

The New View Society 40th Anniversary History Timeline 1973 to 2013

Celebrating 40 years



***40 Years of Dedication to
Community Mental Wellness***



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"Community Health Through Mental Health"

The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

New View History in the 1970's

New View Society incorporated – 1973

First Chairperson – Mayor Jack Campbell

First Executive Director – Sharon DiSanto

In the late 60's – early 70's, downsizing began at Riverview hospital. Individuals living with mental illness were moved into the community – mainly into boarding homes with room and board, and not much else. Social isolation became a major problem and many wanted to go back to the hospital as they missed recreation and work programs. The former patients were the trailblazers, having to adapt and change from the life they had been living, some for decades.

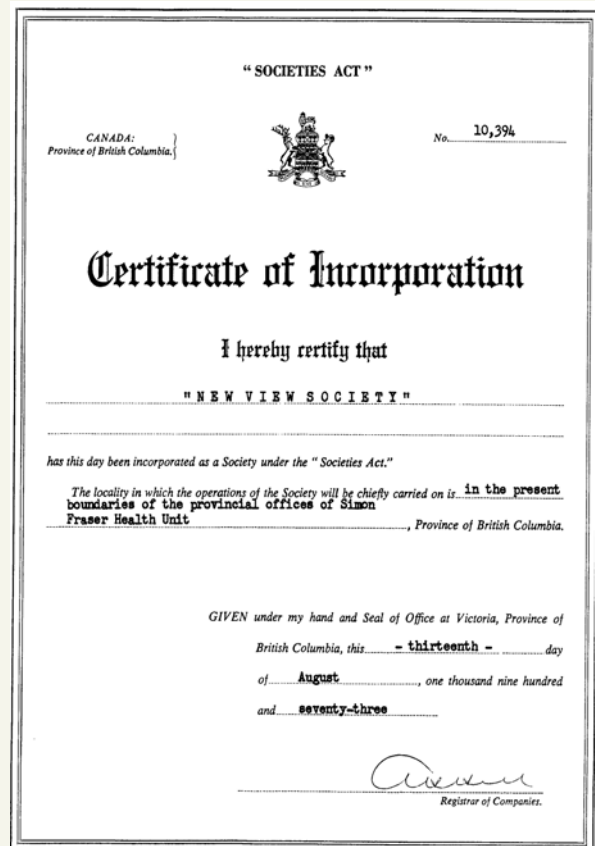
The Mental Health office had a staff of five women at the time, including Dr. Shauna Little, and along with Boarding Home Program staff, including Sharon DiSanto, they very quickly saw there were no supports that came with the downsizing. These women saw an immediate need and went to work. They secured free space in an old City building – most of us have heard of the tales of the old Dalkey Building – and without any funding, a Drop-In was formed, staffed by volunteers. This allowed for individuals to come for a cup of coffee, a game of cards and a listening ear. There were no buses in our area at the time, and volunteers were recruited to drive individuals to appointments and activities. Kay Swalwell began as one of these volunteers.

Legend has it that the original funds for the society were forty-eight cents in a coffee mug (although there is a certain discrepancy as to exactly how much it was). With a Local Initiative Program Grant from the Federal Government, the first staff person was hired. New View was able to grow when they got client hour funding from the Provincial Government under the Achievement Centre's program. Other funding was found through L.E.A.P and Canada Works Grants and other sources, including the United Way, beginning in 1978.

The United Way, beginning in 1978.

On August 13, 1973, the New View Society was formed and incorporated.

In 1975, the New View Society hired 3 workers and started programs in the Dalkey building. Thirty-six people attended programs, but time was limited as other groups were using the building as well. Dr. Little told New View that there were no funds in the mental health budget for any new programs to remedy the situation; however, the occupational therapist and the treatment staff were able to set up activity programs in the Dalkey Building, which was owned by the City of Port Coquitlam (who donated the space and paid



New View History in the 1970'S

FIRST FINANCIAL STATEMENT

NEW VIEW SOCIETY
FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF
February 28, 1974 - April 29, 1974

PREVIOUS BALANCE:

February 28, 1974 \$ 4,619.00

CREDIT:

Membership Fees 4.00
TOTAL 4,623.00

DEBIT:

V. Best - Workshop Course 25.00
L.I.P. T/A #265-14 4,320.00
4,345.00

BALANCE \$ 274.00

respectfully submitted

S. McKenzie
S. McKenzie
TREASURER

SMcK/mh

NEW VIEW SOCIETY
2697 Shaughnessy Street
Port Coquitlam, B. C.

October 25, 1976

Are you handicapped and having problems with:
TRANSPORTATION
LONELINESS
EMPLOYMENT
UTILIZING YOUR TIME CONSTRUCTIVELY

There are many other people in the area experiencing these problems.

The New View Society is an Activity Center formed within the past 2 years, serving the handicapped of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, and West.

At present we offer activities such as Bingo, Ceramics, Pottery, Macrame, Swimming, Pool, and Crafts. We also are branching out into carpentry and woodworking. We will also start new programs that are of interest to those who attend.

As well as being involved in activities, it gives the handicapped a chance to meet together to try and work out some mutual difficulties and experiences.

We have the use of a bus and presently are getting a lift on it for wheel-chairs.

If you are interested in participating in this activity center or would like more information please contact:

S. DiSanto
Director, New View Society
Telephone: 942-5633
2697 Shaughnessy St.
Port Coquitlam, B.C.
(Dalkie Building)
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

NEW VIEW SOCIETY

Directors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Address</u>
Dr. S.G. Little, Chairperson	Psychiatrist	2232 Elgin St., Port Coquitlam
Patience McArthur, Treasurer	Administrator	2232 Elgin St., Port Coquitlam
Adele DePaul	Administrator	819 Surrey, New Westminster
Marilyn Muncester	Case Aide	403 Sixth St. "
Ardice Buchanan	Public Health Nurse	2338 Clarke Port Moody
Rita LaChance	Psychiatric Nurse	2232 Elgin St., Port Coquitlam
Jim Seddon	School Counselor	1140 Alderside, Port Moody
Florence Reber	Social Worker	1019 Gatensbury, Coquitlam
Janice Griffiths	Social Worker	125 McInnes, New Westminster

Firsts

New View History

-our first brochure!

NEW VIEW SOCIETY
ACHIEVEMENT CENTER FOR
HANDICAPPED ADULTS
2697 Shaughnessy St.

NEW VIEW SOCIETY A NON PROFIT Society serving Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Coquitlam and Ioco. As a society sensitive to the individual needs of the handicapped people in this area, our purpose is to develop and co-ordinate activities, work situations, and placement into other optional programs we have access to.

The Services we offer at the present:
Drop In Coffee - held 9 to 3 daily, Monday to Friday.
Director - Ray Gwalwell - 943-5633

Recreation and Social Functions - held in the community facilities. (Swimming, Pottery, shopping trips and outings).
The Corner Thrift Store
Director - Eunice Wills - 944-7337

Located on the corner of Shaughnessy and Elgin.
Donations of clothing and any used items can be dropped off daily except Sunday.
Everade Industries
Manager - John Lange -

A place of employment in a production oriented industry.
Campus Cafeteria:
Director - Pat Sorenson - 931-4921

A cafeteria training program held at Douglas College Coquitlam Campus. The goal is to provide an opportunity for potentially employable handicapped adults to train and enter the work force.
Winlow Woodwork:
Director - Bryan Carson - 931-4655

A Woodworking Training Program held at Douglas College Coquitlam Campus. The goal is to provide an opportunity for potentially employable handicapped adults to train and enter the work force.
Group Living Home:
Director - Florence Reber - 941-3676

This home is just being purchased and furnishings and all other household items are needed. The goal is to provide a low cost independent living arrangement for five handicapped adults.

News Clippings

Thursday, June 6, 1974

PoCo's New View Society Aids Handicapped People

"Mental illness is not a popular issue in society. People tend to think with stereotype attitudes. They see those with emotional problems as being second or third class citizens."

The speaker is Mildred de Haan, researcher for the New View Society. NVS, a Port Coquitlam group of concerned community members, is dedicated to aiding emotionally disturbed individuals. It also wants to meet the needs of handicapped and disabled people by establishing a crafts workshop in District 43.

HEADED BY MAYOR

First proposed in 1971 and headed then by Mayor Jack Campbell, the society has only been in active existence since February of this year. At the time research was begun: the need for sheltered workshops in Port Coquitlam and area was assessed; the finances and possible locations for the workshops were studied, and community support was analyzed.

The four months of research revealed a desperate need for local facilities. District 43, Mrs. de Haan declared, has no on-going program for the 90 or so emotionally handicapped people living in the area. Currently, such individuals, some recently released from Riverview Hospital, have few programs provided to re-adjust them to the world. A world they have rejected, are possibly afraid of or find overwhelming.

SERVICES INADEQUATE

One such program is the weekly meeting for "Activity Therapy" under the guidance of only one therapist. A second is the bi-monthly social evenings given by volunteers

from the Canadian Mental Health Association.

In the eyes of New View workers, these services are woefully inadequate. Steps to correct the situation are hampered by a lack of funding. The NVS is determined to petition all levels of government for funding to supplement the shoestring LIP grant it now receives.

NO IDEAL BUILDING

Unfortunately, grants are difficult to get unless an organization has been in operation for a set time. For the newly formed NVS, this requirement is obviously difficult to meet.

The lack of a proper building has also slowed the society's progress. Mrs. de Haan's "ideal building" - the building adjoining their Kingsway office - was not available for them. The Dulkey building is now being considered as semi-permanent quarters for the workshop. NVS President Dr. Shauna Little is optimistic that a more suitable building will be found once the public is aware of the Society's need.

Thus far, community attitudes towards the project appear to be mixed. Dr. Little stated that attitudes are

changing and that "Port Coquitlam is a very progressive community and deserves credit" for the moral support and participation provided by its members.

While attitudes are more positive, finances are still a handicap. "We've started", was Dr. Little's comment.

"All we need now is some money". And a building. And volunteers. Anyone interested in supplying any of the three is invited to phone the New View Society at 941-5616, or contact Mildred de Haan or Shauna Little at 1254 A Kingsway, Port Coquitlam.

Page 4C — THE GAZETTE — Wednesday, May 24, 1978



New View Society members sort through goods at Thrift Store. Items are under \$2 and proceeds pay the rent.

PoCo group welcomes local members, money

The New View Society, a Port Coquitlam group, is spreading its message to the Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge area.

There are a few starts: First — the Society has opened a Thrift shop in a store behind the Commercial Hotel in Port Coquitlam. Prices for most goods are under \$2 and, as well as the clothing, toys and other goods on sale, the Thrift shop will serve as an outlet for the

creative works of society members, ranging from wood work to pottery.

Second — the society, which already has one Pitt Meadows member among its membership of 100, has doors open for those who feel they may benefit.

The society, formed in 1973, deals with handicapped adults. "There is no prejudice as to the type of handicap, sex, age or potential," says a Society briefer that has gone to the government seeking funding to help purchase the building the group currently leases.

Goals are listed — to provide activity, social skills and self-care skills to handicapped adults; to provide a sheltered work situation; and to provide work training with the goals of

becoming financially independent.

The group started to serve the people of Port Coquitlam and has since grown to take in Coquitlam and Port Moody.

The presence of residents from Pitt Meadows and New Westminster shows the potential for more growth. "We'll accept anyone interested in volunteer work," says Gail MacLean, a director of the Society. "What we are trying to do is get our feet on the ground now. So far Thrift shop sales are paying for the rent of the building."

If the building can be purchased, interior renovation will see office space and occupational and recreational facilities developed to provide a

more complete center. Present programs of the society include social and recreational activities, educational programs, self-care skills, a ceramics course and a craft program.

The group is proposing an expanded program to provide a sheltered workshop to provide a outlet for work-related individual development and through the Thrift shop and other activities, work-related training in a number of skills including cashing, inventory-taking, public relations and purchasing.

Those wishing further information about the Society can drop into the Thrift shop or telephone 941-4232 or 942-5633.

News Clipping

Selling more than charity

by DIANE RAPSKE

"Sheila loves her work. She will leave her apartment much earlier than she needs to, and come and sit with her friends for an hour before starting her work at the Thrift Shop," said Eunice Wills, manager of the shop.

Sheila White in her mid-fourties, is one of a continually growing number of happy clients at the New View Society and Thrift Shop in downtown Port Coquitlam.

White wasn't always happy. There was a time when the pressure of her job as a registered nurse, and the turmoil of her marriage problems,

caused her to retreat from reality. After her mental breakdown she could only sit fearfully in the shadows of her apartment, hiding from everything. "She couldn't even face the sunlight," said Eunice.

With the assistance of the staff at New View Society and the new friends she made, White began to enjoy life again. "Now she's a competent, sensible, sensitive lady," stated Eunice, "and she is a fantastic help at the shop."

The New View Society is a non-profit organization funded by the Ministry of Human Resources and the United Way. It was

originally started eight years ago, as a drop-in centre for those who were recovering from psychiatric problems and had just left the hospital. The patients were mostly elderly, and the centre not much more than a social club.

However the society realized the centre had to expand, and two years ago, began a program of rehabilitation and achievement.

"Our clients are all ages now, many in their early 20's," stated Staff Member Kay Swalwell. "Most are referred to us by the Port Coquitlam Mental Health Centre. Here they not only do crafts such as ceramics

and light carpentry, they learn how to enter the working world again."

Swalwell stated, "Some work at the thrift store next door with Eunice. There they learn responsibility, punctuality, the importance of good appearance, being able to take direction and able to work alone without constant supervision."

"We let them experience mild degrees of pressure, such as completing their work by a certain time."

"If they want, they can go to the Douglas College Winslow campus and with the help of Douglas College technicians and our three staff members, learn how to



Selling . . .

Eunice at New View watches over the goods and the people . . .

News Clipping

Program for disabled

by Jim McNaughton

Douglas College in conjunction with the New View Society of Port Coquitlam has implemented a program designed to benefit the disabled.

The program is located at the Coquitlam campus and is in keeping with the United Nations proclamation of 1981 as the year of disabled.

Ann Kitching, principal of the Coquitlam Campus, said that the program consists of placing workers in the College cafeteria and woodworking shop.

"The disabled learn solid job habits and obtain an improved self-image. I've noticed such a wonderful improvement in their attitudes and self-images since they have started," said Kitching.

Pat Sorenson, cafeteria supervisor, said that the

whole atmosphere of the program is "great".

"At first I had second thoughts about supervising the program, but I found it to be very challenging and very rewarding. The students and faculty have been very understanding", she said.

According to Sharon DiSanto, executive director of New Views Society, many of the disabled students go on to work in the cafeteria after working in the workshop.

"In the cafeteria they learn to deal more effectively with the public and learn new job skills," she said.

Janet Hill, a student in the program, said she's using it (program) to prepare herself to re-enter the work force.

"I have no criticism of the program and I hope to go on

to take a personal management course at BCIT," she said.

Four students from the program have been placed in jobs, and others are now in the process of being placed.

The first graduate from the cafeteria was placed at Nel's Diner on the Surrey Campus of Douglas College.

Canadian Pacific Air employees benefit fund contributed close to \$2,000 toward the purchase of machinery for the cafeteria and wood shop and also donated a cash register for use in the cafeteria.

The Port Coquitlam Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion also donated a meat slicer and a milkshake machine.

"I am very pleased with the generosity of the public" Kitching stated.



Cashing in

PoCo Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 133 present. New View Society with cheque for the purchase of an industrial micro wave oven for use in their kitchen at Coq. Douglas College. Left to right. Hugo Haynes, Legion Vice Pres. Executive Director; Duane Pritchett, Sharon Di Santo New View Society, President of Legion, Pat Sorenson cafeteria manager.

News Clipping

"New Sewing Machine Donated"



1977.

