



BOWEN ISLAND
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

YOU ARE INVITED

Be one of 60 people taking part in our *Vital Conversation* event on May 31st

The Bowen Island Community Foundation is one of 200 Canadian foundations supporting their local community's charitable needs. This year, we are celebrating our 10th anniversary of giving back to Bowen.

The genesis of the *Vital Conversation* event

In its first decade, the Foundation has grown an asset base of close to a million dollars. Year after year, the Foundation produces income that gets distributed in the form of grants to projects that touch all aspects of life on Bowen Island. Our anniversary year project is to develop a clear picture of community needs and a corresponding set of funding priorities. We are looking for community guidance from a range of perspectives to help develop this picture. We have created a short event called *Vital Conversation* to gather community input.

We need your help to set our funding course

The *Vital Conversation* event will bring together 60 people from around Bowen Island to discuss the types of projects and charitable initiatives that will keep our community strong and make Bowen Island an even better place to live. We have invited Tom James, a very skilled and experienced facilitator, to lead the 2.5 hour event. We will be working in a mix of large groups and smaller groups, with breaks and refreshments to help fortify us throughout the morning. The

Foundation will use the results of the *Vital Conversation* to guide us in our work with donors and grant recipients in the years to come.

Why you are being invited to be part of this *Vital Conversation*

Our Board of Directors has worked hard—albeit unscientifically—to develop a list of invitees that represent different life stages, community knowledge, walks of life, and interests. Your name was suggested by someone who knows you and respects your perspective on Bowen Island life.

What we hope you will take away

We are asking you to give us a morning of your time to participate in this *Vital Conversation*. In return we hope you will take away new knowledge about community initiatives, and ideas about what might make Bowen Island an even better place to live. We also hope you will enjoy the chance to meet people from around our community in a well-facilitated, friendly, and comfortable set of conversations.

More details about the May 31st event

The Vital Conversation event is happening on Saturday, May 31st from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm at Cates Hill Chapel. You needn't prepare anything beforehand. If you need help with child care or transportation in order to attend, just say the word.

Please RSVP by May 9th

Please send an email to Kathy Bellringer at vitalconversations@bowenfoundation.com by May 9th to let us know whether or not you can attend the event.

We hope you will join us, and look forward to your ideas.

Sincerely

Kathy Bellringer and Joyce Ganong
Co-Chairs, Vital Conversations
Bowen Island Community Foundation
www.bowenfoundation.com