

the compassionate VOICE



Newsletter of the BCCCS

September 2015 - January 2016

Our Fight Against Taxes on Medical Cannabis

Starting January 28, 2016, we have to apply a 5% sales tax to your medicine.

We have been fighting for 15 years to see that medical cannabis for all Canadians is deemed a medical necessity and is exempt from tax. This case has incurred costs of hundreds of thousands and the BCCCS has been saving for 18 years to fight this fight, or pay the GST liability.

This has been a long and incredibly expensive case, the legal avenues have now been exhausted and disappointingly, we did not win.

On Monday January the 27th, the Federal Court of Appeals dismissed our appeal. The original case was in June of 2014 and we argued, essentially, that medical cannabis is a medical necessity and should there for be exempt from

sales tax. We did not win the initial case and the Federal Court of Appeals also ruled against us.

The Federal Court of Appeals ignored many of the key issues and simply ruled that the Parliament could not have possibly intended for an illegal drug to be tax exempt.

Please check Lift Cannabis for the breaking report of our story or The Globe and Mail for more coverage.

What an uphill battle it has been, but we are still full of comPASSION!! There is no waver in our intentions to continue standing for patient rights and safe, affordable medicine across Canada!

Next steps, we need to lobby for legislative change.

Stay posted for updates on a campaign.

22nd Annual World AIDS Day @ The Carnegie



We were honoured to once again represent the BCCCS at the 22nd annual World AIDS Day at The Carnegie Community Centre located at Main & Hastings on December 2, 2015.

We made important community connections, held space for those in need and appreciated talks from some illuminating guest speakers ranging from doctors, persons living with AIDS, as well as, policy makers.

The held a beautiful ceremony remembering those who were lost to AIDS. A surprise visit from BC's Provincial Minister of Health, The Honourable Terry Lake, was received positively.



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Club News

Next Steps in City of Vancouver Regulations, Board of Variance

The BCCCS is too close to two schools to be in the first round of licenses granted by the City of Vancouver, as such, we have appealed their decision to the Board of Variance.

The application to the Board of Variance (BOV) has been submitted, a copy is available to look at in the waiting room. The application is a compilation of documents of support from our community, proof of hardship if we had to move, support from the local schools, a description of the services we provide and proof of all the recognition we have earned over the years.

It's worth thumbing through, it will make you proud!

The secretary of the BOV was very impressed with the submission and our hearing date is on....wait for it....April 20th. 4/20! That has to be a lucky sign.

We are confident the BOV will grant us a variance and we will be able to stay in our home.

BCCCS Awarded "Best Charity/Community Outreach Program"

In 2014, Cannabis Global Economy held the first ever CannAWARDS (cannabis industry awards) in Colorado. On December 5, 2015, they held regional industry awards in conjunction with their Northwest regional awards.

BCCCS was titled with Best Charity/Community Outreach Program! Our prize? A sledge hammer literally and figuratively representing our 'ground breaking' work in this 'break-through' industry!

Nominations are still open and everyone is encouraged to put their votes for their international awards coming up this spring. Cannabis industry organizations at all levels are honoured. Nominate a person or business online here: cannaeconomy.com/cannawards/finals



Thank you to all the board and staff members who worked so diligently to put together an impressive and professional document for this important process.

Warmly,
BCCCS Founder, Hilary Black

Membership Requests: CBD & THC Capsules

This fall we were excited to debut CBD (Cannabidiol) & THC (Delta-9-Tetra cannabinol) capsules to positive feedback regarding symptom relief and treatment.

Our capsules are made using a CO2 extraction process that leaves 0% trace of leftover solvents. Then suspended in grape seed oil (a wonderful source of antioxidants!) and packaged into vegetable-based capsules.

Over a decade of global emerging research into these two naturally abundant cannabis chemical compounds has resulted in identified medicinal properties for the treatment & management of numerous symptoms.

**Gift Certificates
@ The Wellness Centre
in all denominations
COMING SOON!**

Winter Member Appreciation Party Success

Big changes to our 17 year tradition of hosting at the WISE Hall created a challenge to planning our annual Winter Member Appreciation Party. With about 100 guests each day, we managed to host a successful event complete with raffle prizes, giveaways, hot apple cider & snacks, acoustic entertainment from our in-house talents, David & Emily Rose, as well as some festive jams from a few members.

