

DATE: October 5, 2017**FILE:** 4900-01**TO:** Chair and Directors
Committee of the Whole**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer**R. Dyson****RE:** Potential Participation in a Community Health Network in the Comox Valley

Purpose

Provide an update to the board on the potential participation in a Community Health Network in the Comox Valley.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

THAT the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) continue working with Island Health and the planning committee to:

- determine community interest and benefits;
- confirm the potential costs and support requirement of the CVRD to sustain a Community Health Network;
- determine program deliverables and outcomes relevant to CVRD services;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Committee of the Whole on options and implications regarding the establishment of a Comox Valley Community Health Network.

Executive Summary

The General Manager of Community Services has been contacted by Analisa Blake MA MCIP | Project Manager: Food Security, Healthy Lifestyles & Community Health Networks | Island Health to determine the Comox Valley Regional District's (CVRD) interest in establishing a Community Health Network (CHN). The purpose of CHNs is to bring together people from a wide variety of sectors to collaborate with the goal to positively influence health and wellbeing in their communities through:

- Addressing a wide range of social determinants of health (e.g. transportation, early child development, housing, income, education, social supports, environment, etc.);
- Creating a forum for communities to identify, prioritize, and take action to make improvements;
- Focuses on areas for change that require the involvement of multiple groups, organizations or sectors to develop and implement solutions.

The general concepts of a CHN have been discussed with the Executive Management Team with the intent of gathering further information to determine the viability of this program and the possible costs and implications to the CVRD. CVRD staff have continued to work with Island Health and a small planning committee headed up by Comox Valley resident Betty Tate. This group has been exploring the potential for a CHN in the Comox Valley and presented to the CVRD board on September 12, 2017. In addition they held a mapping meeting of existing work in community on September 19, 2017. On November 16, 2017 a community wide forum on CHN will be hosted by this group and the CVRD Directors have been invited to attend this forum.

Prepared by:

T. Ian Smith

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General Manager of Community Services