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### Dates to Remember

#### DECEMBER

#### JANUARY

#### FEBRUARY

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28	29	30	31			

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18		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

February is black history month

Dec 3  
International Day Of  
Persons With Disabilities

Dec 10  
Human Rights Day

Dec 7-15 Hanukkah

**Dec 25- Jan 1st: NDRRC is  
CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY BREAK**

Dec 25  
Christmas Dec 26  
-  
Jan 1  
Kwanzaa

**2024**

Jan 1  
New Years

Jan 2  
World Introvert Day

**I HAVE A  
DREAM**

Jan 16  
Martin Luther  
King Jr Day



Feb 14  
Valentines day

Feb 17  
Random act of  
kindness day



Feb 19  
Family Day  
(NDRRC Closed)

### Community Events

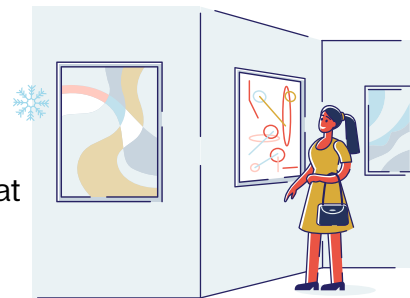
#### Winter Weekend Holiday Market ~ December 8-10

150 Commercial St.  
The Gallery Store at Nanaimo Art Gallery takes over the art lab and triples in size at this three-day event. Find one-of-a-kind handcrafted gifts for friends and family.



#### Christmas at Nanaimo Bakery Family Decorating Event ~ December 22

2025 Bowen Road  
Nanaimo Bakery's Enchanting Family Decorating Event. Choose between crafting a traditional gingerbread house or savoring the deliciousness of our NBC classic chocolate house.





## A New Practicum Experience

Every once in awhile we are lucky enough to have a student be placed with us for their practicum. November-December we had student, Asher, join us from the Education Department at VIU. His time with us flew by far too quickly but you might have met him in computer school, or, likely, talked to him on the phone or by email as he was instrumental in helping us catch up the computer school wait list. He also helped make some materials for various areas of the organization, update some very out of date information on the walls of our computer room, and restock the brochures in the main lobby. Ash, it was fabulous having you and we wish you well in the future!

## A Giving Time of Year- The Search to Fill Volunteer Positions and Reach Funding Goals



We are grateful and proud to be mostly supported by volunteers. Did you know we only have 5 paid staff members (most, including the Executive Director, part time employees)? We rely heavily on volunteers and have been fortunate to have many volunteers with us throughout the years. However, we are currently in need of new volunteers for 2024.

### Front Desk ~ Current, 1

Our most urgent position needed is a front desk Wednesday morning shift. This is from 9-12 every Wednesday (minus holidays). This position involves answering phones, processing parking permits, greeting and directing clients to the right people/brochures/ other organizations.

### Computer Instructors ~ Ongoing, Flexible, Multiple

Our Computer and Technology Program (CATS) is always in need of people confident with technology. You do not need to be an expert but knowing the basics of at least one type of device (Android/Apple), basic terminology (browser, window, tab), and some of the most common websites used by students (Indeed, Facebook, Amazon) is extremely useful! This position is flexible but typically requires at least one hour a week between 10 and 3 Monday to Friday.

### ASL Interpreter ~ Casual, infrequent

We have a current client, and occasionally have clients who are deaf or hard of hearing and, unfortunately, none of our staff know enough ASL to be useful and so we have to rely on written notes. We are looking for someone able to hold a conversation who would be willing to sit in on the occasional session with clients and the staff member working with them to help communication.

### Committee Members ~ Ongoing, Casual, Flexible, Multiple

We have multiple committees but our current focus is on promotion and fundraising. Because we only have a small staff organizing fundraisers or even contacting businesses has been difficult to manage, especially any large-scale fundraisers. We are looking for volunteers with passion for fundraising and/or event organization to sit on our committee and work with our team to raise funds for NDRC's free programs.