Thanks to The Carnival Band for bringing their spirit! Thanks to all who were able to attend and to those who stayed for clean-up! All prize winners were contacted Dec. 23, CONGRATS AGAIN TO YOU ALL!!

THANK YOU TO OUR PRIZE DONORS:

Bakery Sate, Bandidas, Eastside Vapes, Ignite Smoke Shop, Grandview Lanes, Lunapads, RAW Rolling Papers

More Party Pics on Page 4



The Fermentation Workshop: Sauerkraut

The Wellness Centre hosted The Fermentation Workshop: Learn to Make Sauerkraut held at the Britannia Community Kitchen on November 17, 2015 was a great success. Members and a few staff of the Club came together to chop, grate and squeeze their cabbage and vegetables into their very own jars of sauerkraut.

They also learned how sauerkraut and other fermented foods provide beneficial bacteria and a whole other host of positive benefits to our health.

If you would like to see more workshops like this, please be sure to let us know in writing! info@thecompassionclub.org.

Shortbread and Birdsnest Cookies Recipe

Cookie Dough Ingredients

- o 1 cup butter, softened:
 - 1/4 cup Cannabis Infused Butter
 - 3/4 cup regular butter
- o 2/3 cup cane or white sugar
- o 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- o 2 cups all-purpose flour
- o 1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam

Cookie Drizzle Ingredients

- o 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- o 3/4 teaspoon almond extract
- o 1 teaspoon milk

Instructions

- o Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- o In a medium bowl, cream together butter and white sugar until smooth. Mix in 1/2 teaspoon almond extract. Mix in flour until dough comes together. Roll dough into 1 1/2 inch balls, and place on ungreased cookie sheets. Make a small hole in the center of each ball, using your thumb and finger, and fill the hole with preserves.
- o Bake for 14 to 18 minutes in preheated oven, or until lightly browned. Let cool 1 minute on the cookie sheet.

Drizzle

- o In a medium bowl, mix together the confectioners' sugar, 3/4 teaspoon almond extract, and milk until smooth. Drizzle lightly over warm cookies

36 servings 104 calories



Spring Sale

10% Off Simplers Botanicals

Now until April 30

Janet Brine Remembered

With sadness, we announce the loss of Janet Brine, who passed away in June 2015. Janet received bodywork treatments while undergoing therapy for cancer during 2013 and 2014. She was a very positive force and a fundraiser for cystic fibrosis.

In 2014, she donated \$5,000 to the Wellness Centre, requesting only that it be used to purchase items that would benefit the members for the long-term.

We purchased a therapeutic infrared BioMat, a hydraulic massage table and new linens and pillows. Janet had the opportunity to try out the new items in March 2015, and indicated that she was pleased to make this lasting contribution.

Sheway Winter Donation

Every year, between October and December we collect donations toward our Children's Holiday Gifts Fund, where we do our best to provide financial aid toward our members' children's gift wishes. BCCCS Members' donations exceeded our goal and the remaining \$850 collected was donated back to local low-income children through the amazing DTES organization, Sheway (sheway.vcn.bc.ca/).

This was the biggest donation they received all year and were SO grateful! They provided scarves, mitts, toques, blankets, stroller covers and more to their community!

Dr. Wright, Thank you!

In September 2012 our Integrative Energy healer and Holistic Counsellors began a popular series of workshops called "Exploring Chronic Pain."

There have been 9 workshops to date, each one focusing on a specific topic, including background information, current science, stories, exercises and techniques, with an emphasis on somatic approaches to releasing trauma. Participants are encouraged to share their own experiences. Topics have ranged from body awareness to the healing potential of sound and music to the role of forgiveness and self-compassion.

Dr. Wright's generous donation of \$500 will allow us to present and build on these workshops to continue healing in a support group component.

Staff Changes

This quarter, we were pleased to welcome a new face in Distribution, Desmond.

We send our best of luck for the future to our herbalist Philippa and in exchange we welcome our Club Elder, Jasmyn back to the Apothecary!