

PRINCE GEORGE

Report to the Community

Welcome to the third edition of our **Prince George: Report to the Community!** It has been a busy few months since our last issue, and we are pleased to offer news, updates, and stories from our community.

TOUCHING BASE:

In Conversation with Connective Leadership



Camila Sanchez

Regional Director of Northern BC

Greetings! I'm happy to be providing this update amid warmer temperatures and sunnier skies.

As you can perhaps tell from this lovely and lively collage of photos, staff and residents from across our programs have been taking advantage of the weather to cultivate their green thumbs. From beekeeping at our Northern BC Therapeutic Community, to gardening as recreational therapy at Juniper House, we're making the most of the season and sprouting deeper connections.

Flowers and veggies aren't the only things coming up, though! With construction well underway, we are looking forward to opening Victoria St Supportive Housing's second building (adding 36 units) early this fall. Work on Ontario Street Supportive Housing's second building (adding 51 units) is also progressing well, and expected to open early next year.

In the meantime, we're excited to continue developing a sense of community and cohesion across our programs, and to find new ways of supporting our residents.



CLUSTER HOUSING:

Connective + Community Living BC

In addition to the standard units at our Ontario Street Supportive Housing program, Connective is also proud to work in close collaboration with Community Living BC (CLBC) to provide a series of 'cluster units' for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Designed for those who have the skills and abilities to live semi-independently, these units allow five residents to foster community by living close to one another.

A dedicated outreach team is assigned to these residents, assisting as required with the tasks of daily living, accompanying them to appointments around town, and developing any life skills they want to work on.

The outreach team meets weekly with program management to discuss and plan individual goal setting, ensuring that individual outcomes always reflect the needs, desires, and realities of each resident.



"We have seen huge growth in Leyton*, a non-verbal client. He has begun to open up and engage in full conversations with staff and other residents."

Recently, staff have worked with him to establish a structured routine (including meal prep and daily hygiene), attend community events (like the circus), and develop skills he is interested in (currently, mathematics)."

– Program Manager

*Name changed to protect privacy



CULTURAL SUPPORT:

Connective's Indigenous Liaison Workers

Recognizing the important role that culture plays in healing, growth, and resilience for our Indigenous community members and residents, Connective is committed to enhancing our programs and services with appropriate cultural supports, offered at several of our Prince George program locations by Indigenous Liaison Workers.

Across our programs, Liaison workers use the Dakelh language, sharing circles, artistic practices, and other means of healing, to create safe spaces where service users can express themselves and share their experiences.

Often, this culturally responsive approach helps to bridge gaps that other forms of support have struggled to cross, leading to improved outcomes and stronger connections with residents and service users.

Recently, as part of National Indigenous History Month celebrations, cultural support activities have included medicine harvesting and bracelet making. For Kurt, one of our Indigenous Liaison Workers, the day held extra meaning.

"I have harvested medicine and made bracelets before, but this was my first time leading the process on my own. It was a wonderful experience, not only for me but also for residents and staff."

– Kurt, Indigenous Liaison Worker



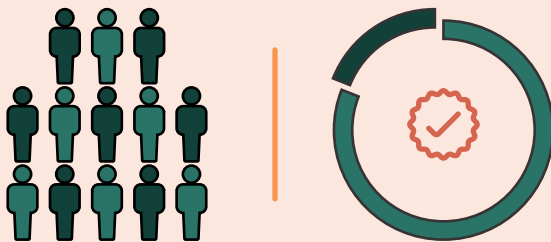
STREET HUMANITIES

In Partnership with the College of New Caledonia



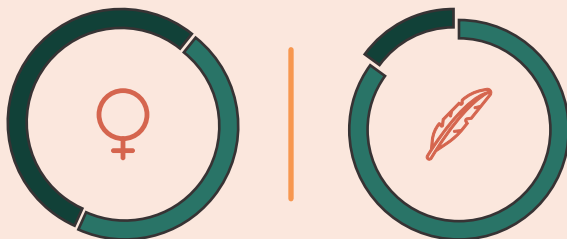
College of
New Caledonia

Last Issue, we shared how Connective had partnered with the College of New Caledonia (CNC) on their Street Humanities Program. Now that the 2025 program report has been published, we wanted to provide some program highlights!



**13 people completed the program,
meaning a completion rate of 81%**

Highest success rate in the program's recorded history



**46% identified as female,
and 85% identified as Indigenous**

Though female participation fell slightly below goal,
Indigenous representation greatly exceeded it

Participant Impact

- 10** appointments made with an Academic Advisor
- 1** application for Academic Upgrading
- 1** application to the Welding Foundation Program
- 3+** expressions of interest in Trades Programs
- 3** expressions of interest in Academic Upgrading
- 1** expression of interest in the Education Assistant Program

Students also experienced campus life, gained a sense of their academic interest areas, identified their learning styles, and helped staff to better understand barriers to education.

Street Humanities

Street Humanities is a 10-week, non-credit college program designed to empower individuals facing barriers such as homelessness or mental health challenges.

It provides a safe, inclusive, and supported learning environment designed to spark interest in further education and foster personal growth and well-being.



Street Humanities 2025 Graduating Class

**"I learned how important it is to
attend classes, and how much I
enjoyed learning again."**

– Street Humanities Participant

Connective was proud to partner with the College of New Caledonia on this important initiative. We were thrilled by the response from participants and inspired by the steps they've since taken to advance their education, careers, and future goals. Whether through our own programs, or partnerships like these, we look forward to finding more ways to help individuals facing barriers access education and sustainable employment

**"Connective was an invaluable
community partner, playing a key
role in student recruitment and
ongoing student support. Their
shared goals and hands-on
involvement benefited students
during the program and after."**

– Street Humanities 2025 Program Report

Call for Applications

Northern BC Therapeutic Community

Earlier this year, we were excited to open the doors at our Northern BC Therapeutic Community – a men's recovery centre located on a sprawling 150+ acre property 30KM south-west of Prince George.

This program offers participants an idyllic setting away from the stressors of the world, where they can reconnect with nature and engage in agricultural activities while recovering from substance use. In this supportive space, individuals can reclaim and rebuild their physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being.

Now that the program is operating, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight our referral and application process.

Program Referral & Application

NBCTC does not currently take direct or self-referrals. Anyone interested in the program must receive a referral from one of the following, approved sources:

- Community Addictions Counsellors
- Community Support Workers
- Registered Social Workers
- Mental Health Professionals
- Provincial Detox Centers
- Provincial Health Authority-funded Outpatient Programs
- Social Workers in the Ministry of Housing and Social Development Offices
- Correction Services Canada authorized staff
- Probation Officers
- Physicians

Once you have been referred, the next step is to **complete an application package** with the help of a community service professional.

If you need help completing the application, please contact us. We will connect you with a community service that can assist you.

Email: admissions.nbctc@connective.ca

34000 Blackwater Road



Publicly Funded Beds

We are also pleased to share that we now have **publicly funded beds** available for those who do not have access to other funding.

While this covers the cost of the program, we strongly recommend that applicants have some personal funding available to purchase essential items sold on-site.

By applying for a publicly funded bed, applicants acknowledge that they are responsible for any personal expenses.



Application Form



More about NBCTC