

November 17-24 is Restorative Justice Week in Parksville

The City of Parksville has declared November 17-24 as “Restorative Justice Week” in the Parksville. Restorative Justice Week 2013 will be held in Canada and throughout the world for the purpose of sharing the concrete learning and results that have come from the growing experience of practitioners and stakeholders in the application of restorative justice approach and processes. In 2012, 273 Canadian municipalities, including Parksville, proclaimed Restorative Justice Week.

Restorative justice is an approach that addresses the various needs of people impacted by crime and conflict created when a person has been harmed or treated unfairly. Restorative justice processes, in response to crime and conflict, are highly adaptable to different people, environments and systems as the identified needs of the people involved help formulate the unique response that can contribute to a person’s sense of safety, justice and well-being.

Restorative justice is a non-adversarial, non-retributive approach to justice that emphasizes healing in victims, meaningful accountability of offenders and the involvement of citizens in creating healthier, safer communities. Information and resources are available from www.csc-scc.gc.ca/text/rj/index-eng.shtml

This year’s theme, “Inspiring Innovation” not only showcases the achievements of the restorative justice field, but also serves to motivate those working in restorative justice to seek novel ways to contribute further to this valuable work, through new technologies, resourcing options and service models.

The Arrowsmith Community Justice Society (ACJS) is a community organization whose purpose is to administer a community-based restorative justice program and a community dispute resolution program. The program promotes conferencing as a resolution and peacemaking mechanism for crime or conflict in the community involves interested community citizens and resources to accomplish the above services. Community volunteers are trained as facilitators in victim-offender conferences or community disputes. ACJS works within the communities of Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Regional District of Nanaimo Areas E, F, G and H and is supported by the Oceanside RCMP. To become involved in this program, contact the Arrowsmith Community Justice office at 250 954-2968 or visit the website at www.acjs.ca.

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For more information:

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