



<https://deltahbms.com/>

Newsletter, Issue #2, April 2024

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Diverse Family Roots Society (DFRS – established 2023) is a non-profit society based in the Kootenays. DFRS is unique. It is the only grassroots, parent/family-driven support network for families with children or family members with diverse abilities/disabilities that is based in the Kootenays. DFRS exists to promote peer-to-peer mentoring, family connections, family support, connection to resources, advocacy, and family navigation of services. Ben Postmus is the DFRS Family Navigator.



FAMILY HOUSING THAT FITS

Inclusive and Supportive Housing in Your Community



Thursday Evenings on Zoom.
6:30 PST / 7:30 MST



Register by Scanning the Code or
Emailing:
diversefamilyroots@gmail.com
Visit us at: [diversefamilyroots.ca](http://www.diversefamilyroots.ca)

With Ben Postmus

https://us02web.zoom.us/join?secret=ZAAwGzTgYjACWwv3DOR_0M1t-yjgQm



FAMILY HOUSING THAT FITS: Housing is a crucial component of our family members independence. Join us for Discussion, options and choices in supportive, inclusive, intentional and other housing options that families face. **Thursday evenings, 6:30 pm PST. To register, click [here](#)**

DAD'S MATTER: Join Dads Supporting Dads on Dads Matter. Dads Supporting. Dads Connecting. Dads Inspiring. **Sunday evenings, 6:30 pm PST To register, click [here](#)**



Do you have a son or daughter with
diverse abilities?
So do I.

Dads Matter

Dads Sharing, Dads Supporting, Dads Inspiring,

Dads

Hosted By Ben Postmus



diversefamilyroots@gmail.com
diversefamilyroots.ca




Join us every Sunday evening
on Zoom.
6:30 PST / 7:30 MST
Scan QR Code or enter search below

<https://us06web.zoom.us/joining/register?ZUWY-Cag8gGcUD0H4E0wKZ4WZdkr0ZGtg>

Evergreen Lanes Apartments Update

Evergreen Lane Apartments are on schedule and will be ready for occupancy towards the end of August and the first week in September 2024. More information for DHBMS members regarding the application process will be available at the end of June. The 10 homes are a result of incredible partnerships with Affordable Housing Societies, Delta Housing Be Mine Society and the City of Delta. Partnerships also extend with the Provincial and Federal governments.

To support individuals living successfully and safely in their own home, Delta Housing Be Mine Society has arranged the following two workshops. SPACE IS LIMITED TO 25 INDIVIDUALS FOR EACH WORKSHOP. DHBMS members will be emailed further registration information:

TelusWise. Digital Security Workshop

May 14, 2024

10 am - 12 noon

Reach Child and Youth Development Society

5050 47 Avenue, Ladner

Topics include:

- General intro and "living in a digital society"
- Internet safety
- Being smart on social media
- Mobile device safety
- Protecting your privacy
- Common scams
- Protecting yourself from identity theft

Delta Police Frauds and Scams Workshop

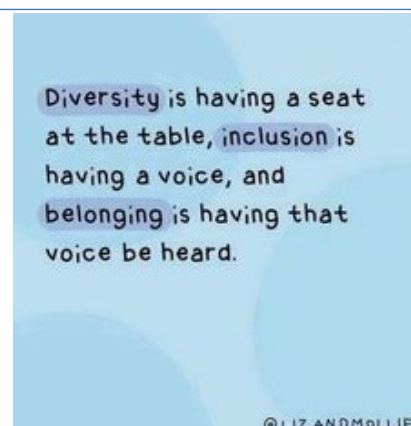
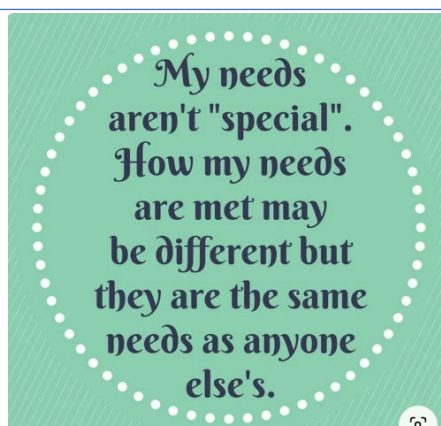
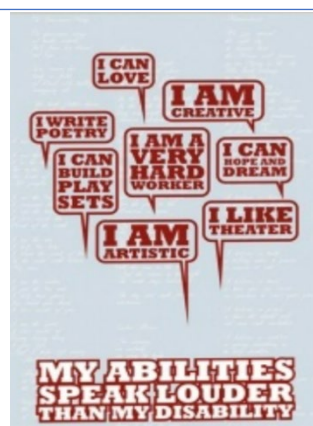
A representative from the Delta Police Department will present an hour-long seminar for DHBMS members on recognizing and avoiding frauds and scams.

