

For Immediate Release

The Diversity Partnership: A Community in Action

The Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society is hosting the signing of a memorandum of understanding to create The Diversity Partnership: A Community in Action on Thursday, January 14 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Nanaimo City Hall Board Room.

The Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society, City of Nanaimo, Community Futures Central Island, Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce, Haven Society, Nanaimo Duncan & District Labour Council, RCMP, Nanaimo Detachment, School District #68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith), Snuneymuxw First Nation, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island and Vancouver Island University will formalize their commitment to envisioning a community that is welcoming and inclusive where individuals and communities feel respected and diversity is celebrated.

The purpose of the Partnership is to enhance the capacity of the Nanaimo community to be welcoming and inclusive by:

- Encouraging and supporting multi-sector collaboration.
- Facilitating an effective flow of information about programs, projects, tools, as well as education and training.
- Providing relevant knowledge-based leadership
- Using an innovative solution based process.
- Providing a focal point for diversity initiatives
- Creating opportunities for community engagement and input.

Those signing the MOU will include John Ruttan, Mayor of Nanaimo, Jeff Lott, Superintendent, Nanaimo Detachment, RCMP, Donna Allan, Chair of the Board of School District 68, Doug White III, Chief of the Snuneymuxw Nation and Ralph Nilson, President and Vice-Chancellor of Vancouver Island University as well as representatives from the other community partners. Jean Crowder, MP Nanaimo - Cowichan and Leonard Krog, MLA, Nanaimo will join with others as witnesses to the signing.

“The Multicultural Society has been actively promoting diversity for over 30 years. Our accomplishments have been made possible because of the commitment and involvement of our community partners. By signing this memorandum, we are formalizing this partnership with a view to the future,” says Hilde Schlosar, Executive Director of the Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society (CVIMS).

For more information, contact Terre Flower, Diversity Program Manager, CVIMS at 250-753-6911 ext 3 or tflower@cvims.org