



환영
Karibu!
Bienvenue!
Selamat Datang!
Karibul!
Bienvenidos
Bienvenue!
 Bem-vindo!
خوش آمدید!
ようこそ!
Wilkommen!
Chao don!
歡迎!
सुआगत्त रे!
Mabuhay!

*Celebrating 30 years of promoting an Inclusive and Welcoming Community!
1979 – 2009*

Press Release

Building Relationships Across Difference: A Community Dialogue

The Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society is hosting the second community dialogue on

Saturday November 14 2009
Bowen Park Auditorium, 500 Bowen Road Nanaimo
Sign-in and refreshments: from 9:00
Dialogue 10 am to 3 pm with lunch

We invite the community to join us in dialogue, exploring the ways we can enjoy the richness that comes from relationships across difference.

“Communities are complex webs of relationships; expanding our capacity for having relationships across difference is key to transforming our community,” says Maria Gomes, Human Rights Advisor at Vancouver Island University

We are a diverse community. We live, work and play with people who are different from ourselves. We are people of different colours, of different abilities, different cultures, different incomes, with different first languages, different sexual orientations, different families, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, immigrant and Canadian born. Together we can create a community that everyone can call home.

“Snuneymuxw Territory has been multicultural for sometime. Before colonization, First Nations came to our territory. Then came the coal era and the area became more diverse. Therefore the Snuneymuxw people have been very familiar with creating relationship with people who are different from ourselves. Our people have a term ‘Nautsa mawt’ which means ‘all is one’ and that is how we have to live as a society, yes we have many different cultures in our society but at end of the day we are all one, living the four seasons, with the four winds as one,” William Yoachim, Snuneymuxw Councillor.

The Society is grateful to its community partners, the City of Nanaimo, Community Futures of Central Island, Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce, Haven Society, Nanaimo Duncan & District Labour Council, RCMP, School District 68, Snuneymuxw First Nation, United Way of Central and North Vancouver Island and Vancouver Island University, for their support of this event. This event is also made possible by funding through EmbraceBC’s Community Engagement and Dialogue, WelcomeBC and the Government of Canada.

"Dialogue is a powerful way to learn about each other. It's a conversation among peers to gain new understanding; a way of taking the energy of our differences and using it to create something new." says Joanna Ashworth, director of SFU Dialogue Programs, who has worked with many community dialogues around the province.

Participants must pre-register by November 9 2009, by contacting Terre Flower at 250-753-6911 or tflower@cvims.org

For more information, please contact Terre Flower, Diversity Program Manager.