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## **Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association Honored with 2015 Station Award**

Duncan, Vancouver Island, BC,

June 30, 2015

The Board of Directors of the *Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association* was honored this June as the recipient of the *2015 Station Board of the Year Award*. This award was launched in 2014 by the staff of the *Cowichan Green Community* as a way to acknowledge the dedication of their own board – in particular for their hard work as the association transitioned to their new space in the former Phoenix Station Motor Inn (now named the Station). The directors of the Cowichan Green Community were appropriately named as the first recipients of this award, and in 2015 the organization decided to invite external nominations from the community as a way to celebrate the efforts of board members from organizations across the Cowichan Valley.

Judy Stafford, Executive Director for the Cowichan Green Community (CGC), says that the Station Board of the Year Award is “a way of celebrating the efforts of volunteer board members and the unseen, behind-the-scenes work that goes on to make all of our community non-profits so successful.” The Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association (CTRA) was among many deserving organizations submitted for consideration. “We were very pleased with the number of nominations we received,” notes Stafford, “we were so happy to hear of so many successes out there.”



Anne Muir, Executive Director for the Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association, submitted the nomination for the CTRA Board of Directors, writing that the group is “engaged, and honestly passionate about what they do.” Muir continues that “they actively take part in the meetings, step up to help when needed, and take pride in what CTRA accomplishes.” Ever the multi-faceted group, Muir explains how in addition to their work as stewards of the charity, many of the CTRA board members also volunteer “hands on” in the program as “horse-handlers” and “side-walkers.” She claims this is integral in building a team that is “very well-versed and invested in the day-to-day operations of the program.” For Anne the result is a “strong and healthy organization that is a pleasure to be involved with – whether as a staff member, participant, or volunteer.”

The award was officially presented to the members of the CTRA Board of Directors on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the grand opening of CTRA’s new outdoor riding arena. Stafford acknowledges that choosing the 2015 recipient “was a hard choice, but ultimately the Cowichan Therapeutic Riding Association came out as the winners.” She concludes by saying that CGC was “honored to hand off the award this year” to CTRA as a way of to “celebrate all of their successes.”

For more information on the CTRA Board of Directors or the program generally please contact:

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For more information on the Station Board of the Year Award and the Cowichan Green Community please contact:

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