



# BC Community Living Action Group (BC-CLAG)

A provincial network of service, support, and advocacy organizations, family groups, & other community living stakeholders

## BACKGROUNDER

For Immediate Release

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### COMMUNITY LIVING CRISIS IN BC: FACTS AND FIGURES

#### CUTS, CLARK AND THE CREATION OF CLBC

- In 2002, an interim precursor agency to Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) was formed. The next year, in 2003, the provincial government budget for adult community living services was cut by \$77,500,000, or 12% (Ministry of Children and Family Development, *2003/04-2005/06 Service Plan*). In 2004, the *Community Living Authority Act*, which established CLBC, was introduced in the legislature by then Minister for Children and Family Development Christy Clark.

#### INSUFFICIENT FUNDING AND RISING DEMAND

- Percentage difference between the provincial government budget for Adult Community Living Services in 2002 and the provincial government transfer to CLBC in 2012, accounting for inflation: **0**.

Budget Year	Voted Appropriation	Estimates (\$000)	Consumer Price Index - Annual (2002 = 100)
2002/03	Adult Community Living Services	576,938	100
2005/06	Adult Community Living Services	524,664	106.3
2008/09	Adult Community Living Services	617,786	112.3
2012/13	Community Living British Columbia	680,997*	118.4**
<b>% change in Estimates (2002 to 2012):</b>			<b>18%</b>
<b>Inflation (2002 to 2012):</b>			<b>18%</b>

\*2012/13 Plan

\*\*Based on Budget 2011 forecasts for 2011, 2012.

Sources: British Columbia, *Estimates* (2002, 2005, 2008, 2011); BCStats; Ministry of Social Development, *Service Plan* (2011).

- Percentage increase in the demand for adult community living services between the end of fiscal 2003 (actual) and the end of fiscal 2012 (projected): **59**.

	2003/04 Actual	2012/13 Projection
Individuals eligible for CLBC services at year end	9,277	14,781
<b>% increase (2003/04 to 2012/13):</b>		<b>59%</b>

Sources: CLBC, *Service Plan* (2010 and 2011).

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- Government transfers to CLBC are currently frozen and are not expected to keep up with caseload growth (15%) or inflation (6%) over the next few years.

Budget Year	Government Transfers*	Individuals eligible for CLBC services (projection)	Consumer Price Index (forecast)
	% increase		
2011/12	0	5.1	2.0
2012/13	0	4.8	2.0
2013/14	0	4.5	2.1

\*Based on 2011/12 Budget, 2012/13 Plan, 2013/14 Plan.

Sources: CLBC, *Service Plan* (2011); Ministry of Finance, *Budget and Fiscal Plan* (2011).

## GROWING WAITLISTS

- CLBC waitlists are high and seem to be growing. Over 1,600 individuals were waiting for CLBC services in 2009, and over 1,700 were waiting in 2010.

	Waitlist (# of adults)	
	As of 31 January 2009	As of 13 April 2010
New CLBC clients, waiting for services	595	390
Existing CLBC clients, waiting for additional or new services	1072	-
Existing CLBC clients, waiting for additional services	-	1100
Existing CLBC clients, waiting for an increase to their current services	-	230
<b>Total</b>	<b>1667</b>	<b>1720</b>

Sources: *Debates of the Legislative Assembly (Hansard)*, (27 October 2009 and 13 April 2010).

## COST-DRIVEN CLOSURES AND SERVICE CUTS

- Thirty-three group homes were closed between March 31 and December 31 2010, including group homes in Victoria, Maple Ridge, Chilliwack, Surrey, Kamloops, Williams Lake, and Terrace. At this pace, roughly one in every three group homes across the province will have been closed within the next five years. Residential and community inclusion staffing and program cuts have been reported in numerous communities, including in Victoria, Burnaby, Kelowna, and Vernon.
- The government has stated that no one is being forced into new living arrangements through cuts, closures and redesigns. But reports from families and service providers indicate otherwise. See, for example: Powell River Peak, "Potential home closure raise ire," July 2010.