



MLPD Update **MLPD** July, 2012

## **Newsletter of the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities**

Produced by the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities  
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**MLPD Update**

**July, 2012**

**Newsletter of the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities**



**Our new Provincial Council**  
**Paula Keirstead (Co-chair), Jesse Turner (Co-chair), Carlos Sosa (Vice-Chair), Ken Bristow, April D'Aubin, Zephania Matanga, Colleen Watters, Valerie Wolbert, Nick Ternette, Shayani Fernando**

## **Provincial Coordinator's Report** **by Diane Driedger**

The past few months have been an exciting time for the MLPD! We had our AGM in June and focused on our partnerships with other organizations in the community. In this issue of *Update*, Jess Turner reports on the meeting and the presentations

of Dennis Lewyicky from the Social Planning council and John Silver from the Community Financial Counseling Services. We welcomed one new Council member, Valerie Wolbert, and said goodbye to Harry Wolbert and Mindy Tucker. Thanks for all your work, Harry and Mindy!

MLPD has geared up its fundraising efforts. We had our first Bud and Spud event at CanadInns Polo Park. One hundred and fifty people attended! Community members, organizations and businesses donated to our silent auction. We had a very successful event fundraising-wise and people told me, "I'm so glad this is not a forum." Everyone had a good time.

MLPD's committees have been meeting regularly. The Fundraising committee, our newest committee, has met and has many ideas for fundraising, in addition to the recent Bud and Spud.

We continue to monitor the drafting of the Accessibility

Legislation for the province of Manitoba. I met with the Accessibility Advisory Committee as MLPD's representative throughout the spring, preparing recommendations for Minister Jennifer Howard regarding the legislation.

We have been involved in many other events and projects. Read on!

**MLPD'S FIRST EVER Bud, Spud & Steak**  
**by Jess Turner, Zanna Joyce, & Deanna Ng**

On Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> we had an exciting and well-attended Bud Spud & Steak night at CanadInns Polo Park Tijuana Yaucht Club, which lasted from 5 to 8pm. If you missed it, the food and entertainment was great!

While people ate dinner and mingled, Larry Baillie gave an amazing performance of political magic. Next up was Rico John, who sang and drummed upbeat Caribbean music. The crowd was then entertained by an impromptu performance by Paula Keirstead, who sang an inspirational Whitney Houston song. In between performances, MLPD Co-chair

Jess Turner kept things moving as MC.

There were a dozen silent auction prizes that people put tickets in for. In particular, we had some art work donated by the mother of a young man who passed away. The mother knew Leejay Julius Levene would have wanted his art to support causes like MLPD, and we were very humbled by the generous donation made in her son's memory. Thanks to the individuals, businesses and organizations who donated prizes (see the list of prize donors at the end of this article!).

The Independent Living Resource Centre's PACE program provided attendants for the evening, and ECCOE provided an excellent interpreter for our event. Thanks to Tijuana Yacht Club, ticket sellers, supporting community organizations, and community members who helped make the event a great success. And a special "Thanks" to all staff and volunteers of the MLPD who organized this event, sold tickets and got silent auction donations.

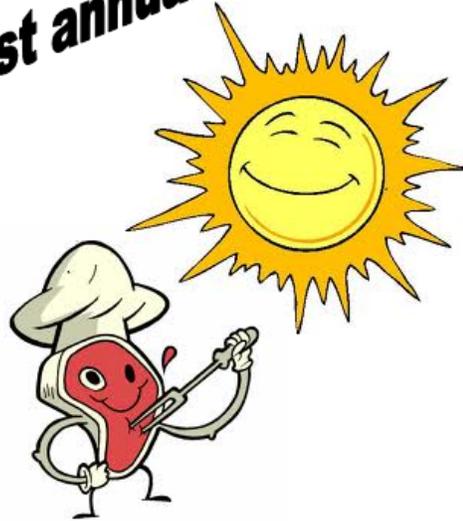
Given the success of the Bud & Spud, we hope to make it an annual MLPD fundraiser. If you would like to join MLPD's Fundraising Committee, please

contact the office. Hope to see you next year!

