

Connector

March-April 2024

2023-24 CVEC EXECUTIVE

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Executive Message

By CVEC Volunteer Support Committee

This Fall the Comox Valley ElderCollege (CVEC) will celebrate its silver anniversary. Throughout these past 25 years, CVEC has undergone many changes. From an initial modest offering of four courses and a roster of 100 members, we now offer 60+ courses and have over 1000 members. Where lessons were once hand-written on a white-board, our course leaders now use various technologies such as PowerPoint, videos and, most recently, Zoom to enhance our learning experience.

The one constant throughout this journey of success has been the incredible members who have volunteered their time to help run CVEC. The Comox Valley has always been fortunate to have a large variety of people with a wide range of skills and experience. CVEC has provided a rewarding opportunity for these individuals to use their skills and experience to provide educational opportunities to older adults within our community.

Achieving this level of success has not been an easy proposition. That said, CVEC cannot rest on its laurels. If the next 25 years is to mirror, or perhaps even exceed, the level of success of the first 25, CVEC needs your help. We need your contribution, however limited, to help CVEC continue to thrive.

If you want to ensure the availability of these wonderful learning opportunities, please go to the North Island College website, <http://www.nic.bc.ca/CVEC>, and click on Comox Valley ElderCollege to complete a volunteer form. With your help, our future members will be able to celebrate CVEC's Golden Anniversary.



Last Minute Course Options

Still an opportunity for some courses this term!

For those of us who like to leave it until the last minute to sign up for courses, ElderCollege still has space (at time of writing) for the following two lectures and one course.

From Sacred Travel to Tourism in Bhutan
Saturday, March 16 from 10 am to 12 noon
[CVEC-9015-CVS1](#)

Lecturer Darrell Tomkins had the privilege of visiting Bhutan when the remote mystical kingdom opened to admit strictly controlled



travellers. However, over a six-year period from 2005 to 2011, she saw sacred travel transformed into a tourist industry. Today tourism and hydroelectricity are two of the most important sources of foreign exchange earnings in Bhutan. The distinction between traveller and tourist is not always simple.

Servas: Travelling Towards World Peace
Saturday, March 23 from 10 am to 12 noon
[CVEC-9016-CVS1](#)

Servas is an international, not-for-profit organization started shortly after World War II in the belief that encouraging people to host or stay with people from other countries helps to build friendships, understanding, and dialogue through sharing of culture, foods, and local attractions. It was hoped this



shared affinity might help prevent repetition of the horrors of war that had just enveloped the world. Lecturers Rod and Evelyn Keith share their experiences.

Roses! Roses! Roses!
Tuesday, April 2 from 10:30 am to 12 noon
[CVEC-7850-DLS1](#)

This Zoom presentation with Dianne Volrich and Roland Semjanovs ranges through the centuries of finding, developing, and nurturing varieties of blooms to the current art of breeding and marketing roses. The presenters will also touch on plant care in their garden, known as Silverlea, in Fanny Bay, where they have 100 varieties. The presentation includes images of some of the world's most famous and loved roses.



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Follow us, Like us, and Share posts. Help us get the word out about upcoming events, course announcements and opportunities for diverse, vibrant and affordable education for adults 55+.



Every Moment Matters

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week, April 14-20, 2024, is a time to celebrate and thank Canada's 24 million volunteers.

The theme for National Volunteer Week highlights the importance of every volunteer and each contribution they make at a moment when we need support more than ever. The sharing of time, skills, empathy, and creativity is vital to the inclusivity, strength, and well-being of our communities.

Volunteers are fundamental to meeting this challenging moment. By coming together, committing support, and increasing our collective efforts and impact, we contribute exponentially to the quality of life we all strive for.

During National Volunteer Week 2024, we come together to recognize and celebrate the importance of each and every volunteer's impact from coast to coast to coast. Now more than ever, Every Moment Matters.

Source: [Volunteer Canada](#)

*Do your little bit of good where you are;
it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.*

– Desmond Tutu –

Mark Your Calendar

March 29

Good Friday (NIC closed)

April 1

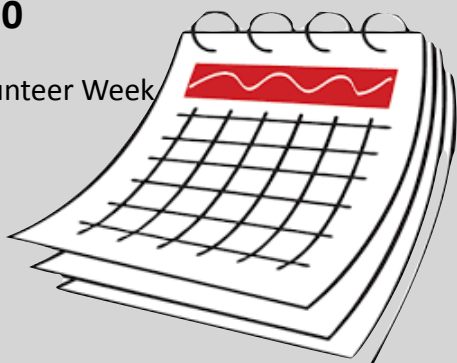
Easter Monday (NIC closed)

April 14-20

National Volunteer Week

May 11

CVEC AGM



Volunteer Opportunities

CVEC is run entirely by volunteers. In order to sustain our success, we need individuals to lend their skills and experience. If you are interested in helping chart the future course of CVEC, we would love to speak with you. Please go to the Volunteer page at www.nic.bc.ca/CVEC.

Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator

As a valued member of the Volunteer Support Committee (VSC), this individual coordinates CVEC's activities directed to the identification and the recruitment of our volunteers. The coordinator has the opportunity to interact with the chairs of all the CVEC committees to ascertain their volunteer needs, as well as with potential volunteers. If you enjoy dealing with people, please consider becoming part of the VSC team.

Volunteer Musings

