

# STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY II REPORT

Prepared by

SOCIAL PLANNING COWICHAN

Second Edition  
January 2010







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## Letter from the Chair



Social Planning Cowichan is pleased to provide the community with Status of the Community II (2010). The Status of the Community reports are a way to track and measure our social, economic, and ecological health over many years. Using this tool as a guide, together we can build on our assets and address serious issues.

This latest addition continues to build on the legacy of Visions 2020 and the 2006 Status of the Community Report. Through the process of creating these reports we are beginning to get a better understanding of our collective accomplishments and challenges. However, we recognize that gaps in information still exist.

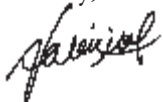
This report emphasizes how the indicators are interrelated. It suggests that our way forward will be based on continuing to strengthen the diverse and dynamic relationships among local governments, social, economic, and environmental disciplines. The indicators in this report provide a starting point for strategic planning that builds upon our strengths and addresses our most difficult challenges—affordable housing, poverty, and health care.

It is our hope that this report will be widely read and utilized by the citizens of the Cowichan Region and as a result, our community will be inspired to work collectively to achieve the original vision of “a caring, safe, prosperous, diverse, ecologically sound community that ensures opportunities for current and future generations.”<sup>1</sup> We have endeavoured to make this report informative and reflective of the community’s perspective. To ensure that we achieve this, we invite you to provide your feedback on the relevance and value of this report.

Social Planning wishes to acknowledge and sincerely thank the many community members, planners, service providers, government officials, educators, health care providers, and other researchers who participated in creating this report. The people we spoke to in all of the communities of the Cowichan Region were generous with their time, information, and insights. We hope that this report will be a useful tool for them in continuing to foster the health and well being of everyone in the Region.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to the researchers, designers, and authors of this report who dedicated countless hours to making this report a reality for our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valerie Nicol".

Valerie Nicol, Chair  
Social Planning Cowichan

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<sup>1</sup> Visions 2020 – Community Vision Statement  
<http://visions2020.cowichan.net/photos/Community%20Vision%20Statement.pdf>



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