



Richmond Centre for Disability

September 2024

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Richmond BC V6X 2X9
(Lansdowne Centre)

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Perspective

Newsletter
for RCD Donors

RCD has taken a giant leap!

The Centre has taken a giant leap across the hall from Unit #842 within Lansdowne Mall to **Unit #968**. We are now located opposite the Structube furniture store.

Our May move was a bit chaotic but successful and we are settling in well to our new home. Thanks to the generous support of those who contributed to our relocation fund, we are now enjoying a slightly larger space with characteristically brightly covered walls, two rooms in which to meet with participants, a spacious activity area and a new eye-catching sign above the front door featuring our more recently worded mandate of **Maximizing Independence** and some of our Core Services including *Skills Development and Information and Networking*.

A big thank you to all our supporters who gave to the relocation fund!

Of course, our new Centre could not be complete without our now trademark thrift store. Thanks to the hard work of our faithful volunteers, the new area is now crammed full of tempting finds. Even before the store officially opened, eager shoppers could be seen mulling about in front of the store and peering through the windows.

Since opening, the thrift store has recorded the following astonishing result for sales from June-August \$6,507!



Richmond Centre for Disability

Come Celebrate with Us
Support a Great Cause!

GRAND Opening Week
Sept 9 - 13 2024
1 - 4 pm

Opportunities to Win

- 2 Gala Tickets
- 2 Raffle Prizes
- 50-50 Draw

Opportunities to Purchase

- RCD Together We Care T-shirt
- Krispy Crème Donuts
- Ice-Cream coupons
- Cook Books

Daily Themes

- Monday – **RCD & YOU, Together We Care** (By Invitation)
- Tuesday – **Fun with RCD** (All Welcome)
- Wednesday – **Self Care with RCD** (All Welcome)
- Thursday – **Music with RCD** (All Welcome)
- Friday – **Sports with RCD** (All Welcome)

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Unit 968 - 5300, No.3 Rd Lansdowne Centre, Richmond, BC, V6X 2X9



Come visit us at our grand opening event (September 10-13)

For the week of September 9-13 from 1-4 PM, the Centre will be hosting daily themed activities in celebration of the opening of our new location. The first activity on September 9th, is by invitation only but all the following activities are open to ALL. The themes include Together We Care, Fun with RCD, Self-Care with RCD, Music with RCD and Sports with RCD. Stop by and help us to make the new place feel like home.



While here, allow yourself to indulge in a Krispy Kreme glazed doughnut or two. They will be \$2.00 each or \$16.00 for a box of 12.

All proceeds will go towards the provision of services to people with disabilities.

Lansdowne Mall Job Fair is an annual success.



Richmond Centre for Disability
Maximizing Independence

Supports for Independent Living Project (SIL)

Resources for Community Participation → Connecting With Leisure & Employment → Resources for Career Development

Are you a person with disabilities who is interested in community participation or employment?

For more information contact the SIL Coordinator

September is employment month in BC and in advance of this, the RCD hosted its annual job fair. The hosting of the fair is a partnership between Lansdowne Mall and WorkBC. The event is intended to be a hiring opportunity

for the businesses within the mall and surrounding community. The general public including RCD members and job seekers with disabilities currently enrolled in the Centre's employment project Supports for Independent Living (SIL), were invited to attend. A total of 20 businesses and organizations met in the kiosk area of the mall from 12 to 5 PM on Saturday, August 24, 2024. Over 130 people stopped by the RCD table with many signing up to volunteer. Up to 71 stopped by to learn about the Supports for Independent Living Project (SIL) with 7 people with disabilities indicating interest in the project's job seeking assistance, and 44 people completed surveys at the Event & Accessibility table.



Spotlight on SIL job seeker at the job fair



Among the jobseekers at the recent job fair was SIL participant, Juanji Bernardo, who enrolled with the project in 2023. This was after completing a work experience with RCD for his VCC Job Readiness program.

Since enrolling with SIL Juanji has been adding to his experience by securing a volunteer opportunity with Richmond Family Place and volunteering on a weekly basis. He is also actively putting out his resumes in response to job postings. He has had several interviews for positions in stores and fast-food restaurants. Those who work in the field of assisting those seeking employment know that to actually get an interview is something to be celebrated. With these successes, Juanji is confident that his hard work will eventually result in paid employment. Well, he was RIGHT! As a result of attending the job fair, he was interviewed and hired by 88 Supermarket.

Hats off to Juanji for doing what it takes to get a job. He is just one example of the many amazing members of the RCD.



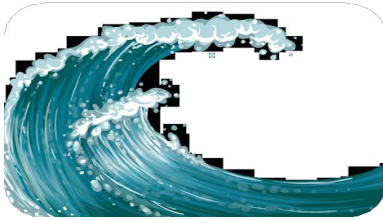
Centre receives funding to participate in a research project

RCD participants will know our Jhun as the coordinator of Games Club and Life Skills but along with many other duties he has recently taken the lead on organizing focus groups looking at people's experiences with accessibility in local and national festivals and public events. The project is cross - disability in its purpose so it is looking at much more than wheelchair access or sensory overloads that people with challenges have experienced.

The goal of the research project is to provide input on accessibility standards, and it will run to the end of September. To participate in a focus group or complete a survey contact Jhun

at jhun@rcdrichmond.org. Those participating in a focus group will be given \$50 honoraria (Cheque from Richmond Centre for Disability). This initiative comes to us via the Centre's national body Independent Living Canada.

"SEA" you at the gala



Maintaining a tasty tradition, RCD supporters, participants, family and friends will gather at the Continental Seafood Restaurant for our annual fundraising gala. As always there will be waves delicious food served in courses and a wide variety of entertainment to suit every taste.

This year's gala will happen on the United Nations' International Day in honour of people with disabilities. It will be on the evening of December 3, 2024.

The theme for UN Day 2024 is **"Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development: the role of Innovation in Fueling an Accessible and Equitable World"**.

Keep your eye on our website for further details: www.rcdrichmond.org

What else should I watch for?

2025 BMO Run For Hope - May 4



Last years' event continues to generate donations with over \$8,000 dollars received both locally and internationally through Race Roster.

RCD Legacy Wall



Don't miss your chance to have either your name or your company's name on our Legacy Wall. With your donation of \$1000.00 or more, you will be recognized on our Legacy Wall. It is because of your donations that we are able to continue providing services that **Maximize Independence** for people with disabilities. For that, we thank you!

