

## **SENIORS CONVERSATION SESSION - Roundtable Discussion – Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

### **WHAT ARE SUMMERLAND'S CULTURAL STRENGTHS?**

- Many talented people came here. – There are already a lot of artists here but not well organized or advertised.
- Summerland is a good “fun” place for younger active seniors – unique small community – lots to do – cultural events, sports & recreation (trails), etc.
- Summerland has a clean and safe environment, friendly and well educated
- Many retirees who have time to do what they want and to volunteer. Seniors also volunteered throughout their working years.
- Strength in senior's wisdom could be passed on to youth.

### **WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO WITH CULTURE IN SUMMERLAND?**

- Need better local bus service for seniors to get to venues. Venues are not set up for seniors with mobility issues.
- Accessibility issues both financially and physically.
- Intergenerational programs. Students teach seniors or seniors teach students
- Multicultural events to attract tourists such as high tea for British residents/tourist.
- Arts in the community combined to raise community awareness about health promotion, environment, cultural diversity,
- Need more smaller venues that are available and affordable.
- Need more events for seniors.
- Need better communication of community events. Revive a free “community bulletin” that features all the community events.

### **HOW COULD SUMMERLAND ACHIEVE THE GOALS AND IDEAS IDENTIFIED IN QUESTION #2**

- Grant money and relaxing by-laws around events.
- Centralized volunteer service. Ride share program. Donation share - \$1.00 post it donation towards taxi fare for seniors.
- Hire an events co-coordinator for Summerland.
- Centralized cultural venue for community (purpose built) with accessibility or many small venues. Needs to be part of one larger financial program – not piecemeal. Umbrella plan. Task force for funding.
- Legacy funds for arts – individuals and families of the deceased could donate money or art.