



Summer Street Society & Foundation
Annual Report of the Executive Director June 2013

Summer Street is committed to creating opportunities and a better life for people with intellectual disability in Pictou County. Involving people with intellectual disability in setting goals and making decisions that affect their lives is key to our success.

In 2012-13 we provided day programs, vocational training and employment services to 183 people. This is a decrease of 23 people from the previous year. 12 positions discontinued through attrition, and although we were in the process of working with 11 others we had to stop service delivery at the assessment stage. Regrettably we need to continue to decrease services through attrition until our delivery of services matches our funding level. For the last three years, on behalf of Directions Council, we worked closely with the Department of Community Services to develop a funding framework for our sector. Although promises were made the provincial budget released this spring did not reflect those promises. Even though it will result in an ever increasing wait list for services, continuing to increase services and run operational deficits is not sustainable. Our current wait list for services is 27 and expected to grow rapidly over the next couple of years.

Our philosophy of community enrichment has guided us well in developing strong and lasting partnerships. Pictou County residents and businesses continue to help us open doors and create opportunities for the clients of Summer Street, and for that, we are very grateful.

As we enter into the final year of our three year strategic plan it is clear we have improved our quality of service delivery. We continue to delivered person centered programs and services that maintain a balance of individual focus and quality day programs, vocational training and employment services.

We are very fortunate to have a Society and Foundation partnership so committed to helping the organization move forward. Without question we would not be able to do many of the wonderful things we do without this partnership. In 2012-13 our Foundation provided over \$400,000 to the Society for capital and operational projects. The Foundation continues to raise significant funds for the organization in support of the Society's strategic objectives.

We are well known for our work with people who have intellectual disability. We are successful because everyone is working toward a common goal of creating opportunities and a better life for people with intellectual disability.

Many thanks to you all!

Bob Bennett
Executive Director