



Carmichael Connection

June 2018

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CARMICHAEL ENTERPRISES RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS LTD

IN THIS ISSUE

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

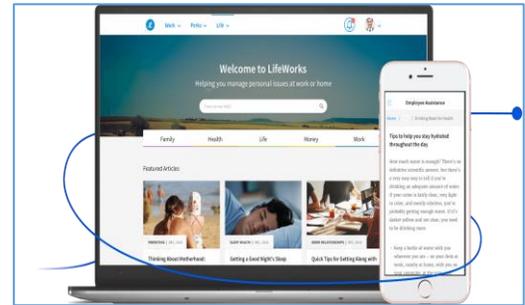
Submitted by: Carmela Taylor ~ Executive Administrator/Co-Owner

May 1, 2018 marked our 20th year business anniversary providing a safe and nurturing environment for our special individuals where they are supported and accepted as valued members of the community.

From the first time we arrived on Vancouver Island in 1998 to take on a challenging task, we have never looked back; we have met so many inspiring as well as very supportive people all through these years.

Thank you to all our stakeholders who have always believed in us and to all our passionate residential support and outreach workers who are committed to the quality of care for our individuals served.

Cheers to the next 20 years! –
Carmela and Mike Taylor



EMPLOYEE & FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTIONS SCHOOL DISTRICT #68

Page 4

STAFF SPOT LIGHTS



Birthdays ~ June 2018

Darche Bah Samantha Mc
Larissa R Jason

Staff Draw Winners

May: Leslie P. Sharron Kara



Welcome New Staff & Returns

Priscilla William Kevin Calvin

RANDOM FAST FACTS



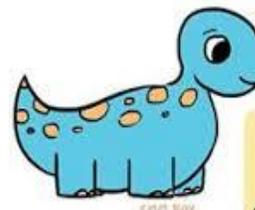
You can't dream of strangers. The people you see, but don't know, are people you have seen at some point in your life



When a male penguin falls in love with a female penguin, he searches the entire beach to find the perfect "pebble" to present her.

OOPS!

If we have missed anyone off the Staff Spotlights please contact the office so we may correct in the next issue. Thank you!



SELF-CARE IS NOT LAZY OR SELFISH. SELF-CARE IS HEALTHY. SELF-CARE IS IMPORTANT. SELF-CARE IS NECESSARY.

SELF CARE

Submitted by: Carmela Taylor ~ Executive Administrator/Co-Owner

Employee & Family Assistance Program (EFAP)

Under our benefits plan, I believe this is the least known and under-used service so I want to emphasize the importance of this program in the employees overall well-being. The EFAP is a voluntary, confidential, short term counseling, advisory, and information service for eligible employees and their dependent family members. They have dedicated professionals who are available to provide you with assistance 24/7 whether it be problems that affect your family life, your work life or your general well-being.

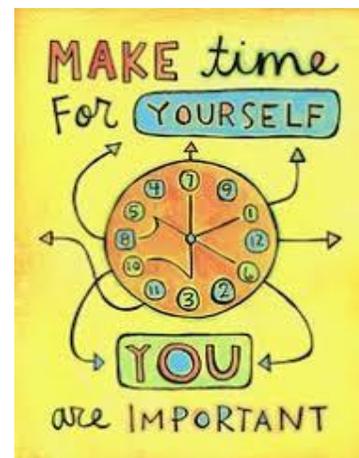
This service is provided by Ceridian LifeWorks, one of Canada's largest and most respected EFAP providers. Their staff consists of a diverse range of experienced professionals including psychologists, social workers, addictions and career counselors, childcare and elder specialists, legal and financial experts. They are a full-service, bilingual program that provides you and your immediate family confidential support and resources you need to manage any personal or professional issue so you can lead a healthier, happier, more productive life.

LifeWorks can help with a wide range of issues, on-line or by phone, including parenting and child care, education, older adults, midlife and retirement, financial and legal issues, everyday issues, work issues, health and wellness, and emotional well-being.

Be well, do more, find balance and seek help; there is no such thing as "I can handle it on my own".

To find out more about how LifeWorks can help – call 1-866-331-6851 or visit their website www.lifeworks.com (refer to your wallet card for your user ID and password).

Carmel Taylor



Students with special needs in B.C. still face seclusion, physical restraint in schools

Excerpts from: Rafferty Baker: CBC News

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/inclusion-bc-seclusion-restraint-report-1.4665497>

A new report from the advocacy group, Inclusion B.C., claims routine restraint and seclusion of children with special needs in schools hasn't improved much since its previous report in 2013 led to new guidelines.

It says the impact of the practice in schools includes "profound, lasting emotional and/or physical trauma" for students.

"Families and others across the province continue to report disturbing incidents and patterns of conduct, inadequate staff training and support and a systemic lack of oversight and accountability," the report titled Stop Hurting Kids II reads.

The report, released on Wednesday, is based on a survey of 170 people who self-identified as parents or guardians of a student who was subjected to restraint or seclusion in the 2016-2017 school year.