**Bud and Spud Silent Auction Supporters**

1. April D'Aubin
2. Colleen Watters
3. Lori Taylor, Hairstylist
4. Gerry Agostini, Massage Therapist
5. Lygia Ramcharan, Reiki Master
6. Terry McIntosh, Avon Rep
7. Gourmet Cup, Portage Place
8. ILRC
9. Pinnacle Staffing Solutions
10. The Family of Leejay Julius Levene
11. Joelle Moon of As Nature Intended
12. Cerebral Palsy Assoc. of MB
13. CanadInns Polo Park

**Did you miss MLPD's  
First annual Bud & Spud**



**NO WORRIES,  
WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!**

**MLPD's 2011-2012 AGM...  
Celebrating Our  
Achievements  
by Jesse Turner, MLPD Co-  
chair**



**Diane Driedger for Thumbs Up**

On Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, MLPD hosted our latest AGM at the Union Centre on Broadway. We had a great turn out from members and the community at large yet again, with members of the Executive Council presenting to a packed room. To commemorate the productive year, MLPD gave out free Thumbs Up T-shirts and hats to those who were in attendance. The free swag was a hit and a striking reminder of how quickly our Thumbs Up Program, which conducts accessibility audits within the community and distributes information about making communities more accessible, is growing.



**Zanna Joyce & John Silver**  
When explaining the partnership between the Manitoba League and Community Financial Counselling Services, John Silver sums it up, "It's not how you know what you know, but only how you use what you know."

We also invited a number of presenters to discuss our

partnerships with various community organizations. Our first presenter was John Silver from Community Financial Counseling Services (CFCS). John provided the group with a general overview of the organization, the services offered, as well as distributed a hand out entitled, "Getting Yourself on Financial Track".

Next, we had a presentation from Dennis Lewicky from the Social Planning Council (SPC). Dennis shared with us the mandate of the organization and highlighted ways in which various community groups could collaborate to make the community more accessible to all. The two presentations generated a lot of buzz in the room and great discussion followed.



**Dennis Lewicky (SPC) & Jess Turner**  
"We need to continue to create an understanding in our community, to bring about social change and social justice."

The group was also given a short presentation from Zanna Joyce, who is currently working for CFCS to develop a financial literacy program and resource materials geared towards people with disabilities. This project is a partnership between MLPD and CFCS, with the aid of a TD Financial Foundation Grant. Zanna will be working on the project for one more year, to develop the necessary materials for various community organizations to deliver financial literacy training that is accessible to and inclusive of persons with disabilities.

To round out the discussion, the Leagues' co-chairs (Paula Keirstead and Jesse Turner) gave an overview of all the exciting initiatives undertaken by MLPD over the course of the year. This presentation was bolstered by the power point presentation that played in the background during the course of the evening which highlighted photos of the many successes MLPD has had since the organization's inception in 1974. As co-chair, this was an opportunity for me to really reflect on the activities we all participated in this year, as well as marvel at the many great partnerships we have developed recently. MLPD is well on its way to re-establishing itself as a leader in the community

to help identify and remove barriers that we face on a daily basis!

Given the current financial climate, Ken Bristow (Treasurer) presented our Year-End Financial Statement with much sternness and foreboding. Although MLPD has secured money from the government for another year, the League is looking at more sustainable ways of securing funding. We have a new Fundraising Committee that is currently developing a number of initiatives. If you are interested in becoming involved in the Fundraising Committee, please call into the office to learn more about how you can help.

The evening came to a close by opening the floor to members for questions and comments. Personally, this is always my favorite part of any AGM, as it allows for others to express their voice. MLPD Council members are renewed by these discussions, as your input guides our initiatives for the following year. If you were not able to attend the AGM this year, I would highly encourage you to participate next year. It is a great opportunity to meet people and discover exactly what it is that the League accomplishes from year to year, as well as be inspired

to become actively involved in your community.