Quilt production at the New View workshop will soon be doubled thanks to a new sewing machine donated by the Beta Chi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. Presenting the machine are (left to right) Pat Higgs and Caroll Duggan, president of the sorority. Looking over the new machine is Mavis Malcove and New View assistant director Gail MacLean.



News Clipping

Handicapped society searching for a bus

The New View Society for handicapped adults needs a properly equipped bus.

The Society's Centre, at 2697 Shaughnessy in PoCo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. — which is of no use to the handicapped people who would like to use the centre but have no transportation, said Mrs. Islay Evenson, member of the Society's Board of Directors.

"If we're lucky, we can borrow a bus," said Mrs. Evenson. "But that still excludes the people who must use wheelchairs. We need a bus with a lift for the paraplegics."

Mrs. Evenson is also chairman of the Society's building fund committee.

"Port Coquitlam council donated the Delke building for our use, and we're grateful for that," said Mrs. Evenson, "but we're sharing the building with two other groups — the Boys and Girls Club and the Cadets."

She said this meant that whatever project the group

was involved in had to be cleaned up and put away pending arrival of one of the other organizations using the building.

Inevitably, this limits the scope of the Society's activities at a time when, said Mrs. Evenson, there is a great need for expansion.

There is a substantial waiting list, she said, of handicapped adults whose involvement in the New View Society could well be the only outlet for their social and recreational needs.

Not to mention the need for what can only be described as a sense of worth. One of the prime aims of the New View Society is to instruct handicapped adults in basic everyday procedures most of us take for granted — such as cooking, budgeting, shopping and self care.

The Society will also, on request, arrange for night school or correspondence courses for handicapped clients, but a long-range goal of the Centre is a workshop — achievement centre — a project that would include training facilities and could not take place in a building shared by other groups.

Several of the approximately 105 handicapped people involved in the Society already hold down competitive jobs (albeit not at competitive wages) and several people have potential for such jobs, but need training.

Others, while unable to enter the work force competitively, could be productive in a sheltered work program.

The society envisions an

odd job employment centre, including gardening, painting, babysitting and housecleaning.

Not all handicapped people involved in New View are physically handicapped.

About one third are socially or emotionally handicapped, that is, they are former Riverview patients who must readjust to the idea of living once again in society. Another third are mentally retarded.

"We'd like to have different facilities for these different groups," said Mrs. Evenson. Currently, she said, lack of space is making it very difficult to set up the variety of programs that would meet with the needs of all.

The New View Society has applied to the Department of Human Resources for funds with which to purchase an equipped bus and a building for their exclusive use. No reply has, as yet, been received.

The Centre is currently operating with an Achievement Centre Grant from the provincial government, based on the number of clients served, for about \$25,000 per year — a sum that barely covers wages for the three Centre workers, and certainly precludes the purchase of expensive equipment.

But, said Mrs. Evenson, as the Society serves handicapped people of the three municipalities — Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and Coquitlam — why shouldn't the three councils provide assistance?

"You know," she said, "there are lots of programs and funds for handicapped children. What do they expect happens when those children become adults? That they roll over and die?"



News Clipping



THREE NEW VIEW SOCIETY clients, assisted by a Society worker, enjoy a pottery class sponsored jointly by the Society and PoCo Parks and Recreation.

\$9,000 for Dalkey

Port Coquitlam council has agreed to spend up to \$9,000 to upgrade the Dalkey Building, Port Coquitlam, to meet the standards under the Fire Marshall Act and the National Building Code.

The leisure activities committee has discussed the upgrading of the Dalkey Building in the past and now recommends that the city proceed immediately to upgrade the building.

The improvements will include improving the exit system, to have one five foot entrance door recessed and made to swing outwards onto Shaughnessy Street, two 44 foot exit doors, illuminated exit lights for the above doors and white lights outside these doors.

Also emergency lighting will be added throughout the building, along with an automatic fire alarm system, and an enclosed furnace.

The Dalkey building is used

by a number of local groups such as the Nu-View Society and the Pocomo Boys and Girls Club.

Alderman John Keryluk suggested that along with these improvements the city should also look at correcting the shortcomings in the building that make it hard for the handicapped to utilize it. One thing that is needed is a railing in the washroom.

Keryluk stated that the city should consult the people that use the building to see what their needs are.

A representative from the Nu-View Society was present at a recent council meeting to show concern that the building is upgraded.

The representative also pointed out that the society is having problems with vandalism to the equipment it stores at the building.

The society feels the vandalism is from within and requests more security in the building.



News Clipping

New Life For Old Building

An old building in Port Coquitlam will give handicapped people a "new lease on life."

The New View Society has obtained the former Schinz property, on Wilson Ave. near the river, for a centre for people with physical or mental handicaps. The eight acre property, including a ranch style house with full basement, was purchased by the city because it is in an area subject to flooding. It will be rented to the society for \$1,000 a year, with the first year's rent to be paid by the United Good Neighbor Fund.

The society will move in as soon as the house gets a "new look". It will have a new roof, and be connected to municipal water.

The non-profit, charitable group was established two and a half years ago. Last year a survey under the direction of Mildred DeHaan, former Port Coquitlam welfare administrator, determined there was a need for a centre that would give life more meaning for handicapped people in School District 43.

THREE WORKERS

The society hired three workers in January, and started programs in the Dalkey building, another city owned structure on Shaughnessy St. At present about 36 people attend programs, held daily except Saturday and Sunday. Most are middle aged.

The survey and workers have been subsidized by the federal Local Initiatives Program which pays salaries of people hired for winter employment. The present \$10,000 grant will last until June when, says society president Dr. Shauna Little, at which time it is hoped a grant will be available from the provincial government.

The program includes crafts, recreation, carpentry, and a "drop in" coffee program, with "customers" supplying the brew. Garth Beechman teaches carpentry, Rouel LeMarseilles looks after crafts, and Lucille Isbister looks after organization. Greg Badger, a provincial health

department community care worker and secretary of the society, is in charge of the workshop.

"We will have much more room," says Dr. Little. "We hope to get contracts so the shop can supply things to companies. Our customers are mainly on small incomes, so this will help them earn some more money."

OUTSIDE WORK

The length of tenancy has not been established. If it is long, the society hopes to start a greenhouse, with help from the New Westminster Sheltered Workshop.

Most of the "customers" live within walking distance of the shop, and the rest are able to use buses. Using buses helps them feel more independent, says Dr. Little.

It is hoped to make the centre available to people in wheelchairs. For this, volunteer drivers will be needed. Dr. Little said the local branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association, which helped establish the program, and the SHARE society might be asked to help.

No meal facilities are planned, but most people can get home for lunch.

There's an air of excitement around the centre as people look forward to being in the new location. They will do some of the repair work themselves.

Many people are referred by public and mental health workers, but people can even refer themselves. The centre tries to work out programs for each person. These people have a limited concentration time, so many do not stay the whole day.

There are about 20 society members, and more are needed. The annual meeting will be 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Simon Fraser Health Unit office, 2266 Wilson Ave.

When the centre opens volunteer instructors will be needed. Furniture and tools will also be required.

A warning to the wise vandal -- the society plans to have a caretaker looking after the property all the time.

News Clipping

Mayor Cool About Mental Aid House

1977

By STEPHEN PYLE

A society rendering aid to physical and mentally handicapped people released from Riverview, has asked Port Coquitlam to supply improved facilities.

In the New View Society recently asked council if it could use space in the city-owned PoCo House on Wilson Street, instead of the current Dalkey Building facilities.

The group contends it can only use the Dalkey Building on a limited basis. The city-owned Dalkey Building is also used by other groups, so this means New View can only be operable five days a week during the day.

"We are really grateful of having the Dalkey Building," said society chairman Dr. Shauna Little last week. "But because we don't have full use, this limits our program."

Dr. Little explained many of the 60 handicapped people would like to make a valid contribution to society and a workshop atmosphere would be a means to that end.

However, many of the tasks performed would involve leaving items around a workshop for days at a time before they are repaired. With other groups using the Dalkey Building, this makes it impossible.

"I don't think this is fair to the other groups," Dr. Little contended. "If something went missing we wouldn't like

to be in a position of perhaps blaming them."

Port Coquitlam is currently allowing the society use of the Dalkey Building rent free and the program has fared well because of this, Dr. Little admits.

Also, the Human Resources department in Victoria has provided some funds through an activities grant.

Dr. Little says this has helped, but the society is currently operating on a "shoe string budget."

"These people need something," Dr. Little said.

She explained the society already provides crafts and limited workshops, but needs more.

The letter asking for PoCo House was sent to the city by Don MacDonald, president of the Western Association for Youth.

"PoCo House is a public building and it should be used by the public," he emphasized.

He says the city should be happy to provide facilities for such a group of people because much revenue is generated for Port Coquitlam by Riverview.

"There is a certain debt involved," he said. "The province is paying Riverview wages."

He said those on the New View program want to live normal lives and they should be allowed that right. "Many of them will never make a large contribution," MacDonald said.

Council was not warm to the idea, when first presented with a letter from MacDonald. The letter expressed an opinion that the Dalkey Building facilities were "appalling."

However, Dr. Little did not agree with this assessment.

MacDonald will meet with the environmental protection committee soon, under Phil Ranger and John Keryluk.

Mayor Jack Campbell believes if the group is to get improved facilities, the provincial government should foot the bill.

Campbell said last week many people just released from Riverview go straight into Port Coquitlam because of its close proximity to the institution.

"There's no programs for them," Campbell fumed. "They put them straight into boarding houses. There should be something for them to do. New Westminster and Port Moody both have programs."

But Campbell is doubtful of giving another group free run of Poco House. He cites past problems with a narcotic rehabilitative program. Neighbors were unhappy with the situation and Campbell feels the program caused more trouble than good.

However, Campbell must have an open mind toward the New View Society, judging by previous record. He's a former chairman



News Clipping

New View wants PoCo House

April 19, 1977.

... FRUSTRATION FOLLOWS DENIAL

By DON MACDONALD

I am particularly frustrated with the way the Port Coquitlam Council has treated my proposal of moving the New View Society from the Dalkey building to the PoCo House. They seem to be hunting for reasons not to do it rather than address the real reasons for the move.

Before dwelling on the council's behavior, however, let me relate some background information. The New View Society is an organization attempting to help socially, mentally, and physically handicapped adults adapt better to our society. New View's program which includes craft activities, career counselling, self-help skill activities and job orientation is currently based at the Dalkey Building. Of the one hundred adults served, twenty-five are ex-patients of Riverview Hospital.

The Dalkey Building and the PoCo House are both owned by the city of Port Coquitlam. That is where the similarity ends. The Dalkey building is an old pool hall situated above the Shaughnessy St. underpass. It consists of one large room with three offices at one end and an open

room, storage room and washroom at the other end. Because the building is shared with the Army and Navy cadets and the PoCoMo Boys' and Girls' Club, the society has to limit its use of the space. The PoCo House, on the other hand, located at Wilson and Mary Hill road offers much. It is a large house separated in the middle by a walk-way so that, in fact, it is two residences. The main house, which I propose be used by the society, is ideal for their purposes. Besides having regular house facilities, it has a large recreation room and a level entrance which offers little difficulty to wheel chair participants. The back part of the house can be rented out to supply evening security and to pay for the upkeep of the house.

On looking at both buildings, common sense tells us that a much more effective program can be offered at the PoCo House. Not only can programs be separated but many more programs can be offered in the various rooms throughout the building. Compare this with what is offered at the pool hall where mentally retarded, physically disabled and socially handicapped adults

sit around a large table attempting to concentrate on their different programs. As an educator, I find the situation appalling and it further appalls me that the council has given "short-shift" to the idea of moving the group.

Let me elaborate on the "short shift". In February I wrote a letter to the mayor and council asking that the New View Society be given possession of the front half of the PoCo House. Two hours before the council's March 4 meeting, I heard by telephone that the Environmental Committee consisting of Alderman Keryluk and Alderman Ranger had recommended against the proposal. I attended the council meeting and naively asked that I be given the opportunity to discuss the issue with the committee. Council agreed with my request and a letter was sent asking me to meet with the committee on March 31. Because of holidays and what have you, I didn't receive the letter until April 4. I again attended the council meeting and Alderman Keryluk agreed to meet with me on April 7.

At last we met! I explained the reasons for my proposal and waited. Neither

Alderman Keryluk nor Ranger found fault with the proposition that: The PoCo House would be well used by the society and that more effective and meaningful programs could be offered there. Instead, Alderman Keryluk suggested that the city could not afford to give the society use of the house. I pointed out to him that the city's contribution would amount to about \$3200 per year and that this was a small sum in relation to the amount of service the city was receiving from the New View Society. Alderman Keryluk did not respond to the point and Alderman Ranger jumped in. He stated that he felt the city should not support the New View Society as the society served individuals released from Riverview and that this made it a provincial responsibility. I agreed with him about provincial responsibility but also pointed out to him that only a minority of the adults served by the Organization were ever in Riverview Hospital. Alderman Ranger did not respond to my comment but instead talked of other groups seeking accommodation, such as the boy scouts and the PoCoMo Boys' and Girls' Club.

There was no comment when I suggested that PoCo House was a less than ideal solution for these groups. At the end of the meeting nothing had changed except that I was more frustrated.

Prior to meeting with the Environmental Committee, I met separately with Alderman Laking and Mayor Campbell. Alderman Laking was incredible. He spent the whole half hour making up reasons for not letting the society use the house. As each reason was shot down he searched for another. I found the game silly and gave up on the man.

Mayor Campbell seemed much more considerate and showed a real concern for the individuals being served by the group. Mayor Campbell did mention, however, that he felt that the provincial government, and to a certain extent, Riverview Hospital, were not doing as much as they should in this area. I was sorry that I did not have the statistics at the time to show the Mayor that only twenty-five percent of the individuals served by the society were from Riverview — I think it would have made a difference. Mayor Campbell also showed

concern for the neighborhood around PoCo House. At this time, I assured him that there is absolutely no comparison between the adults being served by the New View Society and the former residents of the House.

The proposal to relocate the New View Society in the PoCo House seems solid. Some points should be made at this time. They are:

- 1) PoCo House is a public building and should be used for the public.
- 2) A \$3200 subsidy from the city to house the society in PoCo House is a bargain for the city in terms of service rendered.
- 3) Whereas the provincial government has a responsibility to help handicapped individuals — so has the city!
- 4) The city receives much revenue from the Riverview industry and it should be willing to bear some cost.
- 4) More effective and responsible programs for the handicapped adults can be carried out at the PoCo House.

In conclusion, what can one say? ... It seemed like a good idea ... pity, nobody listened.

Once bitten ...

Readers may remember the saga of PoCo House. The house which stands at Mary Hill and Wilson streets in Port Coquitlam for over two-and-a-half years was battered back and forth by press and politicians.

The house was used as a treatment center for some hard drug users but mainly as a drop-in center for young juveniles.

Eventually it was closed down, or rather just not continued. The house is now rented out.

Now the New View society wishes to use it for their programs which broadly cover helping handicapped adults.

Council has apparently already turned thumbs down on this request which according to New View sources require a subsidy of \$3200 a year. Without going

into the various arguments of the request and denial, one thing must be pointed out.

We cannot help but get the feeling from the rather stretched arguments on city side that a general fear of repeating a 'PoCo House' scandal has stuck in council members collective memories like a bone in their throats.

If this is a major factor in council's decision on the situation we can't help but comment that it is indeed a sad case of affairs when a city holds back from helping people just because it fears it may get into the spotlight again.

Burying a building to avoid complications is as sad as putting people away to avoid problems, and perhaps in council's myopic way this is what it will result in.



