

Come Celebrate with us!

**Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society's 25 years
"Weaving Our Cultures"**

Saturday, May 15th, 11:00 to 3:00 at Bowen Park Activity Centre

PROGRAM DISPLAYS

HISTORY IN PICTURES

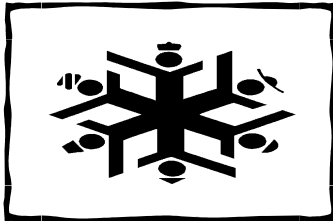
ENTERTAINMENT

FOOD, CAKE

MEET THE MEMBERS

Art Contest

Submit your artwork, in honor of our Society. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Child, Youth, Adult and Seniors. Mail or drop off your submissions at room 111, 285 Prideaux St, Nanaimo, V9R 2N2 or call 753-6911 for pick up. For more information contact the society or the Board President, Marina McLeod at marina_mcleod@yahoo.ca.



**CENTRAL VANCOUVER ISLAND
MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY**
114 - 285 Prideaux Street
Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 2N2

25th Anniversary Souvenir Program

We are developing a Souvenir Program for the 25th Anniversary celebration. If you would like to support this endeavour by purchasing space to advertise your business or convey a congratulatory message, please contact **Lemuel (716-9303)** or via email: businessdirectory@cvims.org. You may invite non-members to place an ad or a message.

CVIMS Business Directory

We are producing a Business Directory in time for the 25th Anniversary and plan to update it on a regular basis. This will include a listing and advertisements of businesses and professionals who are members of the society. We envision this to be a useful resource both for the organization and its members. For more information, contact **Tessie (390-1230)**, **Wanda (390-4005)** or **Lemuel (716-9303)** or via email: businessdirectory@cvims.org. (form is available by email or at the office from Cecilia)

Our Society's Stories

Do you have a story about what the Society has meant to you? Would you like to share it with us? We would like to include personal stories in our celebration. Please send your stories to cchong@cvims.org or drop them off to Cecilia at the office.

Volunteers needed for the 25th Anniversary Party

All members are needed to help with displays, entertainment, food stands, greeting guests and setup and take down. If you would like to become involved, please contact Cecilia at 753-6911.

Multicultural Women's Group



Thursdays
9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

This support group is open to women of all cultural backgrounds. It is a safe place for us to share our feelings and experiences, and to care for each other. Each meeting begins with stress-relieving

exercises, followed by a variety of different activities. Members also work to improve immigrant women's access to services in the community.

New members are always welcome!

On-site Childcare available.

For information, contact Cecilia at 753-6911

Multicultural Games Evening



2nd and 4th Tuesday
of every month
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Multipurpose Room
Fairview School,
2nd Street and Howard Avenue

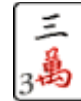
Please bring your favourite game to share.

Call: 753-6911 for more information.

Free Admission

All ages welcome

On Site Childcare available



Are you looking for a job?

Do you know someone
who is looking for a job?

WE CAN HELP!

Many people find work after
coming to the Multicultural Society for
employment assistance

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CENTRE

#109 - 285 Prideaux St. Phone: (250) 753-5503

Jobs found:

- Engineer
- Cleaner
- Web Developer
- Truck Driver
- Welder
- International Marketing

DROP-IN CENTRE

- Use of computers and High-speed Internet
- Help with resumes and cover letters
- Job Postings Board
- Photocopy, fax and message services

EMPLOYMENT COUNSELLING

- Individual and Group Sessions
- Contact with Employers
- Job interview preparation
- Access to training and education
- Assistance with evaluation of foreign credentials
- BC Internationally Trained Professionals Network

BC INTERNATIONALLY
TRAINED PROFESSIONALS
NETWORK - www.bcitp.net

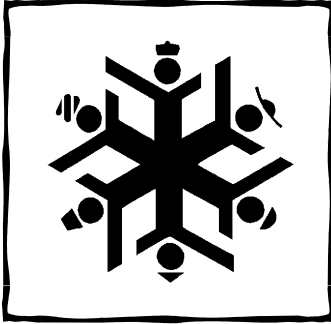


The Central Island chapter of BCITP Net meets monthly in Nanaimo. We are a group of internationally trained professionals who are working together to advance the cause of BCITP Net in the Central Vancouver Island region.

