

# The Bridge

The John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland of BC

SPRING 2010

## CSC - INTEGRATED CORRECTIONAL PROGRAM MODEL

The development of the Correctional Service of Canada's Integrated Correctional Program Model is now complete. The ICPM is an enhanced correctional program model that has been designed to improve efficiencies and improve public safety results for Canadians. It is expected to allow offenders to begin participating in programs at intake, to continue their involvement through enrolment in a moderate or high intensity program and then participate in institutional or community maintenance to manage their risk as required. The implementation of the pilot of this program rolled out January 11, 2010 in all

men's institution and community sites in the Pacific Region. The program will be delivered in an intensive and moderate form to three target groups: multi target group, Aboriginal and Sexual Offender. The intensive programs will allow for continuous intake and provide 100 sessions. Moderate programs will allow for continuous intake and provide 50 sessions. The community program will also provide for continuous intake and provide 25 sessions.

This new program incorporates anger management, cognitive living skills, substance abuse, violent offender pro-

gram, family violence program, sexual offender treatment and maintenance. The program follows the good lives model and self management focusing on anti social behaviour, personality, cognition and associates.

The JHSLM is very supportive of the development of a continuous intake program that allows for the reduction in waitlists of programs and rehabilitating persons who are incarcerated. We look forward to assisting CSC implement this program and work towards effective outcomes.

- Tim

## JUSTICE OPEN 2010

The John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland, in partnership with the BC Criminal Justice Association, will host the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Justice Open Golf Tournament on June 4, 2010.

The 16th Annual Justice Open will be held at the **Fort Langley Golf & Country Club**. Nestled on the banks of the Fraser and Salmon River, Fort Langley Golf Course is a hidden gem in a country setting. With tight tree lined fairways, numerous sand bunkers, ponds and smooth undulating greens, every club in your bag will be tested. You won't want to miss out.

The Justice Open includes Power-carts and green fees in your registration fee. Tournament spots fill up quickly, so I encourage you to **Register Now**. You have the option, if you elect not to golf, to attend the catered dinner and

auction. There are several ways for you to support this event. All are welcome to attend.

Registering for the golf tournament, for dinner, or for both, is easy. You can pay by cheque or Credit Card. Email your information to [personnel@jhslmbc.ca](mailto:personnel@jhslmbc.ca) or call Kim at JHS's Regional Office 604-872-5651 #309 if you have any questions.

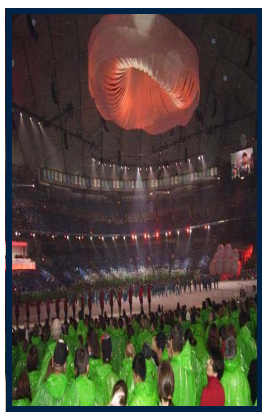
The Justice Open will provide great opportunities to network with professionals working in the criminal justice field.

If you are unable to attend and would like to support the tournament we have many sponsorship opportunities



available from prize donations to the silent auction or random draws to hole sponsorships.

We look forward to seeing you at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Justice Open Golf Tournament. **Please go to page 7 of this newsletter to fill out a golfer invitation form.**



## O CANADA!

Wasn't that a party! I must admit I was somewhat ambivalent about the Olympics coming to Vancouver. I was considering leaving town and escaping the mayhem. Slowly but surely I got pulled into the fun, the excitement, the "go Canada go" spirit of it all.

One of the biggest prompts for this turnabout in my attitude was I had an opportunity to be a part of it and attend 2 events. Thanks to my co-worker Tomas who worked diligently on ensuring our organization received some of those free tickets that were being handed out to non-profit organizations. Tomas was able to get tickets to a Victory Ceremony and for a hockey game between Czech Republic and Russia.

The Victory Ceremony was quite interesting. I learned things about the Yukon in their presentation. It looks

like a great place to visit! We saw some medals being presented on screen. There was also a great band, the Stereophonics, who are chart toppers in the UK, and I'm sure after their performance, will become better known here in Canada. The band had those groovers from VA up on their feet dancing and rocking to the tunes. Amanda was a real trooper, attending even though she had sprained her ankle a few days earlier. Richard was glad he got to attend this Ceremony as he was able to see Jon Montgomery, who won for Canada in the skeleton, accept his gold medal.