### Donation Requests for Continued Growth

We have been exceptionally proud of NDRC's growth, particularly in the free programs we offer. Our Information and Resource Referral Program has seen exponential growth under Allison's hard work and organization. Our Computer and Technology Program (CATS) has seen unexpected numbers of new and returning students this year. Finally, this will be our third year running the Community Income Tax Program and we expect the numbers to continue to grow from last year. These are all amazing things! However, we need help! Last year we were thrilled and relieved to have Karissa with us as our Programs Assistant. She was particularly instrumental in getting us through Tax Season. Karissa left to go to school in Edmonton and we have put off hiring a replacement due to funding. It is our hope that with your help (and our pending grant approval) we can hire a new Programs Assistant for the next year to assist in keeping up with growing demand, lowering wait times, and ultimately, helping more people in our community. Donations over \$20 receive tax receipts and organizations donating any amount over \$100 will be featured in our thank you section of our website.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who donate, volunteer, and support us in all the ways!

## Celebrating Our Volunteers!



Our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was held November 27th after the office closed for the day. Unfortunately, due to illness and timing the turnout was lower than usual. However, those who did attend had a great time and those who did not still received gift bags and will be able to put their names in for our biggest draw prizes of the year.





**Browsers**



**Google**  
This simplistic Google browser comes preinstalled on most Android phones. This one is perfect for quick searches



**Safari**  
Default search engine on Apple devices (iPhone, iPad, Mac)

## CATS Tips

**Chrome**



Google Chrome has a lot more features than the standard Google such as bookmarks, password storage, history, and auto-fill. Most newer Android (and all Google phones) have this preinstalled. Available on both Apple and Android in the App Store/ Google Play

**App Store**

**App Stores**

**Google Play Store**



App stores are where you can find new apps to download. Apps are any applications you use on your device (even a calendar is considered an app!) There is an app for just about everything: productivity, games, and communication.



## News and Resources

**Rise Bridge Warming Centre**

520 Prideaux Street  
9AM-4PM DAILY,  
including holidays  
Until March 31st

For the third year Rise Bridge is running their warming centre, offering access to resources, support inreach services, snacks, coffee, clothing, laundry, washroom, computer access and harm reduction



**Stay Warm**

### Emergency Shelters for All Genders First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo

595 Townsite Road  
250-754-3720  
shelter@ufon.ca  
27 Beds  
Open Daily 5pm-7am

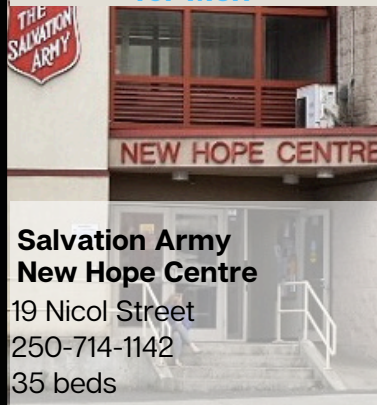


### St. Peter's Winter Shelter

301 Machleary Street  
250-591-5600  
Nov. 1 to Mar. 29  
8pm-7:30am Daily  
35 Beds  
Entry in back laneway.



### Emergency Shelter for Men

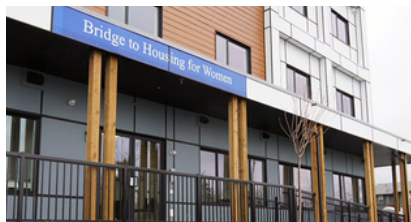


**Salvation Army  
New Hope Centre**  
19 Nicol Street  
250-714-1142  
35 beds

### Emergency Shelter for Women & Non-Binary Persons

#### Island Crisis Care Samaritan House

702 Nicol Street  
250-753-1474  
14 beds  
24 hours daily



### Shower Services

#### First Unitarian & the City of Nanaimo

Free showers available  
Monday-Friday 7am to 11am  
Towels and toiletries supplied.



