

## Oceanside Homeless Task Force to Conduct Homeless Census Looking for Volunteers

On May 30, the Oceanside Task Force on Homelessness will conduct a point-in-time estimate and survey of homeless in the Oceanside region. This is the first homeless count for our region and is crucial in providing current information on the number of people and the circumstances of those who are homeless. The homeless count will take place on May 30 from 10 am to 8 pm.

A count is the most effective method to determine the number of homeless and to identify gaps in service so that the community will be better able to plan and identify resources and services for the homeless. Information is confidential and the identity of the individuals surveyed will not be shared.

The Oceanside Task Force on Homelessness chaired by Parksville Councillor Sue Powell, was formed in June 2010 with representation from many organizations and service providers in the Oceanside region.

### Looking for volunteers

We need help to conduct this survey and are looking for about 50 volunteers. It is a one day census done by teams of volunteers who will work with team leaders. Shifts are five hours maximum and training will be provided on May 17. Geographically, the Oceanside region is fairly large and the area will be divided into small sections to conduct the survey and gather the information.

The task force is looking to the community to assist with this count. If you can spare five hours on May 30, please call 250 954-3073 or email [communications@parksville.ca](mailto:communications@parksville.ca)

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For more information:

Debbie Tardiff, Communications Officer

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