



## **Nanaimo Branch of the Victoria Human Exchange Society**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2013**

**Issue 3**

February and March have seen a lot of change in Nanaimo. As you know Wade has taken on the roll of Facilitator and is doing an incredible job. The house is full with men waiting in the wings. Wade runs a tight ship, having every Saturday a house meeting then chores then off they go again. The house is very well maintained.

All of the men are from the Guthrey program, they all get on very well together and seem to all be going in the right direction. We had an unwelcome guest in the house for a short time, but with the assistance of the Pest Dr, Mr Rat was moved on. The residents say they won't really miss him.

We are currently searching for a second house, looks like it will also be a mens house. The need is overwhelming. One of the current residents at Esthers House was a team leader in Guthrey and was a facilitator in a similar house in the past. He has expressed an interest in facilitator position in a new house.

Last weekend we received a call from a local resident with a donation of a Lazy boy reclining love seat, couch and some dishes. Two of the residents went with me to pick up and move these items into storage.

It will soon be time to get started on the planting of the micro gardens. Looking forward to some new growth outside. Bonnie just celebrated her birthday. She cooked a turkey dinner and invited all the residents, 5 out of 6 attended. I was a very nice dinner. Shawn was working so wasn't able to make it. The residents have been a great source of support for Bonnie while she transitions to a single person. They have helped her with her chicken coop, and we all had a wood cutting day, ending with a BBQ, then the dinner. Since Bonnie is currently on a diet she emptied her pantry of things she shouldn't eat and sent it all to the guys. They were very happy to have it.

Jean and Tom continue to support Esthers House. They drop by quite often with groceries and cleaning supplies to help the residents make ends meet. We are thinking of having an appreciation BBQ or something of that nature. Still a work in progress.

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**Upcoming and past Birthdays celebrated in Nanaimo:  
We wish belated greetings to Bonnie for March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
To Elaine B for April 26<sup>th</sup> and  
To Lee M. for May 21<sup>st</sup> and anyone else we missed!**

**Every Meeting of persons can be an Exchange of Life's Gifts – a Human Exchange.**

## **Thanks from the VHES Nanaimo Branch**

- **Wade** for taking over as Facilitator of Esther's House. e are most grateful for your big heart Wade!
- **Jean and Tom** for often bringing supplies to the House
- **The Sisters of St Ann**, for promising a second Grant from Esther's Dream when the new House begins.
- **Bonnie** for generously sharing groceries and having having a Celebration for everyone on her Birthday.
- **Elaine** for working with our accounting technician on Mayne island to keep the Society honest and approved by the CRA.
- **All dedicated members of the Committee** for all the work you do and support you give to the men at Esther's House.
- **All the men residing at the house** for looking after the house and grounds and being helpful to Bonnie and others in need.
- **Royal Order of the Moose** for no charge Meeting Place



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