

Our First Vibrant Communities Trail Builder

Congratulations to the Quality of Life CHALLENGE in BC's Capital Region - they have become Vibrant Communities' first Trail Builder!

The CHALLENGE will receive extra financial and technical supports over the next three years to implement their community plan to increase the number of people enjoying sustainable incomes, affordable housing and social and community connections .

As a Trail Builder within Vibrant Communities, the CHALLENGE will help to expand the growing body of practice and learning on community-based poverty reduction and help the initiative to reach its targets of engaging hundreds of organizations. The CHALLENGE's contributions - coupled with those of other upcoming Trail Builders - will help other communities across the country develop the capacity to substantially reduce poverty.

The CHALLENGE has completed the Poverty Matrix for the Capital Region, preparing an inventory of existing poverty-reduction programs. The inventory helped to establish "who is already doing what" for poverty reduction in the region and identified gaps in existing programs and services. The community then came up with possible solutions for reducing poverty through paid work. For more, see the poverty matrix papers under Victoria's Key Documents.

In the last year the emphasis has been on getting the message out that everyone can do something to improve our quality of life. The CHALLENGE has gone out by TV, radio and press thanks to the commitment of our media partners. The message is, 'If we can imagine it, we can do it!'