



## Health Matters Newsletter

June 12, 2020

### Today's Health Matters Includes:

- Meeting Schedule
- Community Meetings
- World Elder Abuse Day – (Attached)
- Victoria Foundation Grant Opportunity- APPLY ASAP
- Overdose Crisis- Overdose Alert-Lifeguard Ap Preventing Overdose Deaths- (Attached)
- Need Help with Application Forms During COVID- Cowichan Navigators- (Attached)
- COVID Granting Opportunity-\$189,000.00 for Cowichan- Deadline June 15
- Social Planning Cowichan COVID 19 Survey One Week to Respond
- Red Cross Supporting Communities with Free PPE and Training
- Helpful Links During COVID Crisis



For most up to date community services information go to [www.ourcchn.ca](http://www.ourcchn.ca)

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- ✓ Next Admin Committee Meeting July 2 4:30 pm Teleconference Call
  - ✓ Next Our Cowichan Network Meeting **July 9 In Person Meeting Mellor Hall- Cowichan Exhibition Grounds 5:15-7:30**
  - ✓ Next EPIC Committee Meeting- **June 18 1:15 pm-2:15 pm Teleconference Call**

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#### Community Events- Meetings

- Cowichan Housing and Homelessness Coalition Meeting (All Welcome) CANCELLED

- **Community Action Team (CAT) Meeting 9:00 am June 25, 2020**, TELECONFERENCE 1-844-445-4475 Access Code 4381 5922 Due to the large number of participants **Please send Email to Cindy if you are going to be on the call to assist with Moderation – technical difficulties may occur due to busy systems- keep trying to get on line so line will be open 10 minutes early**
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## **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**

This is a very different year for celebrating World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. The benefit of a pandemic is that we can participate in or listen in on perspectives from around the world. Here is some information from the UN Committee on Aging. Attached

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## **BC's Dual Pandemic- The Overdose Crisis**

The overdose crisis in BC continues to rage with the number of lives lost in the last few months at 170 which is beyond the lives lost with the COVID 19 Pandemic. The drug supply has contained high levels of fentanyl and when combined with social isolation the results have been deadly. The overdose alert continues to remain in effect. The New Lifeguard AP (attached) is one mechanism to help prevent the loss of life for those who are using alone. Please circulate both attachments broadly.

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## **Call for Emergency Applications for the Emergency Community Support fund.**

**What is the purpose of the Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF)?** The Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund aims to help charities adapt and increase frontline services for vulnerable populations during COVID-19. The ECSF is intended to strengthen the capacity of community service organizations to meet the urgent needs of vulnerable individuals and families disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. These resources will support community services in all regions of Canada. UWCC, the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) and Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) were named as three intermediaries with which the federal government would partner to deliver this funding.

**Cowichan Valley Regional District \$189,000 \$20,000 Maximum grant request**

For more information please look here-

<https://www.uwcvi.ca/what-we-do/our-work/grants/emergency-community-support-fund>

To apply-

<https://uwcnvigants.ca/2020/ecsf/>

The call for applications **closes on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June at noon.**

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## **Victoria Foundation Grant- Applications Required ASAP**

<https://victoriafoundation.bc.ca/ecsf/>

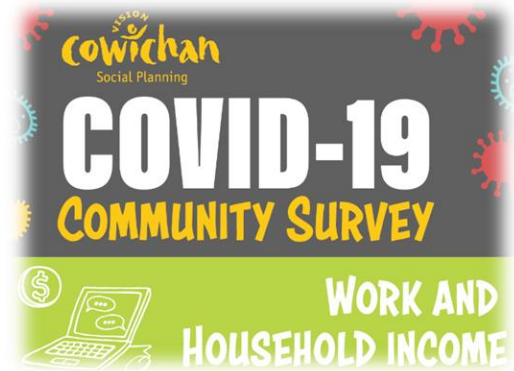
We've been asked as a region to make sure we send in applications asap.

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## LAST WEEK

### How Is COVID 19 Impacting You and Your Family? Social Planning Cowichan wants to hear from you. Take the Surveys!

As you may know, Social Planning Cowichan has a mandate to research, form partnerships, create strategies and inform the Cowichan public about social planning issues. Over the years, we have provided “snapshots” during a specific period, to look at what is working well in our community and identify what areas may require a more in-depth look. The findings of these snapshots have helped in planning for our community’s future vision and goals.



We are now undertaking a series of community surveys to determine the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on households across the Cowichan Region.