Again, I would like to extend a huge “Thank You” to all staff, volunteers, council members, and committee members. I eagerly anticipate the upcoming year!

## **Thumbs Up for Access – Community Edition...Year Two by Daniel Halechko**

During Year two, our project proceeded to audit Portage Avenue west and got as far as Ferry Road. As a milestone, we intend to continue down Portage until we reach Moray Street. We should complete this segment by the end of August, 2012. It is noteworthy that we already have 23 accessible buildings.

We were very busy with fundraising activities. We submitted an application to the Winnipeg Foundation for \$20,000.00 and will hear from them in September 2012. These funds will help us complete our objectives and will provide money to hire a group facilitator.

In addition, MLPD applied for \$8,000.00 from the Jewish

Foundation of Manitoba. These funds will be used for the curriculum development component of the Thumbs Up project.

Although funding is not guaranteed, we feel quite confident that our requests are realistic and the Thumbs Up for Access project is very worthy of receiving funding.

Our project is fortunate to have a diverse and capable advisory committee to provide us with the direction and support we need to be successful and attain our goals. The only area that we are lacking is representation from the seniors' community, but we are aggressively seeking such representation.

Membership feedback or suggestions and ideas are always welcome. If you have a good idea speak it and I will lend you my ear. Yours in solidarity,

## **Manitoba Access Awareness Week 2012 a Success by Colleen Watters**



**Upon receiving the Council for Canadians with Disabilities Award, at the MLPD AGM, Colleen Watters speaks to the membership stating “I want to work towards us surviving and thriving and growing.”**

The Province of Manitoba proclaimed June 3 to 9, 2012, Manitoba Access Awareness Week (MAAW). MAAW raises awareness of the barriers people with disabilities face that impact their full participation in society and promotes the removal of these barriers.

The week began on Monday, June 4 with a kick-off at the Forks. The Honourable Jennifer Howard, Minister Responsible for Persons with Disabilities, brought greetings on behalf of the province and events planned for the week were

highlighted. Entertainment was provided by Hussien Mohammed and Anna Gschwend (two ILRC consumers. In addition to the kick-off, other events included:

Ride for Fun Event presented by the Vision Impaired Resource Network (VIRN) which took place following the kick-off Daily Lunch and Learn series organized by Winnipeg’s Independent Living Resource Centre from June 4-8. Vision Impaired Resource Network’s Annual General Meeting, June 9.

On Friday, June 8, 2012, a very successful awards luncheon was held to celebrate the leadership provided by individuals, organizations and businesses in making Manitoba an inclusive society. The Honourable Jennifer Howard, Minister responsible for Persons with Disabilities acknowledged the leadership provided by all nominees and presented four awards, as follows:

Outstanding individual voluntary contribution toward creating a fully inclusive society, Norma Vibora.

Organizational excellence in creating a more inclusive society,

Two organizations were selected as award winners:  
**Manitoba Farmers with Disabilities Association (MFWD) and the Winnipeg Folk Festival.**

Outstanding Business Practices in enabling a more inclusive work environment for Manitobans with disabilities, **Parkway Co-Op** of Rossburn.

The Rossburn Age Friendly committee hosted an afternoon tea on Saturday June 9. Community member Diane Twerdun acted as ambassador and personal host to Rossburn's Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) Ms. Leanne Rowat. Ms. Twerdun was honoured by the event organizers, and was presented with a certificate by Ms. Rowat, for being "a shining beacon" and local champion in addressing accessibility issues.

The Rossburn Tea also recognized Lisa Leflar, Manager of the Parkway Co-Op, which was honoured with a Manitoba Access Awareness Achievement award for creating an accessible entry, offering customer friendly services and hiring a person with a disability.

