involvement, which means that all of us in the service delivery system need to stop looking to please Ministers, bureaucrats and 'CEOs' and start looking to improve our supports to the people who are our reason for being here – people with disabilities.



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[www.bcchallengerbaseball.com](http://www.bcchallengerbaseball.com)

McDonald's I'm Lovin' It

## DDA OPEN HOUSE

Thank you for attending our 2013 Open House at VanDusen Gardens. Our families and friends enjoyed our holiday treats, live music and a spectacular Festival of Lights show in the evening. It was a great success and we are looking forward to hosting another open house this winter. Special thanks to our planning committee and volunteers.



**THANK YOU**  
To Culinary Caper's for their generous donation.

<http://www.culinarycapers.com/>



## MY NEW DORO PHONE

BY MARK HAWKSWORTH



I work as a courier at DDA. I spend most of my day in Vancouver delivering mail to eight DDA work sites and I use Canada Line, Sky Train and buses all the time. I always wanted to have a pocket phone in case of emergency. Sometimes I am stuck in traffic and I am late back at the Head Office or for an appointment. I was afraid that getting a cellular phone would be too expensive for me and that I would not be able to learn how to use it. Finally, in November, I bought a new cell phone from Rogers. It is called a DORO phone. DORO is a flip phone which prevents me from dialing by accident. It has a large display and larger than usual buttons. The volume can be set up high. The functions are a little bit difficult for me but I am learning how to use them. So far, I have learnt how to turn it on and off, how to charge my phone and how to call somebody by dialing the number. The next thing I am going to learn will be how to use the contact list, and I can't wait until I start using the camera!

The phone cost \$160.00 and I have a prepaid plan. I go to Rogers and buy minutes for \$10.00 which lasts me almost a month if I keep my conversations short. So far, I use my phone only when I really need to call somebody. In the future, if I want, I can switch to a different Rogers plan.

I really, really love my phone.

*(Mark lived with his father until he passed away at age 97. Mark has since moved to an apartment of his own and is living independently with support from DDA's Community Apartment program.)*

## MOVIE REVIEW: *PLANES*

BY BLAINE MACDONALD



Tonight's movie review is Disney's "Planes"

The movie begins with Dusty, a crop duster with sky-high dreams and a once-in-lifetime chance to take on the world's fastest flyers in the greatest race ever. Dusty has a big heart, but he has two problems... he's not built for speed and he is afraid of heights. So, his courage is put to the ultimate test as this unlikely hero aims higher than he ever imagined. With a little help from his friends, Dusty finds the courage to be more than he was built for and the inspiration to soar!

This is one of the best Disney movies since Cars!

## THANK YOU CAKE!!

BY LEANNA LOGAN



A parent from Kids at GF Strong Child Development Centre made this cake to thank the Infant Room. The room is known as the "Duckling Room" and this represents the teachers (Ducks) and the children (Ducklings). What a great appreciation gift!

## CONTRIBUTING TO THE LIVES OF OTHERS

In the last few months various White Spot Restaurants, and Kal Tire locations have generously provide space for our DDA Donation Bins! Please check the locations for your convenience, and as a thank you please consider White Spot for some great food, or if your looking for tires Kal Tire can't be beat!



4129 Lougheed Hwy.  
2850 Cambie St.  
2205 Lonsdale Ave.

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North Vancouver

8130 Ontario St.  
2573 Runnel Dr.  
13443 72 Ave.  
1851 Lougheed Hwy  
5621 - 180th St.  
2790 Arbutus St.  
5390 Grimmer St.  
10090 King George Blvd.

Vancouver  
Coquitlam  
Surrey  
Coquitlam  
Cloverdale  
Vancouver  
Burnaby  
Surrey



## SIBLINGS NETWORK

Brother or sister of a person with a developmental disability?

Interested in a person-to-person network?

For more information, advocacy and awareness, call Terry Schenkel at 604.233.5433.



## STARWORKS EMPLOYEES RAISE MONEY



Starworks employees held a Pizza Lunch fundraiser for the United Way and raised \$46.15.



The Developmental Disabilities Association gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the United Way of the Lower Mainland in helping fund Family Support & Advocacy.