The hockey game was the biggest highlight and was the best hockey game I've ever attended. The fans were amazing! I have never seen so much flag waving in my life. Tomas taught us all how to cheer on the Czechs, in

Czech! Everybody had a great time. Melanie, our torch runner, was helpful in getting us all in through security as she'd been there before and knew the ropes. Jude had a bit of an issue with the security person, but the police just waved him on through saying that the security was being "ridiculous", and Jude agreed. Terry managed to sit through the whole game even though he was afraid of heights and our seats were right at the very front of the second tier. Richard managed to call every volunteer by name and thanked them for their efforts and made sure to tell them what a great job they were doing. Pierre, who scored a last minute ticket, also scored a Canadian flag off another spectator who overheard he wanted one. It was a great experience and I'm glad I had the opportunity to attend.

- Melissa

## HIGHER FENCES WON'T HELP

As the Best Practices Project winds down, I am starting to get ready to move back into GRP, assuming they want me back. Wink. I have learned a great deal during the last 6 months. In summary, I would say that the Canadian Courts have not specified what "appropriate housing" is for individuals considered high-risk, BC Corrections does not share enough information with Federal Corrections, non-profit organizations who help house high-risk clients are held to the same expectation of vicarious liability as for-profit organizations, and that there are several ways agencies can lessen the likelihood of being held partly liable if a high-risk offender re-offends.

Asking for more resources that assist sexual offenders, extremely violent offenders, and other individuals considered high-risk is a

hard pitch to make to the community. I understand. This project therefore sheds light on how communities can manage high-risk while still maintaining an appropriate safety level for everyone. Building higher fences with barbed wire around neighbourhoods does not contribute to someone's successful reintegration. The people who have done most harm in this world sometimes need the most help so it does not happen again.

In response to these complex issues surrounding high-risk and several negligence cases in BC, an advisory group made up of professionals, managers, and service providers, created a twelve point list in which services to high-risk clients should reflect. These twelve issues include safety, resiliency, education, notification, needs, working with conditions, communi-

cation, empowerment, motivational practices, mental health considerations, life skills, and proactive advocacy. They are all expanded on in the final report which will be posted on the JHSLMBC's website soon.

I want to thank those who helped me throughout this project. I really appreciate everyone's support and guidance. If contracts like this come up in the future, I would suggest that other staff members apply. In a way, I headed my own mini-project. It grew, it shaped into different forms, it sometimes reared three or four ugly heads, and it had to be worked through and moulded it into a finished project. I take pride if it does well. If it does not do well, I will just have to blame rap music.

- Kailey

*"An eye for eye  
only ends up  
making the  
whole world  
blind."  
- Mohandas K.  
Gandhi*

## SOME THINGS JUST WORK

One of the goals for Guy Richmond Place is to bridge the gap between the institutions and the community. There are several ways in which Guy Richmond Place aims to bridge this gap. We visit the institutions on a monthly basis, accept phone calls from incarcerated offenders, and correspond to offenders in the institution via letter writing. Incarcerated offenders are deprived of modern day technology, more specifically the internet, thus having on-going contact with the outside world proves to be quite difficult. Even a phone call is a privilege to offenders. Within the past few years, Guy Richmond has noticed that one of the most effective ways of bridging the gap between offenders incarcerated and the community is through letter writing.

In 2009, I had the privilege of responding to over 50 letters from offenders serving time in federal penitentiaries. Letter writing is often the initial contact staff have with offenders. Letters typically contain requests to reside at Guy Richmond Place and on occasion contain apologies

from residents who have been suspended. Moreover, letters include a brief description of the offender's criminal activity, achievements while being incarcerated, and goals upon their release.

I believe that each letter I receive is different and therefore each letter I respond too is unique. I have had offenders write to tell me they enjoy receiving letters from Guy Richmond Place, as this is their only outside contact. Some offenders do not have any community support or contacts, and thus feel grateful when they receive a letter. I have also had some offenders inform me that they enjoy corresponding because it gives them hope that one day they will be law abiding citizens. Other offenders write because they need someone to talk to and listen to the issues they have.

One of the unique characteristics of the letter is that it often leads to other forms of correspondence. When we receive a letter from an individual, staff will typically arrange a day to meet with the offender in the institution.

