



Grand Connection



April 2017

Welcome to the Grand Connection! The Parent Support Services Society of BC (PSS) on Vancouver Island has created this publication to bring you the news on what is happening for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG'S) and other kinship care providers across the island!

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) Support Circles

Raising children the second time around can feel overwhelming at times. Sometimes it helps to know that you are not alone. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) Support Circles are free, confidential groups that provide an opportunity to meet other grandparents raising grandchildren or other relatives who are raising relatives' children to share information, stories and find out about other resources.

Victoria

Wed., Apr 12 th	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.- 1803 Quadra Street, Sands Funeral Home (parking in back)
Wed., Apr 26 th	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.- 1803 Quadra Street, Sands Funeral Home (parking in back)
Wed., May 10 th	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.- 1803 Quadra Street, Sands Funeral Home (parking in back)
Wed., May 24 th	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.- 1803 Quadra Street, Sands Funeral Home (parking in back)

Duncan

Wed., Apr 5 th	10 am to 12 noon 187 Trunk Rd., Sands Reception Centre. Parking & entrance on Ypres St.
Wed., May 1 st	10 am to 12 noon 187 Trunk Rd., Sands Reception Centre. Parking & entrance on Ypres St.
Thurs., May 25th	GRG Film Showing and discussion at 1 pm and again at 6:30 pm (see reverse side)

Nanaimo

Wed., Apr 5 th	6:30 to 8:30 – Child Development Centre, 1135 Nelson St. <u>(On site child care is available)</u>
Tues., Apr 11 th	10:00 to 12:00 - noon - Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, 741 Third Street.
Wed., May 3 rd	6:30 to 8:30 – Child Development Centre, 1135 Nelson St. <u>(On site child care is available)</u>
Tues., May 9 th	10:00 to 12:00 - noon - Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, 741 Third Street.

Parksville

Fri., Apr 7 th	12:00 noon, lunch meeting <u>please call or email for details (250-468-9658 or parent@telus.net)</u>
Fri., May 5 th	12:00 noon, lunch meeting <u>please call or email for details (250-468-9658 or parent@telus.net)</u>

Courtenay – Comox Valley Aboriginal GRG Support Circle:

Thurs., Apr 27 th	7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Aboriginal Headstart Preschool 956 Grieve Ave., (park in the back alley of AHS preschool)
Thurs., May 25 th	7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Aboriginal Headstart Preschool 956 Grieve Ave., (park in the back alley of AHS preschool)

If you would like more information about a GRG Support Circle group in Victoria please call 250-384-8042 and for other Vancouver Island Communities please call the Central Island office at 250-468-9658 or 1-877-345-9777, or email parent@telus.net

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Line (Province wide)

Problem solving, legal and resource information for grandparents and other relatives raising a family member's child

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Toll free in BC 1-855-474-9777 Or email grgline@parentsupportbc.ca

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren BC on Facebook



The purpose of the group is to provide a safe, supportive confidential space for grandparents raising grandchildren in the province of BC to connect and share with each other and also to find out about information and resources that may be useful to them on their journey. The Facebook group is not intended to replace the local GRG support circle program. The GRG BC Facebook group provides a larger opportunity for connection and the sharing of resources and information. Grandparents raising grandchildren and other kinship care providers in BC can join through the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/145017612556075/>

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Telling Our Stories Ground breaking Documentary - Available Online

The video, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Telling Our Stories provides a glimpse into the realities faced by several grandparent led families from across BC. These grandparents didn't plan to be full time caregivers at this later stage in their lives. Their stories are varied, but many of the threads are the same: loss, isolation, grief, hardship, love and determination. The grandchildren are their priority and they need and deserve, love, stability and all the support possible to ensure they can succeed in life. Unlike foster parents, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) receive little to no financial support and as a result, poverty is a serious risk. This powerful and acclaimed documentary was launched on Family Day 2015, but not available online until recently. The full 27 minute documentary can be watched on PSS's YouTube Channel – Link - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjB_aKf9zo&t=28s

We will be showing the film in **Duncan** and having a facilitated discussion on **May 25th at the Duncan United Church, 246 Ingram St., Duncan at 1 pm to 2:30 pm** and again at **6:30 pm to 8 pm**.

Resources:

Vancouver Island Crisis Society 1-888-494-3888

The VI Crisis Society also has an excellent on-line data base of community resources <http://www.vicrisis.ca/>

If you are receiving this newsletter & wish to be removed from our email list, please let us know at 1- 877-345-9777, or by email at parent@telus.net

For information and other resources please visit www.parentsupportbc.ca



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Parent Support
Services Society of BC

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