## ART WORK FROM WEST 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY PROGRAM



## IT WAS 'SAUL' GOOD AT STARWORKS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

BY KIRSTI INGLIS



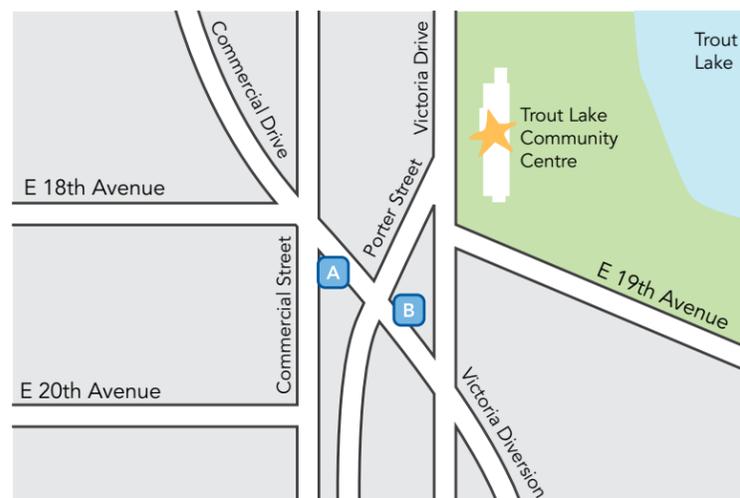
Simon Kan, Production Worker

If you walked into Starworks this December, you would have been greeted by a buzz of activity as Starworks employees worked to assemble thousands of gifts for the holiday season.

Over the last year Starworks employees have been proudly assembling gift boxes for Saul Good Gift Co., a luxury gift box company that features local and sustainable artisan products. Many of these corporate gifts were found in new high-end homes as gifts from the property developer. In the beginning, Starworks was contracted to assemble large orders of corporate gift boxes, however, as the year progressed, Starworks worked with Saul Good Gifts Co. to implement new systems and technology that would allow Starworks to assemble individual online e-commerce orders. This new system allowed Starworks to assemble thousands of gift boxes over the holiday season and ship them out directly to homes across Canada. This new initiative created employment for five Starworks production workers. Although this new line of work required new systems and training, Starworks employees rose to the challenge and worked hard over the holiday season to create beautiful gifts.

For more information, or to order a gift box please check out [www.itsaulgood.com](http://www.itsaulgood.com)

## LEISURE FAIR 2014



**DATE:** Wednesday April 2, 2014

**TIME:** 6:00 to 8:00pm

**LOCATION:** Trout Lake Community Centre

**CONTACT:** Michael at 604.301.2831 or [mhajduk@develop.bc.ca](mailto:mhajduk@develop.bc.ca)

**A** #20 Victoria Southbound  
(Victoria Diversion and Commercial Street bus stop)

**B** #20 Downtown Northbound  
(Victoria Diversion and Porter Street bus stop)

*Trout Lake Community Centre is three-minute walk from both stops*

Annual event co-sponsored by the Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children, Vancouver Parks and Recreation and the Developmental Disabilities Association.



[www.starworks.ca](http://www.starworks.ca)

Starworks specializes in fulfillment and custom manual labour

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# TAX INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES



Through the tax system, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) administers a range of benefits and credits for persons with a disability or those who are caring for a dependant with a disability. By filing your income tax and benefit return by April 30, 2014, your return will be processed faster and if you are entitled to a refund, you will receive it earlier.

## Notable Federal non-refundable tax credits

- **Disability amount** – If a qualified practitioner certifies on Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate, that you have a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental function, you can claim the disability amount when filing your return. The disability amount can be transferred in whole or in part if the person with the disability does not need it to reduce his or her taxable income.
- **Medical expenses** – You may be able to claim the cost of medical expenses for any 12-month period ending in 2012 (provided that they have not been claimed before) for yourself, your spouse or common-law partner, or your dependants.
- For more information about medical expenses, including a list of common eligible expenses, go to [www.cra.gc.ca/medical](http://www.cra.gc.ca/medical).

## Registered Disability Savings Plan

A registered disability savings plan (RDSP) is a plan that provides long-term financial security for a beneficiary who has a severe impairment in physical or mental function. The beneficiary named under an RDSP must be eligible for the

disability tax credit. Contributions are not tax deductible, but the earnings generated on contributions are tax-exempt while they stay in the plan. When earnings are withdrawn from the savings plan, they are taxable in the hands of the beneficiary. For more information, go to [www.cra.gc.ca/disability](http://www.cra.gc.ca/disability) or [www.rdsp.ca](http://www.rdsp.ca)

## Help completing your return?

If you qualify for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program and have a simple tax situation, a trained volunteer will help you complete your 2011 income tax and benefit return. To find a Community Volunteer Income Tax Program clinic near you, go to [www.cra.gc.ca/volunteer](http://www.cra.gc.ca/volunteer) or call the CRA Individuals Income Tax Enquiries line at 1 800 959 8281.

## FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

- Community Volunteer Income Tax Program: Call 1-800-959-8281 to find the nearest Community Tax Volunteer Centre 1166 West Pender Street, Vancouver.
- 411 Seniors Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver 604-684-8171
- Gordon Neighbourhood House, 1019 Broughton Street, Vancouver 604-683-2554
- BCPWA Support Services, 1107 Seymour Street, Vancouver 604-646-5323
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC, 1133 Melville Street, Vancouver 1-800-663-2677 MARCH ONLY
- Multicultural Helping House Society, 4802 Fraser Street, Vancouver 604-879-3277
- South Granville Senior Centre, 1420 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver 604-732-0812

## Multiple formats

If you have a visual impairment, you can get our publications in braille, large print, etext (CD or diskette), or MP3, by visiting our Web site at [www.cra.gc.ca/alternate](http://www.cra.gc.ca/alternate), or by calling 1-800-959-2221. You can also get your personalized correspondence in one of these formats by calling 1-800-959-8281.

## Maximize Tax Credits

In our self-assessing tax system, it's up to Canadians to educate themselves about tax compliance and about tax credits that reduce the tax you pay.

The CRA has information on tax credits with explanations of how to make a successful claim by documenting the claim appropriately for:

- What you can claim for yourself

- What you can claim for others who live with you or whom you support with a mental or physical infirmity
- Attendant care or care in an establishment
- Medical expenses for all Canadians
- Disability supports for those who work or attend school
- GST/HST, Excise, Customs

The T2201 or the Disability Tax Certificate provides definitions of revised disability criteria which may apply to someone denied a credit in the past for:

- Vision
- Walking
- Speaking
- Hearing
- Elimination
- Dressing
- Feeding
- Mental functions
- Life sustaining therapy
- NEW Cumulative Effects

Under fairness provisions, you can request an adjustment for some criteria for up to 10 years. Some credits are transferable to supportive relatives.

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# MY TRIP TO THE CHRISTMAS MARKET

BY MARIE PUTMAN



I went to the Christmas Market with my Life Skills Worker, Tonee and two friends, Debbie and Lois. I was happy to find out admission was only \$3.00. When I went in, I saw a Carousel, and lots of Christmas crafts, and candies, and decorations. It was very cold, so we warmed up with some lunch. Lois and Debbie had a German lunch. Debbie and Lois had traditional German sausages, and I had Flammenkuchen, a flat bread with caramelized onions and Gruyere cheese. It was sort of like a pizza. It tasted very good.

We looked around the market. I saw all kinds of stands with scarves, honey from Surrey, and soap. I bought dairy free, nut free, marshmallows for my nieces and nephews and put the candy in their Christmas stockings. Then we looked in the big building, there were many traditional German Christmas decorations and wooden and glass ornaments, the wooden ornaments had wind mills on them. There were very nice things in the ornament gallery, but they were a bit too expensive for me, so I just looked. We stood outside by the big Christmas Tree and took a picture, then it was getting colder, so it was time to go home. It was good trip!

# HOLIDAY FUN

## AT OUR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

Our staff at our child development centres threw festive celebrations for children and their families to attend.



# DARTMOOR HOLIDAY TEA PARTY

BY WILSON LAW

Each year the tradition of Dartmoor Christmas Tea is always full of fun, joy and laughter. This year, though we had something a little more special. Dave Haywood brought along his guitar to lead us in our joyful caroling.

We clapped our hands to Jingle Bells and harmonized beautifully to Silent Night. We ended our caroling with 'We wish you a Merry Christmas'. It was lovely and reminded us of the good old days when we were gathered around the fireplace with our family, friends and parents during the holidays.

We'd like to extend many thanks to all of the families and friends who took the time to come over to our special Christmas gathering. Your presence brought so much joy, love and good vibes. You helped us transformed Dartmoor into a place that we always have known to be there, 'home, sweet, home.'



