



# WELCOME NEW MLAS!

Families in your constituency want you to know about the services we provide

by YKACL Staff

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the new and returning MLA-elects chosen for the 19th NWT Legislative Assembly!

Since 1962, the Yellowknife Association for Community Living has served residents of Ndilo, Dettah, Yellowknife and communities throughout the North to provide lifelong support for individuals with intellectual and other disabilities and their families.

During these six decades, the Association has worked quietly and consistently to support individuals to build literacy and lifeskills, participate in daily community life, realize employment goals and achieve their potential as productive members of society.

Some might not hear of our achievements and ambitions in the media as often as other groups, but we are here on the frontlines, celebrating successes and confronting challenges every day.



Clients Annie Strus and Sasha Clouston

## WHAT DOES OUR ASSOCIATION DO?

### EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

EmployABILITY helps build a stable northern workforce by connecting employers with workers ready for the workforce – who just happen to have a disability. We provide the support needed to help make the employment relationship a good one for all parties. The Odd Job Squad connects employers with workers for one-time or casual project jobs, such as shoveling or yard clean-up. The School2Work program prepares high school students for the workplace with hands-on learning and experiences.

### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Yes Group supports young people with disabilities who have finished high school and/or post-secondary training who may be under-engaged in employment and volunteer work. The goal is to get young people (generally up to age 35) out of the house and more engaged in the community and labour market.

### FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Where individuals with a disability live at home, respite services provide a break for families and let individuals try activities at home and in the community. We also have resources, information and outreach services for individuals and families including a monthly parent/caregiver info/social group. Teens and young adults have their own social groups and a teen summer camp.

### SKILLS TRAINING & COMMUNITY INCLUSION

The ST&CI service works with adults who may have more complex needs. We provide job training and employment opportunities as well as other activities that encourage social, literacy and life skills. Clients can be involved on a full or part-time basis. ST&CI clients also offer business services such as shredding, recycling, courier and other small projects.

### SUPPORTED LIVING

The Supported Living Services provides ongoing client-directed support for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and brain injury who choose to live in homes of their own. The service encourages individuals to participate as fully as possible in their own household management and to take an active role in their community while ensuring they live with dignity.

### LITERACY OUTREACH CENTRE

The Literacy Outreach Centre (LOC) is a partnership between the YKACL and Aurora College. We offer literacy programs in the community that are open to everyone, with or without disabilities: an adult literacy class to improve reading and math, computer classes, tutoring, family literacy for toddlers and their parents, and a book club.





## BUSINESS SERVICES TEAM UPDATE

by YKACL staff

**THE BUSINESS SERVICES TEAM** completed 67 courier assignments and more than 73 recycling and shredding pick-ups last month. The team shredded 26 boxes of documents for various customers.

The Business Services Team operates through the YKACL Skills Training and Community Inclusion Service for adults with intellectual disabilities (ST&CI)

The Business Services Team offers:

- Recycling pick-up
- Courier delivery
- Mail preparation
- Poster distribution
- Document shredding
- Special projects

Team revenue is paid in wage to the clients providing the service.



**BERTHA POKIAK TAYLOR** pets the horses at North Country Stables during a recent courier delivery she made as part of the Business Services Team.

# LEAVE THE LEAVES TO US!

## CALL THE ODD JOB SQUAD

# 445-6967

## ODD JOB SQUAD UPDATE

by YKACL staff

**THIRTY-NINE CUSTOMERS** hired The Odd Job Squad in September, providing temporary work for 12 clients.

Employers included:

- Black Knight Pub
- Century 21 Prospect Realty
- Gallery of the Midnight Sun
- MLA candidate Arlene Hache
- Emerald Isle Painting
- Northwestel
- NWT Montessori Society

The variety of jobs included yard work, construction assistance, hauling wood, pet waste removal, workplace cleanup, light furniture moving and dump runs.

The Odd Job Squad is designed to assist under-employed individuals who self-identify with a disability to derive a small income from one-time or short-term work while they search for permanent employment.



## YES GROUP UPDATE


by YKACL staff

**IN SEPTEMBER, YES GROUP** (Youth Employment Services) distributed 865 posters, completed 15 recycling pick-ups, and made 80 courier deliveries for customers that included the Aurora Fiddle Society and the Yk Curling Club. The 10-member group provided weekly cleaning services for:

- Bella Dance Academy
- Yellowknife Ski Club
- Ecology North
- Ptarmigan Ptheatrics

Members also volunteered at the Habitat for Humanity NWT ReSTORE to help close the retail space down until it reopens in spring.

