

# CVRD UPDATE

COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT



**Latest News: 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey Results**



**2025 Cowichan Emergency Warming Centre Post-Season Report**



**Baseline Funding from Canada Public Transit Fund**

2025 Cowichan Emergency Warming Centre helps unhoused community members over winter thanks to EMC and community support



At the May 14, 2025 COTW, the CVRD Community Services Dept. / Emergency Management Cowichan (EMC) spoke to a report on the Cowichan Emergency Warming Centre's 2025 Winter season.

5



## Events

Check out some of the latest events happening in March at CPAC.

4

## Careers at CVRD!

Come work with us! Check out our featured job opportunities in the Cowichan area.

7

## CVRD Board and Committee Highlights

*The following meeting highlights do not include all meeting items and while the following content is copied from meeting agenda packages and minutes, it may be edited or summarized for clarity and readability to suit a general audience. Meeting agenda packages and minutes are available on the [CVRD.ca](https://cprd.primegov.ca) website.*

### Upcoming CVRD Meetings:

**NOTE: CANCELLED - May 28, 2025, Board and COTW**

Board: June 11, 2025

Committee of the Whole (COTW): June 11, 2025

Electoral Area Services Committee (EASC): June 4, 2025

**For COTW, EASC & Board Meeting Agendas & Minutes, visit:**

<https://cprd.primegov.ca/public/portal>

Watch the Meetings

### The Board approved:

## Canada Cultural Spaces Fund - Grant Submission

A grant application in the amount of up to \$30,000 will be submitted to Canadian Heritage's Canada Cultural Spaces Fund for lighting and art gallery upgrades in the Cowichan Performing Arts Centre (CPAC). This grant offers a great opportunity for CPAC to upgrade and extend the lighting and hanging system for the lobby art gallery, as well as adding improved lighting to the stairwell and totem.

Review the [Staff Report](#) from the Arts & Culture Division.

## 2024 CVRD Financial Statements & Audit Findings Report

The 2024 CVRD Financial Statements were presented by the Finance Division and the Audit Findings Report, prepared by KPMG, were received and approved by the Board.

Review the [staff report](#) from Finance/Corporate Services Dept.

Review the [CVRD Financial Statement Draft](#) from Finance/Corporate Services Dept.

Review the [CVRD Audit Findings Report](#) from Finance/Corporate Services Dept.

## 2025 Cowichan Emergency Warming Centre Post-Season Report

That staff be directed to collaborate with member municipalities, First Nations and engaged organizations within the CVRD to identify sites within the region that can be proposed to BC Housing for funding winter shelter options.

That staff be directed to work with the CVRD's member municipalities to develop coordinated land use planning tools for enabling emergency shelters.

That staff report back on progress by the July 23, 2025 Regular Board meeting.

Review the [Staff report](#) from Emergency Management Cowichan / Community Services Dept.

## To the Board:

### 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey Results

The Communications and Engagement Division with the consultant Leger, presented results from the 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey for information purposes.

Review the [staff report](#) from Communications and Engagement/Corporate Services Dept.

Review the [Community Satisfaction Survey 2025 report](#) presentation from Communications and Engagement/Corporate Services Dept.

## COTW to the Board:

### Regional Water Conservation and Stewardship Program

The COTW is recommending that staff implement the educational component of a regional water conservation and stewardship program as described in the May 14, 2025, Staff Report from the Environmental Services Division; and that staff develop an incentive program for water conservation and stewardship as part of the 2026 budget process.

## To the COTW for information:

### Baseline Funding from Canada Public Transit Fund

A positive update to the Committee regarding [a recent letter](#) received from the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities with respect to transit funding that will be allocated to the Cowichan Valley Regional Transit System commencing in 2026, through the Baseline Funding stream of the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF).

CVRD has been advised that it can benefit from an allocation of up to \$5,152,880 over ten (10) years, beginning in 2026. It is anticipated that the funding could potentially be applied beginning on April 1, 2026 which is the start of the BC Transit fiscal year. Once CVRD staff receive the BC Transit three (3) year budget forecast and information on the estimated lease fees for the replacement CVX and SVX buses, staff will update the Committee with these costs.

Review the [staff report](#) from Facilities and Transit/Community Services Dept.

### Reports from the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

[Capital Plan Projects Q1 2025 Status Report](#)

[CVRD Strategic Plan 2023-2026 – Q1 2025 Status Report](#)

## CVRD MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

### Calendar

Find local events, Board & Committee meetings, online and in-person CVRD information meetings. Sign up to get notified and subscribe to the calendar.



## Events

### Cowichan Performing Arts Centre

#### Steps Ahead Dance: The Journey

May 24 at 2:00 PM and May 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Regular price: \$35

Steps Ahead Dance is proud to present "The Journey" an annual recital of dance across multiple ages and genres!

Visit the [CPAC website](#) for tickets and information.