# THE NEW WILLS ESTATE SUCCESSION ACT (WESA)

BY DAVID CHEN, BSC, BA, CPCA DC COMPLETE FINANCIAL



You have probably been made aware that the estate regulations in BC are being changed as of Mar 31 this year. The new WESA was designed to bring fairness to some old problems created by some common situations (like when two spouses passed away at the same time) and to keep up with the modern world.

The challenge with disabilities estate planning is to prevent assets from going to the the wrong hands (like next of kin who do not need the assets) or directly into the hands of a family member with a disability risking ineligibility for provincial social benefits like Persons With Disabilities benefits (PWD). Estate contests and the requirement for executors to report to the BC Guardian and Trustees office when an estate transfer involves the parents of a person receiving social benefits, can create undesirable effects if assets transfer to the wrong person or directly into the hands of the beneficiary and not their trust.

WESA was drafted to address the increasing numbers of extended families and many of the negative situations created by the old laws. For example, in situations where a couple passed at the same time in say a car accident, the old rules assumed that the older spouse died first. Estate assets would flow according to their Will or according to the rules of intestacy (when no valid will exists) to the younger spouse and then the estate would flow according to the younger spouse's Will or rules of intestacy. We have seen cases with second

marriages where unplanned results destroyed the intention of where the estate was to flow.

Keep in mind as well that do it yourself planning can have undesirable effects. Transferring assets while you are alive might avoid the Wills Variation act but can trigger higher taxation for the trust and more taxation as the 21 Year Deemed Disposition Rule clock starts the minute the trust is activated.

What hasn't changed is the law of private contracts and the rules around designated beneficiaries remain. Life insurance and segregated fund accounts remain valuable components of an estate succession financial plan to avoid someone contesting the Will, avoiding higher levels of taxation, and insuring trusts receive assets at just the right time.

The changes are quite numerous and really should involve a review with your financial advisor and estate lawyer because there is no grandfathering of Wills written prior to WESA coming into effect. Chances are you will be affected by the changes.

## Your Child's Medical Condition & The Disability Tax Credit

Discover the incredible benefits of this under-used tax break. Topics include:

- What is the DTC?
- What's at stake?
- How do you qualify?
- What medical conditions are relevant?
- What's the process for making a claim?
- Should I do the claim myself or hire a firm?

FREE SEMINAR

Presented by Quantum Benefit

([www.quantumbenefit.ca](http://www.quantumbenefit.ca))

Sponsored by the DDA

WHEN: Saturday March 8, 2014 - 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

WHERE: 3455 Kaslo Street, Vancouver (at 18th Ave.)

# VIETNAMESE FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

a support group for families with developmentally disabled family members

EVERY SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

6:30pm TO 8:00pm  
DDA VANCOUVER OFFICE (KASLO)  
3455 KASLO STREET  
Vancouver BC  
V5M 3H4

CONTACT:  
NIKKI TRAN  
6:00pm TO 9:00pm  
778.895.2535

TRINH TRAN  
trinhhope@gmail.com

## CHRISTMAS PARTY AT CURZON

BY JOHN JIANG

At our annual Christmas party it was wonderful to catch up again with all of the families and friends. The clients enjoyed music, Carroll's, and tasty food. They enjoyed taking lots of pictures just like professional photographers. This year the clients and staff put up 3 decorated Christmas trees in our house which were adorned with many beautiful ornaments. Once again our staff cooked delicious meals and special items which were relished by all!

During the party Charles was a great host and enjoyed serving food and taking pictures. Doug and Alan did not want the party to end! Henrik was very proud to spend precious time with his parents and his nephew and niece, and Michael was ecstatic about the music and dancing. He could have danced all night long.

We all had a great time socializing at Christmas! Our special thanks to our families and friends for their involvement and continued support. We definitely look forward to Christmas 2014 party, so stay tuned until then!



## CLOTHING DONATION BINS IN LOWER MAINLAND AND VICINITY



Although most clothing donation bins display local charity decals, approximately 60% of all these bins are owned and operated by for profit businesses.

**LOOK FOR THE RED SEAL ON THE WHITE BINS  
TO ENSURE 100% OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS BENEFIT  
A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**



## ARLINGTON CHRISTMAS PARTY 2013

BY BRIANA DAVIDSON

The sunshine streamed in through the floor to ceiling windows in the Lakewood room at Trout Lake Community Centre. The temperature outside was so cold you could see your breath and frost covered the trees, creating a picturesque setting for our annual Arlington Christmas Party. The Sojourners, with their jazz and gospel harmonies, kept us all warm and feeling festive. This was the setting for the annual Arlington Friends and Family Luncheon.

