

**Formerly: The Cowichan Men's Resource Centre  
Community Survey Summary  
May 2010**

**Survey Design & Administration:**

The survey consisted of 9 questions of a demographic nature, as well as 8 questions offering multiple choices, a rating scale and open ended, fill in the blank responses. Additionally available was a section requesting feedback and comments in regards to the survey, The Cowichan Men's Resource Centre or any other comments desired by the survey taker.

It was decided to keep the length of the survey relatively short, on average taking under 10 minutes to complete, with the goal of gaining as much information as possible in that period of time.

The survey was conducted between December 15, 2009 and March 31, 2010 in the Cowichan Valley Regional District, holding a population of 76,929 as per the 2006 census report. Administration of the survey was via two methods, the first through a survey based website that linked through emails and The Cowichan Men's Resource Centre website. ([www.cowichanmen.org](http://www.cowichanmen.org)) Hard copy surveys were as well filled out in public locations with the information input to the survey at a later date.

The accuracy of the survey based upon the sampling size (.004%) and the entire population of the area (76,929) served by the Cowichan Men's Resource Centre is **95% +/- 5.57%** (see appendix 1)

**Demographics**

We attempted to cover as many details in regards to demographics within the first portion of this survey if the need arose to cross reference significant data that may have arisen as a result of differences due to race, gender, income levels and the like.

A good sampling was able to be achieved when comparing ethnicity, family size, gender, and education levels. Discrepancies arose in regards to age in the age ranges of 45 – 54 and as well the 55 – 65 range. With those age ranges being over represented at approximately two to one in comparison to that of the 2006 Census. All other areas seemed to show very slight differences of on average less than 5% when comparing the surveyed demographics to that of the 2006 Census.

**Survey**

Those surveyed were clear on what they felt the services that should be offered. With little difference between men and women when approaching this question, the top three answers for this for both genders were Individual Counselling, Fathering/Parenting and Relationship Counselling with women stating Fathering/Parenting be the highest priority whereas men stated Individual Counselling should be that priority.

When asked about issues facing men and families again gender played little role in the most predominant answers. With men stating in order of importance Father and Child Relationships, Financial Concerns and Spousal Relations being

the primary issues. Women queried stated those issues in order of importance consisted of Financial Concerns, Father and Child Relationships and Lack of Communication being the main concerns, with the fourth highest being Spousal Relationships.

The next series of questions asked for a rating scale of one through six on a variety of questions related to the need, direction and support of a Men's Resource Centre within the Cowichan Valley.

Basing responses as a percentage on the top third, or as just those feeling strongly or very strongly about the questions,

- **81.6%** stated a strong need for a Men's Resource Centre
- **70%** strongly felt there were not enough services in support of men and their families
- **55.9%** stated they would strongly support a Men's Resource Centre.

When surveyed upon where people would go if they were in need of assistance, responses for this were based on an open fill in the blank format to encourage people to come up with responses as opposed to offering choices. Responses were then grouped, with the following highest results found.

- **19%** Friends
- **17%** Not for Profit Organizations
- **15%** Family
- **15%** Medical Professionals

Those surveyed were then given an opportunity to add comments, suggestions or remarks regarding the survey and the Men's Resource Centre. **32.7%** of those surveyed entered some form of comment in this field.

The majority of the comments and responses **46%** consisted of some positive message of support for the work and desire for the creation of a Men's Resource Centre in serving the Cowichan Valley Regional District. This was followed by **39%** commenting on programs or issues facing men and their families.

### **In Summary**

The sampling represented a good cross section of the Cowichan Valley, and were clear in their statements of desire as to what programs should be made available, their support of, and need for a Men's Resource Centre. This was verified by the community responding that the main place they seek assistance after communicating with friends are local not for profit organizations such as The Cowichan Men's Resource Centre.