News Clipping

"New View brings people one step closer to home"

By SHEILA FRANCIS

For people who have been institutionalised for some time, a look back through rose colored spectacles does not supply the necessary courage and confidence to take that first giant step to rejoin society as an independent member.

They need a fresh perspective on life and an assurance that they have something to contribute. Until fairly recently there was no organization for patients re-entering the complex, workaday world from Riverview or Woodlands. No hand to help them across that shaky bridge to independent thought and action — and of course to happiness.

Now, thanks to a community effort, there is the "New View Society", housed in the City owned "Dalkey Building", 2677 Shaughnessy, Port Coquitlam, at no charge. Last month alone this activity centre catered for 45-50 people, with an average daily attendance of twenty. "We can only grow as much as the building will let us," explained Director, Sharon DeSantos.

The Society serves the handicapped of School District 43, with several additions from New Westminster. The majority of people attending the centre are in Mental Health boarding

homes, following stays at Riverview or Woodlands (mostly lengthy). The boarding home program enables former patients to live in private homes while remaining in a supervised situation.

"Independence" is achieved in different degrees. Sharon pointed out that while it was realistic for some people to aim at eventually living in a suite on their own, just to feel independent was enough for others who might never live outside a supervised setting.

Physically handicapped people can also help and be helped as the Society broadens its scope to include them. Big problem here is transportation, and New View is anxious to hear from volunteers willing to drive to and from their centre, even just one day a week.

Sharon took great pride in telling the story of the physically disabled man who recently attended the centre while preparations for a fund raising sale were being discussed. He immediately took on the task of 'phoning to ask for donations, proving to be extremely successful.

Sharon uses this little tale to illustrate her point that handicapped people are quite able and happy to help each other given the circumstances.

After 10 years in the mental

health field, setting up a program for New View, and seeing it be effective has been a pleasurable challenge for Sharon. "My biggest problem has been in dealing with the mentally ill and retarded together," she said. "Their needs are so different, we are now setting up separate programs."

"Activity" is the key word at the centre where the program changes every two months. Those attending are urged to use their talents, learn new ones and thereby relearn their own usefulness. From actual lessons in macramé and crochet to simple knitting sessions and stimulating afternoons at the "Bowlerama," (where use of the alley and two games are given free whenever New View people go) progress is made in basic socialization and rehabilitation.

Presently many projects are underway in preparation for the New View open house and bazaar to be held in the Dalkey Building December 2. The society is non profit and uses such events to raise funds and keep the community aware of its work.

Items being produced to go on sale are most impressive — beautifully worked plant pots, as a result of the ceramics

classes; artistic, colorful plastic flowers, already being sold for use on wedding cars; intricately crocheted key rings and finely embroidered pillow cases — just to mention a few.

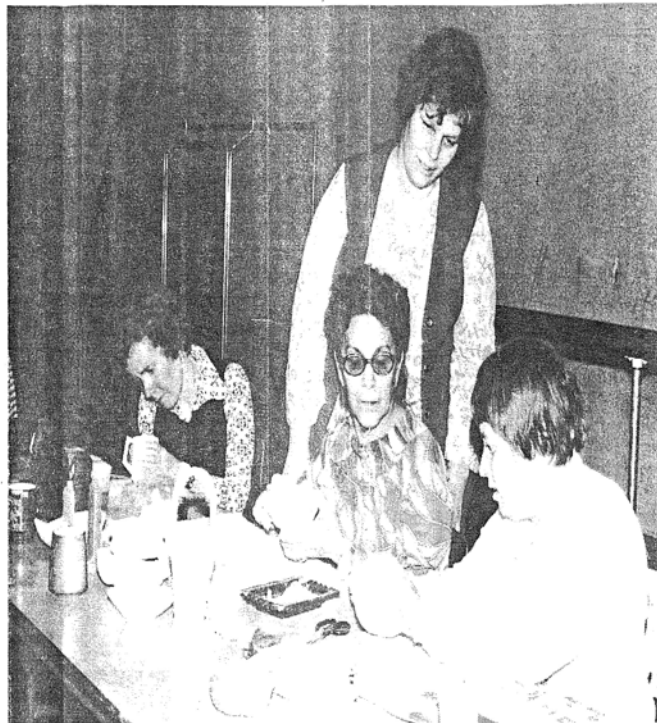
Most of us measure our self image against what it is worth to others, and people at New View are no different. Sharon is looking for outlets so that after New View has paid for the materials used in making items, they can be sold and the maker receive the remainder of profit. The wedding flowers have filled a need in this area, and Sharon hopes to find a florist who could use their ceramic pots on a regular basis.

Motivation is the one greatest stumbling block in the way of a person benefitting from what New View has to offer. "But the first step is just in being here," said Sharon, "for most people it's a struggle to be here."

Sharon is the only full time employee, and her salary is paid from a grant received from the Department of Human Resources. But as the centre opened six months before the grant became available in June of last year, she was paid during that time from donations made by the local Lions and Kinsmen.

Her "invaluable" assistant is Shirley Neveroski, who is paid only for one hour each day, but volunteers many extra ones. She says the work makes her "feel good," and both she and Sharon agreed that the morale and atmosphere were first rate. Shirley is one of three community services workers to help out at the centre. These workers are people on welfare who are allowed to earn \$50 per month.

New View was the brain child of its present chairperson, Dr. Shauna Little, a psychiatrist with the Mental Health Unit, and a head nurse at the Health Department, Sandy McKenzie. Dr. Little told the Progress it all started when she and Sandy



SHARON DISANTOS admires pottery handwork of some of the New View Society members. From left to right: Bar-

bare Scruton, Marie Stinson and Dorothy Mulligan. (Photo By Melanie Weatherbee)

begin thinking of all the disabled people sitting around without any occupation. "There was nothing they could fit into," she said. As they discovered what few resources there were to deal with this problem, they also found there were a number of people interested in doing something about it.

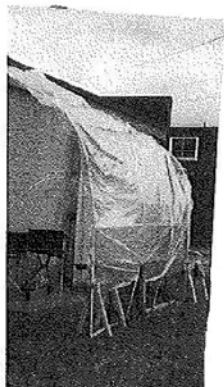
Various meetings followed until the society was incorporated in 1973. "We felt this was the best way of setting up a centre

where there could be activities, and eventually run a sheltered workshop type of program," explained Dr. Little.

Society secretary is Patience McArthur and treasurer is Joan Jackson — all working voluntarily. A past chairman is present PoCo mayor, Jack Campbell.

If you feel life at the centre would be rather cheerless, or that people who have been institutionalized have therefore

lost both their intelligence and their sense of humor, you should have sat in at their group meeting as I did. An invitation to a costume party at Halloween led to a lively discussion which hit a peak when a young girl pointed to a distinguished looking elderly lady smiling through a cigarette holder and said, "She can go as Whistler's Mother!"



Our first Drop-In —
- the Dalkey Building
- Shaughnessy St.
Port Coquitlam





Kay's Korner

Here are some stories from Kay Swalwell about the first years of New View Society, in the Dalkey Building across from the Golden Ears Hotel.

We were very poor. Our program funds were less than \$1.00 in a mug. The amount differs with the storyteller, but 47¢ or 57¢, that's it!! Everything was donated or borrowed or...? We regularly scanned the Help Wanted ads for employment opportunities but had to "borrow" the paper from the Golden Ears coffee shop.



Livestock: I was almost always the first person at the Dalkey Building each morning. First I rattled the double doors and gave the rats some time to disappear. One day though, I didn't give them enough time, or one rat was particularly slow, because as I checked the washrooms (a euphemism for toilet and sink) the last three feet of toilet tissue was disappearing into a hole in the wall.

We shared this wonderful building with the Cadets (who used it in the evenings) and never cleaned off their feet after marching in the mud. We also shared it with the Boys & Girls Club on Saturday mornings, whose members obviously didn't share our values regarding furniture. So—every day before beginning our programs, we cleaned! The facility may have been deplorable, but the people attending made it a very warm and supportive place. I remember being totally ticked when a well-dressed social worker came in and was heard to criticize our drop-in in no uncertain terms, calling it dirty and disgusting, to name two words she used (and she hadn't met the livestock). Needless to say we scratched her from our list!

Very often, the one toilet in the building did not work, for a variety of reasons. Rita Punchak could have earned her plumbing ticket—just by the number of hours she spent plunging! When all else failed, we made a trip to the Golden Ears public facility.

Yet another day, there was a terrible odor in the hall. Rita checked everywhere—almost. Ed McGill decided to take all the couches apart, just to check. Guess what he found? A rat... which had died in the comfort of one of our couches!

Being in such close proximity to the Golden Ears Hotel brought its own problems. One of our community efforts was to provide a place where some youth, on probation, could "do" hours. Some were very compliant, successful at completing their hours and joining in with our Friday evening socials. Others, found temptation too close to resist.

The current parking lot behind the Legion Building was a big field at one time, stretching right to the river. We barbequed almost every Friday evening: for 30—40 people. We also wore out a number of sets of Uno Cards! Frequently we had visitors in that field - deer.

"Homemade Beans" And then there was the time Rita Punchak and Karen Joseph Musil decided it would be a great idea to make homemade beans for lunch. They put the beans in a pot to soak overnight, and when I got there in the morning, the beans were coming under the door of a locked cupboard. There were beans everywhere—integrated with the usual mud left by the Cadets.

We desperately needed a fridge—but how to get one? A (very old) city building was being demolished. Guess what? There was an even older fridge in the building (but it worked). So two men from our group rescued the fridge! The next day, a city worker came to me, very indignant and belligerent, demanding to know if I had "touched" the fridge, the key word being "touched". I could honestly look him straight in the eye and say no... but I didn't volunteer the information about who had! It was only destined for the dump, but he was flexing his muscles! We had that fridge for a number of years, even risking moving it to the Whyte House.

News Clipping

All they want is a little land

- 1978



The New View Society in Port Coquitlam has had some good times and some bad times in their efforts to bring about a better life for people with handicaps — be they mental, social or physical.

By KAY WHITING

One of their outstanding success stories is Hygrade Industries on Spring Street in Port Moody. Here eight persons, who would otherwise be unemployed, have a steady job and have an income of \$800 each per month enabling them to get off welfare or their handicapped pension.

It is a custom cutting wood plant and they presently have a contract with a local firm to cut and mill the components to make doors.

They also have a tentative agreement for a contract with a large furniture manufacturer to mill their requirements. If it comes to reality another shift will be hired.

Administrator Sharon DiSanto said "We were able to get this started because the B.C. Handicapped Industries Guild gave us a loan to get underway. We have been operating not quite a year and while still not being able to start paying it off we have come up to the expectations they had of us. They have members on our board and carefully watch and advise us".

She went on to say this was an ideal situation. The

business already existed but also glued the doors together. This was found to be not suitable so the operation was scaled down to the cutting of the wood. They bought the business, including the machinery, and the former owner stayed on as the manager.

Sharon said "We have a

Sharon went on to say they are desperate right now for other major things.

First they need a place for an all-around centre. The present building in which they are located on Flint Street is up for sale and they could be evicted anytime.

"We thought about trying to buy it but it is out of our reach.

"There is no way we can achieve any other goals with just one room somewhere."

screening committee that decides who will be employed. Then try it for a month and if they can handle it they are taken on as staff. Some of our women tried it but the work was really too heavy so we have all men ages varying from their early 20's to mid 50's. We also have a waiting list of ten more who have been through the screening but as yet there is no work for them. We only keep this many on this list as there is no use giving them false hopes about the job. Our manager says he never had a group of better employees and this makes us all feel pretty good".

But this is what makes Sharon and other members of the New View feel pretty awful too. There are so many who want to work if someone would just give them a chance.

We need a place to have an income from — such as a thrift shop, a place that can serve as an activity and a training centre, a place that can be a social centre and a place that is somewhat permanent.

Sharon added "There is no way we can achieve any other goals with just one room somewhere.

They have a grant from the Ministry of Human Resources for \$40,000 towards the purchase of a building. It expires at the end of March and they have not been able to find anything as yet.

"The rest would have to be financed through a loan. No one will give you a loan unless you can show a firm plan to have an income. So we need to have a contract with some firms that will have us do work for them. On the other hand what is the good of getting a contract if you have no place to do the work in" said Sharon.

"We would also like to be able to work out something with Incentive Crafts in Port Moody who will have to close soon if they cannot get more funding. They have some good wood working equipment. If

we had a place we could do together. It does not matter what the group is called what the group is called matters what they can do. Handicapped people have made some remarkable good things there more or on a custom basis or for sale individuals. What we need is long term contract to provide the finished product." Sharon went on.

"We really do not know where to turn next" she concluded. "We could have got provincial funding to adapt the Royal Bank building to meet some of our needs but we had to have a five-year lease. We couldn't get it. I think I have looked and investigated every lead in Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and Coquitlam. It is hard to do any programming or planning when you never have any firm idea of what will happen to you the next day. It is hard on us but it is more difficult for our clients. They don't want much really — just a little independence".

New View History in the 1980's

New View History in the 1980's

1983 – The New View was given notice at the Dalkey Building, as it had been sold to the Legion. A very small bungalow was rented on Whyte Avenue to replace it. It was at this point that Sharon DiSan-to left New View after 10 years of service and was replaced by Kay Swalwell, who kept the job for 18 years. It was at Whyte House that the Clubhouse Model was instituted (as much as it could be) and at this time an experiment funded by the Vancouver Foundation was undertaken where clients from all around the province moved into a group living situation as an intensive therapy component. The funding lasted for a year, with the understanding that if it were successful, then the Ministry would take it over. Successful or not, no further funding was forthcoming and the program ended. It was also during this time that New View expanded into supported housing when Patricia House was purchased. While in the bungalow, Tenth Anniversary Celebrations were held with the then Minister of Social Services in attendance. We tried for a building on Wilson Avenue, but were not successful. Sharon purchased Patricia House. She also applied for \$60,000 from lottery funds to purchase the original Mary Hill Clubhouse. Sharon left before the money came in (which it did). Kay took over in the role of Executive Director when Sharon left.

1984 – A great opportunity presented itself. The current Clubhouse came up for sale at a time when New View had \$60,000 of Lottery Funding to put on a down payment. The Clubhouse is a heritage house built for one of the original alderman. It was later converted into a hospital that operated into the 1980's. It fell into disrepair once it was converted back into residential use and rented out before New View bought it. Although it was much better suited to the needs of a clubhouse than the tiny bungalow, an awful lot of work had to be done to make it shipshape.

In the same year, New View purchased McRae House to provide six more housing units for members. At this point the Clubhouse staff also supplied housing support.

Over the next few years, the Clubhouse program matured and by 1988 (the 15th anniversary) supported work programs had been developed which included individualized community placement and a janitorial contract in the community called "Clear View". At this time, part of "The Cottage", a second building on the property that had been used for housing was, partially converted into a workshop and contracts were sought. One of these was for Rogers Cable, producing patch cords. When Shaw replaced Rogers, they took over the contract until restructuring forced them to end their association with New View. Although other contracts have been found since, this came as a major blow.

Spring 1984 – New View Society Clubhouse opened at 2050 Mary Hill Road, Port Coquitlam, BC.

New View Society Balance Sheet March 31, 1981	
Assets	
Credit Union	6,239.15
Bank of Montreal	13.04
Loan Summer Youth Program	875.00
Petty Cash – Achievement Centre	100.00
Cafeteria – Cash Register Float	100.00
Cafeteria – Chequing Account	851.00
Cafeteria Equipment	2,178.69
Hygrade Saw	10,620.00
Office Equipment	104.00
Pre Employment Equipment	2,155.99
Thrift Store Equipment	85.00
Total	\$23,971.87
Liabilities	
Canada Pension Payable	266.36
Income Tax Payable	1,174.20
Unemployment Insurance Payable	517.83
Sales Tax Payable	106.47
Total Liabilities	\$2,064.86
Capital	
Owners Equity	13,634.77
Excess Income Over Expense	8,271.24
Shortage	1.00
TOTAL	\$21,907.01
	\$23,971.87

New View History

The Whyte House —1984 Thrift Shop—Early 80's

CLUBHOUSE



-our new Clubhouse - 2332 Whyte Ave.
the "Whyte House"



The Prairie Ave - Thrift Store gang.
Karen J. - Brad - Diane - Olive -



Teresa F. - at Thrift Store - Prairie Ave.