We were so fortunate to have The Sojourners perform for us. They encouraged the crowd to sing along to holiday classics and treated us to a few of their own productions. So amazing to have the opportunity to have such a high caliber of professionals musicians perform for us. A big thank you to 'In the House Festival' for arranging the entertainment and providing the sound equipment. I do believe that a few of us in the crowd would have become a fourth member of the troupe if invited to go on tour with them.



We celebrated a coming together of friends and families with a delicious Chinese food buffet. A lot of visiting was done by friends, families, DDA staff and of course the Arlington Residents.

A small handmade gift was given to the friends and family who had been able to attend.

Some longtime attendees indicated how much they enjoyed the new venue and the entertainment.

We are already looking forward to planning the 2014 Christmas Luncheon!

### Interactive Workshop for Parents of Students with Special Needs SHARING AND SHOWCASING YOUR CHILD'S UNIQUE STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES

WHEN: Saturday, March 22, 2014 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

WHERE: 3455 Kaslo St. Vancouver

#### DETAILS:

Are you a parent of a child with special needs? Do you feel that no one understands your child's unique strengths and challenges?

If so, please come and join us for this informative and interactive workshop. You will leave **INSPIRED** with practical and useful strategies to showcase and share your child's unique strengths and challenges.



**PLEASE REGISTER TODAY!**

To register or for more information, please contact Terry Schenkel at [TSchenkel@develop.bc.ca](mailto:TSchenkel@develop.bc.ca) or call 604-233-5433.

# STARBURST - SPRING 2014

## Family Support Groups

### DDA Vancouver Chinese Support Group

*General support for children's and adult's issues in Cantonese and Mandarin.*

**Meeting:** 3rd Saturday of the month from 6:30-8:30pm

**Place:** 4948 Fraser Street, Vancouver

**Child minding:** Available on site when requested at least one week in advance of meeting

**Contact:** John, 604-323-1328 or john\_tsang2000@yahoo.ca

### DDA Youth in Transition

*Support information for transition to adulthood.*

**Meeting:** February 5, April 2, June 4, 2014 at 6:30pm

**Place:** Britannia Community Centre, 1661 Napier Street Vancouver

**Meeting:** March 1, May 3, 2014 at 10:30am

**Place:** Vancouver Resource Society, 2006 West 10 Avenue Vancouver

**Contact:** Liz Cochrane, 604-733-6252 or transitionparents@gmail.com

### Vietnamese Family Support Group

*Support to Families in Vietnamese*

**Meeting:** Second Thursday of the Month 6:30pm to 8pm

**Place:** 3455 Kaslo Street Vancouver

**Child minding:** Available on site when requested at least one week in advance of meeting

**Contact:** Nikki Tran at 778-895-2535 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm or Trinh Tran at trinhhope@gmail.com

### Bollywood Maza

*Support to families in Hindi and Punjabi*

**Meeting:** Every Wednesday 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Place:** 4948 Fraser Street, Vancouver

**Contact:** Michael Hajduk 604-301-2831 mhajduk@develop.bc.ca

### Your Child's Medical Condition & The Disability Tax Credit

**Meeting:** March 8, 2014 from 10:00am to 12:00pm

**Place:** 3455 Kaslo Street Vancouver.

**Contact:** Terry Schenkel to register at 604-233-5433 or tschenkel@develop.bc.ca

### Sharing and Showcasing Your Child's Unique Strengths and Challenges: Create a Visual Record of Your Child's History

**Meeting:** March 22, 2014 from 10:00am to 3:00pm

**Place:** 3455 Kaslo Street Vancouver.

**Contact:** Terry Schenkel to register at 604-233-5433 or tschenkel@develop.bc.ca

Do you have comments, thoughts, or your own stories about DDA or people with developmental disabilities?

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Every quarter, we'll pick several submissions to feature.

Send your submissions to [communications@develop.bc.ca!](mailto:communications@develop.bc.ca)



Developmental  
Disabilities Association

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Richmond, BC Canada V6X 2W2

The Star is a quarterly external publication of the Developmental Disabilities Association.

We welcome your comments and feedback. Kindly direct all comments and submissions to [tcheung@develop.bc.ca](mailto:tcheung@develop.bc.ca).