

Comox Valley Literacy Now
Community Literacy Plan Implementation Process
April 2010

The Comox Valley Literacy Now Committee is a group of community members and organizations that work to increase awareness and promote literacy. We use the concept of life-long and life-wide learning as an organizing principle and social goal as the learning resources of all sectors of our community (civic, economic, public, education, and voluntary) are mobilized to foster environmentally sustainable economic development and social inclusion (*Ron Faris*).

Our Strategic Plan of 2009 identified three priorities:

- (1) Provide or enhance literacy and learning opportunities for **youth in transition** into adulthood, post-secondary education and the workplace (approximately aged 15-25 years)
- (2) Provide or enhance literacy and learning opportunities related to employability of **unemployed and underemployed people**
- (3) Provide or enhance literacy and learning opportunities for **isolated and vulnerable families and parents**

The CVLN Steering Committee will allocate \$10000 to each of these three priorities. We will address each priority through co-development process. Co-development involves bringing together organizations/individuals whose mandates or interests include one or more of these priorities to collaboratively and cooperatively make decisions on the action that best addresses the priority.

A hypothetical example: youth organizations recognized that they needed a resource person to work with youth at risk. These organizations came together and decided that the best way to address this issue was to hire a youth outreach worker. The youth organizations created this position and each contributed to the ongoing support and guidance on the youth outreach worker. One organization held the contract, another donated space, and another committed the funds (Literacy Now).

The CVLN Steering Committee will begin the co-development process with the first priority (isolated and vulnerable families and parents). Beginning in May 2010, CVLN will hold planning meetings to enlist key players to begin working together. CVLN does recognize that networks currently exist for each priority. These include:

- (1) EYIAC and family literacy organizations (ALC and SD71)
- (2) Frontline Youth Workers and CAVE
- (3) Agencies currently delivering workplace literacy programs include Family Services, Job Shop, Transition Society, NIC, SD71

Timeline:

- May 2010: Initial meeting – priority (1)
- June/July 2010: Continued discussions, develop processes, etc.
- September 2010: Begin priority (1) project
Initial meeting for priority (2)
- October /Nov 2010: Continued discussions, develop processes, etc. for priority (2)
Priority (1) ongoing
- January 2011: Begin priority (2) project
Initial meeting for priority (3)
- Feb/March 2011: Continued discussions, develop processes, etc. for priority (3)
Priority (1) ongoing
Priority (2) ongoing
- April 2011: Begin priority (3) project