



Business

Joint program assists with employment

Persons with disabilities receive vocational skills

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Triumph Vocational Services has partnered with Powell River Model Community for Persons with Disabilities (MCP) and the programs will now provide job-developing services as an amalgamated employment program for persons with disabilities in the region.

Since 2003, Triumph has been working in conjunction with the ministry of housing and social development to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve greater independence through participation in one-to-one vocational planning, skill-building workshops, work experiences, volunteering and employment.

"I am thrilled that we have been able to create this union," said Heidi Fuerste, certified vocational rehabilitation counsellor with Triumph for Powell River and the Comox Valley. "Model Community Project has proven over and over again to be an essential community resource. The counsellors are highly qualified and truly have the community at heart. I think this is a winning partnership for our clients, the Powell River community and local employers."

Once an employment goal is determined with Fuerste, Laurie Marshall from MCP provides one-to-one job developing and coaching services to help clients realize their goals. Marshall assists with resumé creation, contacting employers, developing job leads and supporting clients through the interview process.

"When Triumph clients are transitioned to Model Community Project at the job development stage, a lot of research, exploration and in some cases, upgrading or certificates have been completed," said Marshall. "The rapport MCP has built with Powell River employers facilitates a smooth and safe transition into employment or a work experience, creating win-win opportunities for everyone."

The main objective of MCP is to ensure that people with disabilities can access the services needed in all areas of daily living within the community of Powell River.

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