

Responses from Ross Chilton to questions from the 7th Biennial Conference on Developmental Disabilities: Health and Wellbeing across the Lifespan hosted by UBC Interprofessional Continuing Education

1. Question for Ross... if there is a young adult approved for CLBC services at this time, are they able to access these services at this time? It seems that there has been a pause during covid in services started...

Answer: Yes, CLBC staff are still welcoming new individuals to CLBC services during COVID. It should be noted, however, that eligibility for CLBC services and approval of requests for CLBC services are different. If a young adult has been approved for CLBC services during the pandemic they may access those services. CLBC has provided direction to its service providers to adapt services to meet public health guidelines. Services may therefore look different than during typical times.

2. We've heard repeatedly in the Okanagan that CLBC "doesn't do housing" and/or that there is no options for folks with complex needs, such as homelessness, substance use or other challenging behaviours. We have been informed no changes to current funding will occur for at least 18 months. That is shocking and very disheartening.

Answer: CLBC works with other government partners, such as health authorities and BC Housing, to plan for services for individuals with multiple complex needs to meet their unique needs, which may include residential services. CLBC services are voluntary so in some cases an individual may refuse residential services that CLBC offers.

3. Toronto has a housing crisis and residential needs of adults in our sector are resulting in housing either in inappropriate placements, or increasingly an over loaded shelter system. Is this the same in BC?

Answer: Access to affordable and inclusive housing is a priority for CLBC to ensure there is a range of housing options for individuals we support to meet their needs. CLBC and Inclusion BC, supported by the BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA) recently released a report on the housing needs of individuals with developmental disabilities. The report and other housing-related information and tools are available at keytohomebc.ca.

4. Why are people with PSI designation not eligible for DDMH services?

Answer: DDMHS was established to support people meeting CLBC's eligibility criteria for Developmental Disability, which includes intellectual disability. DDMHS has a mandate that individuals need to have an IQ under 70 in order to access their services, so unfortunately individuals under CLBC's PSI stream are not able to access these supports.

5. How can we help the people we serve that do not have family or have limited family contact to receive the support services that they need?

Answer: You can connect the individual with a CLBC facilitator at local CLBC offices who work directly with individuals to plan for their services. Some individuals who don't have family involved in their lives may have a close friend or advocate who assists them with planning their services. Inclusion BC also provides advocacy services for individuals.

6. We use to have CLBC supported inpatients beds in hospitals for ID clients, Now we don't have any mental health hospital beds. Our patients are not accepted in general wards. Can we have at least crisis inpatients admissions beds in mental health units only for our clients supported by CLBC.
Answer: This question would need to be directed to a health authority as CLBC can't speak to health services in hospitals.
7. Would CLBC consider putting direct links on their website to two best practice guidelines: (1) 2018 Canadian Consensus Guidelines for Primary Care of Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. (2) 2018 HELP for Behaviours that Challenge in Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.
Answer: Will forward for consideration.
8. You can market employment, but what worries me is the quality of care with that idea. Especially for complex individuals. Thoughts?
Answer: CLBC has worked for many years to support and work alongside contracted service providers in developing employment supports that are specially tailored to our individuals. Our employment webpage which can be found here: [Employment Resources - Community Living BC](#) offers an in-depth look at how these services are being delivered across the province, as well as data reports which demonstrate our commitment to continuous quality improvement. Employment services must meet a standard of quality and are monitored by CLBC. As well, many service providers are accredited by organizations such as CARF, so participate in regular accreditation reviews.
9. Would Ross be able to list names of any partners or Services that support adults with ASCD/FASD? As a worker in this community who understands that CLBC has a mandate, I would like input of where to send clients who do not meet CLBC criteria.
Answer: A first place to look is [FindSupportBC](#) which has a searchable database, including a search function based on diagnosis. Each community has service providers that support those with FASD/ASCD. In looking for supports for those who are not eligible for CLBC services, we would encourage people to look at generic community supports based in the specific community. We have a link on our website to other province wide agencies that offer support to families and individuals; for example, the BC People First Society, and The Disability Alliance of BC. Further information can be found here, [Other Provincial Organizations - Community Living BC](#).
10. Are there ideas being discussed to address the waitlist for the Provincial Assessment Centre, given the COVID situation?
Answer: As a result of Covid-19 it has been necessary to reduce the occupancy level at the Provincial Assessment Centre, primarily due to requiring a separate space for new admissions to quarantine. PAC/CLBC is currently reviewing the program's intake criteria with a view to reduce the waitlist. This work has started and implementation is anticipated over the next several months.
11. A primary health physician office opened but then closed due to funding. They served clients with intellectual disabilities, spent more time with the network and if needed made home visits. How can we bring this service back.
Answer: This question would need to be directed to a health authority as CLBC can't speak to primary health services.