

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

Celebrating 40 years



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

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

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Mary Hill wants to move

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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



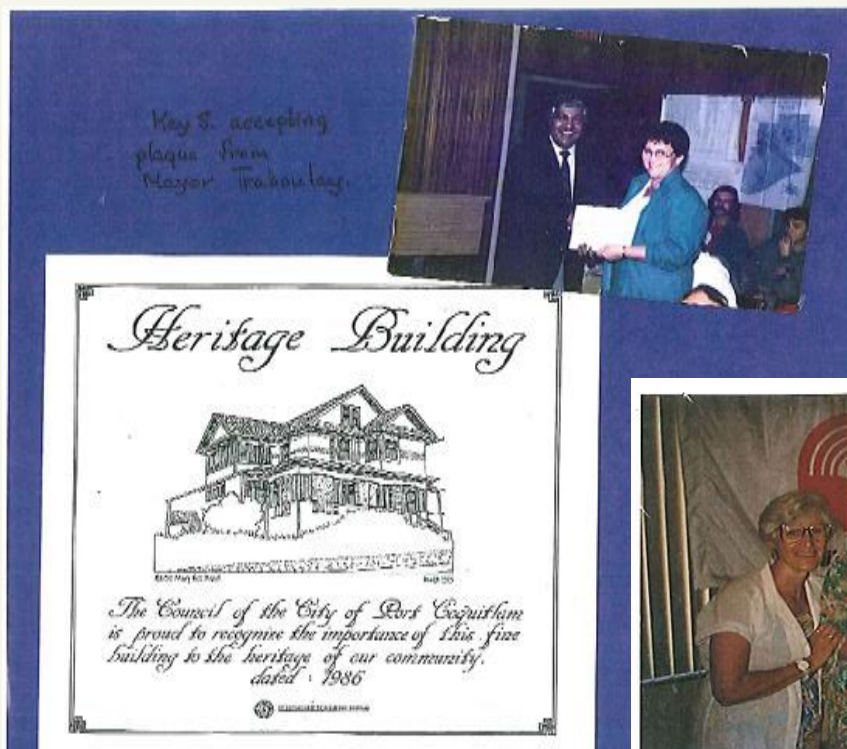
-Mayor Traboulay

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 themselves 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



-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!

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)