Caledonia Park  
110 Wall Street  
250-668-4607  
shelter@ufon.ca

### Emergency Food Providers

#### Salvation Army New Hope Centre

**In Partnership with the 7-10 Club**

250-714-1142 / 250-753-0810

Serving breakfast - two locations:

- 110 Wall Street • 250 Albert Street



#### Stone Soup/ Wisteria Community Association

Mobile Service  
250-591-6443  
Hot meal and brown bag lunch  
5:30pm to 8:30pm, 7 days per week.  
Locations vary.  
For more information see  
www.wisteriacommunityassociation.com



#### Selby Street Mission

250-753-3446

**Sandwiches & snacks:**  
M, W, F 7:30-9:30am

**Sandwiches & BBQ:**  
M, T 12-3pm

#### Downtown Hope

St. Andrew's United Church  
315 Fitzwilliam St.

250-734-1862

**Dinner**  
Saturday 4:30-7:30pm

#### St. Paul's Anglican Church/ Nanaimo Foodshare

100 Chapel Street 250-753-2523

**Lunch** Mondays 12-1pm

**Grocery cards - individuals and families, to-go meals, winter clothing, blankets, and more.**

Begins at 9am Third Tuesday monthly  
Continues until grocery cards run out Parish office



Every newsletter we choose to feature an organization making a difference in our community.

## This edition we recognize Habitat for Humanity

The Habitat for Humanity movement was founded in 1976 in Americus, Georgia by Millard and Linda Fuller. The program developed from the concept of “partnership housing”. This low-income housing project allows those in need of adequate shelter to work side by side with volunteers from all walks of life to build simple, decent houses.

Habitat for Humanity envisions a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. They bring communities together to help families build strength, stability, and independence through affordable homeownership. **Respect** – We believe in the worth and dignity of every human being – respecting the people we serve and those who help us in this effort and recognizing them as our greatest resource.

**Community Building** – “Our mission is best achieved through meaningful and mutually beneficial partnerships within the communities we serve.”

**Faith in Humanity** – “We serve and work with people of all faiths and beliefs in a spirit of justice and compassion.”

**Inclusiveness** – “There is a role for everyone committed to our vision, mission, and values and we seek to enrich our organization through diversity.”

**Accountability** – “Through our actions both internally and externally, we practice transparency and integrity in all we do.”

### Restore - Nanaimo

#1 - 4128 Mostar Road  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6C9  
Phone: 250-758-8078 ext. 101  
Fax: 250-758-8096  
Open Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5pm  
Drop Offs Accepted: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm  
Drop off location for the Nanaimo Restore is between Cloverdale  
Paint and The Finishing Store  
Questions about what we take or to schedule curbside pick-up:  
250-758-8078 ex. 109

### Office

1-4128 Mostar Road  
Nanaimo, BC. V9T 6C9  
  
info@habitatmvi.org  
Phone: 250-758-8078  
Fax: 250-758-8096  
Open Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Closed Sat-Sun and all Statutory Holidays

## Did You Know?

### THE WELLNESS SHOW

February 3, 2024 - February 4, 2024  
Vancouver Convention Centre  
1055 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC,



The Wellness Show features workshops, seminars, and demonstrations aimed at helping you discover how to live a healthy, happy, balanced life. Check out the Celebrity Cooking Stage, Living Well Seminar Stage, Women & Wellness, Fitness Demo Stage, and lots more. This is the largest trade show in Western Canada.

More Information: <http://thewellnessshow.com/>


## Contact NDRC

Open Monday to Friday, 9:00-12:00/12:30-3:30

**Ken**  
Executive Director  
[Admin@ndrc.info](mailto:Admin@ndrc.info)

Phone: 250-758-5547 Website: [ndrc.info](http://ndrc.info)

Betty  
[Parking@ndrc.info](mailto:Parking@ndrc.info)  
Parking Permits Administrator



Allison Program Administrator [Allison@ndrc.info](mailto:Allison@ndrc.info)

Information & Resource Referral Program



PWD/CPPD Applications  
Volunteer Coordination



Computer School

Marie Programs Administrator

NDRC Bursary for PWD

Membership

Marketing/ Website/Public Events & Outreach

Marie@ndrc.info

Newsletter

