



Information Bulletin

To All Employees of the Community Living Society

April 16, 2007

I am excited to send out my first bulletin to you as Executive Director of the Community Living Society. The past two weeks have been interesting as I familiarize myself with the organization, and start to meet as many of you as possible. CLS is clearly a dynamic and exciting organization and I look forward to working with you all as well as on your behalf in the coming months.

I know there are a number of important concerns that need to be addressed including compensation. I have seen and heard the work that has been done over the past year by CLS and the Respect All Coalition. I also acknowledge all of you who joined in the advocacy work taking time to write to the various Ministers as well as to your MLAs and, in some cases, speaking directly with your government representatives to make them aware of the importance and fairness of improving your wages.

This hard work has paid off and we have recently received written confirmation from CLBC that CLS will receive a modest increase in funding effective April 1, 2007. This increase will be used to improve both the Counsellor and Coordinator wage grids and every hourly rate will see an increase.

CLBC has indicated that it will take some time for agencies like CLS to receive the increase. Unfortunately this means we need to again ask for your patience. I can promise you there will

be salary increases and they will be retroactive to April 1st, 2007. I look forward to meeting with your Liaison Committee representatives this month to discuss this important issue.

I am also hopeful that we will also be able to give out a one-time payment that will, in a small way, recognize your commitment and patience over the past year. Again, I cannot confirm a timeline for this. I know that the people at CLBC are working hard to ensure that the additional funding will be given out as soon as possible.

My promise to you is that I will continue to work on your behalf to address compensation issues and I will keep you informed of progress. We remain committed to being both the provider of choice and the employer of choice. In addition my responsibilities to you include any and all workplace issues that need to be addressed and I look forward to being a part of that and supporting you in the pursuit of excellence.

Ross Chilton
Executive Director