



LANGLEY'S MONTHLY YOUNG-AT-HEART SECTION

— JUNE 2012 —

Changing Disabilities into Possibilities

Zosia Ettenberg

a group of Langlev residents got together to form a new non-profit society. It was felt that there were many gaps in the health care system and as a result many residents of Langley were falling through the cracks. Langley Pos-Abilities Society was created to address some of these needs. The purpose of the society is to help residents of Langley with disabilities who do not qualify for government or private assistance or those who are unaware of the programs offered. Our goal is to help to educate and act as a bridge to these programs as well as providing assistive devices which improve the quality of life for residents of Langley with disabilities.

Our services include:

- providing and upgrading assistive equipment for our clients as needed
- accepting donations, providing access to and maintenance of assistive devices
- advocating and acting as a resource for residents of Langley with disabilities
- creating awareness and education to help our community understand, value and relate to residents of Langley with disabilities
- encouraging our clients and members of the community to participate in our organization's activities and special events.

In order to fulfill our goals we accept donations of the equipment, we refurbish them and give them to members of our community who need them. We raise money by holding special events like our fashion show which featured able-bodied and disabled models, a "Dining in the Dark" event with a silent and live auction and other unusual events. Each one of these activities is also geared to raising awareness and understanding of various different disabilities. We are currently in the process of finishing a



documentary film called "Try on a Disability". The plan is to enter this film in the Var couver Film Festival this fall. We also plan to have a launch party by invitation only in September to introduce the film to our community. If you are interested in receiving your invitation to the "Red Carpet" send an email to pos-abilities@telus.net .

Another unusual event is going to be the LANGLEY 2-4. This fundraiser is being organized by Danny Halmo of Category 5 Productions and all proceeds will be going t Langley Pos-Abilities Society. The LANGLE! 2-4 is the world's first 24 hour endurance challenge for light electric vehicles. It will be a costumed event with displays, great food, a trade expo, other entertainment and a parade. All kinds of electric vehicles are welcome including power wheelchairs, mobility scooters, golf carts, e-bikes, Segways, prototype, experimental and other display vehicles. Full size all-electric automobiles can participate in displays, expo an parade. In the process we hope that 5 Guin

ness World Records will be broken. There are a number of challenges which face this event. The first is obtaining enough batteries for all the vehicles to be able to run for 2 hours. The second is the transportation issue. We would like as many people in power chairs and mobility scooters to participate in the parade. The current record is 218 fo electric vehicles and 126 for mobility scooters. The difficulty will be transportation for these participants. Following the event Danny will be setting out on a Cross-Canada ride on an e-bike - a seven week journey.

Registration is necessary for companies, individuals and teams. An electric mobility vehicle will be supplied for each team participating in the 24 hour relay race if needed The event will take place on Friday and Saturday, July 13 and 14 at the Langley Event Center. If you would like to be a sponsor or volunteer please contact us. More details will follow over the next few weeks. In the meantime think of what it might be like to participate in an event like this and shatter several world records. For further information contact pos-abilities@telus.net or 604 961-0117.

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