



## Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

### 2016 Building Community events

#### A Vision for our future

April 5, 2016

Our Place

30 Participants

The Aboriginal Street Community participated in a focus group to share their hopes for their future and to voice the realities of homelessness in Victoria. They had an opportunity to examine the ACEH Homelessness Partnering Strategy survey results. Lunch and refreshments were enjoyed and participants' felt encouraged that their circumstance would be better understood and addressed through the research process.



#### Mother's Day Lunch

May 8, 2016

Evedars' Bistro

25 Participants

A beautiful lunch was served in honour of 'mothers' for the Aboriginal homelessness community where they felt honoured and valued. The women received gift bags that were donated by the First Nations Students Society at the University of Victoria. The afternoon was an opportunity for the community to relax and enjoy one another in a safe and supported space.



#### Drum Making & Father's Day Celebration

June 20, 2016

Kirk Hall

12 Participants

Participants engaged in the traditional skill of drum making with Wade Charlie. A traditional lunch of sockeye salmon was prepared. The men were presented with a gift bag and they each departed with their own drum.



## **Fish Preparation**

July 4, 2016

Esquimalt Long House

30 Participants

Barb Johnson of the Wuikinuxv Nation facilitated a traditional fish preparation demonstration. Participants engaged in the process of a traditional BBQ, enjoyed a delicious meal and enjoyed Nuuchahnulth drumming.



## **Viewing Our Digital Stories**

September 6, 2016

Our Place Chapel

20 Participants

Twenty members of the Aboriginal Street Community gathered on September 6th at Our Place to view the newly released ACEH digital stories followed by a focus group discussion on the ongoing challenges of securing housing and basic street survival.



## **A Day at the Lake**

August 16, 2016

Tsartlip First Nation Reserve

25 Participants

25 people from the Aboriginal Street Community departed Our Place for a day on the Tsartlip Reserve, and were hosted by community member and Elder Fraser Smith from the Tsartlip Band. The group shared a wonderful lunch. Thank you Mr. Smith for welcoming us for a relaxing day at the beach. The ocean was good for the soul!