New View History

New View gets \$

The provincial government will provide a \$60,000 grant to the New View Society, Port Coquitlam, to assist in the purchase of a group home for mentally disabled adults, Lands, Parks and Housing Minister Tony Brummet has announced.

"The grant will help the society meet the cost of buying a house to supplement the group home it already operates in the community," Brummet said.

"That balance of the cost will be provided by the society through the private sector.

The federal government through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will provide mortgage insurance as well as a subsidy to reduce the interest cost."

Brummet said the provincial government, in addition to providing the \$60,000 grant, will also subsidize any operating deficit.

"The group home will provide accommodation for six mentally disabled adults currently living in institutional or unsuitable community environments, he said.

Commending the New View Society for its efforts on behalf of the mentally disabled, Brummet said he was pleased to have been instrumental in providing the government grant and to be of assistance to disabled people in the Port Coquitlam area.

New View hopes for expansion

The Port Coquitlam New View Society is eyeing the vacant Mary Hill Hospital as a possible site to re-locate and eventually expand its Achievement Center for psychiatrically-disabled adults.

The society, which provides work and educational programs to more than 250 psychiatric and emotionally disabled people annually, has already ensured money from the

Lottery Foundation to cover the down payment of purchasing the site, pending re-zoning approval from city council.

The activity center, presently located on White Street behind the Bank of Nova Scotia, is financially supported through the Ministry of Human Resources. According to Kay Swalwell, executive director

See Page 16A

Mary Hill wants to move

From Page 2A

of the New View Society, the hospital would provide the added space needed to meet the rising demand for the service.

"The space we have now is not adequate," said Swalwell. "The hospital site would need a fair bit of renovating, but we could do a lot of that with our own members."

The achievement center, which provides vocational training and serves as a clubhouse facility for psychiatrically-disabled, is the nucleus of the society, which also runs a thrift store and sponsors two homes for independent living.

The application for re-zoning is expected to go to public hearing next month.



New View History



December 1984 -
officials at the opening ceremonies



-Mayor Traboulay

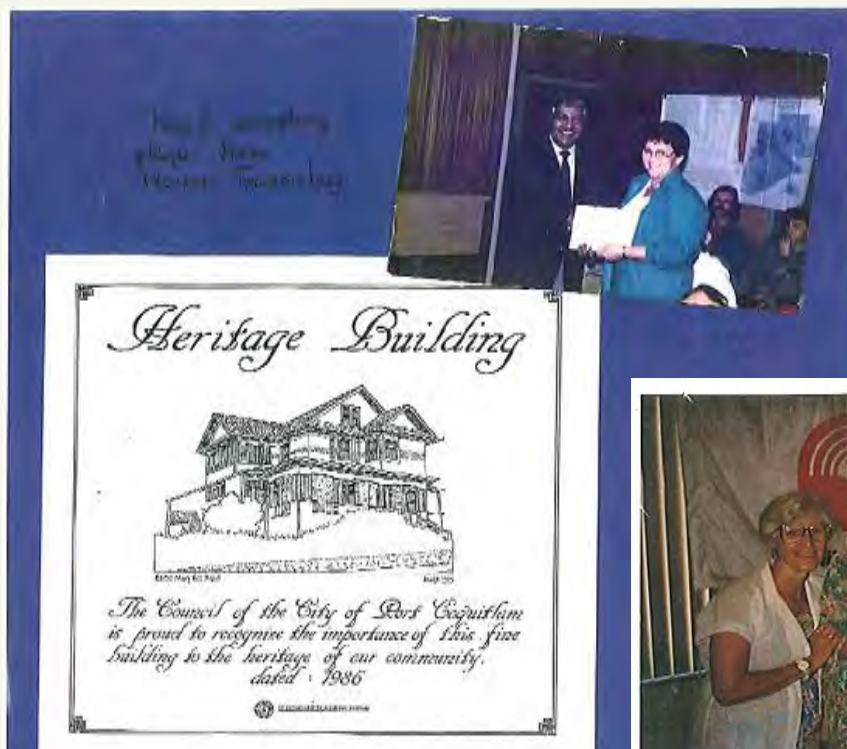


Dr. Coates - Dr. Little
Dr. Cohene



New View History

"New View recognized as a Heritage Building"



Rita Runchak Dr. Little Sharon DiSanto
Kay Swalwell

New View founder wins highest award

A founder of the New View Society in Port Coquitlam has received the United Way's highest honor.

Dr. Shona Little, who helped start the society which helps people with psychiatric illnesses, was given the W.J. VanDusen community service award in a ceremony June 23.

She will receive a personalized soapstone carving.

Little, a psychiatrist, has worked with the Port Coquitlam Mental Health Center for 19 years.

She was a founder of New View Society, which runs a clubhouse and residence for people with schizophrenia and other psychiatric illnesses.

"She's willing to give of herself and her financial resources," said Kay Swalwell, executive director of the society. "New View would not be where it is without Dr. Little."

The award was created in 1987 to recognize outstanding volunteers, who, in addition to other criteria, have volunteered for at least 10 years.

New View History

Successful Port Coquitlam society helps dispel mental illness myths

Mental illness" is a term which, for many people, conjures up irrational visions from childhood, featuring men in funny white jackets wandering around the lawns of huge stone-walled institutions.

By Wynn Horn
News Writer

We now know that one of every three Canadians will seek professional help in their lifetime for psychiatric problems ranging from anxiety to severe depression to schizophrenia.

In Coquitlam, the New View Society has spent the last 15 years dispelling myths about mental illness by quietly proving that independent living is a possibility for psychiatrically disabled adults.

New View runs four "independent living" group-homes in Coquitlam, as well as rehabilitative, social and transitional employment programs out of the society's "clubhouse."

The homes have existed peacefully in residential settings for several years, with perhaps the best-known located in the old Mary Hill Hospital building. Kay Swalwell, director of the society, said the homes are designed as "three-quarter way" housing, for residents who are being rehabilitated after a mental illness.

"They need the support to get back out there again," said Swalwell. "This gives them independence to do their own cooking, cleaning and budgeting while they work or go to school, and still gives them access to the support of the society."

A total of 15 residents live in the New View homes, said Swalwell. No time limits are set for moving further out into the world,

although the majority do eventually move on to increased independence in their own apartments. Most continue to use the Clubhouse as a support system, dropping by for the regular Friday night dinners to socialize.

About 120 people go through the Clubhouse each month, making use of social and recreational activities. About 50 of these turn up for daily psycho-social counselling, which Swalwell said emphasizes work-oriented rehabilitation, based on a "Clubhouse" model developed in New York.

The Clubhouse focuses on rehabilitation through work, reasoning that people feel best about themselves when they feel productive in society.

It doesn't matter whether that usefulness comes from doing clean-up at a local lumber yard or working in the society's thrift store, Swalwell said. The measure of success for people recovering from mental illness is simply being satisfied with their lives.

"Stress is the biggest enemy in rehabilitation," she said. "If someone is looking after himself and is satisfied with their life — that's success."

A transitional employment program is often the first step to that success. The society secures low-pressure jobs in the community which teach workers job skills, while helping to develop a work history as well as the confidence that comes with earning a wage.

And employers with entry-level jobs in industries such as packaging and assembly gain the benefit of an employee who places great value on his or her job.

Funding for New View Society homes comes from the B.C. Housing Corporation, while operating funds are provided by the

Ministry of Health, as well as by private donations.

Future plans for the New View society include more housing, and an expanded public education program.

"We need to educate the public about mental disease," said Swalwell. "There is nothing to be afraid of."



The Sunday News, July 3, 1988
New View reflects changing attitudes
Written by Nick Booth

The New View Clubhouse, located in a stately heritage house at 2050 Mary Hill Road in Port Coquitlam, provides living evidence that approaches and attitudes toward severe mental illness are now changing. As one walks up the front steps and enters the homey and spacious structure, it quickly becomes apparent that traditional images of the mentally ill don't apply here.

The social atmosphere also doesn't conform to common stereotypes. Instead of withdrawal, laziness, and strangeness, one meets people who are, for the most part, friendly, active, and enjoying life. The New View Clubhouse is indeed a facility for the rehabilitation of adults suffering from severe psychiatric disorders. It operates, however, on the new philosophy that no matter how limiting some handicaps may seem, each individual can still be helped to develop his potential and find a place in society. With this in mind, New View members are encouraged to improve their work skills and habits in structured units and also to participate in the numerous social and recreational activities provided. According to clubhouse co-ordinator Rita Punchak, the formula seems to work for the more than 150 members who regularly use New View's resources at any given time. "Most people who come here achieve a lot," she said. "New View provides a home atmosphere where people can grow and relax. It's meant to be a very supportive place." Most of the participating members agree heartily with this assessment. It was in the spring of 1984 that the New View Clubhouse was born. Executive director Kay Swalwell said, "Organizations like ours must provide leadership in educating the public. We must show people we're okay by our normal, daily behaviour." Regular recreational activities include swimming and bowling trips, video nights, bingo games and Friday social evenings which are well-attended. As well, special parties and dances are held throughout the year, and an active drama club also presents original plays from time to time. Softball games, camping trips, horseback riding, and other special activities are organized by student workers during the summer months.





Non-profit pays

ALD. SHOCKED

The New View Society will have to pay its taxes like everyone else.

Last Monday, Port Coquitlam city council voted to maintain its policy not to waive taxes for non-profit groups, much to the dismay of Ald. John Keryluk.

"I am shocked the recommendation is not to waive their taxes," he said. "They're not running a business. Why in the name of heaven would we want to tax them?"

The society asked council to consider waiving property taxes at its Achievement Center, which is now re-located in the former Mary Hill Hospital. Council approved re-zoning of the property for that purpose last month.

The center, which receives government funding, provides day-time vocational programs and acts as a drop-in facility for psychiatric clients.

Keryluk feels the society should be an exception because of

its "unique" service to "those less fortunate" individuals.

But Mayor Len Traboulay said the city is "not in the business of waiving taxes".

"We're in the business of collecting taxes so we can do our job," he said.

Ald. Mike Gates said the move would be unfair in light of the many other non-profit clubs providing services to the community, and ald. Bill Stewart said he would like to see the society's finan-



Keryluk —

— "shocked" because the New View Society will have to pay taxes...

cial statements for justification of the request.



New View History



New View History



-the Rogers Shop gang-

The New View Society was soliciting jobs in the community. The Rogers Shop grew to be 10—12 members who worked successfully doing real work for Rogers putting together ends on cables for the cable company.

This was fabulous training for members, teaching them real skills and employment opportunities. It also taught members about rules of employment, including vacation, having to get to work at a certain time, expectations, etc.



-Rod has complete collection of photos in Employment Programme office!

A contract with the Simon Fraser Health Board provides primary support for the operation of the Clubhouse. Other income is received from agencies such as the United Way, and the BC Gaming Commission.

provides recreational and social supports for individuals living with a mental illness in the community.



Port Coquitlam City representative

New View History

Maplewood Manor—from the beginning...



-where it all began-
-2354- 2358-



-first - the elevator shaft-



-even the dog has to supervise -

-more supervisors-



and now we're ready to move in-
December 1970.



-front lobby-



-back yard Dec. 1970.



New View History

Maplewood Manor Opens May 10, 1991

Special housing project set to open

On May 10 the New View Society celebrates an important achievement — the opening of Maplewood Manor — a new housing project in Port Coquitlam that will provide 20 homes for lower income persons with mental illness.

Elmer MacKay, minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and Norman Jacobsen, minister of Social Services and Housing, announced a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open this new project on Friday, May 10 at 11 a.m. at 2356 Whyte Avenue, Port Coquitlam.

Several tenants and the board of directors will be available to tour the project with media representatives.

The New View Society is a strong community-based group that had its beginnings in 1973 and now operates three social housing projects, including two group homes. Maplewood Manor is the first such project in the Tri-City area for people with mental illness,

and the tenants have been able to develop their own support system.

The Mental Health Services Division of the provincial Ministry of Health is funding the New View Society to provide rehabilitation for clients, through life skills and vocational training and supportive counselling.

Dr. Shauna Little and Kay Swalwell have been central figures in the New View Society.

Maplewood Manor was approved under the 1989 social housing budget. It is part of a joint federal/provincial commitment that has delivered about 9,200 units of social housing in British Columbia since 1986.

To ensure that tenants pay no more than 30 per cent of their income for rent, annual subsidies totalling \$230,000 will be advanced to the society. The federal government will cover two-thirds of this amount through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and the provincial government, through

the British Columbia Housing Management Commission (BCHMC), will contribute one-third.

"This project shows how differ-

ent levels of government can work together to provide suitable shelter to those in need," commented MacKay.

"Making the nonprofit system

work requires support from many individuals and organizations," added Jacobsen. "I am, personally, very proud to share responsibility and to be part of this process."



12 THE TRI-CITY NEWS, May 8, 1991

Maplewood opening good news for tenants

By Kate Poole
Staff Reporter

For 20 Port Coquitlam residents, life will never be the same. It will be better.

The New View Society is officially opening Maplewood Manor, an apartment in PeCo with 20 suites affordable to people with a mental illness.

"They were living in inadequate housing or housing they couldn't afford," said Kay Swalwell, executive director of New View. "They were living in basement suites but mostly they were paying rent they couldn't afford and not eating properly because of it."

The new apartment has 20 self-contained one-bedroom suites, "but we tried to make it look like a big, old house," she said.

A nice place to live is important to all people but critical for people with a mental illness, Swalwell said. A mental illness makes it difficult to cope with stress and, when living conditions are poor, that saps most of their resources. Freed of that stress, the residents can work or go to school. A condition of the independent living, she said, is a commitment to doing something during the day.

The project was completed in December but the society waited until the lawns were in and the

weather more predictable before having the opening ceremony, which takes place May 10. In four months, the residents have already established a support system, Swalwell said. "They have made it into a little community."

The larger community is also providing a support system. The project is funded by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the B.C. Housing Corporation and will be subsidized so residents pay no more than a third of their income for rent. The health ministry is providing services, including rehabilitation through life skills and vocational training and counselling.

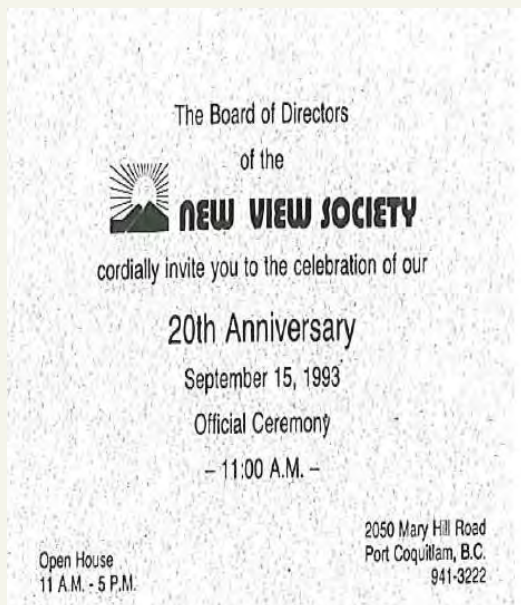


New View History



-what a day!-

New View History



Ian Waddell



Mike Farnworth



Chris Kline
Mental Health Services

*"dedicated to supporting
persons challenged by mental illness"*

Welcome.....Sharon DiSanto
Mental Health Services.....Chris Kline
City of Port Coquitlam.....Mayor Traboulay
City of Coquitlam.....Mayor Sekora
Member of Parliament.....Ian Waddell
Member of Legislature.....Dr. Barbara Copping
United Way.....Rod Santiago
Society Members.....Eileen de Haan
Nick Booth
Community Presentations.....Mike Stark
Lunch.....Everyone.



