

Good day, and happy new year.

I am writing to request that discussion of the upcoming Inclusion BC Conference be added to the agenda for our next ACAI meeting. This represents an opportunity for the City to reinforce and promote its commitment to accessibility and inclusion, particularly in the downtown core where the conference is being held (May 30-June 1 at VICC). Elements for discussion or staff report could include:

- What (if any) contact has there been between the City and organizers at Inclusion BC and/or conference co-hosts Clay Tree Society, NACL, and Self Advocates Nanaimo?
- How can the Downtown Nanaimo Business Improvement Association's support be engaged?
- Is there a desire/opportunity for involvement from the ACAI Committee (beyond simply bringing the event forward for discussion)?

Please let me know if you have any questions or require further information.

All the best,
Alexandria



Inclusion BC is very excited to be working with The Nanaimo Association for Community Living, BC Self Advocate Leadership Network Society, and Clay Tree Society to bring you Everybody Belongs 2024.

Every year, over 600 people gather to learn, celebrate, network, and share real stories for disability inclusion. This includes self-advocates, family members, community inclusion workers and community leaders, education and therapeutic professionals, and expert advisors, Everybody Belongs is the premier event for the disability community in BC.

May 30 – June 1, 2024

Vancouver Island Conference Centre

101 Gordon St, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J8

This event would not have been successful for so many years without our partners, and we wanted to take a moment to introduce the member organizations who will be co-hosting the 2024 event with us:

The Nanaimo Association for Community Living is committed to supporting people with diversabilities. Their goal is to provide dignity and respect to each person and to empower the people they serve to make their own informed choices that build on their self-determination. Since 1986 they have been providing services and programs to adults with diversabilities and now reach roughly 200 youth and adults through their staffed residences, community inclusion services, and more.

The BC Self Advocate Leadership Network is a Network made of self-advocates from leading organizations in the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, and Northern BC. The majority of SALN members are part of local and provincial self-advocacy and advisory groups. SALN is aware and interested in the BC self-advocate movement. SALN aims to bring together self-advocate leaders to support and learn from each other, and to

work on projects that bring about positive change for people with disabilities and communities.

Clay Tree Society provides assistance & support for individuals with developmental disabilities by utilizing a variety of programs, techniques, and systems that help participants live a full life of quality and dignity. They provide services to over 120 people in the areas that provide a quality of life that everyone should have access to including, pre-employment, life skills, training, and education.

Registration + Scholarships

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