

Volunteer Nanaimo



Dates to Remember

Wednesday, Feb 5
VOLUNTEER FAIR

See p. 3

Wednesday, Feb 12
CLOSED

for teambuilding workshop



Monday, Feb 17

Open 10 am to 2pm ONLY

for Fling Into Spring

See p. 3

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Member of the Month

Association des
Francophones
de Nanaimo

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Silver Adventures Café senior's program

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Angel Network Fling Into Spring

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Youth Network

Contact Us

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Nanaimo, BC
V9T 4B5

Phone: 250-758-7121

Email: vn3148@gmail.com

Facebook: 'Volunteer Nanaimo'

Website:

<http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca>

Hours of Business:

Mon. to Thurs. 9am to 3pm



February 2025

Member of the Month:

The Association des Francophones de Nanaimo



Every February, The Association des Francophones de Nanaimo organizes the Maple Sugar Festival, or *Festival du Sucre d'Érable* – a family-friendly celebration of French-Canadian culture and traditions inspired by the sugar shack gatherings of Eastern Canada.

Over three fun-filled days Feb. 21 to 23, you can enjoy live performances, music, dance, and activities for all ages. Plus, treat yourself to classic French-Canadian dishes, including the famous maple taffy on snow. It's an experience you won't want to miss!

Who We Are

Since 1978, the Association des Francophones de Nanaimo has been bringing people together, French speaking or not, to celebrate Francophone cultures. Our flagship event, the Maple Sugar Festival du Sucre d'Érable, highlights the vibrancy of our diverse community.



Maple Sugar Festival Cont.

Get Involved!

Want to be part of something special? Volunteering at the Maple Sugar Festival is your chance to make a difference! Help us create an unforgettable experience by assisting with activities, welcoming guests, or working behind the scenes. Whether you're looking to connect with others, learn something new, or just have fun, this is a fantastic opportunity.

No French? No problem! Everyone is welcome to join our team. Together, we'll create a celebration to remember.

Interested? Reach out to us—we'd love to have you on board!

volunteer@francophonenanaimo.org or
250- 729-2776.

L'Association des Francophones de Nanaimo
31-1925 Bowen Road, Nanaimo, BC- V9S

VOLUNTEER FAIR

Join us to explore exciting volunteer opportunities in the community and connect with organizations that value and support volunteers.

 **Wednesday**
February 5th, 2025, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

 **Beban Social Centre, lounge C**

 **If you have any questions, please contact community@cvims.org**






Funded by / Financé par:







Volunteer Nanaimo continues to offer this exciting seniors' program

Silver Adventures Cafe!

The program is funded by New Horizons for Seniors Program and is free to all. Socialize, meet new friends, try new things and have fun!

Here's what we have lined up for you in February.



Silver Adventures Cafe

February 2025



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday 1-3pm | Wednesday | Thursday 1-3pm | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---|-----------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 Cultural Experience Japan | 5 | 6 Intro to Meditation | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 Bingo <i>*Note at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church</i> | 12 | 13 Line Dancing <i>*Note at the Moose Hall</i> | 14 Happy Valentines Day | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 Vegetable Gardening Workshop with Master Gardener | 19 | 20 Grocery Tour with Laura <i>*Note at Save on Foods</i> | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Service Project | 26 | 27 Intro to Water Painting | 28 | |

All events at Volunteer Nanaimo 3148 Barons Rd. unless otherwise noted.
Please RSVP to silveradventurescafe@gmail.com

For more information visit www.volunteernanaimo.ca under the seniors tab or call Gwen at 250-667-1803

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED – LIMITED PARKING

Volunteer Nanaimo Ongoing Programs



Our Watchdog Tech Team helps with your technology challenges and matches non-profit groups and individuals with used or refurbished tech equipment.

The Tax Program resumes in March, 2025.

Our offices house the **Autism Society's Library** of books and learning materials.

For more information call 250-758-7121, or check our website at www.volunteernanaimo.com



