



**Health Matters Newsletter
February 13, 2014**

Today's Health Matters Includes:

- Meeting Schedules
- Community Meetings and Events
- Cowichan Valley Hospice Society- End of Life Care Community Consultations
- Collective Impact Conversation
- Parliamentary motion on child poverty receives almost unanimous support
- Bill to restore the long-form census defeated by Conservative MPs

This spider web was able to hold water- You never know what you find when you look.



Our Cowichan- Network Member Meetings-

- ✓ **Next Our Cowichan Network Meeting –March 12, 2015**, CVRD Board Room. Light dinner at 5:30 pm – Meeting starts at 6:00 pm
- ✓ **Next Admin Committee Meeting-** Wednesday February 18, 5:30 pm CVRD Com. Room 2

Upcoming Events/ Workshops/ Community Meetings

- **Board meets Boards- Collective Impact** -Tuesday February 17, 5:30 to 9:00 pm Clements Centre Society- see below for registration
- **Cowichan Child Care Resource and Referral Program Presents: Kids have Stress Too-** Saturday February 28, 2015 For more information go to www.islandfamilyinfo.ca
- **Cowichan Valley Hospice End of Life Care- Community Consultations**
 - Monday, February 16 at St. John's Anglican Church, Duncan 1:00 to 3:30pm and 6:00 to 8:30pm
 - Tuesday, February 17 at Shawnigan Lake Community Centre 1:00 to 3:30 pm

- **Be More Than a Bystander**- FREE community event Monday February 16th Quamichan Campus Theatre- Beverly Street- see attached posters
- **Networking for Non Profits** – February 25th 9:30 am- 12 pm at Sands Funeral Reception Room \$5.00 at the door- see attached poster.

Cowichan Valley Hospice End of Life Care- Community Consultations FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 22, 2015 Duncan BC: How would you like you and your loved ones to be cared for at the end of life? How do we make our community the best possible place to live when our families are challenged with advancing illness or bereavement?

Cowichan Valley Hospice is leading a community consultation on end of life care, through a series of public meetings and a survey that will be available on-line and distributed in public locations. You are invited to participate in a conversation about end of life care experiences and a vision for the future of hospice palliative care in Cowichan.

A definition: Good hospice palliative care is whole person care. It is based on a plan for care defined by the dying person in the context of their whole life, including physical comfort, relations with family and friends, concerns about meaning and existence. The care team may include family and friends, health professionals, home care workers and counsellors and volunteers who offer emotional and spiritual support. Hospice palliative care includes care for the bereaved.

Hospice palliative care is an approach to care, not a place. And we know that we need choices for where people will be cared for at the end of their lives, choices that are very limited in the Cowichan region.

Cowichan Valley Hospice Board Chair MaryAnn Deacon makes an invitation:

“ I hope that as many residents as possible will participate in these discussions and survey opportunities so that all of us together are able to develop the end of life care that our community needs now and into the future. Mark your calendars. Please join us.”

Dates for community meetings:

Tuesday, February 10 at Lake Cowichan Upper Hall Community Centre 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Wednesday, February 11 at Ladysmith Eagles Hall 6:30 to 9 pm

Monday, February 16 at St. John’s Anglican Church, Duncan 1:00 to 3:30pm and 6:00 to 8:30pm

Tuesday, February 17 at Shawnigan Lake Community Centre 1:00 to 3:30 pm

Thanks to *Shared Care* and *Our Cowichan Community Health Network* for funding assistance.

Unable to join us but still want to participate? The online survey will be available soon. Contact us at events.cvhs@shaw.ca.

Collective Impact Conversation

You and your organization are vital to making the Cowichan region a place where people want to live, learn, work, play, and raise their families.

You are invited to join Cowichan Board Meets Board in a dynamic and timely conversation. Learn two practical tools to develop a community-oriented approach. See the attachment for details.

[Register for the event](#)

Parliamentary motion on child poverty receives almost unanimous support (First Call)

On February 4, 2015, MP Rathika Sitsabaiesan's parliamentary Motion-534, calling on all MPs to work towards eliminating child poverty in Canada by developing a national poverty reduction plan, received almost unanimous support (with the exception of one No vote).

This is the wording of the motion:

That, in the opinion of the House, the government should work in collaboration with the provinces, territories and First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities to eradicate child poverty in Canada by developing a national poverty reduction plan that includes:

- (a) making housing more affordable for lower income Canadians
- (b) ensuring accessible and affordable child care
- (c) addressing childhood nutrition
- (d) improving economic security of families
- (e) measures that specifically address the unique needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities
- (f) measurable targets and timelines

While a parliamentary motion is not as binding as legislation, this victory is worth celebrating. Please help spread the word around through your networks and via social media.

Suggestions for tweets:

- MP vote to eliminate #childpoverty nearly unanimous in Parl b/c #Wecanfixthis #cdnpoli @Campaign2000 #bcpoli
- Time for action on #childpoverty. #WeCanFixThis and #WeHaveAPlan - Looking to all parties to release #antipoverty plans this year #cdnpoli

#WeHaveAPlan – National leadership needed to end poverty February 3, 2015, Canada without Poverty released the report Dignity for All: [A National Anti-Poverty Plan for Canada](#).

Over the past five years, the Dignity for All campaign has garnered support from 15,000 people in Canada who believe it is time for the federal government to take responsibility for this country's impoverished populations.

This plan was developed through extensive community engagement and presents the key planks of an anti-poverty plan that will make a difference in the lives of low-income people living in Canada. It calls for the federal government to immediately take action to address the immediate and long-term needs of the 1 in 7 Canadians who live in poverty.

[Find out more and sign on to end poverty in Canada](#)

Quick easy-to-do actions:

- Distribute and share the [national anti-poverty plan](#) widely. Sample tweet from our friends at Campaign 2000:

[#WeHaveAPlan](#) - But do they? National Leadership Is Needed To End [#Poverty #CndPoli](#)
<http://dignityforall.ca/FedPlan>
- Send a copy of [the plan](#) to your own MP, urging them to take action

Bill to restore the long-form census defeated by Conservative MPs ((First Call)

MP Ted Hsu's private member's bill, [Bill C-626 - An Act to Amend the Statistics Act](#), which called for the restoration of the long-form census, was defeated in Parliament on February 4, 2015. It was endorsed by [academic and business groups](#), among many others. The vote was 126 for and 147 against, with the Conservative MPs voting no and the Liberal, NDP, Green and independent MPs voting yes. [See how your MP voted](#)

The loss of the mandatory long-form census data has impacted First Call's research efforts on child and family poverty and other important issues. We urge BC residents to let their MPs know what they think of their support or opposition to this bill.

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

Send it to cindylisecchn@shaw.ca and it will be included in the weekly

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