



To All Employees of the Community Living Society

August 8, 2006

August Update on Wages for Non-union Support Workers

**This is a quick update to bring everyone up to speed
as to our strategy regarding negotiations for wages and
bonuses for CLS non-union employees.**

On July 5, 2006, CLS met with Rick Mowles the Executive Director of CLBC. Our Board Chair, Todd Stewart, Treasurer, Tom Wong, Vice Chair, Bill Black and I attended the meeting and made a strong argument for fair and equitable treatment for our employees. Mr. Mowles confirmed that CLBC has submitted a request for funds to the Treasury Board that is currently under review. He expressed hopes that this would be resolved very soon.

In the meantime we have written two more letters to Minister Hagen (MCFD) and Finance Minister Carole Taylor. We had a response from the Deputy Minister for MCFD. Again this looks positive. (The Deputy Minister's response is on the reverse side.)

Further to this I have scheduled a meeting with the Acting Deputy Minister for MCFD for August 18, 2006 to discuss the situation. I sincerely hope that we might have good news to tell you before that date; however,

we felt it was prudent to keep the momentum going just in case things remain stalled in Victoria with the government in recess.

I will let you know as soon as we hear anything. Please know that we are doing everything we can at this time to ensure you are valued and treated fairly and equitably. I encourage all of you to continue writing. Many employees have done this and have received favourable letters from their MLAs. We need to keep the pressure on and I'm sure we will succeed.

Thank you all for your patience and commitment and thanks also to those of you who have taken the time to join this campaign and advocate on behalf of all your colleagues.

Please call me if you have any questions or any information or contacts that might be helpful to us.

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Director of Employee Services

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JUL 12 2006

Ref: 154852

Todd Stewart
Board Chairperson
Community Living Society
300 - 5945 Kathleen Ave
Burnaby BC V5H 4J7

Dear Mr. Stewart:

As Deputy Minister, I am pleased to respond to your letter to Minister Hagen dated June 7, 2006, regarding wage increases and bonuses for non-union support workers.

The province recognizes that those health and social service agencies which do not belong to an employers' association also provide important and vital services to British Columbians. Government is sympathetic to the fact that in British Columbia's strong labour market these agencies compete for many of the same workers as Community Social Services Employers' Association and Health Employers Association of British Columbia member agencies and many other sectors.

Please be assured that government is actively reviewing the implications and impact of wage increases for unionized staff working in this field on agencies like yours in the hope of coming to a collective approach. We expect the resolution of this issue in the near future and will widely communicate any new information as soon as it is available.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

for Lesley du Toit
Deputy Minister

pc: Honourable Carole Taylor, Minister of Finance