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April 30, 2015

Richmond Centre for Disability

Hi All:

Frances Clark was more than just a fellow Board Member, she was an influential friend.

Way back in the late 80's I use to volunteer at the City of Richmond but I was still bored. I was at City Hall looking for other things to do when Norma Suarez Jordan, the former Recreation Coordinator for the City of Richmond, said you should meet Frances Clark and maybe join the Board of the RCD. At that time I had never heard of the RCD. So when I finally met Frances her passion and tenacity compelled me to join.

She inspired me by saying that the community is stronger by having people contribute their voices to the community. AKA City Hall. She would attend the monthly City Hall meetings without fail. She told me that any barrier for a person with a disability can be overcome. But it's also best to have the community on your side. Throughout the years, as I got to know Frances, I discovered she had a love for John F. Kennedy. She had countless biographies on him and after I read some of them I now understand why Frances and JFK are somewhat similar.

When I was a member of the RCD Board, during a strategic planning meeting, one of the topics discussed was should we create a resource centre? There were only five Board members and I remember Frances giving this deep, emotional speech as to why we should have a resource centre. She mentioned how people needed resources when they are disabled. Thanks to Frances' empowering, passionate speech on why we needed a resource centre it was passed by a vote of 3 to 2. Yes, it was that close. So without the help of Frances the Richmond Centre for Disability would never have been. Her dedication, thoughtfulness and planning helped guide our ship in this community.

She will be sorely missed by myself and our City of Richmond but her ideas will live on forever.

Sincerely,

Shawn Logan

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Richmond, Canada