

Programs Spotlighted

We are happy to spotlight two of our most recent new members in this edition of Quest:

The Leadership Centre of Central Alberta



Background

- The Leadership Centre is a non-profit society established on March 20, 2001;
- Managed by a volunteer Board of Directors;
- The Centre was formed with the purpose of fostering the leadership capacity of Central Alberta;
- Our flagship program is LEADERSHIP NETWORKS which has been running for 8 years;
- It is a leadership development model that is being viewed as a model for integrating rural and urban needs into a regional program;
- Over 125 Alumni of Leadership Networks program.

Networks in Action

What is Leadership Networks?

- The Leadership Networks program is a comprehensive leadership skill development program that builds individual, organizational and community capacity;
- It starts in November and ends in June;
- Networks group is involved in Learning Days, Individual Projects, Peer Coaching and a 'real' community project;
- The Networks groups have been involved in 18 community projects which have supported the work of the local not for profit organizations in the region;
- The group is made up of participants from the private, public and not for profit sectors.

The Future

- Continue to grow and enhance the Leadership Networks program;
- Host and support the Leadership Community of Practice that was established in December 2009;
- Build our fee for service leadership training to promote The Leadership Centre as a Centre of Leadership Excellence for Central Alberta;
- Research the potential for an Executive Leadership Program.



Networks in Action

Inspiring Leadership Excellence

www.theleadershipcentre.ca

Leadership BC - Central Vancouver Island: Leadership In Action

Background

- Developed in 2005 by the BC Chamber of commerce as a way of helping build strong communities by increasing the capacity of the community leaders in the province
- Community-based program that brings stakeholders together to create projects to meet their specific leadership needs;
- In 2009 the LBC programs in Ladysmith and Nanaimo amalgamated into Leadership BC - Central Vancouver Island with the support of the Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce.

About the Program

- 10-month program combines all the best elements of adult learning to create an engaging, thought-provoking growth experience that helps participants to learn to lead self, lead others, and lead community;
- The initial weekend retreat introduces the participants to the rudiments of community leadership as well as acquainting them with the program's structure and requirements;
- Opening weekend is then followed by 8 Community Learning Days (one full day per month) each of which investigates a different topic from community structures to conflict resolution to life balance and wellness;
- In teams, and with the assistance of a coach, participants are given the opportunity to apply their developing leadership and project management skills through the creation, planning, and implementation of community project. From working with community partners to evaluating the final outcomes, this project creates a safe place in which participants can experience the challenges of team building first hand while gaining valuable insight into their own leadership style.
- Finally, the program is brought to a close with a graduation ceremony.

The Future

LBC-CVI has taken the program in a new, exciting direction as it combines the knowledge and resources across several communities to increase the opportunities for community impact and cross-community networking. The program provides leadership training and support, encouraging its graduates to help shape the future of their businesses and organizations, as well as their respective communities.

2008 saw an exciting advance in the Leadership BC program when a partnership was developed with Vancouver Island University's Centre for Continuing Studies. Successful completion of the LBC program could now be applied as 6 transfer credits towards VIU's 12-credit Certificate in Community Leadership, a cross-disciplinary approach to building community leadership in which participants develop skills and knowledge in leadership, community awareness, community-based action research, and fostering leadership development.

Since 2005, LBC - CVI and its parent programs in Ladysmith and Nanaimo have graduated over 140 local women and men. These emerging leaders have learned new skills, made important contacts, and gained a greater understanding of their community's issues, challenges, and opportunities. As the current program year comes to a close, the LBC - CVI Advisory Board has already begun plans for the coming year and is anticipating continued success.

For more information, please visit the program's website at www.leadershipbccvi.ca