

## What is the purpose of the Community Accord?

The accord will allow us to reaffirm our faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women. It will allow us to take concrete action in the signing of the accord stating that we desire to live in a community that is a vibrant, diverse and progressive community in which all people live, work, play and prosper together.

## For more information

- For more information or to become a member of the Good Neighbours Committee:

E-mail: [smilinski@cnc.bc.ca](mailto:smilinski@cnc.bc.ca)

Phone: 250-567-3200

Blog: [goodneighbours.wordpress.com](http://goodneighbours.wordpress.com)

To sign the Community Accord

- District of Vanderhoof Office  
160 Connaught Street  
Vanderhoof, BC V0J 3A0  
Phone: 250-567-4711
- Saik'uz First Nation  
720 Patrick Street  
Vanderhoof, BC V0J 3A1  
Phone: 250-567-9293  
Fax: 250-567-2998

## An alternate approach

## GNC and the Community Accord

The Community Accord is the commitment by the citizens of Vanderhoof and Saik'uz towards a community which is vibrant, diverse and progressive and a community in which all people live, work, play and prosper together.

The Community Accord has been signed by:

- District of Vanderhoof



- Saik'uz First Nation



- College of New Caledonia



- School District No. 91



- Rotary Club of Vanderhoof



- Regional District Bulkley Nechako, Area "F"



- Vanderhoof Chamber of Commerce



# Good Neighbours Committee

Vanderhoof, British Columbia



A diverse, welcoming, inclusive, vibrant, progressive, community for all



## Community Accord

Reaffirming our faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women

Desiring to promote realization of the principles contained in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination, and in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or mental or physical disability. The Community of Vanderhoof in order to

create a welcoming and inclusive community desires to support the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to the fullest degree.

Believing that promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic communities contributes to the political and social stability of the Vanderhoof community.

Emphasizing that promotion and realization of the rights of culturally and linguistically diverse peoples is integral to the development of our society and strengthens friendship and cooperation among the Vanderhoof community.

Recognizing the need for all community members to recognize and respect effective implementation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom with regard to the rights of persons belonging to different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic communities within Vanderhoof.

### We Proclaim this Community Accord

In recognition of Vanderhoof as a vibrant, diverse and progressive community in which all people live, work, play and prosper together we the undersigned representatives of Vanderhoof's varied communities undertake to:

- Promote respect for diversity across our community
- Seek opportunities to work together to reaffirm our similarities as human beings and the fundamental principles that unite us as community members
- Advocate for the elimination of racial and religious intolerance
- Reject all forms of racial and religious denigration, violence, harassment and unlawful discrimination

In endorsing this declaration, I, \_\_\_\_\_, along with other signatories representing the District of Vanderhoof, Saik'uz First Nation, College of New Caledonia, School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes), Vanderhoof Chamber of Commerce, Vanderhoof Rotary Club, and Regional District Bulkley Nechako, Area "F" accept responsibility to comply with these principles.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vanderhoof, BC

\_\_\_\_\_  
m/d/y



## Good Neighbours Committee (GNC)

The GNC's mission statement is to have a society where racist behaviour is unacceptable and mutual respect between individuals is honoured.



The Community Accord is the culmination of ten years of work towards an inclusive and welcoming community. Some of the projects the GNC initiated:

- Legacy of Lights
- Respect . . . Accept Youth Project
- Video: youth-created and designed
- Community dialogue: "What is a Welcoming and Inclusive Community?"
- Earth Day Celebrations, 2004: Saik'uz and Vanderhoof tree-planting festival
- Social interaction opportunities among diverse groups
- Cultural activities
- Arts Unlimited Banner Project: "Celebrating Our Diversity"