I have also found that offenders tend to be more open in letter writing, than dealing with them in person or on the phone. Furthermore, a majority of the letters received, are written by hand. This shows staff the offender is taking initiative and doing something to better their lives. Letter writing is a slow process and shows staff that the offender is willing to engage with staff at the Community Residential Facility, and to begin building a relationship. Furthermore, this is one of the main criteria to being accepted to Guy Richmond Place, and one of the main things that leads to successful reintegration.

Letter writing is a unique and interesting way to correspond with offenders who are incarcerated. It allows for the opportunity of building relationships prior to the individual residing at the half-way house. Although very few offenders I correspond with end up at Guy Richmond, it gives them the sense that someone cares, and we are a support for them in the community.

- Shianne

*"Home is not  
where you live,  
but where they  
understand  
you."  
- Christion  
Morgenstern*

## COFFEE AND LAUGHS

To Jean and The John Howard Society.

My name is Paul. I received full parole in January.

I am waiting for a disability pension.

Jean is very valuable to me. She gives me rides to places that are too far to walk too, there and back. We get a lot done in 3-4 hours, once per week. If necessary, and we

schedule it ahead of time, she will see me twice per week. She always buys the coffee, we always have a few laughs.

She was a big help when I moved from the Chilliwack CCC to my new apartment. Her personal touches and kindnesses were and are wonderful. It would be too stressful if I had to do things on my own. I want to thank Jean and The John Howard Society for its

ongoing assistance.

Thank you all.

- Paul



*"Failure is  
success if we  
learn from it."*  
- Malcolm  
Forbes

## NOT JUST HERE FOR THE COOKIES

It is hard to imagine that behind busy Highway 10, nestled alongside a Surrey suburbia community and down the road from a busy YMCA is Surrey Pre-Trial Centre. Surrey Pre-Trial Centre is a high security remand facility that houses both men and women. It was originally built in 1991 but was redeveloped in 2004 to create sixty five beds for women on remand. The facility manages offenders that the court has ordered to remain in custody pending trial. Offenders have access to medial and mental health services, legal assistance and visits from family and friends. The Centre is adjacent and connected by secure underground passages to the Surrey police station and courthouse. The Centre prides itself on being one of the only Pre-Trial Centres in British Columbia that offers a wide range of programs for the offenders to be part of. Such programs include but are not limited to: Violence Prevention, Breaking Barriers, Alcoholics Anonymous, Drug and Alcohol Liaison, Shop Programs, Native Brotherhood, and John Howard Services. While in custody, the offenders also have the opportunity to complete their Grade twelve education and receive their Adult

Dogwood Diploma. Offenders are also given the chance to develop their work skills and may be employed as one of the following: Cleaning and Maintenance worker, Barber, File worker, Laundry worker or Painter. These opportunities allow the offenders to shape up on their work skills while earning wages. While not at a program, school or work, the offenders have access to a gymnasium with weight room, outside courtyards, common room for board games and TV and library services. The offenders may also utilize the Religious and Spiritual programs. The Chaplains provide weekly services, ecumenical and interfaith liaison and individual counselling.

The HPI Team is proud to be involved with a Centre that really provides a chance for offenders on remand to be successful and productive during their time of incarceration. This is crucial to their re-integration back into the community. The HPI Team spends approximately five hours per week at the Centre doing Pre-Release planning with the offenders. The Team is not only welcomed and supported by the staff, but by the offenders as well. Without such programs and

services, the offenders would have no choice but to wait out their sentence with little or nothing to do. Since the Centre is a remand facility, there is a heightened level of stress and anxiety coming from the offenders. The Centre works hard to not only understand, but work with and support such emotions and struggles. The outcome is a safer facility for both the staff and the offenders. A great example of such support is the annual Christmas Party that is thrown for the offenders. This year, the HPI Team was proud to be a part of it. It was a four day party in which every single offender received not only a entire day of festivities including food, carolling and a live band, but also a stocking full off goodies and presents to send home to their families. It was refreshing to see that the Institution recognized the importance of the holiday season and organized an event that allowed the offenders to celebrate the holidays while in jail. The Team contributed by not only baking six hundred cookies for the event, but also attending the party and being part of the live band. All and all it was a rewarding event to be part of.

