



📅 July 2014

[www.socialplanningcowichan.org](http://www.socialplanningcowichan.org) 🏠

### In This Issue:

- \* Peace Pole Art Project Raffle
- \* 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk of the Nations
- \* 2014 Living Wage
- \* Thank you CVRHD!

Social Planning Cowichan researches, forms partnerships, creates strategies, and informs the Cowichan public about social planning issues and community well-being.

### Upcoming Events:

### Looking for Information?

Visit our webpage to download our reports including the Status of the Community Report and the Affordable Housing Strategy.  
[www.socialplanningcowichan.org](http://www.socialplanningcowichan.org)

### Contact Us:

Social Planning Cowichan  
135 Third Street



## Peace Pole Art Project Raffle

Social Planning Cowichan is excited to partner with the Peace Pole Art Project Committee to create a peace pole for the community. Joan Gillatt, the visionary behind the project describes it as follows: "I think that there is nothing more important in the world today than that we live in peace and good fellowship with all

of the world. And where does that start? Right here at home."

In support of this project, we are selling raffle tickets. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at Island Bagel or at PORTALS Gallery in Island Savings Centre. The draw date is July 12 and prizes include garden landscape design, a spa package and kayak trip. For more information, visit

[www.cowichanpeacepole.com](http://www.cowichanpeacepole.com) or to donate online, visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?charityID=s93103> or cheques can be mailed to our office. All donations are tax deductible.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk of the Nations

Duncan, BC V9L 1R9  
250-746-1004 ext 250

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Local Government Liaisons  
Kate Marsh (North Cowichan)  
Jill Dashwood (Ladysmith)  
Jayne Ingram (Lake Cowichan)  
Michelle Bell (Duncan)

Charitable Registration Number:  
86175 7581 RR0001



More than 400 people attended the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Walk of the Nations on May 31. Beginning at VIU and culminating at Centennial Park, this year's Walk was described by many as the best ever. Extra thanks to the performers, the volunteers, Save on Foods and Cowichan Community Kitchens for providing the food and to everyone who came out to celebrate our community's diversity. Next year's Walk will be May 30, 2015 – mark your calendars!

## 2014 Living Wage

Social Planning Cowichan and Volunteer Cowichan released the 2014 Living Wage for the Cowichan Region. The 2014 Living Wage was calculated at \$17.04. The Living Wage is calculated using a four person family comprised of two adults and two children, a seven year old in afterschool care and a four year old in child care as a model. The family rents a three bedroom apartment and has two cars. Calculating the living wage takes into account all the expenses faced by this family including the cost of housing, food, clothing, transportation, childcare, and health care. The largest components of the Living Wage are housing and childcare which together make up 42% of the model family's expenses. The Living Wage expresses the cost of living as the minimum hourly pay the parents in the model family would have to earn so that their wages adequately cover their monthly expenses without taking on debt, working multiple jobs or relying on assistance. For more information, visit Social Planning's website at [www.socialplanningcowichan.org](http://www.socialplanningcowichan.org)

## Thank you CVRHD!

Social Planning Cowichan and the Regional Affordable Housing Directorate would very much like to thank the Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District for their continuing support of affordable housing and homelessness prevention. The funding from the CVRHD will assist us in creating a new Affordable Housing Association and in continuing our existing programs.

Did you know?

Our Homelessness Survey showed that 60% of those who were Absolutely Homeless had been homeless for more than a year.

Social Planning Cowichan  
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