

Today the Comox Valley Community Foundation is proudly distributing \$395,942 in grants to 49 organizations who build and protect our community by providing programming and services in support of food security, children and youth, seniors, the environment, arts and culture, adults with diverse-abilities, and housing security. Read on to learn more...

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO BASIC NEEDS

As a community, we are in crisis when it comes to housing affordability and rising poverty. 5,830<sup>[1]</sup> citizens are facing poverty and food insecurity, 36%<sup>[1]</sup> of children in lone parent households live in poverty, while over 130<sup>[2]</sup> people are experiencing outright homelessness. Comox Valley Community Foundation is committed to **IMPROVING** access to basic needs, **ACCELERATING** solutions for food systems, poverty, housing affordability, and homelessness, and **OFFERING HELP** to those who are struggling now through grants to organizations such as LUSH Valley Food Action Society, Cumberland Community School Society, Sunday Station Society, Comox Valley Head Injury Society, Hornby Island Housing Society, Comox Valley Affordable Housing Society, and St. John the Divine Anglican Church.

[1] Statistics Canada 2020. Table 11-10-0018-01. GEO ID 943.

[2] Homelessness Services Association of BC. bchousing.org.

## REMOVING BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

Easy access to arts, culture, sports and recreation all significantly contribute to why the Comox Valley consistently ranks among Canada's best places to live and play. But access for all is not guaranteed and that is where Comox Valley Community Foundation comes in. Through grants to organizations such as Vancouver Island Society for Adapted Snowsports, Comox Valley Therapeutic Riding, Hornby Island Arts Council, Denman Island Community Education Society, Courtenay Recreation Adapted Programs, Comox Valley Transition Society, and the Comox Valley Community Arts Council, we are working to **MAKE** art and culture accessible, **CULTIVATE** access and belonging, **CREATE** connection for citizens of all abilities and backgrounds, and **OFFER** children and youth their best start in life.

## PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Our natural environment is simply spectacular but requires our immediate attention as we experience ever-more frequent and more powerful climate events. To strengthen and expand granting to this vital cause, Comox Valley Community Foundation (CVCF) prioritized and allocated funding to aid environmental education, protection, and conservation efforts for 2023. With CVCF's support, Beaufort Watershed Stewards, Comox Valley Conservation Partnership, Cumberland Community Forest Society, Project Watershed, Denman Island Conservancy Association, and Tsolum River Restoration Society are working to **PROMOTE** sustainable lifestyles, **ADVANCE** efforts towards climate resilience, and **PROTECT** water, land, and animals.

Photo credits L-R: Cumberland Community Schools Society, Zsofin Sheehy, Kerry Dawson



	PROJECT	GRANT AMOUNT
<b>HOUSING INSECURITY</b>		
Comox Valley Affordable Housing Society	Regional Rent Bank	\$6,000
Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness	Coordination & operations support	\$25,000
Comox Valley Head Injury Society	Client housing supports	\$40,000
Hornby Island Housing Society	Community Housing Strategy	\$4,000
Parish of St. John the Divine Anglican Church	Emergency Weather Response (EWR) shelter	\$21,000
<b>ADULTS WITH DIVERSE-ABILITIES PROGRAMMING</b>		
Beaufort Association for Inclusion in Action	Program funding	\$5,300
Comox Recreation	Comox Connections, an evening social program	\$900
Comox Valley Child Development Association	Project Inclusion camp experience	\$3,300
Comox Valley Therapeutic Riding Society	Rider fees for Trailblazer program	\$6,000
Courtenay Recreation Adaptive Programs	Program funding	\$19,500
L'Arche Comox Valley	I Belong Centre programming	\$5,500
Special Olympics	Athlete program costs	\$4,000
Vancouver Island Society for Adaptive Snowsports	Equipment and program costs	\$5,500
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION</b>		
Beaufort Watershed Stewards	Purchase of Imaging Software	\$1,000
Comox Valley Conservation Partnership	Nature Without Borders update	\$13,000
Comox Valley Nature	Comox Valley Nature Viewing Guide	\$1,900
Cumberland Community Forest Society	Forest in the Village project	\$6,000
Denman Conservancy Association	Pathways to Reconciliation	\$3,000
MARS Wildlife Rescue	Invasives removal tool lending library	\$2,550
Millard Piercy Watershed Stewards	Replacement of water monitoring equipment	\$5,791
Morrison Creek Streamkeepers	Educational signage	\$3,850
Project Watershed	Community Water Monitoring Initiative	\$12,050
Tsolum River Restoration Society	Eyes on the River & Watershed Health	\$3,000
<b>FOOD SECURITY &amp; FOOD SYSTEMS</b>		
Comox Pentecostal Church	Community garden expansion	\$10,500
Comox Valley Head Injury Society	Healthy food program	\$11,565
Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation	Hospital to Transition suites food program	\$2,500
Cumberland Community Schools Society	Cumberland Food Share program	\$10,000
Farm to Family Meals Service Society	Farm to Family Green Team	\$2,500
Glacier View Lodge Society	Nutritious meals for low-income caregivers	\$7,325
Hornby Island Farmland Trust Society	Garden expansion, electricity & water	\$5,000
LUSH Valley Food Action Society	Food Access programs	\$13,500
Salvation Army Comox Valley Ministries	Christmas Hamper program	\$8,000
St. George's United Church	Sonshine Lunch Club	\$2,000
Sunday Station Society	Weekly Sunday meal service	\$8,000
<b>MENTAL HEALTH &amp; CONNECTION</b>		
Boys & Girls Club Central Vancouver Island	Comox Valley out of school care program	\$5,000
Comox Valley Transition Society	Darry's Place Playground	\$10,000
Denman Island Community Education Society	Reconnecting after COVID programming	\$5,000
Eureka Support Society	Outreach & food security programs	\$10,000
Hornby & Denman Community Health Care Society	Access to mental wellness supports	\$4,620
Hornby Island Education Society	Friday night teen drop-in program	\$10,000
Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association	Emergency generator trailer	\$1,500
Lake Trail Community Education Society	Expanded programming & outreach	\$8,500
<b>INDIGENOUS LED OR BENEFITTING INITIATIVES</b>		
Hornby Island Arts Council	Indigenous Peoples Month 2023	\$10,000
Indigenous Women's Sharing Society	Programming & food security support	\$10,000
K'ómoks First Nation Community Wellness	Clothing & supplies drive	\$1,500
<b>ARTS, CULTURE &amp; HERITAGE</b>		
Comox Valley Community Arts Council	Operational funding	\$6,250
Hornby Island Education Society	Bruce Fairbairn Bursary	\$2,000
Old Church Theatre Society	Operational funding	\$8,201
Sid Williams Theatre Society	Accessibility improvements	\$7,500
Weird Church Cumberland	Accessibility improvements	\$17,000

## OUR THANKS

Today's grants are made possible thanks to many families, businesses, and organizations who have established funds that supply Comox Valley's community grants each year, forever. On behalf of all recipients and our entire community...THANK YOU!

Since 1996, your gifts through the Comox Valley Community Foundation have created more than \$5.75 million in funding grants and supported over 170 organizations that make the Comox Valley a better place to live every day. Join us and become a change-maker in your community today.

## CONTACT US

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