- Pam



## SUPPORTING CHILD FRIENDLY COMPLAINT PROCESS OF YOUTH IN CARE

In partnership with the Ministry for Children and Family Development we continue to provide Youth Advocacy Services to the Burnaby Youth Custody Centre. Our services support the right for a youth to make a complaint about government services they receive, strategize with Ministry staff to promote a quick resolution and develop

effective youth services strategies. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond has noted, "Vulnerable young people have a right to have their voices heard and their views considered in decisions that affect them. If they disagree with or fail to understand why they are being treated in a certain way, they need to know they have a right to complain and that

their concerns will be heard." The JHSLM youth advocacy services support all males incarcerated at the Burnaby Youth Custody Centre. Support services include rights education, problem solving, system negotiation, release planning, and personal and systemic advocacy.

-Tim



## BEING A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

When we walked into BC Place for the Para-Olympic opening ceremonies, we were greeted by throngs of people clad in green, white and blue plastic ponchos. We found our seats a joined the masses in what appeared to be garbage bag insanity. Our ponchos were green.

As we viewed the crowd around us on the overhead big screen TV, it became clear that our little ponchos helped to make an impressive Olympic design in the crowd.

The crowd we arrived with consisted of the residents of Vancouver Apartments and two staff. Together we watched the different coun-

tries representatives march into the arena, and together we waved our glowing pom poms cheering loudly. Together we heard Rick Hansen speak and watched footage of the ever inspiring Terry Fox.

Terry Fox's parents had the honour of carrying the torch around BC Place. Their presence was moving to VA resident Larry. I asked Larry what he found so overwhelming about Terry's story. He replied, that he was both proud and sad for Terry. He also said that he was happy that Terry was able to do as much as he did in his life.

When the ceremonies ended and the crowd started seeping

towards the exits, the impressive poncho design was turned to soup. What we were left with were glorified garbage bags and good memories. But, like Terry we had the opportunity to be apart of something bigger than ourselves, if only for a little while.

- Jill



## WRAP AROUND YOUTH

Bullying no longer fits under the framework of "boys will be boys", nor does a small fight after school end with just that. Youth bullying has taken on many facets through our ever evolving social networks. For example, cyber bullying has resulted in suicides, while physical bullying has ended with death. The city of Surrey has been proactively dismantling the issue of youth bullying within their school walls.

The Surrey Safe Schools Youth Diversity Team consists of dedicated individuals who are in place to break the cycle of bullying by facing the issues head on, and by opening a dialogue with youths about the complex issues involved with bullying. Surrey Safe Schools, along with the RCMP anti-gang task force, bridged together to create WRAP. The WRAP Program relates to how services and support need to "wrap" around the youth who

are bullied or associated with gangs. That is why WRAP consists of special individuals like Jim who are there to provide action and help in these types of situations.

The WRAP program, with Jim as the ambassador for anti-bullying, was invited to participate in "Challenge Day" at Tamanawis Secondary School in Surrey. Challenge Day is another anti-bullying program from the United States. Jim reports it was an "amazing experience". Since that day, he has incorporated some of those powerful fundamentals into his WRAP talks. He adds, "It's working incredibly well".

When asked how WRAP can measure success, Jim explains that at the end of a talk, he will ask how many students, with a show of hands, have been put down or humiliated in their school life. Invariably, three out of four students will

raise their hands. Jim will then ask how many students have bullied someone else. Around half the students will raise their hands. Then, Jim asks, with a show of hands, how many students have observed bullying and chose to do nothing about it, he reports every student raises their hands. What does that result tell someone like Jim? He responded with, "That's a heck of a lot of bullying going on". And he is choosing to do something about it.

Solving the complex issue of bullying is not just the teacher's responsibility. It is up to BC's communities, students, and parents as well. The WRAP program and special opportunities like Challenge Day offer an avenue for youth to request help from Jim and others.

- Kailey and Jim

*"What is evil,  
but good  
tortured by its  
own thirst."*

- *Gubran Kahlil*  
*Gubran*

## MAKING A CONNECTION

*"My home is  
not a place,  
it is people."*

- Lois McMaster

*Bujold*

Thinking about a topic to submit to the newsletter I thought about what we do as an agency working with marginalized persons. I thought about our "guys" at Hobden House and the ones before. This brought me to G. Ten years ago G. was a resident of Hobden House and was one of the first residents I met when I started working as a casual staff member with JHSLMBC. The memory is bitter sweet and can still bring me to tears.