Sharon DiSanto
- 1st Executive Director



Dr. Copping



New View History

New View Society

PROVING HOUSING
AND EMPLOYMENT
SUPPORT TO
BRITISH COLUMBIA

By Lee-Ann Ayres

It started out as a drop-in centre with a few cents in a coffee cup. Today, 23 years later, New View Society has grown into a full-time support for housing assistance and employment service, with 15 people on staff.

New View, in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, also offers transition aid from institution to community for people with schizophrenia and other mental illness and still acts as a drop-in centre, says executive director Kathryn Swalwell.

The Club House program provides pre-vocational, life and social skills – considered to be one form of psycho-social rehabilitation. Clients are dealt with individually with a strong

focus to build self-esteem and try to get people back into the mainstream society.

The program helps clients develop a number of skills and provides many opportunities. Barbecues, outdoor activities, music and games are organized. Communication jobs such as computer data entry, answering the telephone, kitchen work, lawn maintenance as well as crafts are done by residents at the Club House.

Support Housing offers semi-independent living and housing support to those living in independent units within the community and shared accommodations. A trained counselor has a contract with a client living independently and provides assistance when needed. Swalwell explains that the cost of housing is based on the individual's income.

"One third of (their) income goes towards housing...rent can be as low as \$192 a month."

The organization also finds employment for clients within the community at entry-level positions.

"We find employment places that are in a low-stress and empathetic environment," says Swalwell. "We have one gentleman who goes and cleans up at a factory."

The society was founded in 1973 by a group of interested people in the community and at Riverview Hospital. The organization is charity-funded by many different organizations and also works closely with the

local mental health centre, though it's not a medical institution.

New View works with about 200 clients a year. Swalwell says at any given time throughout the year, they support about 140 clients. Many people use various facets of the long term program.

"Some people come straight from the hospital and use all available services while others may just use a few of them," she says.

"Until they find a cure for schizophrenia, people can come here and stay here as long as they need it." ♦

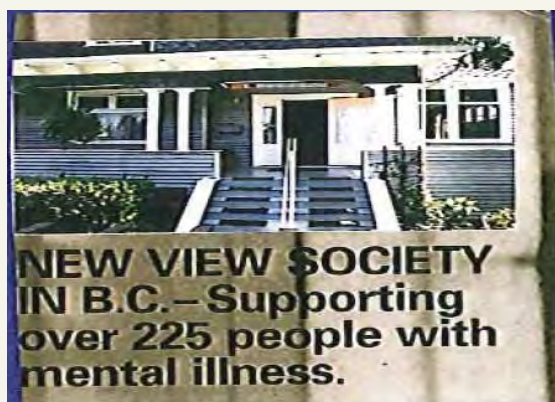
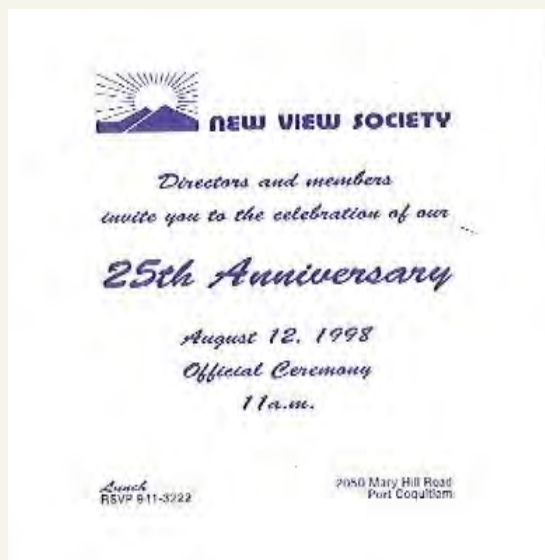
HELPFUL STEPS

Restlessness, anxiety and tension may be secondary effects of drugs or accompany positive symptoms for other reasons.

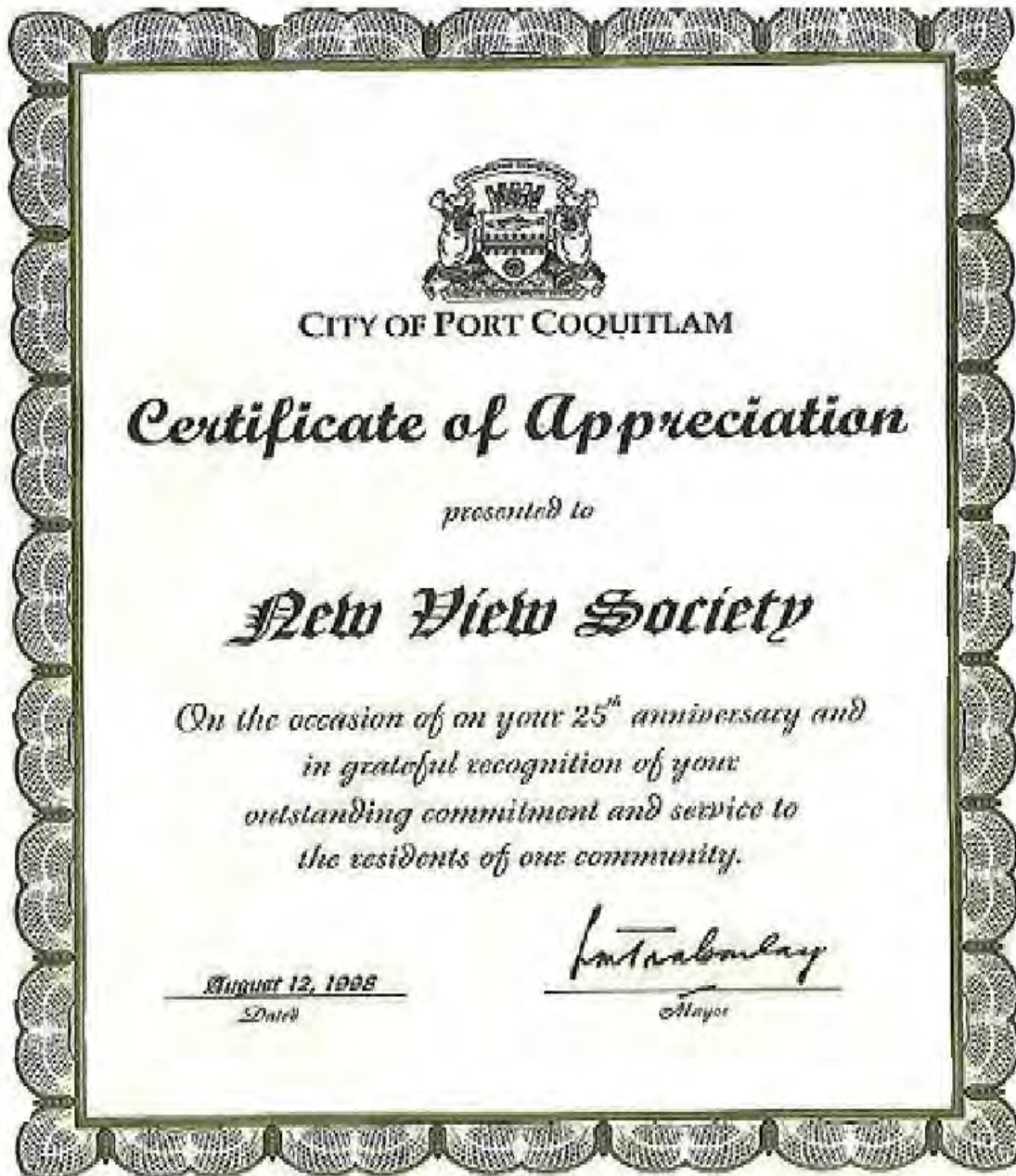
1. These symptoms are made worse by stimulants such as coffee, tea, cola drinks, chocolate and cold tablets.
2. Sedative medication helps, but should only be used under the care of a doctor.
3. Caregivers should understand this problem and not criticize the patient for pacing. Instead try accompanying him for a walk and encourage exercise.

1996 - article from Schizophrenia Digest.

New View History



New View History



New View History

PORT COQUITLAM'S NEW VIEW SOCIETY PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY

“People tend to view the mentally ill as patients and miss the essence of the person,” says Sharon Di Santo, president of the New View Society in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia.

“Our emphasis is on helping the individual to be an equal and valuable person in the community.”

A former case worker with the British Columbia Ministry of Health, Di Santo was instrumental in casting the vision for a society that today provides support services for over 225 people who are coping with the challenges of mental illness.

In her work with women in the Mental Health Boarding Program in the early 1970's, Di Santo saw that people with a mental illness were often very lonely and had little to add significance and relevance to their lives. She began to collaborate with Dr. Shauna Little, a local psychiatrist who became the driving force in working with Di Santo and other mental health professionals in organizing a non-profit society to help these women.

Their goal was not just to help them fill their time, but to give them opportunities to use their talents and skills constructively. Traditional treatment, by focusing primarily on the illness, was missing the part about the individual as a person.

“There was no training available to provide guidance and direction,” says Di Santo. “They were charting new territory and had to learn by doing.”

NVS began humbly in 1973 using facilities provided at no cost by the City of Port Coquitlam, a commitment of \$500 per month from the province of B.C. for a staff member and a battery of volunteers. It now functions with an annual operating budget of over \$1.3 million, a staff of 18, and many volunteers. NVS owns three well-maintained homes of shared accommodation, a versatile apartment building and a beautiful clubhouse. Supported housing is provided for over 150 people with an additional 75 benefiting from the various programs NVS offers. But the essence of the society is its heart – its belief that the person with a mental illness has a valuable contribution to make.

“Everyone has a gift,” says Kay Swalwell, the executive director.

“That's what we want to tap into. We don't just look for what the community can bring to the person with a mental illness, but we also look for what the person with a mental illness can bring to the community.”

They began with activities such as crafts, knitting and ceramics, among others. By offering more services and work programs as it progressed, the society grew and developed into what it is now, a full-fledged clubhouse program that practices psycho-social rehabilitation through life skills, social recreation skills and opportunities, supported housing, and supported employment programs. Today its members tend to be younger than in the early years, both male and female, who are dealing with a variety of mental illnesses and challenges.

New View History



A New View

PORT COQUITLAM'S NEW VIEW SOCIETY PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY

Members of NVS are able to grow, develop and enhance their skills by attendance at various Clubhouse units. In the communications unit, instruction is given in introduction to computers, software applications, creative skills and the internet. The focus is primarily on teaching those skills that are useful for personal and employment purposes. The team also produces the quarterly newsletter *The New View Review*.

Donna Dickson, the instructor, says that the unit is unique because, "It's an outlet for members to express themselves by tapping into their creative and intellectual potential."

Doug Mackay, who's in charge of the food preparation unit, likes to refer to his crew as "The heart of the Clubhouse."

Every day, approximately 45 people enjoy a delicious lunch prepared by Doug and his crew. In a caring, nurturing environment, crew members learn the fine art of preparing nutritious and tasty meals. Shopping, planning and clean up are integral parts of the program. The group also supplies catering for special events at the Clubhouse such as summer barbeques and various social functions.

"EVERYONE HAS A GIFT....THAT'S WHAT WE WANT TO TAP INTO."

(KAY SWALWELL, NEW VIEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)

The maintenance unit teaches essential skills in household and outdoor maintenance. This group is often found cleaning and caring for the clubhouse buildings and grounds. With a focus on leadership and team building, the members are kept busy working on projects and tasks that they enjoy doing.

In the popular craft unit, members learn a large variety of arts and crafts, exchange ideas and also have the opportunity to socialize. Instructor Liz Lindquist keeps up to date on trends and introduces the latest ideas in new and different crafts to the group. A special project of this unit is making and donating lap blankets for residents of Hawthorne Lodge, a local residence for seniors.



New View History



The Supported Employment Program (SEP) has been running for 11 years and offers employment assistance for people who have a diagnosed mental illness. The objective is to provide members with a springboard into the world of work. The society solicits businesses for contracts competitively and must operate according to established business principles. SEP expectations are the same as those in the working world and it operates according to the B.C. Employment Standards Act. Recognition for achievement and motivation is an integral part of the program. "People with a mental illness face a lot of stigma from employers," says Rod Owen, the SEP Programs Manager, "even more than those with physical disabilities."

The program also offers employment counselling, career planning, development of job search skills, resume preparation and interview skills. Graduates move to a variety of opportunities ranging from entry level to entrance in college or university. Owen is happy to report that he has seen over 125 graduates of SEP move to regular employment or higher education.

Another very important aspect of the society is the Community Living Support (CLS) program. Its objective is to help people with a mental illness live and stay in the community. Working closely with Tri-Cities Mental Health, the CLS worker, the nurse and the consumer enter into a contract to provide a wide range of services such as life skills, housing needs and problem solving, to name a few. The CLS worker meets with the consumer on a regular basis and they work together to meet the challenges of daily living. The program has been operating successfully for 10 years and presently has 110 clients.

A contract with the Simon Fraser Health Board provides primary support for the operation of the Clubhouse. Other income come from agencies such as the United Way and the B.C. Gaming Commission. Funding for the various forms of housing is made available by agencies such as B.C. Housing, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and the Ministry of Health.

Although the activities and programs at NVS are important, they would not be effective without the people – the people with the heart. "Don't ask anyone to live or work or eat where you wouldn't," says Swallow. Treating the mentally ill with respect, dignity and equality, as members of the community who have a valuable contribution to make, is a hallmark at NVS. "The most I've learned here is from the people who come here," says Di Santo. "Any community could do the same thing with the right equation of vision and leadership."

New View History

"Spending time with my Grandma at New View"



New View

It's a place of caring, warmth, support and loving.



Dear Judges, Teachers,
Parents, and Fellow Students:

My name is Meaghan F. and I plan to share with you some information about a place called New View. New View is a facility that supports people who suffer from a mental illness. New View is a not-for-profit society that helps to provide housing, work and social activities for clients who need some help getting back their lives. That means, that the society does not profit or make money by doing these things for the people.

What is mental illness you ask? Mental illness is a disease that affects

your mind or your behavior. There are many types of mental illness. Some of the ones you may have heard of are depression, schizophrenia, manic depression or bipolar mood disorders. Mental illness affects everyone in a different way. There are treatments and medicine to help those that suffer; they are not always 100% effective. And, people need more than medicine.

"Spending time at New View with my Grandma has shown me a different way of life."

New View is a comfortable place. Comfort makes people relaxed and makes them want to be there. I've often heard the people talk about the "homeyness" of the center, and how this is very comforting. It makes them feel good about going there.

Basically I guess, New View is about being together and being together helps people feel better.

When somebody is having a good day they can share this with the others there. The people who work there are trained in different areas to help this process happen.

New View supports over one hundred housing units in the Tri-City area. There is also a program that helps members to return back to the work force. There are a multitude of units that members can take part in to help them feel better. There is a craft unit, computer unit, reception duties, and an incredible cooking unit and several sports teams. They provide support to people who are rehabilitating themselves back to our community. Port Coquitlam.

"I've often heard people talk about the 'homeyness' of the center, and how this is very comforting. It makes them feel good about going there."

The people that work at New View are always thinking of fun things to do.

They plan parades, camping trips, outings, picnics, barbecues, and lots of parties. These activities help to make everyone feel as great as they can be - to be a part of the community. Besides the activities, the members always comment on the support system that New View provides.

