

# Media Advisory

For Immediate Release:

## **All Candidates Meeting on Homelessness, Poverty and Harm Reduction, May 7**

Victoria, BC, May 3, 2013 – Media are invited to attend the All Candidates Meeting on Homelessness, Poverty and Harm Reduction on May 7 at 7pm at the First Metropolitan Church Hall. Members of the public are invited to participate in the debate and meet with members of the Downtown Service Providers (DSP).

### **Invited Candidates:**

Karen Bill, Liberal  
Carole James, NDP  
Jane Sterk, Green

**Moderator:** Gregor Craigie of the CBC

**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2013

**Time:** 6:15pm to 9pm

- 6:15 to 7pm:
  - a service fair of DSP members
  - written questions will be accepted
- 7 to 8:30pm:
  - All Candidates Meeting

**Location:** First Metropolitan Church Hall  
932 Balmoral Rd, Victoria

**To Participate:** The public can submit questions at the event: in writing and via twitter using #QCandidateYYJ

Members of the public are invited to learn more about the Downtown Service Providers member agencies at their information booths set up at the meeting.

**Media interviews** will be available at 8:30pm following the meeting.

### **Sponsoring Organizations:**

The **Downtown Service Providers** (DSP) is a collaboration of service providers, advocacy organizations, funders and policy makers working together to achieve the vision of a safe, secure, healthy community for all. The mission of the DSP is to have a positive impact on the lives of citizens experiencing marginalization by coordinating the efforts of individual organizations to achieve improved outcomes. We strive to be the 'go to' association to address social, health and safety issues in the downtown core. Contact: Kathy Stinson, Chair - [kstinson@CoolAid.org](mailto:kstinson@CoolAid.org)

The **Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness** is a partnership of local service providers, non-profit organizations, all levels of government, and the business, post-secondary and faith communities. The Coalition's mission is to end homelessness in Greater Victoria by 2018.

**Faith in Action** is a group of people from diverse faith traditions and spiritual paths who are united by their concern for the poor and vulnerable in our province. Our focus is to encourage governments and community groups to address the root causes of poverty in BC by creating systems of support that recognize the inherent dignity and worth of all citizens. All who share this vision of a just and caring community are welcome to join us as we explore ways to promote transformative change and model the compassion we wish to see in the world.

The **Committee to End Homelessness Victoria** are activists who have been meeting since 2006. We bring together homeless, formerly homeless, and housed allies to find solutions and press for change. We challenge the actions of our politicians, bureaucrats, service providers and the police. We listen to the concerns voiced by people living on the streets and others who experience homelessness in Victoria, and we promise to take action by bringing their concerns to the attention of those who can act and make a positive difference in their lives.

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For more information:

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