



Administration Department
13211 Henry Ave. Box 159
Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0
Phone 250 494-6451 Fax 250 494-1415
www.summerland.ca

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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The District of Summerland together with the Summerland Healthy Community Initiative have been selected as a recipient of a Healthy Community Capacity Building Fund (HCCBF). The HCCBF is part of PlanH, a partnership between BC Healthy Communities Society and Healthy Families BC (the Province's health promotion strategy) and is informed by health authorities and other stakeholders. The PlanH program facilitates local government learning, partnership development and planning for healthier communities where we live, learn, work and play.

The \$5000.00 grant will fund a Healthy Film Conversation Series starting in the Fall of 2016 into early 2017. The conversations will elicit community concerns, needs and will generate support for future, local, health related projects.

In January 2013, District of Summerland Council passed the resolution: "That the District of Summerland partner with Interior Health to increase the actions that will improve the health of the community by reducing chronic disease and obesity." In 2015, The Summerland Healthy Community Initiative was formed. "Summerland will be a leading example of a healthy community" is the mission statement.

Vital Signs 2015 report from the Community Foundation of the Okanagan Similkameen

54% of residents in the region are overweight or obese
33% of Summerland residents report depression or anxiety
9% of Summerland resident report having diabetes.

Summerland Healthy Community Initiative members respond to the news of the funding:
Sandra Turnbull, Professional Practice Leader, Interior Health *"It's just the boost we need to further connect with Summerlander's about healthy community issues in a fun yet meaningful way. We're excited to be able share some great films that focus on global issues, such environmental sustainability and food security that are very relevant to our local community."*

Mayor Peter Waterman, District of Summerland

"This grant provides an important community development opportunity for the District of Summerland. Groups involved with seniors, childhood development, agriculture and food security, and mental health will be invited to participate in these events and hopefully join-in the conversation."

For more information please contact
Joanne Malar, Summerland Recreation
jmalar@summerland.ca 250-494-0447