

2016 Grants Listing Island Savings Community Endowment

Organization Name	Project Name	Community	Grant Amount
Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society in Partnership with Mid Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society	Cowichan Shoreline Steward Project	Lake Cowichan	\$4,000
<p>This project engages the youth, the students and community members who live on or near the water about the importance of rebuilding or maintaining a healthy, natural and bio-diverse waterfront. As a direct result of the involvement of the Education Committee of CLRSS, Lake Cowichan School now has “lake studies” built into their program from Grades 1-12 and volunteer to assist in waterfront restoration, water monitoring and water sampling as part of their education. Each year students are hired for this Cowichan Shoreline Steward Project to give them hands on environmental work experience. An Environmental Studies bursary is now in place for students continuing their education.</p>			
Pender Island Child Care Society	Healthy Families, Healthy Children	Pender Island	\$2,700
<p>In response to survey results that indicate Pender families need additional supports to ensure the best for their families, this program is to offer three parenting programs: 6 week Health & Nutrition, 6 week Parenting Program, and 20 week bi-monthly parent support group. These programs will address the issues of family health and nutrition and educate and support parents by increasing their knowledge and understanding of their child’s health, safety and behavior. The goal is to improve parents’ confidence and coping skills and to increase self-help and mutual support among parents.</p>			
Ladysmith Resources Centre Association	Information Sessions for Seniors	Ladysmith, Regional District of Nanaimo	\$4,000
<p>Project goal is to empower seniors to remain in their homes as long as possible by providing advocacy, education, assistance, and support. Grant funding is to cover the costs of 10 information sessions that promote awareness of services available to seniors and their families. This education contributes to the senior’s emotional, physical and mental resilience during the challenges of aging, ensuring their ability to remain in their home as long as possible.</p>			
Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society	New Beginnings Vocational Development	Salt Spring Island, Southern Gulf Islands	\$5,000
<p>Program is to run a 16 session job readiness program for adults with barriers to finding and keeping employment in the general work force. The program is for adults with disabilities, mental health challenges, or other significant employment barriers involved with SSI Community Services who are motivated to return to paid work, volunteer work and/or education. The sessions will focus on personal goal setting, aptitude assessment, communications skills, job search, life skills, personal and financial planning, job market, and personal growth and support needs.</p>			
Cowichan Community Land Trust (Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre)	Experience the Estuary: School Programs for youth	Mill Bay, Duncan, Lake Cowichan, Chemainus, Ladysmith, Duncan	\$5,000
<p>Funding to run nature-based school programs for children preschool through to grade 12 in Cowichan Bay from March to June, and September to November 2016 and beyond. The Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre is one of the primary accessible locations for local residents, families, and visitors to learn about estuaries, the ocean, and marine habitats in the Lower Vancouver Island area.</p>			

2016 Grant Distributions
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Growing Together Child and Parent Society	Growing Together Indigenous Garden Education Project	Duncan, Cowichan Valley	\$4,000
Funding for ten raised garden beds built and then planted with traditional indigenous plants (including vegetables, berries, and edible flowers) by young parent, ministry-referred and other families at Growing Together Child Care Centre in Duncan with the support of educators/caregivers, teachers, volunteers, and other community members. The plants would be tended to, harvested, and prepared for eating by young parent, ministry-referred and other families with the same supports in place. This project would contribute to the children and families' health and well-being, nutritional knowledge, parents' ability to feed their families with healthy and culturally-relevant foods, sense of belonging and community, and overall capacity as parents.			
Literacy Now Cowichan Society	Pathways to Learning	Ladysmith, Mill Bay, Lake Cowichan, Chemainus, Duncan	\$4,000
Funding to support the ongoing, growing community adult literacy program. The program serves approximately 250+ adult learners from the Cowichan Region each year with free one-to-one literacy lessons with a highly trained volunteer tutor. Learners come with literacy needs in areas such as reading, writing, spelling, math, digital literacy, workplace and essential skills and work with the tutor to achieve their learning goals. While working on their goals we find that learners experience a rapid rise in self-confidence and the courage to move onto the next phase of their life goals.			
Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society	Wildlife in Schools	Duncan, Chemainus, District of Saanich	\$2,100
Funding to provide low income school children and youth at risk with free in-school wildlife education programs. The programs are designed to teach children about local wildlife and environmental stewardship, encouraging respect for and understanding of wildlife. Programs are aimed to give this demographic an opportunity to connect with wildlife and the environment, inspiring a future generation of environmental leaders.			
SeaChange Marine Conservation Society	EcoRowing in Tod Inlet	Brentwood Bay	\$4,500
Educational environmental interactive program in Tod Inlet, Brentwood Bay for 900 elementary and middle school youth (ages 9-13). The majority of the students participating in EcoRowing are from economically disadvantaged communities, and a large percentage is of First Nations heritage. Young people will learn first-hand the joy of canoeing on the calm waters of the inlet, learn about First Nations harvesting and uses of native plants and learn ways to care for the inlet through hands on water quality testing and observations of the marine life of Tod Inlet. They will learn new skills such as boating, native plant restoration methods and marine science. Program goal is to engage and motivate young people to discover the wonders of the natural world - estuary, forest and stream and for them to ways to connect in their own community of Brentwood Bay and the Saanich Peninsula with local land and marine stewardship activities.			
Nanaimo Region John Howard Society	Restorative Justice Youth Mentoring Program	Nanaimo, Ladysmith	\$5,500

