



Name of Chapter: Comox Valley ARNBC (CVARNBC)

Region: Comox Valley, Vancouver Island, includes Courtenay, Comox and Cumberland and from Hornby and Denman Islands north to Oyster River

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About Us: We are a group of actively practicing as well as student and retired nurses from a variety of workplaces and backgrounds. We are committed to professional development and engaging with local citizens and leaders to advocate and contribute nurses' voice to policy development in order to improve the health of our community. We meet monthly. Every second month we have a guest speaker who speaks about health issues or initiatives in our community. The members of the network determine the guest speakers.

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Summary of Key Activities:

- Formed a Political Action Committee to address lack of housing and primary health care for Seniors in our community. Some of our recent actions include:
 - Public education campaigns about homelessness in the CV during the 2014 municipal election and during the 2015 CV Regional District Homelessness Supports Services referendum. The referendum passed and CV is now in the third year of collecting a tax to build additional housing.
 - Meeting regularly with community, municipal, provincial and federal leaders to advocate for continued action on ending homelessness and risk-of homelessness.
 - The CVARNBC was instrumental in the creation of the CV Coalition to End Homelessness formed in 2015 and we continue to actively participate in the coalition
 - Preparing briefing notes on Housing and the need to renew the Health Accord for federal candidates in the 2015 election
 - Hosting an Issues Workshop on Seniors Care and advocated with local MP, MLA and Health Authority staff to improve access to primary care and residential care for seniors
 - Currently taking a leadership role to collaborate with multiple agencies/networks and citizens in the community to plan for a Community Health Network to address Social Determinants of Health in the CV
- We also participate in ARNBC and BCCNA initiatives such as the ARNBC AGM; Day at the Legislature, BCCNA Policy forums, Awards of Excellence and the IGNITE program