Tuesday June 11 or Wednesday, June 19, 2024 (choose one date)

11am - 12 noon

Tsawwassen Library

1321A 56 St, Tsawwassen



Plan Institute – Resources & Support

<https://planinstitute.ca/>



RESOURCES & SUPPORT



Plan Institute offers several free or affordable resources and services designed to empower and assist individuals, families, and organizations to plan for the future and ensure a good life for someone with a disability. We host annual retreats, publish books and manuals, and offer free or affordable online and in-person workshops. To view a complete list of what we offer, go to planinstitute.ca.



RDSP.com

Visit RDSP.com for everything you'd ever need to know about the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP). It also features the following:

- **Step by Step Guide**
- **Tutorial** • **Calculator**



Disability Planning Helpline 1-844-311-7526

Call our toll-free helpline and speak to a family expert about any disability future planning information questions you may have, including on the RDSP, estate planning, advocacy approaches, government benefit programs, and more.



Endowment 150 Grant

This \$150 grant is offered to RDSP holders who are under the age of 18, or are an adult with low-income, to help their RDSP grow. Grants are available for BC residents. rdsp.com/endowment-150



Workshops & Webinars

We offer ongoing workshops and webinars throughout the year. Topics include:

- **The RDSP**
- **Will, Trusts & Estate Planning**
- **Personal Support Network Facilitation**

planinstitute.ca/learning-centre/events



The Final Act of Kindness

A planning resource to guide your loved ones after you are gone. The recording of your final wishes and the organizing of your affairs is an act of kindness for those you leave behind. Available in e-book format. planinstitute.ca/faok



Future Planning Tool

A free online tool to help you or anyone with a disability build a plan to help you secure the future. Topics include financial planning, housing, relationships, contribution, personal support networks, legal decision making, provincial benefits and more. Currently serves BC and Ontario.



BC Lawyer List

Over the years Plan Institute has compiled a list of Lawyers and Trustees that have been recommended to us by families. planinstitute.ca/resources/lawyers-list



Safe and Secure: Seven Steps on the Path to a Good Life for People with Disabilities

An inspirational guidebook for parents and other family members who are concerned about the future of their relative with a disability, particularly after the parents are gone.



604-439-9566



planinstitute.ca



info@planinstitute.ca

Vela Canada – Individualized Funding (IF)

Delta Housing Be Mine recently hosted an online meeting with guest Si Stainton, a mentor at Vela Canada, for DHBMS members. Si reviewed the individualized funding (IF) process and some of the supports Vela can provide.

Individualized Funding (IF) is a payment option for people served by Community Living BC (CLBC). IF lets you use the money given to you by CLBC to create new, different kinds of services that will support you in your community. With IF the person can be their own Agent or choose a trusted family member or friend to be the Agent.

The person can receive **Direct Funding**. In this case:

- Agent (person) is the employer.
- Agent can hire & employ staff, or hire a contractor.
- Agent is able to hire staff as employees or, in certain cases, hire staff as contractors. This is not something you get to choose – it is up to you (or your Microboard if you have one) to make the determination whether or not the Canada Revenue Agency, Employment Standards, and WorkSafe BC would see your staff as contractors or employees. For more information about this topic please connect with your Vela Facilitator and/or attend one of our webinars on this topic.
- Funds provided directly to the Agent.
- Funds do not impact the Agent's personal taxes.
- May be subject to audits by CLBC.

Host Agency Funding. Alternatively, the person can have a contract with a **Host Agency** that will act as the employer for any support staff needed to support your loved one. The host agency: can hire and employ staff, administer funding and submits financial reports to Agent & CLBC every 3 months.

For more information about the above, including Micro-boards, you can visit the following sites:

- <https://velacanada.org/>
- Vela also does regular webinars <https://velacanada.org/news-events/events/>
- and newsletters <https://velacanada.org/news-events/events/>

Here is a link to the CLBC independent living supports: <https://www.communitylivingbc.ca/what-support-is-available/supports-to-live-in-your-home/independent-living-supports/>

Si Stainton is happy to speak with you to assist with valuable information and can be reached at Vela Canada, **Si@velacanada.org** or phone: 604-307-4560.

The more research and knowledge people have the better they are able to advocate for their loved one(s).

Remember to visit the DHBMS Blog

<https://deltahbms.com/blog/13277133> . And visit Delta Housing Be Mine deltahbms.com on Facebook. Please share with your social media networks!

Join the Movement for Change!

Ready to make a REAL difference in the lives of those with intellectual disabilities?

Let's build a world of inclusivity, one home at a time. [Join DHBMS](#) today and be the change you wish to see!