

News Release

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CVRD approves MOU to accommodate youth services in Cowichan Community Centre

Duncan, BC – The Cowichan Valley Regional District has approved a project to revitalize the former Aquannis Centre wing of the Cowichan Community Centre.

At its regular Board meeting this week, the CVRD decided to move forward on signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cowichan Valley Youth Services that would allow for renovations to accommodate the organization as a new tenant while maintaining existing recreation services. The MOU provides a framework for financial contribution to each stage of the revitalization project, including concept and detailed design and construction.

“This MOU will be the foundation to create a long-term agreement that will enable us to work with Cowichan Valley Youth Services to ensure they have adequate space to deliver programming for youth and families in our communities,” said Ian Morrison, Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. “We view this as a solid step towards increasing the services available in the Cowichan Community Centre.”

In 2017 the Cowichan Community Centre Commission conducted community consultation to evaluate programming and gauge interest in added services, leading to a request from Cowichan Valley Youth Services for space that came with a commitment to fund tenant improvements.

“We are very excited about the signing of the MOU and appreciate all the support we have received from the various local government commissions and CVRD Board,” said Michelle Bell, Executive Director of Cowichan Valley Youth Services. “Investing in health and well-being of our youth is investing in our community’s future. With a MOU in place, we can now move forward with the fundraising for the building revitalization.”

The next step in the revitalization project will be drafting a project agreement and concept design, which will determine overall cost and how funds will flow in each stage of the project.

- 30 -

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