



**CITY OF POWELL RIVER  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 02, 2012**

**Dear Mayor Formosa and Council Members:**

**I am a self advocate representing the Powell River Association for Community Living's Self Advocacy Group. I would like to take this opportunity to speak to you about the upcoming Diversability campaign.**

**"If you break down the word DISabled, you get not able -  
If you break down Diversability, you get different but able"**

**"To create a better understanding we can begin with something as simple as changing our language and when we do that, we change our perceptions of others. By choosing to use DIVERSability instead of Disability we change the expectations of people with Diversabilities to positive"**

**As SelfAdvocates we do not want to be looked upon as a burden to society. Children with diversabilities need to grow up with positive role models. We are extending an invitation to the City of Powell River to participate, as has the City of Kelowna. The city of Kelowna now officially supports the use of the word diversability. We feel that with Powell River's history of being an inclusive community and a leader in the Community Living Movement, that it only follows that we should support the language that changes Disability to Diversability.**



**City of Powell River**

City Hall — MacGregor Building  
6910 Dunson Street, Powell River BC V8A 1Y4  
Telephone 604 485-6291 • Fax 604 485-7913  
www.powellriver.ca

File No. 630-01

February 3, 2012

Powell River Association of Community Living  
#201 – 4675 Marine Avenue  
Powell River BC V8A 2L2

Attention: Lorelei Reed  
Self Advocate

Dear Madame:

Thank you for your presentation to Council regarding the Diversability Campaign. You did an excellent job on speaking about diversability and are a good role model for persons with diversabilities. I was pleased to proclaim February 6, 2012 as "Diversability Day" in the City of Powell River and we wish you much success in your campaign

Yours truly,  
CITY OF POWELL RIVER

David J Formosa  
Mayor

DJF/cs

## PROCLAMATION FOR DIVERSABILITY DAY

Whereas the Powell River Self Advocates Group supported by the Powell River Association for Community Living do not want to be seen as a burden to society and instead want to be seen as contributors and participants in society and

Whereas the Powell River Self Advocates Group has joined the province wide campaign to influence the change by asking the community to refer to individuals with disabilities as people with a "Diversability" and

Whereas the Powell River Self Advocates Group is hosting an information booth at the Town Center Mall on Monday, February 6 from 10:00 am to 4:00pm to promote this new language,

In support of this endeavour, I, David John Formosa, hereby declare February 06 as Diversability Day in the City of Powell River and encourage the citizens of Powell River to respect this request and adopt "Diversability" when referring to individuals with disabilities.