

# NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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## COWICHAN COMMUNITIES HEALTH NETWORK

### INAUGURAL MEETING

MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup> 2010

**COWICHAN** – The inaugural meeting of the Cowichan Communities Health Network will take place Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at the New Life Community Baptist Church 1839 Tzouhalem Road, in North Cowichan, BC. “We invite everyone to come and find out about the Health Network” said Judith Gohn, Co-Chair, Cowichan Communities Health Network Planning Group.

The Health Network Planning Group has held four meetings since the fall of 2009 to help launch this new public forum on health care. The purpose of the Health Network is to create a culture of shared stewardship for health and to improve the quality of health management decisions and health services in our communities. The Planning Group has membership from a variety of local organizations within the Region including: regional and municipal governments, School District #79, First Nations and Métis, the Vancouver Island Health Authority and community organizations interested in health care in the valley.

“We are interested in working collaboratively on the health issues that face our Cowichan Communities. The March 2<sup>nd</sup> inaugural meeting will focus on introducing the new Health Network model to the Cowichan Communities. Important health issues such as the future of the Cowichan Lodge, Mental Health and Addictions, and the replacement or upgrade of the Cowichan District Hospital will be the focus of discussions at future Health Network meetings scheduled for April and June,” stated Rob Hutchins, Co-Chair, Cowichan Communities Health Network, Planning Group.

The doors open at 6 pm with an opportunity for the public to view displays from a variety of health-related committees and organizations. The Cowichan Communities Health Network Inaugural Meeting begins at 6:30pm and will end at 8:30pm

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