#### Warmland Dance 2025 Showcase

June 1, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Regular price: \$38

Senior/Student/Child \$18

Warmland Dance celebrates 11 years of dance excellence with their 2025 Showcase, featuring dance from across all levels and genres.

Visit the [CPAC website](#) for tickets and information.



## FireSmart rebates available for CVRD Electoral Areas, Duncan and Ladysmith

### CVRD FACEBOOK

Emergency Management Cowichan (EMC), on behalf of the CVRD, the Town of Ladysmith and the City of Duncan, have launched a **FireSmart Rebate program** to support homeowners in performing Firesmart activities on residential properties.

The Cowichan Regional FireSmart Resiliency Program is designed to help homeowners and communities reduce the risk of wildfire damage. In 2023-2024, more than 200 homes were assessed in the Cowichan region. Recommendations in FireSmart home assessments can now be funded for eligible applicants under this rebate program.

For more information, please contact a local FireSmart representative:

Phone: 250-746-2500 Ext. 5012

Email: [Firesmart@emcowichan.ca](mailto:Firesmart@emcowichan.ca)

**EMC** EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COWICHAN

**2025 FIRESMART REBATE PROGRAM**

Up to \$4000 in rebates for homeowners!\*

[Apply Now!](#)

250-746-2500 ex. 5012 [FireSmart@emcowichan.ca](mailto:Firesmart@emcowichan.ca)

\*Terms and conditions apply

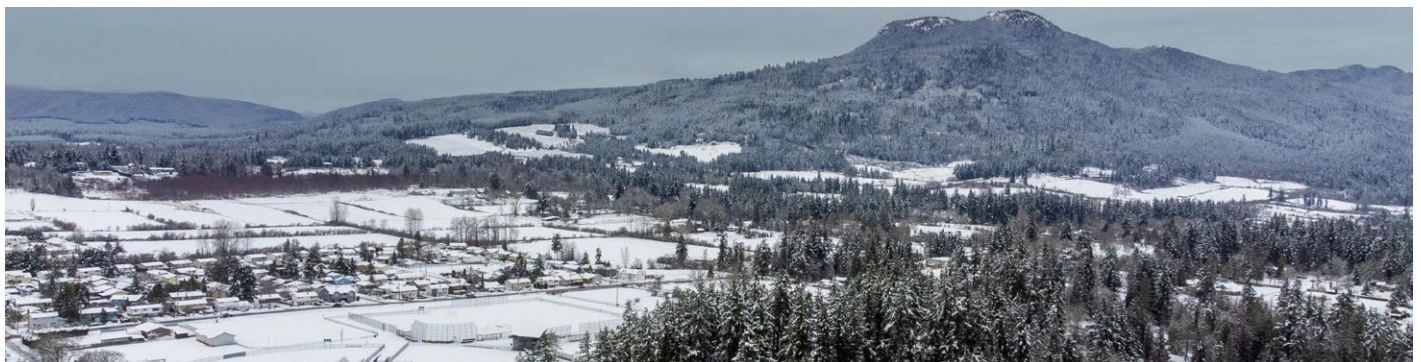
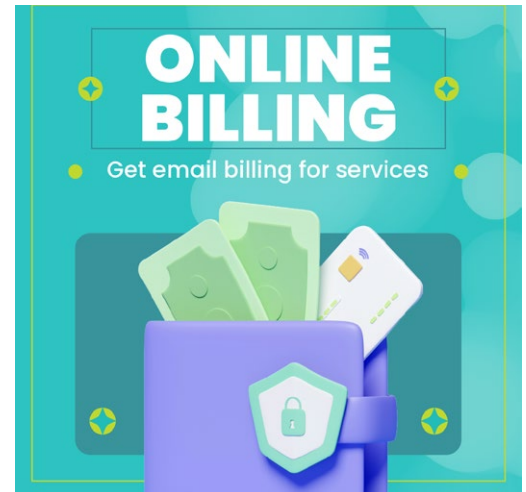
## Did You Know?

You can pay your CVRD Water, Sewer and Curbside Collection Service bills online?

For those who have CVRD service accounts, consider the convenience of online billing and electronic payments through your bank. In light of the potential Canada Post strike, e-billing is a great way to pay your bills on time.

Contact the CVRD or visit the website and complete the form “[Add my Email Address](#)” for utility invoicing.

For additional information on billing visit the CVRD [Finance webpage](#).



## 2025 Cowichan Emergency Warming Centre helps unhoused community members over winter thanks to EMC and community support

At the May 14, 2025 COTW, the CVRD Community Services Dept. / Emergency Management Cowichan (EMC) spoke to a report on the Cowichan Emergency Warming Centre’s 2025 Winter season. Unhoused people in our communities is a region wide issue and concern in the CVRD. There are people in all our communities, large and small, who are struggling with being unhoused. Some also suffer from addiction and other mental health challenges.