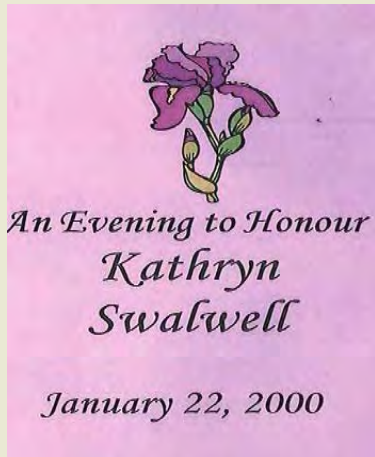
At New View they often think about a man named Nick. He had a mental illness and he died trying to cope with his illness. Nick wrote a terrific book called "The Jingo Troop". It's about a troop of monkeys and their life in the jungle - it's written for kids.

Spending time at New View with my Grandma has shown me a different way of life. It's taught me not to tease those who are different from us. Kids don't often think about how hard it might be to get up and start the day. A mental illness can make it hard to even get out of bed, let alone face the day. The people I've met have told me that having a place to go makes it easier to "get up and going". New View is somewhere to go where everyone is there to help each other.

*Written By Meaghan F.,
9 years old.*



New View History—in the 2000's



Sharon DiSento



-the New View staff-



-the gang-



New View History

January 22, 2000

To Whom it May Concern:

It has come to our attention that a Ms. Kay Swalwell has been investigating the job market for appropriate placement following her firing (that's retiring) from New View Society. Locating a suitable position will be a very challenging undertaking! Over the years Ms. Swalwell has developed numerous attributes that may be of great interest to a new employer. We will attempt to put some order to her vast experience. In view of this monumental undertaking a review of Ms. Swalwell's attached resume is in order. In addition, to further her marketability we highly recommend visual aids to be used in an attempt to further unveil her **unusual** abilities.

Over the past 25 years Ms. Swalwell has made it a point to be accessible long hours (and we do mean long). She shows particular interest for working evenings, with a special aptitude for doing all-nighters. Of course it is essential that any new position require that she be available on weekends and statutory holidays, this is when she is at her best.

She has developed the uncanny ability to work around, or rather **with**, bureaucracy and sees red tape as a mere glitch in the system. She has performed wonderfully as executive director of New View Society. She has developed the ability to juggle roles. For instance, she is a well known advocate of others, always a friend with an ear to bend, loans officer in an emergency, exquisite cook, and all round mother hen. This may translate into an identity problem, but that's another matter!

Ms. Swalwell appears to have a spectacular gift for creating financing. If deemed to be a worthy cause for the betterment of any member of the New View Society she implements Robin Hood's Code of Ethics. To finance these causes, it has been speculated that she may have single handedly excavated a tunnel from 2050 Mary Hill Road to her local bank. Regardless of this accusation, she has managed to transform New View Society, from a once dilapidated room to an inviting heritage home. She continues to amass other significant real estate holdings all for the sake of New View.

Ms. Swalwell is chic and stylish but can put her fashion sense aside to meet the challenging requirements of the job. Rumor has it that once following a vacation she returned to work wearing a bikini. She has been known to don an apron while preparing an impromptu luncheon or dinner for 20 or 30. She is not shy about wearing her pajama's to the office. She has been seen wearing wellington boots mopping up after floods. From our research we could best describe her as a Shell Buzzer type but with a feminine twist. For instance a toilet plunger is not a foreign object to her. But it would be best to wipe up, I mean out, her plumbing expertise as the plumbers union is attempting to flush out imposters.

It could be said that her most endearing quality is people skills. Be it a Bingo Hall or political event this woman can work a room. A bureaucrat may think they have just met their new best friend. Little do they know that they have just been woven into her plan for New View and at some later date their services will be called upon.

We particularly draw your attention to her flair for celebrating life's most important moments, from baby showers to weddings. However, it has come to our attention that during one such soiree she hosted at New View, the neighbors requested police attendance to calm the crowd.

In closing, Ms. Swalwell poses a particular challenge. We certainly consider her worth her weight in bingo cards and offer our company's services in attempting to place this most extraordinary woman.

Yours truly,
Mr. Will Ficksetup

(aka Nurses from Tri-Cities Mental Health Centre) *HAPPY RETIRMENT KAY!*



New View History

New View History in the 2000's

2006—The New View Society needs help to stay in heritage house built in 1913. The electrical, foundation and fire codes all need to be upgraded. The staff and New View Society are finding that a younger generation of people need services tailored to people under 30 years of age.

June 2006—Families of the New View Society, who are trying to cope with mental illness are telling their stories to Tri City Mental Health Addictions Advisory Committee. The purpose was to improve hospital admitting plans and tackle affordable housing for mentally ill.

August 2006—The New View Society was looking to sell the property they've owned for 22 years at 2050 Mary Hill. They could not afford the \$750,000 upgrades to the fire and building code necessary to the building. They were given a one year deadline to vacate the building. The other option was to tear down the existing building and build a new one. By November 2006, the building was listed for \$1.2 million but there were no interested buyers.



February 2007— At this point in time, the New View Society provided services to more than 450 people with mental health needs. This included housing support for more than 180 individuals, employment services, a Clubhouse and a drop-in centre. 2050 Mary Hill had been taken off the market, initiating a feasibility study to optimize the use of the property to build a duplex (housing for 10) on half the property, and a fundraising campaign to build a new Clubhouse and office complex on the other half.

May 2007—It was reported that the homeless population was at 162, including POCO, Coquitlam and Port Moody. The New View Society recommendations were to improve the situation, to build a local facility with at least 10 beds, along with a Clubhouse. The Society asked Port Coquitlam council to consider assisting the society's efforts to redevelop its existing property, as the Society was required to vacate the original building by August and the cost to rebuild was approximately \$2 million.

May 11, 2007—Councillor Greg Moore had appealed to Port Coquitlam council to help fund New View Society. If New View Society's housing services are discontinued, it was estimated that an additional 200 people were at risk of being homeless. Each month, New View saw an average of 140 people at the Clubhouse, 40 people at the employment programs, logged 450 visits to the drop-in and helped 200 clients receive housing supports in the community.

May 16, 2007— The New View Society had less than 2 months to vacate 2050 Mary Hill Road. Job training, computer and craft programs moved in July to a temporary location at 2248 Elgin Avenue. The New Clubhouse was then located above "The Place" drop-in centre, also at 2248 Elgin Avenue. New View had to drop its hot lunch program. Sandwiches were still offered.

May 18, 2007—BC Housing approved a feasibility study to investigate the possibility of developing housing for people with mental health issues and/or addictions. The New View Society requested that the city provide capital for the development.

July 7, 2007—The City of Port Coquitlam turned down a proposal to purchase the New View Society's historical building for \$1.2 million. The New View Society had vacated all but the main floor, and was to offer services at the new Elgin location which had been leased for 3 years. Some programs had to be scaled back. Space was very small, but a pool table was able to fit.

September 2007—The New View Society launched its \$2 million capital campaign to rebuild the Clubhouse and provide office space. It was hoped that Port Coquitlam would reduce building fees for the proposed Clubhouse. A Committee agreed to consider our request to provide a grant or forgive the fees.

June 2008—Ray Rutherford, a heritage buff, had planned to buy the 94 year old Charles Lobb House (New View Society Clubhouse) and move it to Salt Spring Island. The sale price \$1. The plan was for the building to be trucked and barged to Salt Spring Island for a cost exceeding \$350,000. Unfortunately for Mr. Rutherford, his dream did not come to fruition and the building was scheduled for demolition.

January, 2009—Building demolition and reconstruction of a new building, with a modest budget, began. A fundraising campaign was set up to rebuild on the demolished site of the Charles Lobb building to house the New View Society.

14 Tri-City News Wednesday, December 19, 2007

A dollar, a dream & a piece of PoCo's past

By Diane Strandberg
THE TRI-CITY NEWS

Next June, one of Port Coquitlam's finest grand dames will be folding in her skirts for a barge trip to Salt Spring Island.

With a dotting chaperone, Ray Rutherford, by her side, the 94-year-old Charles Lobb House will be stripped of her deck and sun porch, dislodged from her foundations at 2050 Mary Hill Ave., hoisted onto a truck and gently transported to a barge on the Pitt River for a journey across the Strait of Georgia.

Her new home will be a 2.5-acre property on Salt Spring Island overlooking the water, where she will be sung to sleep each night by screeching gulls and the ocean breeze.

Rutherford expects the former New View Society clubhouse will be happy in her new home. He hopes so. Moving and restoring the house will be a massive undertaking — costing as much as building a brand new home. But saving the house is better than the alternative — demolition.

Rutherford, a PoCo resident for 18 years, said he has always admired the stately building while out walking with his wife and 11-year-old daughter.

"It has that dignity and a kind of presence," he said.

He came up with the idea of moving it to Salt Spring after hearing it would have to be torn down to make way for housing and a new clubhouse. He pitched the idea of moving the house to Gisela Theurer, the New View Society's director of rehabilitation, who was just as excited as he was to save the building because of its importance to New View clients over the last 24 years.

Rutherford is getting a contract drawn up and expects to take possession of the house — sale price: \$1 — in early January. In the spring, he will hire a contractor experienced with older homes to begin the laborious work of detaching newer additions from the original

IN QUOTES

"It has that dignity and a kind of presence."

Ray Rutherford, on the 94-year-old Charles Lobb House, which he's planning to buy and move to Salt Spring Island

nal structure and removing the veranda and sun porch to prepare the house for the move. Rutherford is confident the contractor he's planning to hire will do a good job. "He realizes how it was, the original structure."

Nickel Bros. will orchestrate the move, which will be a tricky operation. The house will have to travel down Mary Hill Road and turn a corner onto Shaughnessy Street for the trip to a barge on the Pitt River at Citadel Landing. Some wires and lamp standards may have to be removed temporarily, and Rutherford expects the job to take about two days, including the trip to Long Harbour and the house's placement on its new foundation on Salt Spring.

Rutherford is looking forward to the trip. "We'll watch it inch forward and go on its way," he said.

Once the grand old lady is settled in her new home, Rutherford will putter about replacing her woodwork and Edwardian-era stained glass. The Surrey school teacher plans to retire in two years and will move his family to Salt Spring to live.

Then, like any dotting father, Rutherford will restore Charles Lobb House to her original grandeur.

"I can do that forever in retirement," he said.

dstrandberg@tricitynews.com

Ray Rutherford on the porch the Charles Lobb House on Mary Hill Road in Port Coquitlam.



New View History

Warmth, Companionship, Healing

Historical Lobb House place of refuge and hope for many.

Article by Diane Strandberg of THE TRI-CITY NEWS.—December 2008.

For nearly 100 years the Charles Lobb House at 2050 Mary Hill Road was a Port Coquitlam landmark. It was also a convalescent home, an historic building many people wanted to save, and for 22 years, was also a comfortable gathering place for people who didn't feel accepted anywhere else. Soon it will be just a memory. The basement that used to house a wood shop, the kitchen painted tangerine, the ornately wall-papered living room, the sturdy banister and solid stairs, and yes, the rickety attic where crafts and office duties were done will all come down in a haze of plaster and dust and wood chips.

And that's okay, says some of the staff and clients of New View Society, who recently shared fond memories over



coffee and muffins. For some things are more important than wood, plaster and cedar siding. These things are: *Working together, Acceptance, Love, Companionship, Sharing, And of course, Parties.* Judging by the number of people wearing costumes in photographs chronicling New View's stewardship of the building since 1984, "it looks like there was a Halloween party every month," jokes Gisela Theurer, director of rehabilitation. But more, much more went on in the building that many took for granted until a safety inspection warned of trouble ahead unless it was renovated at huge cost. To hear the staff

and clients talk about the Charles Lobb House, the building that many wanted to move and save, it was not just an impressive piece of Edwardian era architecture. It was a refuge, a place of learning, a home. But at first, it was just a building. "We were impressed by its spaciousness," recalls Kay Swalwell, New View board of director and society founder, who bought the building for \$100,000 for a clubhouse to accommodate New View's recreation, housing and job skills programs for people with mental illness. "The spaciousness would allow us to create a place where people would come in various stages of mental illness to be comfortable and safe."

Working together... In the beginning a lot of work had to be done to turn the aging building into a useful facility. Everyone pitched in to clean and paint and over the years the building was nicely maintained. "We kept it polished," acknowledged Chris Racine. How the kitchen became that shocking shade of orange is still a bit of a mystery, but it took a bunch of people to fix the basement door to keep the skunks out. "We just saw that it had to be done, and we did it," said Louise Jolicoeur, a long time staff member, who said everyone just picked up hammers and saws and got busy.

Acceptance... "For me, the building, it's symbolic... for me it represents a home because inside a home you have friends and family," recalled Glenn Smith, who journeyed to B.C. 13 years ago from Nova Scotia, leaving his family behind. Today he runs one of New View's housing facilities, and says that old Clubhouse was an important part of his journey. "When you ended up there, it was a place you could be who you are and not be judged."

New View History

Love... People could come and go depending on their needs. Sometimes they would disappear for months or years, only to show up again, claim a spot on a bench outside the door, and wait for someone to show up. They would always be welcome. If you needed company, you could join in a discussion, make a craft, join a work detail or play a game of pool. To be alone, you headed to the basement. "No matter what was going on there was always different groups of people because it was so big," said Smith. "People just left you alone if you needed space."

Companionship... When Racine first came to the Clubhouse he was having trouble adjusting to his medicine and it made him want to sleep all the time. So during a break from kitchen detail, he fell asleep on the couch only to wake up a few minutes later sputtering and spitting. Some joker had tipped the contents of a glass of water into his open mouth. "I woke up pretty quick," said Racine. "I think the camaraderie for me was most important."

Sharing... There were barbeques, and parties for every season, baseball games, outings, and special events. A time capsule was buried to mark the year 2000 but its location remains a mystery, despite several attempts at digging it up. "That place addressed our different elements," explained Kevin Mandley. For Charlene Bissett, the craft room was where she could make things of beauty, like a Christmas doll, and be stimulated as well as relaxed. When getting well it's important to be able to work on all aspects of the self: mental, physical, emotional, spiritual and intellectual. "After a while, they learn to be able to cope on their own," notes Smith.

That important work is still being done in other places. New View Society has offices in downtown Port Coquitlam and on Austin Avenue in Coquitlam, as well as at various apartments in the Tri-Cities. But it hasn't been easy to recreate the spirit and warmth of the old Clubhouse building on Mary Hill road. "We are always working on that, but it's hard," admits Theurer:

One day New View hopes to rebuild the clubhouse on the property that will soon be the site of a 10 bed housing facility for people with mental illness. It's a chance to move forward with confidence into the future. But for now, New View staff and clients will have to hold on to their memories because there will be very little building left.

2009—Legend has it that the New View Society (Charles Lobb Building) was haunted. In January 2009, the Paranormal Society of Vancouver approached Kay approximately two weeks prior to the demolition of the New View Society (The Charles Lobb Building built in 1911) at 2050 Mary Hill. The building was deemed a Heritage Building and there had been stories from the past that the house may have been haunted. The professional team from the Paranormal Society came in and set up their equipment one night with Kay Swalwell and one of the members. They met them at the building and stayed for many hours (and a lot of coffee) and allowed the team to set up monitoring equipment in the building, including the attic and the basement. They were there for over 4 hours but came to no conclusive evidence of paranormal activity. Thanks to the team at the Paranormal Society of Vancouver for all their hard work and efforts that night and for the opportunity to work along side you.
Very Exciting.