MAAW 2012 was organized by a Steering Committee composed of the following members: Jess Turner (Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities); Janet Forbes, (Community Living Winnipeg); Shannon Martin (Reaching Equality Employment Services); Doris Koop (Vision Impaired Resource Network); Stacey Shule (Canadian Mental Health Association- Winnipeg Region); Ann Harry (Canadian National Institute for the Blind); Doug Lockhart (Independent Living Resource Centre); Natalie Mulaire and Heather Hiscock (Society for Manitobans with Disabilities), Shirley Kalyniuk and Ed Zimmerman (Rossburn Age-Friendly Community Committee) and Colleen Watters (Disabilities Issues Office).

### **DAWN Wellness Event by Jennifer Wiens – DAWN Wellness Project Coordinator & Deanna Ng**

What do you think when you hear the word "wellness?" How do you take care of yourself? What would you like to change in your life? To answer these, the DisAbled Women's Network (DAWN) put on a Wellness Forum for women. This took place

Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 3:30 PM at the Society of Manitobans with Disabilities boardroom at 825 Sherbrook. Twenty women attended the Forum.

Catherine Pearse presented on Dr. Bill Hettler's work on wellness. Wellness is a journey. In each situation, there are 4 steps to it. The first is "process"; we are always growing. The second is "awareness"; we continue to learn how we can improve. The third is "choice"; we select the best option that interests us. The fourth is "success"; where we have accomplishments.

According to Dr. Hettler, the co-founder of the National Wellness Institute (NWI) there are 6 Dimensions of Wellness. His categories include; occupational, physical, social, intellectual, spiritual, and emotional.

The social dimension is where we have a need to belong to the community and environment by contributing to it. Interdependence describes this need. You become more aware of your importance in society and the impact you have on others.

The spiritual dimension is where we have a need to find meaning and purpose of our existence. This is done by appreciating the greatness of nature and the universe or higher

power. Your search will be characterized by a peaceful harmony between your emotions and the challenges of life.

The physical dimension is where we have a need for regular exercise and healthy diet. It discourages the use of tobacco, alcohol, and recreational drugs. You strive to spend time working on strength, flexibility and endurance. You use medications and the medical system appropriately.

The intellectual dimension is where we have a need for creativity and stimulating mental activities. People need to learn to develop their skills to share them with others. In and outside the classroom, you use intellectual and cultural activities, human resources, and learning resources available within the education system or broader community. It is good to cherish intellectual growth and stimulation.

The emotional dimension is where we have a need for awareness and acceptance of our feelings by self and others. This includes the need to respect one's self and loves one's own life. One has the capacity to manage one's feelings and behaviors, knowing one's limitations, development of autonomy, and ability to cope effectively with stress.

The occupational dimension is where we have a need to be

satisfied and have an enriched life in our work. Work can be paid or unpaid. The attitude towards one's work is important here. Through this, you contribute with your unique gifts, skills, and talents. This is both personally meaningful and rewarding.

We had a time for group reflection on these ideas and 4 essential questions. What does wellness mean to you? What barriers do you face that prevent you from living a healthy lifestyle? What specific strategies have worked for you in staying well? What specific areas do you feel you need help with to stay well?

Since the Forum, we have gone over the notes from the discussion groups and large group discussion to see which issues were discussed the most and what needs came out of the discussion to develop 3-4 workshops, which will be held in the fall. So far, there seems to be four areas that women want more info and support with:

- 1) Nutrition
- 2) Developing resilience/overcoming oppression (others' negative attitudes of people living with a disability) and finding support
- 3) Exercise/movement
- 4) Living with purpose and balance

We are also working to develop a Wellness Resource Guide of community wellness resources and activities that are both financially and mobility accessible.

Once we know the dates for the workshops I can let you know. There will likely be 4 workshops, starting in September and ending in January.

For more info email DAWN at: [dawnmb@mts.net](mailto:dawnmb@mts.net)

## **The Elimination of Poverty Social Critique by Deanna Ng**

People need safety which includes food, housing, basic needs met and significance which includes work, opportunities, respect to have a positive, meaningful, and satisfying life; this is especially important for people with disabilities, who often do not get these needs met.