The 2025 winter season marked Cowichan’s second year without a BC Housing-funded Temporary Winter Shelter or Extreme Weather Response Shelter. Based on a siting analysis completed for the CVRD following the 2024 winter season, and a decision to relocate an EWC away from the Cowichan Community Centre (CCC), the 2025 EWC was located on leased private land behind the Ramada Inn (140 Trans Canada HWY in Duncan).

EMC opened the Emergency Warming Centre (EWC) between the months of November 15, 2024 and March 31, 2025, and it was operational on nights when local weather criteria was met. Within that period, Lookout Housing and Health Society (LHHS) reported that the EWC was open 103 nights and 1772 clients served. LHHS does not record whether a client is a repeat or first-time EWC user; “clients served” represents person-nights of warming rather than 1772 individuals.

EMC has heard from RCMP and Duncan Bylaw that the location of the 2025 EWC did not create significant additional call volume in the neighbourhood. It is unknown at this time if this site would be available in future years.

Thank you for the gracious support of all residents in the Cowichan area. How we treat are most vulnerable population speaks to how we function as a whole community. Having compassion, empathy and patience for those experiencing homelessness while future winter shelter options and funding are sought is a highly valued contribution.

## LATEST NEWS



### NEWS RELEASE

## Cowichan Residents Express Satisfaction with CVRD Services

The results of the most recent region-wide survey for residents of the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) show that the vast majority of residents continue to be highly satisfied with their quality of life in the region.

Beginning February 5, 2025, a total of 412 residents participated in a statistically valid survey administered by Leger to determine satisfaction with the many services delivered by the CVRD.

Concurrently, an identical online survey was conducted that received 667 contributions. A majority of residents (88%) rated their overall quality of life as either good (56%) or very good (32%). Satisfaction with parks and trails was ranked second-highest of all the services polled, and was identified regionally as the most important service delivered by the CVRD. Residents identified unhoused peoples as the single most important issue facing the region (22%), followed by housing availability and affordability (11%).

"We appreciate the time that residents took to participate in this important community survey, and this comprehensive feedback clearly shows us where we can continue to improve on our service delivery," said Kate Segall, Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board of Directors.

"This is excellent data that will help us with our developing future budgets and for our staff to prioritize their work and determine areas of focus."

Concurrent to the statistically valid survey, some 667 residents opted to complete an open version of the survey online.

The results of the survey are now available on the CVRD website. Full [News Release](#)

---

### Important Notices!

- **CVRD Recreation Guide - Spring & Summer 2025:**

Looking for a new fitness routine or recreation program to try? Check out local recreation activities in your local area of Cowichan! The [Spring & Summer 2025 Recreation guide](#) is available. Register online at [reccowichan.ca](http://reccowichan.ca)

- **Three-Stream Curbside Collection**

Three-Stream Curbside Collection is fully rolling out to Electoral Areas in June 2025! Find out more about [curbside collection](#) on the [cvrld.ca](http://cvrld.ca) website. Questions about totes or schedule? Call the Recycling Hotline: 250.746.2540.

- **CVRD Water Restrictions at Stage 1**

All CVRD operated water systems, participating municipalities and private water systems are at Stage 1 water restrictions. For information on what watering is allowed, please visit the [CowichanAdapts](#) website.



## CAREERS at CVRD

### Featured Job Opportunity: Casual Events Services Worker

Join our organization! We're now accepting applications for a casual Events Services Worker at the Cowichan Community Centre, within the Community Services Department. Reporting to the Programs & Events Coordinator, and supervised by a Recreation Programmer II, the Events Services Worker is involved in a variety of janitorial and maintenance tasks, as well as set-up and breakdown for events relating to the operation of public skating sessions, special events, sports and recreation programs.

[APPLY](#)

Visit our [Careers Page](#) for more job opportunities!

## CVRD Bids & Tenders

Looking for a Cowichan Valley Regional District bid posting? Visit CVRD bids webpage.

If you are a consultant, service provider, contractor, vendor, or supplier, this is a convenient place for you to find out about current bidding and contract opportunities.

[CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES](#)
[CVRD Procurement](#)

### CVRD Current Contracting Opportunities available:

- RFP# 25-21 Abandoned Household Hazardous Waste – Containment, Transportation & Disposal Services Jun 3rd 2025, 2:00 PM PDT
- NOI# 24-36 Notice of Intent to Participate in Canoe Procurement Group Cooperative Purchasing-Dec 31st 2025, 2:00 PM PST



The CVRD Ingram Street offices at 175 Ingram St. in Duncan are open Mon. - Fri. with main reception hours of 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CVRD Recycling Facilities are closed on all statutory holidays. For more information please visit: [cvrld.ca](https://cvrld.ca)



**Cowichan Valley Regional District**

| 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, B.C. V9L 1N8 | Phone: 250.746.2500

| Email: [Communications@cvrd.bc.ca](mailto:Communications@cvrd.bc.ca)

**Work with us at the CVRD! Visit: [Careers at cvrd.ca](https://cvrld.ca)**

[Update email preferences](#)



Engage at  
Plan Your  
Cowichan!



Subscribe  
Newsletter