Yes Group supports young people with disabilities who have finished high school and/or post-secondary training who may be under-engaged in employment and volunteer work.



**KINETA MICHEL** (clockwise from top left), Justine Cuvelier and Jaimee-Lynn Clouston volunteered at the ReSTORE/Habitat for Humanity NWT, as members of YES Group this summer and fall.





CARMODY, AUDURY  
Skills Training  
Facilitator

**YKACL STAFF PROFILE**  
*by Andrew Willy*  
**2019 summer student**

**AUDURY CARMODY** is a people person. She graduated from Sir John Franklin High School 2016 and attended the Medical Office Assistant Program at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) in Calgary for awhile.

She then realized that she does not want to sit in an office all day and

wants to eventually get herself a job in search and rescue services.

She started working at YKACL in January as a job coach with Employment Services and as a Skills Facilitator with Skills Training and Community Inclusion Services.

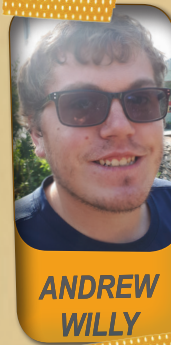
**Progress toward  
independence**

"I really enjoy it," said Audury. "Although it's a strict client/staff relationship, you still get to know each client as a person and you want to help

them progress toward independence and be part of the community.

"It's an excellent team-based environment. You're always feeding off each other, working with each other to maintain this... do this... and trying to get this done while a client is doing this..."

"As a Skills Facilitator I take clients out and develop their skills for whatever they are doing in the community. As a Job Coach I help take clients to their jobs and help them to work more independently."







**MEET AT THE ABE MILLER BUILDING (4912 53rd St)  
6:30pm-9pm Friday, Oct. 4**

# Teens kick off social season with Movie Night!



**Yay Fusion Teen Group meets on the first and third Friday of every month  
Young Adults Group meets on the second and fourth Friday of every month**

*by YKACL Staff*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and program your cellphone alerts: the YKACL Youth Groups have a new regular schedule for fall, winter and spring!

## YAY FUSION! TEEN GROUP

The Yay Fusion Teen Group now meets on the first and third Friday of every month (Oct. 4 and Oct. 18). The group welcomes teens aged 13 to 18, with or without a disability.

Meet at 6:30pm on Friday, Oct. 4, at the Abe

Miller Building (4912 53rd Street) for Teen Movie Night. The teens will attend a screening of the new animated adventure, Abominable, at Capitol Theatre. Participants please RSVP to Michael by texting 444-7833.

## YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

The Young Adults Group now meets on the second and fourth Friday of every month (Oct. 11 and Oct. 25). The group welcomes young adults aged 19 to 30, with or without a disability.

Visit [YKACL.ca](http://YKACL.ca) for more schedule details!

**Be our 1,000th Facebook follower!**

**Like us and follow us @YKACL**

**as we speed toward this  
social media milestone!**

**[facebook.com/ykac/](https://facebook.com/ykac/)**



## YKACL news



**BOARDMEMBER** Tony Florio (left) and Board President Ben Russo are greeted by Eva Charlo.

**YKACL AGM  
Oct. 17**

**THE YKACL AGM** will be held at the Abe Miller Building (4912 53rd Street) beginning at 5:15pm on Thursday, Oct. 17.

**YKACL loans out  
walkers by donation**



**WALKERS,** wheelchairs and more are available for loan for up to two weeks by donation.

Just contact our front desk staff at 920-2644 to reserve a chair or pop by the office (bring photo ID).

Chairs have a 16-inch width and 250lb capacity.





# #CLIMATESTRIKE

*Association clients, staff and students rally during Sept 27 call to action to resist global climate change!*



*by YKACL Staff*

**YKACL CLIENTS** shared their love for the land, air and water on Sept. 27 as they joined 1,000 friends and neighbours in the street.

Clients designed signs and helped create a polar

bear and wolf puppet alongside staff and a handful of students from JH Sissons, William McDonald and NJ MacPherson schools.

As the parade passed along 53rd Street, the crowd danced to Susan Aglukark's version of Hina Na Ho.