New View Wellness Centre



April 2009—The Honorable James Moore announced Homelessness Partnering Strategy funding to New View Society to aid in the construction of the new facilities, to support a 10 bed supportive housing facility and Clubhouse in the amount of \$575,000. BC Housing (Provincial Government) also contributed \$1.8 million towards the project, as well as \$89,383 in annual operating funding. Another \$10,000 in seed money came from the Federal Government. At this time, another \$300,000 was needed to be raised to re-

duce the mortgage and finish a commercial kitchen, complete the basement, buy appliances, and furnish the suites. The commercial kitchen was expected to be the heart of the building because it would provide 30 meals a day and provide job experience opportunities for New View members in a new catering business enterprise. The kitchen was used for job training so the New View Society Members would gain the necessary skills to get experience that would open doors for future employees.



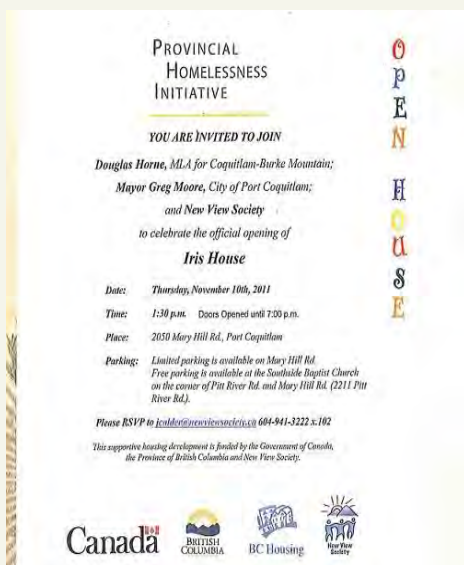
November 10, 2011—Grand Opening—Building the new residential facility and Clubhouse took several years; first, the 1912-era Lobb House, named after the former city councillor who built it, was torn down for safety reasons. Then the clubhouse was built below the residential facility to save money. At first, there was no carpeting in the basement until staff and members purchased it with their own money.



Grand Opening



New Building—June 2009 Grand Opening Ceremonies—November 10, 2011



Fraser Health and New View fundraising have helped pay for some new furnishings and the new building has all the comforts of home, including an inviting fireplace and patio. Stained glass reclaimed from the Lobb House has also been included in the design. "In some

ways, it was magical how it all came to be," Ted Kuntz (Chairperson) said.



New View History

New View, new digs, new hopes

PoCo facility aims to serve people with mental illness

By Diane Strandberg
THE TRI-CITY NEWS

The chair of New View Society says the opening of a new clubhouse and 10-bed residence for people with mental illness has been "magical" and he can't wait to welcome people to the community wellness centre at 2050 Mary Hill Rd.

Ted Kuntz said New View's metamorphosis from a single-purpose building to a multi-purpose facility where people can be together, share experiences, learn job skills and live independently has been bumpy but, ultimately, rewarding.

"It says what a caring community can do when it wants to," Kuntz said about the \$4.1-million community wellness centre and housing facility that opened recently on the former Lobb House site in Port Coquitlam.

New View Society quietly opened the doors to Iris House and a community wellness centre this summer after getting occupancy approvals, and, while there is still evidence of the recent move, staff say New View members and residents are settling in to the new digs.

"They feel that it is their home," said housing manager Louise Jolicoeur.

New resident Kim Materi moved into Iris House in August and said it was scary at first but now she enjoys her independence. She has her own key and can easily get into the duplex she shares with four other people because it's wheelchair accessible. The 31-year-old was living with her parents and is now learning how to cook and take care of herself.

"It's felt really good to get more freedom and independence," Materi said.

With the recent move, New View is finally able to consolidate programming for 300 clubhouse members who live in the Tri-Cities as well as provide offices for staff who manage New View's other residential apartments.

GRAND OPENING

On Thursday, Nov. 10, New View will host a grand opening beginning at 1:30 p.m. and running until 7 p.m. There will be an opportunity for the public to view the common area in the duplex and the clubhouse, located at 2050 Mary Hill Rd. in Port Coquitlam.

Materi said having the clubhouse downstairs means she can easily get to programs using the elevator.

"I love being there, they are wonderful people," she said.

Darrell Roemer, New View's program manager, said it's a relief to finally have everything all in one location and noted that many new programs have been added, including job skills, computer courses, music nights, stop-smoking programs, drama and creative writing groups, and classes on graphic design and fitness to name a few.

"We have so many opportunities now because of the space," Roemer said.

Kuntz said his wish is to be able to invite the community to take part in wellness programs at the new centre and a new commercial kitchen may provide spin-off opportunities such as catering services.

"I want to see the mandate get larger," Kuntz said.

Building the new residential facility and clubhouse took several years; first, the 1912-era Lobb House, named after the former city councillor who built it, was torn down for safety reasons. Then the clubhouse was built below the residential facility to save money. At first, there was no carpeting in the basement until staff and members purchased it with their own money.

Fraser Health and New View fundraising have helped pay for some new furnishings and the new building has all the comforts of home, including an inviting fireplace and patio. Stained glass reclaimed



DIANE STRANDBERG/THE TRI-CITY NEWS

Above, Louise Jolicoeur and Darrell Roemer of the New View Society stand in front of the newly built clubhouse and supportive housing called Iris House at 2050 Mary Hill Rd. in Port Coquitlam. Left, Jill Calder, shows the facility's commercial kitchen. Below, a common kitchen and living room for residents.



from the Lobb House has also been included in the design.

"In some ways, it was magical how it all came to be," Kuntz said.

Iris House 1 provides independent living to five young adults with mental health issues; each has his or her own room and they all share a living room and kitchen. Iris

House 2 offers more structured programming for five adults with mental health concerns and substance abuse issues. They have to have committed to taking responsibility for their recovery and both groups can stay at Iris House for 18 months to two years or longer if necessary.



Executive director Jill Calder said Iris House is the first in the Tri-Cities serving young people and adults with concurrent disorders and is a model for other communities trying to meet the needs of diverse groups. "We knew these areas are high need and we are happy to be providing it," Calder said.

The project as built with \$1.6 million from BC Housing, \$675,000 from the federal Homelessness Partnership Initiative and Fraser Health operating grants. New View provided the land.

For more information about New View, visit www.newviewsociety.org. dstrandberg@tricitynews.com

New View History

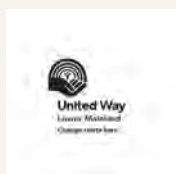
May 1–5, 2012



New View Society's 1st Annual Mental Health Week
May 1-5, 2012.

In May of this year, we will hosted our first-ever Mental Wellness Week. This inaugural event series will help raise awareness of the New View Society, showcased our new Community Wellness Centre in Port Coquitlam, and provide information on the many ways in which we serve. In addition, we brought the communities of the Tri-Cities together to learn about the importance of addressing and understanding mental illness.

United Way Day of Caring—TD Bank representatives celebrated a Day of Caring and helped paint the New View Society's Maplewood Manor.



February 2013



New View History

New View hosts May Day breakfast



From left: Sherilyn Kyle, Gavin Bahowie and Chantelle Burga of the New View Society

SARAH PAYNE/THE TRI-CITY NEWS

By **Staff Writer - The Tri-City News**

Published: May 07, 2013 12:00 PM

Updated: May 07, 2013 12:55 PM

The New View Society is preparing for its May Day community breakfast on Saturday, May 11.

Everyone is welcome at New View (2050 Mary Hill Rd., PoCo) for a free breakfast of eggs, sausages, croissants, bagels, fruit and more from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

After tossing back a great meal, join the group to watch the annual May Day parade.

Visit www.newviewsociety.org for more information.



New View History

Kathryn Swalwell

No time line calendar history book of New View Society is complete without acknowledging Kay! Beginning in 1969 Kay became involved as a volunteer driver and supporter of an informal social program for boarding home residents who had recently moved out of the Riverview hospital. She recognized that isolation was a major concern and people's needs were not being met. She, with a small group of volunteers, set up activities programs in a donated space, with "48 cents collected in a coffee cup". In 1973, the decision was made to form a non-profit society, and the New View Society was incorporated.

Kay continued as a volunteer for five years, and then became the Executive Director in 1983. Her retirement celebration in 2000 had over 200 attendees, and she was adamant that everyone was welcome and that it was affordable for all; she left money at the bar, to ensure anyone who couldn't pay would still be able to join in. From her continuing activities, it is hard to see the difference between Kay's level of activity before and after retirement. Overall, she watches carefully for the gaps in services that staff may not have time for, and quietly fills them.

Since her retirement she has not missed a step. Kay is an active member on the Board of Directors, currently as Secretary and Property Asset Management Chairperson. In addition, every week, Kay welcomes all to a "Friday muffin morning." Starting at 6 am; fresh muffins are baked and informal conversations are held with 30 to 40 people each week. This has been ongoing for many years, and members who may otherwise not be very involved with the Society, show up every week prior to going to work. It is also a time when Kay can observe how people are doing, and provide support to ensure everyone is thriving.

On Christmas Day each year, she and her husband Ken, children, grandchildren and friends organize a Christmas dinner for those members who do not have family. It is a "private" affair for about 35 to 50 people, in that it is totally funded and organized with Kay's coordination. It has become her family's Christmas celebration, showing a seamless relationship between family, friends and members.

However, it is her work with individual members (clients) of the Society that is most outstanding and of benefit to the community. She is a mentor to all and New View Society members' greatest champion. Thank you Kay!

 ★ Congratulations Kay, Medal Recipient ★



The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal was awarded to 20 inspiring individuals from the Tri-Cities region by the Honourable James Moore. The award marks the 60th anniversary of the accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The medal is presented to distinguished individuals for their contributions and dedication to making a positive difference in their communities.

New View History



New View History



Dr. Shauna Little
September 3, 1922 ~ May 23, 2012

Dr. Shauna Little

Dr. Little came to Port Coquitlam in 1971. By then, the downsizing of Riverview Hospital was gaining momentum and patients were being discharged to local boarding homes. There were few opportunities for them to pursue social activities of any kind.

Dr. Little was very aware of this and sought to remedy the situation however possible. She soon had a number of eager professionals and volunteers who agreed to join forces with her on this mission.

Dr. Little was professionally recognized as a believer in Psychosocial Rehabilitation.

The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013



Members' Testimonials

"I was really helped because my sustainability of well-being has been increased," said resident Paul Leblanc. "I did not have the necessary means to fit into group living, because I was living alone. I would like to comment on how group living benefits anyone living with mental health challenges. Iris House is a companion."

A Second Chance...

New View has given me a second chance to take control of my own life. Before I started to come to New View as a member, I can remember that my life and health was suffering from the exposure from living on the streets. Many times that I was surviving on the street, I can remember feeling so alone, hungry and cold. I had to make a difficult choice, but didn't know where to go or what was available.

Where was I to go and how could I stay off the lonely, cold streets. Ever since I had heard about New View, I can remember not feeling scared, though I brought lots of attitude with me. If I had not made a choice to become a member at New View, how was I going to learn (I have a learning disability)?

Who could I trust all over again?

As a member at New View, I am on a program called Semi Independent Living (SIL) program. I am eternally grateful towards the professional support from my SIL worker because I do know that I am a stubborn person. I am infinitely grateful towards the professionalism of each staff at New View who has given me the core values for living.

I do know that surviving on the street one cannot learn of core values. There would be no reason to learn about Hope, Respect, Support, Openness, Honesty, Flexibility, and Creativity. Wherever I go, I try to pass on different information so each person can have a second chance. Life is too short not to care about each individual.



New View Staff's love, support, guidance and professionalism gave me the courage to heal

New View Society gave us back our daughter and a relationship with her once again. I will always be thankful to New View.

Quotes From our Members...

"Iris House benefits me by giving me access to skills and leisure programs close to home," said resident Mike Steele.

"I've learned a lot about myself and I get lots of support," agreed resident Evan Truiyen

The History of New View Society

Members' Testimonials

When I first came to New View Kay put me to work around the clubhouse painting, repairing a brick walkway, and rebuilding a retaining wall. Rod then helped me get a job at Husky Camper. I was happy there and stayed for 7 years. When they closed down Rod helped me get a job at Zellers stocking shelves for 6 months.

Through Kay I met and got to know Mike Punchak. His son was a manager at Penske Trucking. I got an interview and was hired. I have been there for 9 years. New View also helped me with housing. I lived at McRae House for several years and then at Maplewood where I have lived for over 10 years now.

Thank you to Kay, Louise, Rod and all the staff. They helped me through some very hard times. Without their support and kindness I would not be here any longer.

.Thanks a Million for giving me great service and staff members!

Rick Cosco



More experiences from Members

An Experience from a New View

THANK YOU NEW VIEW!!

I have lived in terrible apartments: places with so many roaches that you had to see them while you ate, and went to sleep wondering if you'd get woken up again by a roach on your face. I was homeless for six months once, begging for my needs, sleeping under trees and in vacant lots. Today thanks to New View I live in a beautiful apartment, which I keep nice and clean and add furniture and decorations to whenever I can.

I have lived in terrible isolation; where I had no friends, went to soup kitchens and church services just to be near people, with my only society being the voices in my head. Today thanks to New View I have meaningful work, with people who know my name and like me,

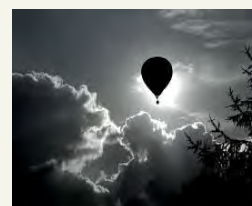


I have been living at Rindall House for about 2 years. I enjoy the company and friendship of the women residents and learning from them. I am happy to be working for over one year and glad to be part of New View Society. Thank you.

What I can say about New View is that the warm feelings that I experience with the staff members is something I have not known in my long history with mental health.

The Housing program is above excellent.

I know that whatever difficulties I go through in life, I can always find refuge under New View's wings. I heartily thank



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Members' Testimonials

A Single Ray of Hope

I remember a time of innocence
When I had no fear
A time of music and laughter
Something most dear
And then something happened
I had no recollection
Of anything but fear
There truly is no answer
When the strange one comes to call
He has no preference for his victims
And then the ride beings
A life of medication, insecurity and doubt
Shunned by society's elite
There is a hero in the story
A New View so to speak
Where shattered lives are pieced together
And dreams are made anew
A single ray of hope beings
To put the puzzle together
And make a tragic episode
Into one of life's adventures

New View gave me a life I never had. They boosted my self-esteem, they gave me confidence, they gave me guidance to understand my illness and work with it to be able to live an independent life.

New View will always be there to support me and guide me.

They will always encourage me to be me, not a "mental illness" and in that I will always thrive.

Thanks New View



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Members' Testimonials

My Gardening Experience

I first started pulling out a few weeds for 5-10 minutes a day just as an interest. Then before I knew it, I got more and more interested in my wonderful new hobby, and then Wham! I was addicted to gardening! I started doing it for several hours a day and then quickly turned into a real Ms. Green thumbs!!!!!!

I was thrilled to hear that a position of employment became available at my house. Louise J informed me that the job was to maintain the garden at the home in which I live. It consists of mowing the lawn, weed-whacking, sweeping the driveway and walkways, trimming the hedges, weeding and other general clean up.

It is such a pleasure working for Louise. Everyone where I live is very happy with the job I do at our house and it is a pleasure to see the housemates so pleased with my work. It also gives me a sense of accomplishment to see my great work as a finished outcome. Gardening is great exercise and I hope to continue to do this work at my house.

Erica



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Members' Testimonials

THANKS TO YOU, FOR ALL YOU DO



It's a lonely world and when I become ill, I am cut off and isolated from those around me.

You have become my shining star, visiting me in the hospital when I've hit bottom, and welcoming me home when I can face the world again. To you, my illness is something to learn more about not an excuse to shun me.

You always treat me with respect. You encourage even my smallest steps toward being well. You are excited and supportive whenever I venture out into the community to participate in activities and groups. You realize that this is a big step for me, so you tell me how proud you are.

You have learned about my illness and realize that it affects my ability to think, feel and the way I behave. You know it is not my fault and you have become my advocate. You bring hope and support into my life. The effects of my illness may have been difficult for you to deal with, but you have been persistent and protected me from abusive treatment, neglect and excessive medication.