### **Housing**

A study on housing was done in 2011, when Goering and colleagues wrote a report, "The At Home/Chez Soi trial protocol: a pragmatic, multi-site, randomized controlled trial of a Housing First intervention for homeless

individuals with mental illness in five Canadian cities.” It was further studied and updated in the “Early Findings Report” January of this year (volume 2).

At Home/Chez Soi is government research on how to best support people who are homeless and living with mental health issues by improving services and policies to end homelessness. In 2008, the federal government funded \$110 million to the Mental Health Commission of Canada for this project. This 4-year research project on a Housing First approach started in 2009 and will finish in March 31, 2013.

This is a recovery-oriented approach based on consumer choice. It gives participants immediate access to independent housing through rent subsidies and mental health supports such as Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) or Intensive Case Management (ICM), depending upon individual needs. Other studies, show improved housing stability, improved quality of life, and reduced costs for public services.

Researchers meet with each participant over a 2 year period. One group (the experimental Housing First group) is receiving housing and supports. The other group (the control group/treatment

as usual) does not receive these specialized services.

Available housing options were things such as; scatter-site apartments, supportive, social, shared or congregate housing options.

The value of choice was greater than treatment options, the project emphasizes self-directed treatment, and recommended service teams use practical approaches. Service providers could teach and support alternative approaches to illness management and recovery, so tenants in the program don't get evicted.

More info on this can be accessed at:

<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/bmjopen-2011-000323>

Other housing resources for people with disabilities are;

- ILRC Housing link

[http://www.ilrc.mb.ca/programs/information\\_referral/housing/index.htm](http://www.ilrc.mb.ca/programs/information_referral/housing/index.htm)

- Age & Opportunity housing link

<http://www.ageopportunity.mb.ca/housing/housing.asp>

## Nutrition

Nutrition is crucial for people to have a satisfying life. Lynn McIntyre, Professor, Faculty of Health Professions, Dalhousie University and Valerie Tarasuk, Associate Professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto wrote a report called the “Food Security as a Determinant of Health” or the Food Matters Report. This was presented at the Social Determinants of Health Across the Life Span Conference, held in Toronto in November 2002.

According to this report, food insecurity includes problems in obtaining nutritionally adequate and safe foods due to a lack of money to purchase them, or the limited availability of these foods in isolated communities.

These vary among different groups. For families with low income, the first feeling is anxiety about running out of food. Others make compromises on the quality of the foods they eat by choosing less expensive options. Many families with low income feel hungry because they are unable to purchase enough food to satisfy their needs.

This view is supported by Stefan Epp-Koop’s 2012 report in the Food Matters St. Vital Community Food Assessment,

which is part of the Canadian CED Network. They quoted a survey from Health Canada in 2004, which stated that food security means people have access to healthy food. Families with low income often have food insecurity where they compromise the quality or quantity of the food they get. Epp-Koop for this year, found research from Statistics Canada from 2008, that in Winnipeg Regional Health Authority area for people over the age of 12, 90.2% have enough food while 6.9% do not quite have what they need, and 3.0% are hungry. Even though the average income in St. Vital is higher than the other parts of Winnipeg, approximately 6,100 people in this area experience food shortages. Therefore, that means there may be increased food insecurity in other parts of the city with lower incomes per capita.

Poor nutrition can link to illness such as diabetes. Research was done on adequate lifestyle by Beverley Lawson, Kristine Van Aarsen, Celeste Latter, Wayne Putnam, Nandini Natarajan, Frederick Burge, called “Self-Reported Health Beliefs, Lifestyle and Health Behaviours in Community-Based Patients with Diabetes and Hypertension” in the Canadian Journal of Diabetes in 2011, volume 35 issue 5 (pages

490-496). This study found diabetes on its own is associated with many health risks and it is very common for people to have hypertension along with this. People also have a risk of stroke, coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease and retinopathy. In Canada, a national cross-sectional study of participants with type 2 diabetes, found that 63% also had hypertension. A community-based study from three Maritime Provinces reported that 79% had this as well.

