

YKACL NEWSLETTER

Aug 17 2018

Yellowknife Association for

Since 1962

COMMUNITY LIVING



YKACL clients on the job

by YKACL staff

MORE THAN 40 CLIENTS access YKACL Employment Services on any given week, which represents hundreds of paid work hours for what is otherwise the city's largest untapped workforce.

YKACL Employment Services provides job coaching, guidance with resume-writing, interview preparation and other services for clients with any kind of disability looking for work.

"We want to break the stereotype that individuals with a disability can't do the work properly or they are lazy. This is a myth," said Junn Gesmundo, Manager of YKACL Employment Services. "Individuals who seek our service are very hard working people and proud of their work after it's complete. They do amazing work once they are shown how to properly



Junn
Gesmundo



JULIE WHITE has worked at True Value Hardware for almost three years as a client of YKACL Employment Services. A big supporter of workplace diversity, the local company has employed several YKACL clients in past years.

do the job."

Julie White is a longtime client of YKACL Employment Services. She has worked at True Value Hardware for close to three years.

True Value Hardware

"Julie is doing wonderful. She enjoys it and we enjoy having her here," said Klaus Schoenne, Julie's employer. "We try to teach her as much as we can and not just give her menial jobs but jobs that mean something to her so that she can better herself."

Julie stocks shelves, empties garbages, organizes the racks,

prices items and other tasks, all the while greeting customers with a smile as she works.

Klaus advises other business owners to explore hiring a person with a disability through YKACL Employment Services.

"Jump at the chance," he said. "If it doesn't work out it's not the end of the world. But, you can always adapt and adjust your job and your business around the individual and try to better her life to make her feel like she's doing some good, which she is."

For more information, contact Junn at 920-2644 or employability@ykacl.ca.

YKACL news

Campfire and games

THE YOUNG ADULTS GROUP meets on Friday, Aug. 24, from 5:30pm to 8:30pm for games and a campfire at Fred Henne Campground. Meet at the Abe Miller Building.

This inclusive social group is designed for youth aged 19-27 with or without a disability.

RSVP to Michael Ramirez at 920-2644.

'Tis better to bid than to receive



WITH ONLY 130 DAYS LEFT until Xmas, the YKACL-elves are preparing for the annual YKACL Yuletide Auction!

If you have any high quality art pieces to donate to this popular online fundraiser please call the Elf Hotline at 920-2644 or email info@ykacl.ca.

Deadline to donate is Halloween, which is only 75 days away!



You are invited to the upcoming ANNUAL YKACL BBQ Pop by between 4pm and 6pm on Saturday, August 25 Abe Miller Garden (4912 53rd Street) • Please RSVP! •

Yellowknife Association for Community Living • (867) 920-2644 • info@ykacl.ca • www.ykacl.ca • facebook.com/ykacl



AL REID (1950--2018)

STAFF AND CLIENTS at YKACL were fortunate to have worked alongside the late Al Reid (July 28, 1950 – July 28, 2018) prior to his retirement.

Al was a caring guide for our Employment Services clients during his years at YKACL.

YKACL staff were represented at the Celebration of Life reception held Aug. 3.

Just one week left



DARIAN BOHNET SHARES a smile with facilitator Colleen Nagel during a drama game.

LAUGHTER AND SMILES are a big part of the YKACL Summer Youth Program! The program continues from 1:30pm to 4:30pm weekdays until Aug. 24.

Youth aged 13 to 21 with or without a disability are encouraged to register ASAP!

Contact Michael at 920-2644 or inclusion2@ykacl.ca



YKACL clients explore Old Town Ramble & Ride

YKACL CLIENTS AND STAFF attended the 12th annual Old Town Ramble & Ride festival on August long weekend. Julie White, Annie Strus, Skills facilitator Lian Vilan, Family and Children's Services Manager Vera Nesbitt and Clara Tutcho met up on the Government dock during the festival (top photo). Annie and Sasha Clouston worked as festival volunteers (bottom left). Megan Williston also volunteered. Bertha Pokiak Taylor and Marine Delaruelle (bottom right) participated in the Le Temps d'une Soupe/While Having Soup project put on by the Association franco-culturelle de Yellowknife during the festival.

Memorial donation in honour of Prakash Chugh

by YKACL staff

THE FAMILY of the late Prakash Chugh (March 9, 1920 – Aug. 8, 2017) made a very generous donation to the Association in their loved one's name earlier this month.

Mrs. Chugh loved to spend time with her friends as a client of the former YKACL Seniors' Program, which ran from January to March 2017.

Mrs. Chugh shared her love of painting with the other seniors by leading a watercolour and acrylic painting lesson during some gatherings.

She loved solving puzzles alongside friends and staff and



MRS. CHUGH celebrated her 97th birthday with help from YKACL staff member James Galasinao

appreciated music.

"She would dance with staff by holding our hands and swaying to the tune in her wheelchair," said Vera Nesbitt, YKACL Manager of Family and

Children's Services. "Her smile shone brightly."

Lunches with friends and staff were also a favourite event and always ended in fun conversation and much laughter.

"Most she enjoyed the companionship of her friends and staff," said Vera. "Everyone used to call Mrs. Chugh the mom of the group because she was the eldest. For me she was the grandmother. I truly enjoyed caring for her and seeing the joy in her face when she was there with her friends."

The Chugh family's donation will help us offer support to people like Mrs. Chugh and their families.