



## Health Matters Newsletter June 30, 2017

### Today's Health Matters Includes:

- Meeting Schedule
- Community Meetings and Events
- Canada Day Ladysmith (poster attached)
- Housing Coalition- Report and Update
- Opioid Crisis Open House July 6<sup>th</sup>



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### Our Cowichan- Network Member Meetings-

- ✓ **Next Admin Committee Meeting- July 6, 4:30-6:30** 6080 York Road
- ✓ **Next Our Cowichan Network Meeting at July 13 Ramada Silver Bridge.** Light dinner at 5:15 pm Meeting starts at 5:45 pm.

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### Community Events- Meetings

- **Canada Day At Transfer Beach in Ladysmith-** July 1
- **Community Response Team Meeting** July 20, 9 am-11am Meeting Room 213 at the CVRD
- **EPIC-Community Steering Committee** July 20, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm Ladysmith Community Health Centre Lower meeting room (Then moving to Duncan 2:00 pm-4:00 pm) Ts'i'ts'uwatul 'Lelum 5755 Allenby Road- Duncan, BC
- **Literacy Now Cowichan AGM and Open House-** July 13 at Literacy Now Cowichan Office 213 B Station Street 4 pm-5:30 pm Refreshments following. RSVP 250-597-1776
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### Local Data and or Research-

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#### Housing Coalition- Everyone Deserves a Home

On May 26th 2017, *Everyone Deserves a Home: Building A Coordinating Structure for the Cowichan Valley*, Session 3 work shop, examined Homelessness and Housing Coalition models in BC, and featured



presentations from representatives of two communities that have organized around these issues: from Victoria, the Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness and the Capital Regional District, and the City of Nanaimo.

This workshop was co-hosted by the 'Home Team': Cowichan Housing Association, Our Cowichan Communities Health Network, Social Planning Cowichan, Mental Health and Substance Use Collective Impact Team, the United Way and Cowichan Division of Family Practice.

On behalf of the 'Home Team' we are pleased to share this draft summary report outlining the discussion from the workshop participants regarding a Cowichan Coalition model. We welcome your comments and questions on the draft by July 4, 2017. We know that many people could not attend on May 26th and so we are sharing this widely, and welcome questions and feedback from all.

[http://www.cowichanhousing.com/uploads/4/9/6/0/49605357/everyone\\_deserves\\_a\\_home\\_community\\_report\\_draft\\_june\\_15\\_2017.pdf](http://www.cowichanhousing.com/uploads/4/9/6/0/49605357/everyone_deserves_a_home_community_report_draft_june_15_2017.pdf)

Over the coming months, the 'Home Team' will be working to build on the recommendations from the workshop, to move forward with the goal of developing a coordinated structure in the Cowichan Region, and ultimately toward the goal of safe, affordable housing for everyone.

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## **Collective Impact – Support With Strategy Article**

As someone who is interested in Collective Impact, you know that no matter what the driving force for taking on your Collective Impact initiative may be - solving a problem, fixing a crisis or creating a vision of a better future - there comes a time to develop strategy. But how do we ensure our strategies are viable and leveraged toward success? What criteria can we use to establish whether our strategies address the overall direction and outcomes we're hoping to achieve?

Today we're releasing an article I wrote that works to address these very questions. This article – [Developing Collective Impact Strategies](#) – contains tools and approaches designed to help with the development of Collective Impact strategies and is meant to serve as a guide for you and your colleagues as well as to stir your thinking.

[Access the article here.](#)

If this type of thinking inspires you, motivates you, or better yet challenges you - you may be interested in continuing the conversation at our five day learning retreat coming up this September in Vancouver, Canada. I invite you to join me, alongside more than 200 community change leaders from across the globe at the [2017 Community Change Institute – Cities of the Future: Co-Creating Tomorrow](#) to tackle the latest thinking and challenges from the field of community change. Each day we'll be hearing from an inspiring keynote speaker – Dr. John Helliwell, Shauna Sylvester, David Korten and Ben Hecht – and then diving deep into the content through over 30 workshops, design labs, interactive co-creation spaces and city tours.

For more information, visit the [Community Change Institute website](#), or hit reply and you'll reach my colleague Natasha who can assist you in any way. We hope you can join us!

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**Our Cowichan Community Health Network hosts an open house on the overdose crisis in the Cowichan Valley**



# Open House

Date: **Thursday, July 6**

Time: **6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

Location: **Duncan Fire Hall, 468 Duncan Street**

DUNCAN— Our Cowichan Community Health Network

will host an open house on the current opioid crisis. Our Cowichan, BC Ambulance, the RCMP, Island Health, the Canadian Mental Health Association and community partners will discuss the current state, response, existing services, proposed services and answer questions. The Open House will provide an opportunity to discuss the full continuum; prevention, harm reduction (including overdose prevention), treatment and recovery.

Between January 1, 2016 and May 30, 2017- 251 people died from suspected opioid drug overdose on Vancouver Island. Over this time period at least 22 persons in the Cowichan Valley have died from suspected opioid overdoses and there were over 150 emergency room visits in the past year. These tragic events highlight the need to respond to the current health crisis with services for preventing overdoses, increasing treatment, reduction harm, supporting those in need and saving lives.

Our Cowichan is grateful for the ongoing support of the City of Duncan, the local RCMP detachment, BC Ambulance, Duncan Fire Department and Island Health in the response to the current health crisis in our communities. We would also like to thank our community stakeholders including Cowichan Valley Regional District, Cowichan Tribes (viaTs'ewulhtun Health), First Nations Health Authority, RCMP, Emergency Health Services (BC Ambulance), municipal and regional governments, and other community services agencies.

More information about the opioid overdose crisis is available online:

[www.viha.ca/mho/overdose.htm](http://www.viha.ca/mho/overdose.htm)





**Happy Canada Day Everyone!**

Do you have something to share?  
Send it to [cindylisecchn@shaw.ca](mailto:cindylisecchn@shaw.ca) and it will be included in the weekly  
**Health Matters Newsletters**