Participant lifestyle behaviours, such as physical activity and nutrition, have been shown to help reduce the complications related to hypertension and diabetes. In a study by Lawson and colleagues in 2011, 20.4% of participants reported that they ate foods high in fiber and 75.3% said they ate foods low in salt and 74.4% said they limited their consumption of sweets. 69.7% were trying to lose weight, 62.1% tried to manage stress, and 55.9% exercised at least twice a week.

92.8% were knowledgeable about their condition and believed that having both diabetes and hypertension put them at high risk for cardiovascular problems, and this same group felt that controlling both blood pressure and blood glucose levels was

important. This study suggests that what participants consider most important is the condition currently causing them the most trouble.

Having adequate nutrition kept both conditions, equally as important, under control. Participants recognized that lifestyle change would help keep them healthy. This means that people do want to make healthy choices, but often don't have the means to.

For more info on diabetes nutrition, go to: <http://www.diabetes.ca/for-professionals/resources/nutrition/>

The Heart & Stroke Foundation supported this reality. According to them, healthy eating is one of the most important things you can do to reduce heart disease and stroke, manage your weight, keep your blood pressure down, control your blood sugar levels and lower your cholesterol.

They recommend including items from the four food groups: vegetables and fruit, whole-grain products, lower-fat milk products and alternatives, and lower-fat meat and alternatives. For more info go to: [www.healthcheck.org](http://www.healthcheck.org)

Healthy food includes; plenty of vegetables and fruit. Every day,

include a dark green (such as broccoli, asparagus and romaine lettuce) and an orange (such as carrots and sweet potato) vegetable. Make half of your grain products whole grain (such as brown and wild rice, bulgur, quinoa and oatmeal) each day. Serve fish twice a week (such as rainbow trout, salmon and sardines). Eat beans, lentils and tofu (meat alternatives) more often in your diet. Drink lower fat milk and milk alternatives such as fortified soy beverages. Be aware that other fortified drinks such as orange juice, rice, almond and potato do not contain the same level of protein found in milk or soy. Use unsaturated oils such as canola, olive, and soybean as well as non-hydrogenated margarines (Include a small amount - 30 to 45 mL/2 to 3 tbsp a day). Take a Vitamin D supplement if you are over the age of 50. If you are planning on becoming pregnant, take a multivitamin that contains folic acid. Once pregnant, your supplements should also contain iron.

For more info on the Heart & Stroke Foundation go to:

[http://www.heartandstroke.mb.ca/site/c.lgLSIVOyGpF/b.3661083/k.38F8/Healthy\\_Living\\_Healthy\\_Eating.htm](http://www.heartandstroke.mb.ca/site/c.lgLSIVOyGpF/b.3661083/k.38F8/Healthy_Living_Healthy_Eating.htm)

### **Guaranteed Annual Income**

I did some research on the Guaranteed Annual Income idea. E. L. Forget wrote an article in 2011 called "The town with no poverty: The health effects of a Canadian Guaranteed Annual Income field experiment" In the Canadian Public Policy. Forget talks about the guaranteed annual income experiment called mincome in Dauphin, Manitoba – an equal living wage to minimum wage for 4 years. Families with low incomes benefited from this experiment. They received funds to live off that were at the poverty line. People on it didn't stop working. Many were single parents with children. Young adults used it to go to school. There was an 8% reduction in healthcare costs; the equivalent for all Canada would be four billion dollars in savings. This took place in from 1974-1979. The experiment was scrapped due to a federal election. The government thought voters would not want to hear about free government giveaways. It was never analyzed until Forget, a Professor at the University of Manitoba got

permission to look at archives and analyze it.