These COVID-19 impact surveys will touch on four strategic areas:

1. [Food security and household activities](#)
2. [Work and household income](#)
3. [Personal and family well-being](#)
4. [Families with children, aging family members and/or with special needs/mobility challenges](#)

All four surveys are available through our [Covid-19 Surveys and Stories webpage](#) now, and we will also focus on promoting one survey a week, for four weeks to build momentum and hopefully create continuous participation.

The survey results will highlight what the COVID-19 pandemic is revealing about the constraints of our current systems as well as capture what encouraging innovations and evolving methods are being developed in response. The results will serve to answer the question, ***“What will be our community’s vision moving forward?”***

Please participate in and help us promote the first survey titled [Food security and household activities](#) with your staff, clients and other contacts by email and through social media, and encourage them to do the same. You can share posts from the Social Planning Cowichan [facebook](#) and [twitter](#) accounts or create your own using the sample posts that are included at the

Everyone is also welcome to share anecdotal stories about the impacts bottom of this email.

Each survey will take no more than 20 minutes to complete, and the respondent’s identities will remain anonymous.

of Covid-19 social distancing, isolation etc. through our [Covid-19 Surveys and Stories webpage](#). There you will find links to all the surveys but also a place where you can write, post photos, audio or video of stories as well. With permission, we will share these individual stories through our social media channels.

Hardcopy versions of the surveys will also be distributed through various hampers and hot meals distributed across the region, thanks to our community partners on the Food Access Task Force! If you can distribute and collect printed surveys, please be in touch. We look forward to hearing from you, and finding solutions for our community together. Many thanks for all your work and support in this initiative!  
Rosalie and the SPC team

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**Canadian  
Red Cross**



## **Supporting frontline community organizations and those they serve in the COVID-19 response**

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To ensure that local community organizations can continue delivering vital services during this pandemic, the Canadian Red Cross is offering free personal protective equipment and training through its Preventing Disease Transmission Training and Equipment Program.

This program targets frontline workers responding to COVID-19 in low to medium risk environments, in support of their direct service delivery to those who are the most vulnerable to the health, social and economic impacts of COVID-19.

Specifically, this program will support the health and wellbeing of frontline workers by equipping them with critical personal protective equipment, including masks and gloves, and will train them to use this equipment to ensure their health and wellbeing.

**Our training will provide the tools needed to keep frontline volunteers and staff safe.** Each learning option will ensure that volunteers and staff will resume their duties feeling safe and confident in the infection prevention techniques they have learned.

**To ensure equal access for all, organizations can choose to learn on one of three platforms:**

- Online self-study for maximum time flexibility
- Virtual classroom instructor-led for groups of up to 20 participants

- In-person when necessary and possible

Learn more at [redcross.ca/communityorganizations](https://www.redcross.ca/communityorganizations)

### What equipment can be provided?

Personal protective equipment is available to ensure the safety of frontline personnel. This includes one mask and two pairs of gloves per person, per day. Each organization that receives personal protective equipment will have an assortment of sizing options.

Canadian Red Cross is currently offering support for training and equipment as part of its Preventing Disease Transmission Training and Equipment Program, thanks to funding from the Government of Canada led by Employment and Social Development Canada.



For more details visit [redcross.ca/communityorganizations](https://www.redcross.ca/communityorganizations)

We would like your help in promoting this program to other organizations who might be eligible. Please forward this email to your network.

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## Some Information that may be helpful during the COVID 19 Crisis

- **If you feel sick**, isolate yourself and use B.C.'s online [self-assessment tool](#).
  - **BC Centre for Disease Control**  
<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care>
  - BC Housing provides great information <https://www.bchousing.org/COVID-19>
  - **Social Planning Cowichan Connecting Service Providers**  
[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=2716849235030455&id=660104927371573](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2716849235030455&id=660104927371573)
  - **How to support your clients or residents**  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/vulnerable-populations-covid-19.html>
  - **Self isolating in the home or co-living setting**  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/interim-guidance-cases-contacts.html#app1>
  - **How COVID-19 puts people who use drugs at greater risk**  
<https://leaderpost.com/diseases-and-conditions/coronavirus/how-covid-19-puts-people-who-use-drugs-at-greater-risk/wcm/66c9b32f-bc4f-4684-a8c1-b9d0a485aeed/>
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## **Health Matters Newsletter**

**Do you have a resource, event or information you would like to share?**

Send it to [cindylisecchn@shaw.ca](mailto:cindylisecchn@shaw.ca) and it will be included in the weekly  
newsletter