



## Nanaimo Branch of the Victoria Human Exchange Society

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### Report from Nanaimo Branch Board member – Debbie Scott



As usual it's been busy. Lots of comings and goings. At **Esther's House** our facilitator **Richard Charlie**, has moved on. He is doing very well, still in school and a very positive attitude. He has added a woman to his life so felt he was ready to move forward. While he will remain in contact he will not have the time to continue to work with the board. **Craig Shores** has stepped into the position as facilitator at this house and seems to be doing very well. We had 1 vacant room there before Rich moved, but I did 2 more intakes over the past couple of weeks so one has since moved in and the other is due to move in Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. Making the house full again.

At **Mary Gordon House** we have also had a facilitator change. **Tim** is in the process of moving out, he too is moving into a relationship situation. Tim will remain on the board and continue to assist with intake. **Marcel** is taking over as Facilitator. Tim has the clearance to do intakes out at the jail and other than myself, nobody else does. Since we get a lot of intake out there it is very important that we have a 2<sup>nd</sup> person on deck for that piece. I can't always be available to go out there. As for capacity at **Mary Gordon House**, we have had a lot of applicants. From those we have accepted enough to fill the house there as well. That is if all of the ones excepted actually move in on the dates expressed. So over all it's been a very good month for intake and resident interest.

We are finding our referrals are coming more from word of mouth from previous residents, and are hearing very good things from the community about our house and the work we are doing here. A friend of mine donated several boxes of grocery items for the houses, and since **Mary Gordon house** has mostly employed men, I decided to take the boxes to **Esther's House**. They were very grateful. I also bought a large ham and took to Esther's house for thanks giving dinner, was going to do the same for the other house but could never catch anyone at home. With me being busy getting things in order for my trip it just didn't work. So when I come back I will make that up.

My Uncle has sent another donation. It's nice to have him on deck.  
Since I am heading out the door that's all I have for now. Take care all, we'll be in touch soon. Debbie

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