Nick Ternette quoted in the Winnipeg Free Press, May 15<sup>th</sup> this year attended a conference where he represented Winnipeg Harvest and spoke about the recent North American Basic Income Guarantee Congress held in Toronto the beginning of May, 2012. The discussion was around the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, who researched on a guaranteed annual income (GAI). They argued that possibly a GAI would bump up income so that people could live above the poverty line. This would save on bureaucracy (call to report expenses and ask for specific funding). The idea is if you earned less, you receive \$17000 and can do what you want with it.

Nick Ternette wrote an article for the Winnipeg Free press called "Guaranteed Income Idea Kept Alive by Many" on May 15 this year.

He attended a congress meeting at the University of Toronto and brought this idea forward. GAI began with the 1950s when Milton Friedman, a libertarian who believed in less government, introduced a negative income tax. In the 1960s there was a war on poverty. The GAI was more seriously considered in the 1970's and the Mincome program that

Forget analyzed was a pilot project, took place from 1974-1978. Today we face globalization, unemployment, growth with no prosperity and further inequality.

Rhys Kesselman, of Simon Fraser University said the difference between what we now pay for social services and what the GAI would cost would require a 25 per cent increase in income tax for people with higher incomes. Trish Hennessy's presentation, "Challenging Orthodoxy" from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives gave an example of universal health care initially was unthinkable, then radical. Finally, under Tommy Douglas, it became acceptable, and today it is popular. So what if a GAI could follow the same path?



The Manitoba League of  
Persons with Disabilities

### **INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE**

We are doing a research project for Manitoba Health, exploring the primary health care experiences of people with disabilities and chronic health conditions.

Ways to participate:

- Request a print survey to be sent to you by mail
- Request an emailable survey to be sent to you
- Attend an in-person consultation. Dates are just being arranged for Winnipeg, Thompson, Steinbach and Pinawa, in the first part of September. Registration is required.

Call the office: 943-6099, or email: [deanna\\_mlpd@shaw.ca](mailto:deanna_mlpd@shaw.ca) to get involved!

We want to hear your experiences!

### **TRANSIT INCONSISTENCIES NETWORK (TIN) at MLPD**

**We have launched a Transit Inconsistencies**

**Network (TIN). We are asking riders to document problems and exceptional service in regards to Transit and Handi-Transit by noting time, date, number of the driver or taxi driver, and nature of the complaint or compliment, and submit it to the MLPD. We have forms for this purpose. You can email or call the office the information. We will be submitting your complaints and compliments to the Transit staff on a regular basis. We hope that action will be taken to address your concerns. In addition, we also encourage users of accessible taxis to make complaints directly to Gary Stillson, Acting Chief Taxicab Inspector at 945-0289. When you make a complaint about quality of service or lack of service, please let MLPD know as well.**



## **New Option to Donate!**

MLPD is a Canadian registered charity. For an alternative method of donating, go to our website and look for this icon on the top right hand corner.

Or go to [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org) and search 'MLPD - MANITOBA LEAGUE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES INC.'





**MLPD Update**

**MLPD**

**July 2012**

**Newsletter of the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities**

## **Who We Are**

The MLPD is an organization of people with disabilities that works on concerns affecting the lives of people with various disabilities in Manitoba.

MLPD strives for improvement in areas such as accessibility, education, employment, housing, transportation, income security, and support services.

The MLPD supports Manitobans with disabilities with social policy research and consultation, public education programs, information and referral services.

### **MLPD Staff:**

Diane Driedger (Provincial Coordinator), Josie Concepcion (Office Manager), Daniel Halechko (Thumbs Up Project - Coordinator), Deanna Ng (Program Assistant)

### **The 2011/2012 MLPD Provincial Council:**

Paula Keirstead (Co-chair), Jesse Turner (Co-chair), Carlos Sosa (Vice- Chair), Ken Bristow, April D'Aubin, Zephania Matanga, Colleen Watters, Valerie Wolbert, Nick Ternette, Shayani Fernando

**This newsletter is available in alternate media upon request.**

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