



## Multicultural Engagement in Schools

with the Cowichan Intercultural Society

The following programs are available at no charge to you or your students:

### **Diversity Ambassadors**

A Diversity Ambassador can provide presentations and/or engaging workshops to students upon request. Presentations generally range from 15 minute introductory sessions, to in-depth workshops for up to one hour.

### **Walk of the Nations**

The Walk of the Nations is an opportunity for the entire community to come together and celebrate the rich diversity of the Cowichan Region. The event features a symbolic walk of Understanding, Acceptance, Respect and Compassion through downtown Duncan. Following the walk, there is a free community celebration with food, cultural performances and musical entertainment!

### **Settlement Services**

Settling in a new country can be challenging for families. The Cowichan Intercultural Society (CIS) has specially trained Settlement Workers available to support newcomers who may be impacted by exceptional immigration experiences, parenting challenges, trauma, mental and physical health concerns, isolation, poverty, educational and employment needs, and other barriers. If you have a family who would benefit from some specialized settlement support or resources to assist them as they face difficulties in an unfamiliar social and cultural environment, we would be happy to help you and them. We can provide information, programs, referrals and accompaniment, and assist newcomers to access and navigate Canadian support systems. We have experience in creating and implementing innovative solutions in order to ease the adjustment into the community.

### **Multicultural Leadership Group**

CIS offers an afterschool program focused on youth engagement. This unique group welcomes all ages, all cultures, all faiths, and all identities. We ensure that youth find a sense of belonging, feel safe, respected and are empowered to explore and develop their unique identities. The intergenerational aspect provides connections to safe adults in the community and excellent mentoring opportunities. Youth learn skills for being open to differences and engage in fun activities that are focused on being in service to the community.

**Where:** St. John's Church Hall

**When:** Wednesday's, 3:15 to 5:45

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COWICHAN  
**INTERCULTURAL**  
SOCIETY

IMMIGRANT  
**WELCOME CENTRE**  
OF COWICHAN

### **Compassionate Leaders Project**

The Compassionate Leaders Project partners with School District 79 to offer secondary school students a meaningful opportunity to develop leadership skills, foster healthy relationships and create positive social change through student-led action projects. The program includes a 2.5 day residential Leadership Camp, and personal/team project action planning implementation and support. Our goal is to recruit five to ten student participants from each of the five secondary schools (Camp – November; Action Plans/Projects - Dec-April).

**The above services are provided at no charge. We can also provide the following fee-based services:**

- Expanded Diversity Ambassadors program (i.e. multicultural event longer than one class period)
- Multicultural Curriculum Development

### **General Contact:**

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**COWICHAN INTERCULTURAL AND IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY**

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