If you would like more information about the Central Island BCITP Network, please contact:

Joy Andrews, Coordinator, (250) 753-5503
jandrews@cvims.org

New Society Programs/Projects



Enhanced ELSA Levels 4 &5

The Settlement and Multiculturalism Branch of the provincial government has awarded ELSA Level 4 & 5 pilot projects to The Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society, as well as 7 other sites across the province. These classes will be focused on the language of the workplace and are intended for labour market preparation.

We will begin level 4 fulltime ELSA classes on March 29, 2004. The class will run for 12 weeks, 5 hours a day. Students must have passed the level 3 Exit Test or be assessed at level 4. All students must register before March 29.

We welcome Anne O'Brien to our staff as our ELSA 4 & 5 instructor. Anne brings 20 years experience in English language teaching all across the country from Ottawa to the Yukon; and overseas in Britain and China. Anne will sit on the Provincial Advisory Board for this ELSA pilot project.

Level 5 classes will begin in September, 2004. For assessment and registration for our Level 4 class, call Cecilia Chong at 753-6911 (ext 100).

Research Project

Through the Settlement and Multiculturalism Branch of the provincial government we are funded to conduct a three month research project to "To support the conceptualization or development of strategic Integrated Bridging Services for skilled immigrants in the Nanaimo area." This is an exciting project for us, as it will hopefully lead to further employment and job placement initiatives for skilled immigrants.

We are pleased to have Pat Robinson, former Dean of Health Services, Malaspina University-College, as the consultant on this project.

Action For Diversity Team

We have received another year of funding from Canadian Heritage to support the work of the Action for Diversity Team (ADT). The purpose of the ADT continues to be to keep diversity work in our community moving forward. It's members will be supporting diversity organizational change in community agencies. They will be encouraging organizations, institutions and businesses to become Partners for an inclusive community by signing on the community-based response protocols to racism and hate. They also will be working with businesses and agencies that are committed to become Safe Harbour locations. For information about these and other initiatives, please check out the web site at www.diversityteam.org. To get involved, contact Terre at 753-6911 (ext 102).

On the Horizon

We have been invited to submit a proposal to The Queen Alexandra Foundation, to provide Parenting Classes and Family Counseling Services for immigrants. If successful, this 2 year program will begin by the fall of 2004.



Sunday, March 21st— A community celebration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



1:00 to 4:00, John Barsby Community School
Multipurpose Room, 550 7th Street

Telling our community stories with Playback Theatre
Honouring those businesses, organizations and agencies
that have become Partners for an Inclusive Community
Celebrating our community taking a stand against
racism and hate

With videos, displays and refreshments

Sponsored by the Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society, Partners for an Inclusive Community and the Action for Diversity Team

With funding from Canadian Heritage, BC Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and members of our community.

The Nanaimo Foundation Grant

The Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society gratefully acknowledges the \$8,600 grant to purchase a new telephone system and new furniture for the daycare centre.

Founded in 1982 by the Nanaimo Branch of The Associated Canadian Travellers, the Foundation has granted more than \$600,000 to help make our community a better place for all to live. Organizations have received from \$500 to \$75,000 in grants. Donations to the Nanaimo Community Foundation can be made in many ways. Usually gifts are bequests of money or assets in a will. However, the Foundation will gratefully accept gifts made during the life of the donor. All donations are held in perpetuity; only the interest is spent on worthwhile community projects.

Thank you Nanaimo Foundation, for supporting our community project!



English Classes Adults (ELSA)

Part-time classes are held on Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 p.m.

(*On-site Childcare is available for parents with pre-school children during class time.)

Full-time class are held from Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 2:15 p.m.

For more information or to register, contact Cecilia Chong at (250) 753-6911.



Enhanced ELSA: English for Work and Business

Starts March 29th for 12 weeks

Full-time, Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 2:30

Would-be students will be assessed before being enrolled in the class.

For more information or to book an assessment, contact Cecilia Chong at (250) 753-6911 as soon as possible