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<p>Funding to run the Restorative Justice Youth Mentoring Program during the next fiscal year (April 1 2016 - March 31 2017) for up to 60 youth aged 13-18 in Nanaimo who have committed a crime and have been referred to our Restorative Justice Program. The program will match participants with mentors who will increase meaningful volunteerism, enhance employment opportunities, and help youth realize educational goals. Mentors will be trained in mental health, suicide prevention, addiction, and risk factors associated with criminality in order to ethically and appropriately support participants.</p>			
Nanaimo Science and Sustainability Society	Citizen Science: Intertidal Monitoring	Nanaimo, Ladysmith	\$5,000
<p>Funds to support an ongoing citizen science project that connects grade 5 students with the local environment and local scientists, supports grade 5 science curricula, and gives students the opportunity to participate in hands-on research through an intertidal sampling program monitoring an introduced species at Departure Bay Beach, Nanaimo. The program will be offered to all grade 5 students in the Nanaimo/Ladysmith school district (SD68) during the 2016/17 school year.</p>			
Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society	Bellies to Babies and Beyond	Nanaimo, Cedar	\$4,000
<p>Bellies to Babies and Beyond is a 10 week cooking and skill building program for pregnant women, first time parents and young families who are economically challenged in Nanaimo. Participants learn about healthy lifestyles for pregnancy and infancy, community supports, and each week prepare a meal to fit their family size. Upon completion they receive our cookbook and a binder with recipes and nutrition information. When parents commit to looking at what they are doing well and what needs to change for baby's health they are setting the table for the future.</p>			

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Nanaimo Disability Resource Centre Society	Computer Literacy Outreach for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities	Nanaimo, Cedar	\$2,200
16 week FREE computer literacy programs for seniors and adults with disabilities, serving 8-10 people. Basic computer and social media skills reduce isolation by enabling people to communicate with friends and family, and to participate in local and online communities. The ability to pay bills online, book appointments, and search for information or work/volunteer opportunities builds confidence and enhances independence. Classes will be held at public libraries to increase public access. Those who don't own computers learn to use public-access computers.			
Crisis Intervention and Public Information Society of Greater Victoria (Need2 Society)	Mindfulness in Middle Schools	Victoria, District of Saanich	\$4,000
Funding to provide a six session mindfulness program for Grade 6 -7 students in 6 middle schools across the three school districts in Greater Victoria in both school terms in the 2016-17 school year for a total of twelve classes. The program engages youth, providing practical coping tools to handle and minimize stress and to improve overall mental health--positively impacting future outcomes.			
Burnside Gorge Community Association	Family Self Sufficiency	Victoria	\$5,000
FSS is an innovative and comprehensive three-year asset building and financial literacy program for up to 75 low income families receiving housing subsidy within the Capital Region. With coaching and support, participants develop financial literacy skills, set financial and personal goals and create action plans to meet those goals. Participants are able to track their progress and adjust their plans as needed. Families strengthen their capacity to provide a more stable and healthy lifestyle for their children. The program can be transformative for participants, impacting future generations and potentially changing the pattern and cycle of poverty.			
The OCTA Collective Society	artsREACH After-School Program	Victoria, Capital Regional District	\$4,000
The artsREACH After-School program starts October 2016 for the 2016/2017 school year for children in grades 4-8. Each workshop provides six weekly 90-minute sessions of professional instruction in theatre or the visual arts, or eight weekly sessions in filmmaking, allowing for a more in-depth arts experience. ArtsREACH provides the benefits of creative expression, collaborative group work, and individual skill development, all of which contribute to increased self-esteem and confidence in school, at home, and in the community.			
LifeCycles Project Society	Growing Communities - Food Literacy Workshops	Victoria, District of Saanich	\$5,000
Our Growing Communities program builds food literacy skills for vulnerable and food insecure individuals. The program will provide 80 hands-on workshops to 800 individuals in Victoria and Saanich. It will distribute 4,000 plants, and provide 50 volunteer mentorship/training hours and 300 in-kind volunteer hours. The growing communities project will run from May to October 2016, providing services in partnership with local libraries, food banks, social housing communities, and community gardens. This program will teach hands-on food growing, seed saving, harvesting, and food preparation and preservation skills.			

