

Mayor Marc Lefebvre has proclaimed the following for the City of Parksville in October.

International Day of Older Persons – October 1

International Day of Older Persons is an occasion for Canadians to celebrate and appreciate seniors. In 1990, the United Nations proclaimed this day in recognition of the contributions of older persons to our society and utilized the proclamation to examine issues which affect their lives. The Council of Senior Citizens' organizations of BC (COSCO) is the largest non-profit federation of 85 seniors' groups in BC. www.coscobic.org

We can all think of a senior who has made a difference in our lives. They are mentors, teachers, grandparents and loved ones. They are volunteers and role models. Every day, seniors in Parksville make a big difference in our community. Seniors have leadership abilities, energy and skills that can benefit us all.

Community Inclusion Month

October is "Community Inclusion Month" in Parksville which celebrates the achievements of people with developmental disabilities, including independent living, workplace accomplishments as well as community and social participation. Community Living Month also recognizes the hard work of individuals, families and community members to create inclusive communities and opportunities for all residents with developmental disabilities. The month is acknowledged annually by the province to raise public and community awareness about the skills and abilities adults with developmental disabilities and their families can bring to community and the work and support municipalities provide to help build more inclusive communities.

IPS has many activities and events planned for the community in October; a dance on October 6 at the Parksville Legion Hall to kick off the Community Inclusion celebrations; on October 19 IPS will host a Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce business-after-business meeting and participants and staff are planning a Halloween dance at IPS for the end of October. More information is available at www.inclusionpv.org

United Way Month

Since 1958 the United Way of Central and Northern Vancouver Island has sought to stimulate community involvement in the improvement of social conditions. The United Way supports health and social programs that improve the quality of life and focuses on three key objectives which help kids grow up healthy, safe and strong; support healthy people and strong communities; and move from poverty to possibility.

The United Way campaign, important to our community, exemplifies the idea of community health because donations remain in our community and are distributed to social programs which support everyone. "Impact councils" comprised of local volunteers with experience in homelessness, early childhood development, domestic health and other social issues review funding applications and make recommendations. United Way provides funding to non-profit agencies in central Vancouver Island; such as Errington Therapeutic Riding Association, the Boys & Girls Club of Central Vancouver Island, the Parent Support Services Society of BC and the Vancouver Island Crisis Society. <http://www.uwcnvi.ca/>.

For more information:

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