PLEASE POST

Community Social Services Awareness Month proclaimed across B.C.

The campaign to raise awareness of the importance of community-based social services is being supported across B.C., with 30 municipalities passing resolutions declaring March as Community Social Services Awareness Month.

City councils have recognized that community social services "help improve the quality of life for everyone" and that "greater recognition and understanding of the critical role these services play in our communities is needed to ensure their continued availability and improvement."

Declarations supporting March as Community Social Services Awareness Month have been passed by Burnaby, Central Saanich, City of North Vancouver, Colwood, Duncan, Kamloops, Kelowna, Oak Bay, Parksville, Penticton, Pitt Meadows, Port Alberni, Port Moody, Prince George, Richmond, Saanich, Surrey, Terrace, Vancouver, Victoria, View Royal, Village of Belcarra, Williams Lake, Fort St. John, Campbell River, Trail, Squamish, Cranbrook, Powell River, Ladysmith and Mission.

Throughout the month of March, community social services workers have hosted forums, informational displays, food drives, and other events to raise awareness about the importance of community social services for all British Columbians.

The public is invited to participate in a five-km WALK for Community Social Services in Victoria, starting from Centennial Square at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28.

For more information, please visit the Community Social Services Matter website http://www.communitysocialservicesmatter.ca/>.

The Community Social Services Matter campaign is supported by the 15,000 workers covered by the Community Social Services Bargaining Association.

March 24, 2009