

Regional Forum on Vancouver Island

Community members from across Vancouver Island gathered at Providence Farm near Duncan in November for a one-day forum entitled “Connecting the Dots: Enhancing our Capacity for Healthy Communities on Vancouver Island.” The event, jointly sponsored by SPARC BC and BC Healthy Communities, attracted over sixty participants.

The day included presentations on the BC Healthy Communities approach as well as workshops on a variety of topics including integrated

capacity building, working with municipal governments, and collaborative leadership. An afternoon session utilized a Conversation Café model to support participants in generating new ideas and perspectives on issues facing their communities.

Further forums of this type are being planned in the New Year for the Vancouver Coastal Health Region and the Fraser Health Region. Contact gtong@sparc.bc.ca if you wish to learn more details about these upcoming events. ■

CSPN BC Focuses on the Municipal Roles in Supporting Social Planning

CSPN BC held its annual strategic planning steering meeting in November. Steering Committee members developed a strategic plan emphasizing the role that municipal governments play in social planning. Upcoming activities include:

- Regional forums in Vancouver Coastal and Fraser health regions as well as a regional conference for social planning organizations in the North and Interior health regions.
- A motion calling on the provincial government to provide funding for local social planning initiatives for presentation to the UBCM convention in Fall 2007.
- A provincial social planning forum for the spring of 2008 to support local social planning organizations in getting social planning on the agenda for the next round of municipal elections.



The CSPN BC Team (L–R): Steering Committee members, Nancy Henderson (SPARC BC), Cheryl McKeever (Community Development Society, Tri-Cities), Lynn Florey (Prince George Community Planning Council), Bunny Shannon (Comox Valley Social Planning Council), Rona Parks (Castlegar and District Community Services) and CSPN Administrators, Frances Tang-Graham and Jim Sands (SPARC BC).