

The Project in Pictures



Goal: To renovate and open the gorgeous upper floor of The HUB gathering space in southern Cowichan Valley.

Past Progress: The HUB was created by volunteers from across the Cowichan Valley when the former Cowichan Station School was closed in 2007.



The former school in Fall 2011 before the community transformed it into The HUB.



New roofs! Four replaced in four years. All long-lasting metal with R40+ insulation.



New permanent ramp and other accessibility features to welcome ALL people to The HUB.



Community celebrates 125th birthday in 2013.



Easter Egg Hunt 2016.



Harvest Celebration 2015. Enjoying the new front porch.



Youth Drop-in "Rec and Roll"



Gathering for lunch on the deck.



Cowichan Valley's 1st non-profit community clay studio.

2016 Renovations – The Welcome Mat

Most recently we received \$46,000 in funding from the Government of Canada, Western Economic Diversification Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program for landscaping and exterior restoration. This grant was matched by the Government of BC's Major Capital Funding for Creation of New Child Care Spaces grant of \$23,436. Together, this work vastly improved the lighting, signage, access and creating a welcoming environment.

		
<p>Window restoration and fresh paint.</p>	<p>Safer pathways with lighting and landscaping and community notice boards.</p>	<p>A hub of activity – the welcome mat is out!</p>

Next Steps – What's Behind those Big Upper Windows?

It may take a little 'vision' but almost everyone who sees the upper floor gasps at the potential. The former principal's office and library of this 100 year old building each boast 12 large windows, and about 900 square feet of space. One looks west over the playground and mature forest; the other looks east over the swingsets and farm fields.

Designs have been donated by the same company that has done all the classic heritage HUB designs to date, and will feature local fir floors (donated), a washroom and kitchenette in both rooms, and wide open spaces to meet multiple needs. On one side, a sprung floor will accommodate fitness and dance activities (easier on the joints). The other side will feature, special gallery lighting, attractive wall finishes, bench seating and a movable display wall for education, art displays, etc. We have already installed a 'stair chair' to access this upper floor, and geothermal heat was installed for the whole building in 2015. We can't get wait to welcome the valley upstairs!



		
<p>Summer Fair</p>	<p>Earth Day Community Cleanup</p>	<p>Youth helping in the Kitchen</p>