Types of physical restraint

According to the report, forms of restraint include students being pinned to a wall with a beanbag, tied to a chair, forced into a Rubbermaid tote, carried or dragged and pulled by a collar. The restraint allegedly took place in a range of settings from the playground and classroom to the principal's office.

Inclusion B.C. said the majority of reported restraint cases lasted less than 15 minutes, but six survey respondents said it lasted more than an hour.

Upon learning of the incidents involving restraint, the report found 75 per cent of caregivers raised concerns with the school, but 97 per cent of those who did were unsatisfied with the response.

'Emotional injury or pain'

Nearly 60 people who responded to the survey said the student had "experienced emotional injury or pain as a result of seclusion."

Parents and guardians also reported a lack of communication about incidents involving their children, with 48 people saying the school rarely or never informed them, and 86 people saying they never received a written report about their child's seclusion.

Inclusion B.C. said that 11 school boards in the province had relevant policies before its 2013 report, and only nine more had adopted or revised policies since the province introduced guidelines in 2015.



UP COMING EVENTS



Brain Injury Association of Canada
Association canadienne des lésés cérébraux

BRAIN INJURY MONTH

June 2018

<https://www.braininjurycanada.ca/>



CARF Canada

Webinars ~ CARF is committed to providing the highest quality education and training opportunities in a format that promotes ease of access and participation. Our web-based trainings offer you the following:

- Training in the comfort of your own office or home.
- No travel-related costs.
- An engaging and interactive format.
- Multiple participants in the training for one connection price.

<http://www.carf.org/Events/Webinars/>



FATHERS DAY

June 17, 2018

A SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSIDERS NEW POSITION, DRUG CONCERNS RAISED

Excerpts from: Tamara Cunningham ~ Nanaimo Bulletin

<https://www.nanaimobulletin.com/news/school-district-considers-new-position-drug-concerns-raised/>

Nanaimo school district will look to hire its first mental health and addictions coordinator to help address substance abuse in schools.

Members of the school district's business committee have recommended the board write the province to provide funding for a new mental health and addictions coordinator; a role they think could be tested locally and expanded to other school districts.

It would be a coup if it works, said assistant superintendent Bob Esliger at a business committee meeting earlier this month, adding he doesn't know of such a position at any other districts. The person would connect Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools with other agencies like the RCMP, Discovery Youth and Family Addictions and the hospital's emergency department.

It's also considered one measure to help with substance misuse in a school district that saw a spike in students using "Xanax" earlier this year.

An Island Health information bulletin says over the last 12 months an increasing number of education, police and health care professionals on Vancouver Island have expressed concern about the use of Alprazolam (Xanax) in their communities, including Nanaimo, Parksville and Cowichan Valley. Incidents have been reported of "acute intoxications of teens at school, suspected overdose incidents involving emergency response and seizures by local police," it states.

The prescription tranquilizer is used to treat anxiety, panic orders and insomnia and repeated use can lead to dependence. Tolerance to the drug can cause someone to take higher doses, increasing the risk of harm, the health authority says, although Esliger believes the drug used in Nanaimo is homemade.

He said incidents of kids from Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools taking the drug happened at the end of January and early February.

"It was new and it was alarming because we would have two or three students in a secondary school show up in the office kind of quite intoxicated," said Esliger, who told the News Bulletin it was happening in schools, at lunch time, not in the wee hours of the morning with kids on the street.

He also said spike the district saw around "Xanax" was that it was part of a concoction in a vaping pipe, "so it would go directly into your lungs, directly into your blood stream so it was an immediate scare for kids."

Students sought help daily at the school office, either for themselves or friends. Esliger said students were not unconscious, but were watched over by first aid attendants until paramedics arrived. He is sure Xanax is still out there but not where it was in January and February.

Gordon Nowicki, Nanaimo RCMP youth liaison officer, also doesn't believe the drug use is as widespread as it was, but said it remains a concern. He also told the News Bulletin he's also heard of teens using substances like "lean," a combination of pop and medicated cough syrup, and "poppers," a blend of tobacco and marijuana in bongs, but said it's the minority of students.

The district held a training session for counsellors and child, youth and family support workers to talk about Xanax and other drugs and has created information sheets for parents, teachers and students.

Asked if anything further is being done, Esliger said more child, youth and family support workers are in the budget for next year so they have more time in each school and he hopes to hire a mental health and addictions coordinator "to work with our staff in schools to really dig into this issue of substance misuse."

Carmichael Connection

Serving Nanaimo to Campbell River

Randi's Place ~ Wellington Place ~ Oceanside Place ~ Creekside Place ~ Shamrock Home ~ Hammond Place ~
Uplands Home ~ Harbourview Place ~ Matt & Dan's Home ~ Buckley Bay Home ~ Bronte's Home ~
Martin Place ~ Outreach Home ~ Sherbourne Home ~ Nim Nim House ~