



Ready Support Go

Stephen Brown, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health  
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Sheila Taylor, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation  
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August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear Deputy Ministers,

I am writing this letter to support Inclusion BC's project proposal to transition individuals who are CLBC eligible currently living in George Pearson Center to community based services.

BeConnected Support Services is a multi-service organization offering a full spectrum of residential, community inclusion/school replacement, and contracted support options in Greater Victoria, Sooke, Saanich, Sidney, Saltspring Island, and Duncan and the Cowichan Valley. BeConnected's vision is "to provide the supports you need for the life you want – for individuals, families, and the agency to Be Connected in our communities." BeConnected is a proud member of the Inclusion BC Federation.

Our organization was founded on and continues to be driven by the values and principles of community living. Where one lives should not be forfeited due to personal care requirements and inflexible regulations as to where care will be provided.

We are committed to the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including "the equal right of all persons with disabilities to live in the community, with choices equal to others, and governments shall take effective and appropriate measures to facilitate full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of this right and their full inclusion and participation in the community."

BeConnected Support Services has the capacity and commitment to support individuals as they move out of George Pearson Centre and into community, within a person-centred system of planning and supports with lead roles undertaken by people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The closure of institutions has been most successful as a community development effort, led and facilitated by community with the support and leadership of government.

We therefore believe that the Inclusion BC Federation is best-positioned to lead this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristen Kay".

Kristen Kay, B.A., B.S.W., R.S.W.  
Director of Programs and Service Quality

Rhonda Connell  
C.E.O