When I began as a casual staff the hardest part for me was having the guys trust me and talk with me. A lot of our job is listening to their stories and learning about their lives in order to assist them in their return to the community. G. was one of the tough residents, a lifer, lived most of his life in institutions, surviving as a bad ass, living the con code. He could be one miserable jerk and very private with his thoughts and feelings.

For the good part of the story he started warming to the do better, the drum beating, the rah rah you can be anything you want to be positive support person. We started talking, at first just making a connection - it took about 3 years.

The next chapter started when he moved out on his own. The guy with I hate living at Hobden House, not wanting your assistance type of guy, the miserable, closed off, guarded man started coming back to Hobden House to visit, to have a cup of coffee, a chat and sometimes a tin of soup or some cookies to take home with him. And the best thing of all he began talking to me, really talking. He came to the house when he was troubled, his Hep C medication just about killed him so he went off it and was given about 5 years to live because his liver problems were getting worse.

The next part of the story covers about 3 years as G's health deteriorated he came to Hobden more and more, not as much for coffee and a chat but for something he needed to do. Looking back on that time I believe G. came back to find the support he needed to deal with his coming death and the life he lived. G. was not into apologies, he was not the type of person to say Oh pity me. G. seemed to need assistance to deal with the unknown, his failing health and his coming death he said he wanted to get rid of the anger

The final chapter of this story is about the last few weeks before he died. G. hated being in the hospital I think it was the confinement much as prison is. Every chance he had he was outside. Cold, wind and rain it did not matter. I would visit him often and would always look for him outside before checking his room. During his hospital stay he started showing a more frightened needy side. He wanted to talk about his life and his fears. G. was vulnerable and wanted help to face his death. He said to me he feared the unknown and being away from the ones he loved his ex-wife and 2 step daughters. We talked about the past, when I first met him, the bad times he gave me and how he became an important person to us. He was important to us because he was someone, someone who was a human being, someone entitled to dignity and kindness. As I said before G. did not make apologies for his life, lived with his past actions and tried to live the last of his days surrounded by people who cared about him.

- Pat

## NEW SIDING AT HOBDEN HOUSE



## 2010 Justice Open

John Howard Society & BC Criminal Justice Association

Friday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010

### Registration Form

✓		Price	No.	Total
	Golf Only	\$ 140.00		
	Golf + Hole Sponsor	\$350.00		
	Team of 4 Golfers	\$540.00		
	Team of 4 Golfers + Hole Sponsor	\$650.00		
	Dinner Only	\$ 40.00		
	Hole Sponsor Only	\$250.00		
	Long Drive - Men and Women	\$400.00	1	
	Closest to the Pin - Men and Women	\$400.00	1	
	Warm Up Sponsor	\$500.00	1	
	Putting Contest Sponsor	\$400.00	1	
	Course Beverage & Snack Sponsor	\$1,000.00	1	
	Tournament Sponsor	\$5,000.00	1	
	Prize or service item (please mail or we can pick up)			
	Donation only			

*Registration fee for golf includes green fees, power cart and dinner. Registration fee for hole, putting green and beverage sponsors include prorated charitable tax receipt, hole signage, recognition in tournament program and your logo & link on our website. Your name on our website and charitable tax receipt provided for prizes, service items and donations.*

Company Name	
Address	
Phone or Email	
Player Name(s)	
Team Name	
Check Enclosed	
Visa or MasterCard No.	Exp Date
Name on Visa or MasterCard	
Signature	

The John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland of BC

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# John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland of BC

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A Registered Charitable Society

#10754 2573 RR001

Member of the United Way

**[www.jhslmbc.ca](http://www.jhslmbc.ca)**

## How can I help the JHSLM?

Yes, I want to

☐ Be a Member

☐ Make a Donation

☐ Be a Volunteer

☐ Be notified of the Justice Open

☐ Donate Clothes

☐ Pass this newsletter along  
to a friend

Price

\$15.00

Method of Payment

☐ Check

☐ Cash

☐ Visa

\_\_\_\_\_  
Visa #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name

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