



BC Community Living Action Group (BC-CLAG)

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

September 29, 2011

Hon. Stephanie Cadieux
Minister of Social Development
Province of British Columbia
PO Box 9058 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via email: sd.minister@gov.bc.ca
Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Re: Appointment of Minister and Crisis in BC's Community Living Sector

Dear Minister Cadieux,

We are writing to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Minister of Social Development and to request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience.

The BC Community Living Action Group (BC-CLAG) is a broad-based network of service, support, and advocacy organizations, family groups, and other stakeholders in the community living sector. Our dynamic group—representing diverse perspectives and positions, coupled with a shared commitment to full inclusion of people with developmental disabilities—was established in response to the growing crisis in BC's community living sector.

The BC-CLAG represents an unprecedented consensus among the full spectrum of community living stakeholders in BC. Following an extensive community consultation process, we released a report and recommendations last spring, outlining challenges and practical solutions to address the crisis in BC's community living sector. In the public and the media, we have earned a reputation as respected provincial voice on this issue.

We acknowledge and appreciate your proactive interest and willingness to meet individually with several representatives from our group who speak on behalf of their respective organizations or agencies. However, a meeting between yourself, your Deputy Minister, and a small representative group of BC-CLAG members would offer a unique opportunity to exchange ideas for addressing the current crisis and improving the delivery of provincial government services and supports for adults with developmental disabilities.

As you are no doubt aware, we have been communicating with the former Minister of Social Development and the Premier's office to this end for more than six months. A meeting between our group and your Ministry would go a long way in restoring the confidence that has been lost through this process to date.



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If you would be amenable to a meeting with representatives from the BC-CLAG, please contact Jane Dyson (**email:** jwd@bccpd.bc.ca; **phone:** 604.875.0188) BC Coalition of People with Disabilities, representing the BC Community Living Action Group (BC-CLAG) to confirm a mutually convenient date and time.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Jane Dyson
Executive Director
BC Coalition of People with Disabilities

Faith Bodnar
Executive Director
BC Association for Community Living

Darryl Walker
President
B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union

Cyndi Gerlach & Dawn Steele
Co-administrators
Moms on the Move

Anita Dadson
President
BC Family Net Society

Alanna Hendren
Executive Director
Developmental Disabilities Association

Michael J. Prince, Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy
University of Victoria

cc: Mark Sieben, Deputy Minister of Social Development

Via email: mhrdm@gov.bc.ca