It is a time of rebuilding independence and confidence. I've needed to get past the confusion, denial and despair. You have been with me every step of the way. Your favourite saying says it all, "There is no 'I' in TEAM".



Thanks to You for all You do.

by Barbara T.



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013



Members' Testimonials

On May 11 we at New View Society participated in Port Coquitlam's May Day Parade; we walked all through downtown PoCo with our hand-crafted presentation. We put an enormous amount of work into a presentation on Mental Wellness, and were rewarded with the approval and involvement of the spectators, and the award of Second Place For Walking Groups. Parents really enjoyed the trivia, and kids loved the puzzle pieces! Our presentation had three parts:

- * (1) A long, colourful banner -- see the photo below;
 - * (2) A two-person-sized trivia board with six mental health trivia questions, about the unknown mental illnesses of some very famous people, the main types of mental illness, and what proportion of people today are mentally ill;
 - * (3) A set of very large puzzle pieces representing the pieces of everyone's healthy mental life: Recreation and Leisure, Family and Friends, Spirituality, Community Support and Partnership, Health, and Play.
- * Thank you to all the members who helped prepare for the event. Special thanks to Diana in Crafts who did the banner and hats, and to Mike for the BBQ lunch afterwards.



New View helped me with housing, employment and gave me support and encouragement. They kind of are like family, supporting, encouraging and loving.

New View has helped me with my life in so many ways it's too much to put into words. They taught me how to manage my life in every way possible, including how to stay fit and healthy. Gerry

New View has given me a safe, comfortable home. New View has taught me how to take care of myself. I love the people at New View a lot.

I am infinitely grateful towards the professionalism of each staff at New View who has given me the core values for living. Hope, Respect, Support, Openness, Honestly, Flexibility and Creativity.



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Members' Testimonials

New View's Summer Activity

CAMP HOWDY!

Upon our arrival on Monday evening things were a bit hectic, but that didn't stop the campers' enthusiasm in the slightest.

Everyone found their allotted cabins and the rest of the evening involved getting oriented to Camp Howdy as well as getting acquainted with fellow campers and friends.

Camp Howdy is set in a rural area with a beautiful view overlooking Indian Arm. A great atmosphere for rest and relaxation—only a hop, skip, and a jump away from the Tri-Cities.

Could it be any more convenient?

There were an abundant number of activities offered at Camp Howdy. They included: canoeing, kayaking, archery, as well as rock climbing and of course, nature hikes, and swimming.

There were also additional indoor activities that included: crafts, videos, games of all kinds as well as a night of song (i.e. sing-a-long). Let's not forget: marshmallow toasting and wiener roasting by the campfire, accompanied by hot cocoa and stimulating conversation. Though the weather this year was dismal and grey it did not put a damper on undaunted Happy Campers.

On the final day of camp Howdy, a rousing game of bingo was held in the main lodge. There was no shortage of prizes at this event either. The meals were delicious on a daily basis according to the well-fed campers' reports. And if the meals weren't enough, you should have been there for the decadent desserts.

And, last but not least there was the Dance. But not your average kind of Dance, it was definitely different. The attire was PJ's. For the final day, the well-fed, sleep deprived, Happy Campers headed for home. A good time was had by all!



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Members' Testimonials



Drawing by Karel



New View: A Magical Place

Many, many years ago I can remember walking into New View. I also remember that I had such a heavy chip on my back. Who would have known many years ahead that I'm still coming to a magical place called New View?

When I first walked into New View I remember not being afraid because I had such a wall of emotions buried deep inside of me. Because there is a magical place called New View, I'm learning to deal with my buried emotions one emotion at a time.

If there wasn't such a system of New View being there, I know that I probably would still be carrying such a heavy load on my back. I came from a very different past and I have to share this that I was very much alone. I did not trust people at all and I still don't trust people.

At New View because of the members and staff I can somehow deal with my issue of not trusting situations that are in my life. In my past and present time I have slipped into so many systems that I have learned how.

If there wasn't a magical place called New View I know that I would not be dead somewhere because I know how to survive in life. I will always be very grateful towards New View for changing my life big time. Being out in the world out there and I am speaking for my feelings only in this case: that I don't feel so alone but I am surprised that I am not slipping and sliding all over the world.

The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Testimonials

My Personal Journey With New View

This letter is a brief overview of my personal journey, to share from my incredibly joyous time spent at The New View Society recently, while on my final practicum for the Community Social Service Worker Program offered through Douglas College. From the very first day, I was greeted by members and staff with a warm, caring, respectful attitude towards myself and my studies. Louise J was designated as the initial supervisor over my duties at the Clubhouse, and she succeeded in her goal to give me as much learning experience as possible. Day one, I was driving away with Louise to support a member to an orthopedic appointment, then to support another person and next to visit New View's extremely well-kept housing facilities. After the initial day I went home and grabbed my appointment organizer, which was full every single day while participating at the Clubhouse. It was exhilarating!

After spending time within each unit and basking in the fun with recreational outings, my conclusion is that the New View Society is a colourful mixture of joy, hope, and love, which benefits all who enter.

The agenda is the members: it is welcomed and encouraged to be creative. Differences are honored; as my springboard into the real work world, I feel **blessed** to have shared in this learning experience. This is a strong root for my future practice. The New View Society is unique because the word **LOVE** is shown and felt as you go through the doors.

It is with the utmost respect when I write that The New View Society is hope and light for the future of mental health clubhouses; certainly in my own personal view, the society is the blueprint of how a truly successful clubhouse may be modeled on for others interested in the field. People are embraced and focused on holistically, people are valued and the atmosphere is safe to be the unique individual one is (members and staff).

I would have chained myself to the outside stairwell to stay, but it would have been poor role modeling (not to mention cold and damp outside while on the stair well).

To conclude I will end with the words from the card I was given from The New View Society on the day of my leaving. "**Generosity is not so much the giving of things, as it is the giving of one's self.**" And all at New View were immensely more than generous with this curious student. Thank you for continuing to feed my passion for the human service field, and as a new member of the Society now, I look forward to visiting many times in the future.

With the Warmest Regards,

Emma A (*excerpt from early 2000's Clubhouse newsletter*),



The History of New View Society

40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

Members' Testimonials

TRIBUTE TO NEW VIEW

I'm thankful for all the staff and people I've met at New View and for making me feel like I belong. I now have hope instead of feeling discouraged.

I have made some great friends over the many years I have attended the New View Society. The staff and members have been excellent and I could not imagine my recovery without them.

Ron

~~~~~

New View has given me a social life and a sense of purpose in my life. The staff are very kind, understanding and caring.

My experience with New View has been beneficial and wonderful. Because of New View I have been given a second chance at life. New View helps me overcome the effects of my illness in many ways and I am eternally grateful to such a fantastic organization.

#### What New View has meant to our family

Many years ago our daughter was diagnosed with schizophrenia. At the time we had little or no knowledge of this illness. Our family did not know what to do. We were asked if we would like to let our daughter try out New View. After much family discussion it was decided, out of desperation, this would be the direction we would take. Little did we know what this decision would do for our family and most of all, for our daughter and her future. At that time we thought she had no future due to the circumstances. We were so very wrong. New View provided our daughter with a family environment and knowledgeable staff who were able to help and guide her in getting her life back on track. We could not have provided this kind of support for our daughter if we had tried to do the job ourselves. Our daughter started in a group home with New View and was able to go back to college and receive her college diploma. She is now living in her own apartment and with the help and support of the New View Society and all the professional and caring people who work there, and is living a full and productive life. Our family and our daughter are not able to thank everyone enough. We would never have been able to help and care for her like the New View Society has done. New View has given our daughter the chance she needed in order to lead a fulfilling life even with schizophrenia and we can't thank those involved enough. Thank you New View from the bottom of our hearts.

Fornari Family





# The History of New View Society

## 40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

### Members' Testimonials

**New View Society is the best thing that ever happened**

I have a really beautiful apartment in Maplewood Manor, a building administered by NewViewSociety. It's great and I have friendly neighbours and the house is the best and the best anyone could ask for. It makes me feel like a real person -- NewView even gave me starter furniture, so I don't have to move into an empty apartment. I replaced things piece at a time, and kept what I really liked -- today my apartment is really nice and comfortable. Thanks so much to the house and everyone who made it's possible.



Another blessing I have received is my volunteer job in the Communications Unit at the Clubhouse. We make a really cool magazine four times a year that a hundred and fifty people receive and enjoy. We also provide help for others to create computer documents, and Grace is just amazing at giving lessons that make people really become computer literate. Being part of this is another way I feel like a real person, thanks to NewView!

Last but not least is the social aspect of NewViewSociety, the events we have that help us make friends instead of isolating. There are lunch and supper meals at the Clubhouse, open doors all the place five days a week, and endless events and field trips, all of them free or very low cost. We lived all over Canada, and I have more friends here and people who know me than any place else. Once again, thanks to everyone in NewViewSociety who made it's possible.



submitted by Darryl M

# The History of New View Society

## 40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013

### Members' Testimonials

#### What New View did for me

New View is a great place for me to hang out. I am involved in the Friday night coffee house, where I play guitar for the group. I enjoy going on outings and eating their food.

New View has been very good to me.

Mark Bottomley

Michelle—"I never thought I'd say this in a million years but I have a great life that I am very thankful for. New View has really helped to make that possible."

Fran—"New View was and is our lifeline and I thank God every day for this enormous blessing."

New View changed my life completely—I felt welcomed right away, I felt wanted and treated with respect. Without New View's help I don't know where I would be.

Thanks New View!!! You changed my life!!!

#### My Experience

I have attended New View Society for many years. During the weekdays I attend New View and socialize with staff and the members, getting involved in crafts, and work in the kitchen and communication units. I would also attend the memberships meetings and general meetings for New View.

My work experience with New View over the years has included both reception and janitorial work. I have also been involved in volunteer work with New View as well as George Derby Centre gift shop and art works studio.

My health is very important to me, so I take care of myself by eating well balanced meals, consuming less caffeine, eating lots of fruits and vegetables, and limiting the amount of sweets, dairy and poultry. I work part time, spend free time walking, and I also exercise while listening to the radio. In my free time I enjoy socializing, shopping, cleaning my home and attending church.

New View has always been a place for me to maintain my health while going to school or working part time. The employment specialist at New View helped me find a job and I am very appreciative of her for all of her hard work.

I would also like to say thank you to all of the staff and to all of the members and those at Tri-Cities Mental Health for all of their great support and hard work throughout the years.


By: Hee Hyun P.





## Members' Testimonials

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# **The History of New View Society**

## **40th Anniversary 1973 to 2013**

### **Member's Testimonials**

#### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY NEW VIEW SOCIETY**

Today was a gorgeous, inspiring and sunny day in July. I am sitting in the living room in a comfortable chair in my current temporary life place on Rindall Avenue ( beautiful, inside and outside). I was transferred to Rindall House from CREST in Surrey on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

This place means the beginning of a new life full of hope and transformation for me. Even though I can't forget all the brutalities I have gone through in my life, I will not let that stop me from taking steps forward. Things have started to change radically.

The staff who helped me are kind, supportive and respectful. They have helped me tremendously, to gain independence, self-confidence and to get better. I went in NVS as a very sad and sick person with huge accumulation of problems due to mental illness.

I was helped by the all available resources at NVS, which are intended for use by persons with all levels of disability.

Friday is a very special day at the Society. I go with great pleasure to eat really delicious muffins and read my Vancouver Sun newspaper in the mornings. Also, on Friday afternoons, a group of volunteers participate in preparation supper for members of NVS. I have participated several times too, and was delighted with the taste and nutritional value of the food that they choose and prepare for supper. Friday afternoon is also a really special time with delicious food, live music, chatting, playing games, using the internet and the opportunity for members to socialize.

NVS also has a very helpful program for persons over 50+ . The program includes trips for shopping and visiting resourceful organizations in the area. I greatly appreciate all the words, ways of communications, acts by all employees and members of NVS, which are directed toward my wellbeing and recuperation after my hospitalization.

Rindall House has a very special meaning to me. It helped me to develop and direct all my thoughts toward realizing my health, residential and career goals. I look forward in advance to the time which is coming because that's the time of clear goals and plans.

# The History of New View Society

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The safe atmosphere that is created at New View gives individuals an opportunity to grow and change. I am

Without New View, I don't know where I'd be today. I'm so thankful for all the opportunities and support New View staff have given me over the years .....Trina

New View has provided a safe atmosphere and the support I needed to learn how to live with my mental illness and addiction.

The doors at the New View Society have never closed for me. New View showed me how to restore hope to my life. The part that kept me there the most was that they treated me like a person and not an illness.

Pat

I can't say enough

About how much New View has been a great source of help. Thank you so much

Sincerely Chris Parrotta



New View Society has been very good to me!!  
Mark Bottomley

"New View gave me a sense of self worth" –

I think the Clubhouse is fantastic. I think everyone are caring friends. I really like Rindall house more than apartments because I have a lot of friends.

"New View is a very protective place – and very educational."  
Marcela





## MOVING FORWARD

Jill Calder has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of individuals with mental illness. As Executive Director of New View Society, Jill has been instrumental in bringing New View Society's mission: Community Health through Mental Health to life. While keeping the society's supportive housing, vocational, employment, social and personal growth services actively operating, Jill did whatever was needed to have a dream for a Community Wellness Center come true. In 2011 that center was opened; thus expanding mental health services within the Tri-Cities. Jill inspires staff and members every day and keeps the success of the society alive.

Jill is the epitome of a great leader: her actions are founded in her personal vision that people with a mental illness can live a good life; she inspires her staff to contribute in the ways that come naturally to them, thus resulting in keeping staff who have expertise and who are happy about their work; she is personable and respectful in her relationships with the members of New View; she has the necessary skills to make the sure the day-to-day activities of the organization are well taken care of; she is supportive in keeping her Board well informed and active; she is well connected with the broader community and she does it all with humility and grace.

Jill's ability to take some of the rhetoric that we often hear from government about mental health services and put it into action is to be admired. Jill's understanding of the need for respect, love and support as being critical to providing mental health services is demonstrated in her quiet yet very competent way of undertaking her role as Executive Director.

Jill has managed to work through the challenges of delivering services within a non-profit structure and support the organization to continue its successful work. Her commitment to the organization and the people it serves continues to inspire others to also dedicate their lives to support individuals with mental illness. Jill and her staff do whatever is needed to improve the opportunities and the lives of individuals with mental illness through their open hearts and capable minds. Jill also, through example and through mentoring, ensures that the members that they serve are treated first and foremost as people who deserve the kindness, respect, and love that each and every one of us would like to receive. Providing successful supportive housing for people with mental illness is difficult, yet through Jill's leader-

## Accolades

*"Ms. Calder has been a core member of the leadership team at New View for many years and more recently as the Executive Director. I have admired Ms. Calder's steady leadership, commitment to her cause, and her quiet and determined way of accomplishing what needs to be accomplished. It is a privilege to have individuals such as*

*Ms. Calder who bring leadership and vision to a community and make it a better place to live. I have deep gratitude for what Ms. Calder and her team bring to our community. In my own personal efforts to reduce homelessness in my community I rely on and benefit from the skilled and compassionate individuals at New View Society. And the strength of New View is due in large part to the steady and determined leadership of Jill Calder"*

Dear Members and Friends,

As most of you are aware our current basic funding is from several government Sources : Fraser Health Authority, BC Housing and Canada Mortgage and Housing.

As well, over the years we have been supported by the Lottery Foundation, United Way, and a variety of grants, both Provincial and Federal.

However, for our special celebrations and activities we depend solely on donations from members and friends.

Thank you for your continued support

Sincerely

New View Society

(Tax receipts are issued for \$25 or more)