Encourage Your Kids to DISCONNECT

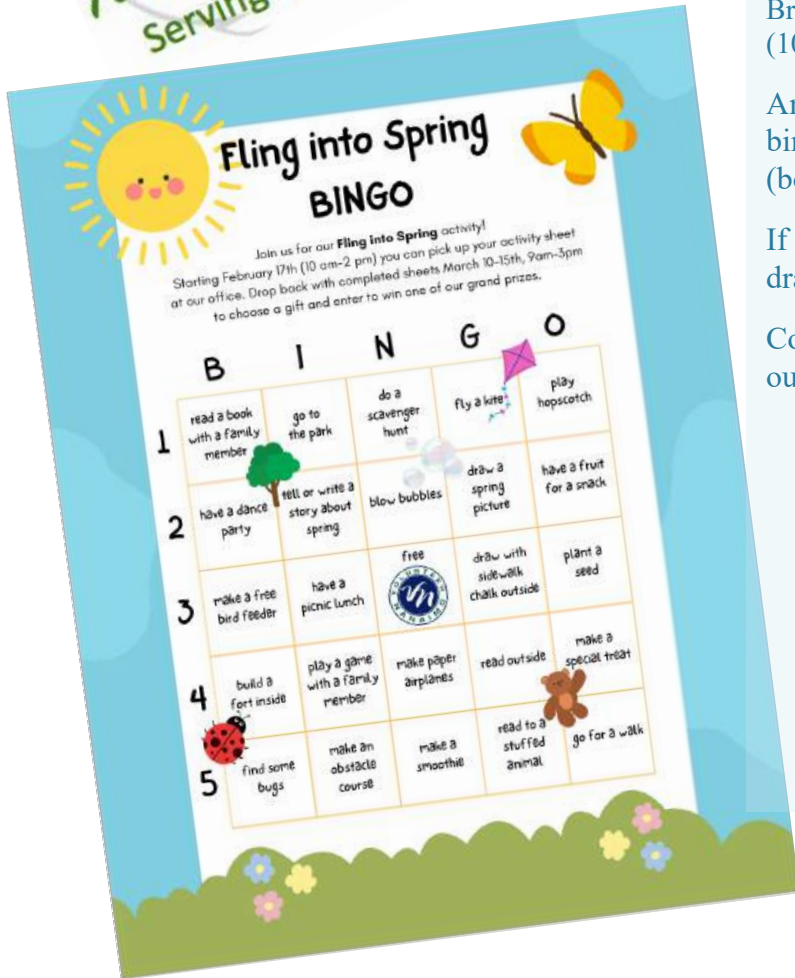
Involve your children in a variety of off-screen activities, for a chance to win great prizes.

Bring them in to pick up a Bingo card on Family Day, Feb 17 (10am. – 2 pm) - or anytime during our open hours after that.

And come by March 10-15 to drop off their completed bingo cards to choose a prize for participating (book, puzzle, game, etc.).

If your child brings us their "spring picture" (that they have drawn) to display, they will receive an extra surprise.

Completed bingo cards will be entered to win one of our grand prizes on March 18th!



Our Angel Network Crafters...

... are in need of washable worsted yarn to make squares for blankets to distribute to babies and seniors in our community.

Drop your donations off at our office at 3148 Barons Road, Monday to Thursday between 9am and 3pm

THANK YOU


MONTHLY MARKET
Saturday
Feb. 8th / March 8th
11am - 4pm

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
 4235 Departure Bay road
 (behind Country Club Mall)

LOCAL, HANDMADE, UNIQUE GIFTS
Valentine's Day or St. Patrick's Day
birthday or just because

Pendants, baked goods, wooden crafts,
 designer clothing, denim bags/jackets,
 pedicure packages, looseleaf tea & more!

FREE Admission / GREAT parking
 Learn more about VolNan programs & services

Volunteer Nanaimo Youth Making a Difference!



Volunteer Nanaimo offers young people the opportunity to develop leadership skills while making a positive impact in the community through volunteering.

January was full of joy and meaningful connections! YouthNetwork members sang songs with seniors at Eden Gardens and learned how to prepare healthy and nutritious meals with Nanaimo Foodshare. Our Japanese exchange students, Maho and Rina, shared insights into Japanese culture. Additionally, youth volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters, sorting clothing items and took part in our first planning meeting of the year. What a great start to the year!

If you're interested in volunteering and making a positive difference in our community, join YouthNetwork! The program is open to youth aged 11–29. Members have the opportunity to volunteer at community events, participate in social activities, plan and lead initiatives, and attend workshops. For more information, please reach out to Cam & Anni at volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events in February:

- ◆ **Safe Space Meetings – Every Monday**, from 6-8 pm at Volunteer Nanaimo. Join us for safe space meetings, where LGBTQ+ youth and allies can connect, share experiences, and find support.
- ◆ **Guitar Lessons – Every Tuesday**, from 5-6 pm at Volunteer Nanaimo. Learn how to play guitar in a group setting. Guitars are available at the office for use.
- ◆ **Bi-weekly Art Club - Wednesdays, February 12 and 26**, from 5-6:30 pm at Volunteer Nanaimo. Get creative! Bring your own art supplies if you have them.
- ◆ **Introduction to Roleplaying – Every Thursday**, from 5-8 pm at Volunteer Nanaimo. Dive into the world of Dungeons and Dragons.
- ◆ **Volunteer Nanaimo Monthly Craft Market - Saturday, February 8**, from 9 am-4 pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Hall. Assist with setup, takedown, and help at our Volunteer Nanaimo market table.
- ◆ **Valentine's Dance - On Saturday, February 8**, from 5-9 pm at Bowen Park Auditorium. Volunteer at our community booth and assist with other event tasks.
- ◆ **Planning Meeting - Wednesday, February 19**, from 5-6:30 pm at Volunteer Nanaimo. Brainstorm and collaborate on projects, events, and activities with other youth and community partners.
- ◆ **Maple Sugar Festival & Coldest Night of the Year - Weekend of February 21- 23**
for more details please email us!

If you would like to join any of the above events, please email us!

volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com



This newsletter is published monthly by Volunteer Nanaimo, which is solely responsible for its content.

www.volunteernanaimo.ca

Editor Lois Peterson

If you'd like to know more about anything you read here, or would like to contribute material, please email us at vn3148@gmail.com with 'Newsletter' in the subject line.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Province of British Columbia – Gaming Commission

