

# CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the Association shall be “Vancouver Island Providence Community Association”.

## ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

- a) To accept stewardship of land and assets in the Cowichan Valley, British Columbia, known as Providence Farm, located at 1843 Tzouhalem Road, which is presently legally described as:
- i) Parcel Identifier No. 009-550-178, Section 18, Range 2, Cowichan District, Shown on Plan 36125; and
  - ii) Parcel Identifier No. 009-550-194, Section 19, Range 3, Cowichan District, Shown on Plan 36125;

and any other land and assets on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, as may, from time to time, become available to the Association.

- b) To perform the duties of stewardship of any land or assets in the Association’s care in such a manner as to ensure that non-renewable resources are perpetuated and that renewable resources are carefully maintained in a sustainable manner, financially, socially and environmentally.
- c) To receive gifts, bequests, funds and property and to hold, invest, administer and distribute funds and property for the purposes of the Association and for such other purposes as authorized for registered charities under the provisions of the Income Tax Act.
- d) Generally, to conduct the business and activities of the Association in a manner according to Codes of Ethics and of Governance for the Association.
- e) To develop programs and services designed to restore and sustain the spirit, potential and skills of people with barriers to education or employment.
- f) To initiate, plan, coordinate or otherwise encourage the implementation of acceptable projects and programs to utilize the land and assets mentioned in (a) above.
- g) To hold safe for purposes consistent with our statements of “Mission”, “Mutual Covenant” and “Purposes” any lands and assets in the Association’s care; specifically, to apply in good faith the values described within this Constitution, in the acceptance or rejection of any project, program, or development involving utilization of those lands and other assets.

### **ARTICLE III – DISSOLUTION**

On the winding up and dissolution of the Association, after all debts have been paid or provision for payment had been made, the payment, transfer and delivery of all assets remaining shall be made to the Sisters of St. Ann, Victoria, British Columbia, or any other charitable organization designated by them. This provision is unalterable.

### **ARTICLE IV - DISSOLUTION OF THE SISTERS OF SAINT ANN**

In the event of the dissolution of the Sisters of Saint Ann, prior in time to the dissolution of the Association, the assets remaining as above shall be distributed to the Congregation or to such other charitable organization as the Congregation may designate in writing. This provision is unalterable.

### **ARTICLE V – NOT FOR PROFIT**

As a not-for-profit organization, the Association shall be carried on without purposes of gain for its members and any profits or other accretions to the Association shall be used for promoting its purposes. No Director shall be paid any remuneration for services rendered to the Association, but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses in acting as a Director. This provision is unalterable.

### **ARTICLE VI – DEFINITIONS**

- a) The terms “Association”, “Congregation” and “The Sisters of Saint Ann” are defined in the Association’s Bylaws. This provision is unalterable.
- b) The term “Providence Lands” is legally described as:  
PID: 023-166-886 Sections 18 and 19, Ranges 2 and 3, Cowichan District, Plan 36125; except part in Plans VIP62100 and VIP86516.

This provision is unalterable.

### **ARTICLE VII – MISSION**

Trusting in Providence, and building upon the faith-centered heritage of our founding members, we are committed to serving needs and to fostering talents of people in the Cowichan Valley, especially of those not easily accepted elsewhere, through our therapeutic community at Providence Farm. Our focus shall be upon the renewal of body and spirit, and upon people caring for the soil, and the soil nurturing the people. This provision is unalterable.

### **ARTICLE VIII – MUTUAL COVENANT (between the Sisters of Saint Ann and Vancouver Island Providence Community Association in Lease Agreement 1989)**

The Sisters of Saint Ann, who have had an ongoing stewardship of the Providence Farm since 1864, covenant with Vancouver Island Community Association to share this resource with the citizens of the Cowichan Valley, witnessing to our strongly held values of:

A. The priority of harmonious relationships:

1. Relationship Between People:

- a) Seek to possess an attitude of respect for and empowerment of all.
- b) Strive to be co-operative rather than competitive in responding to people's needs.
- c) Demonstrate obvious solidarities with people in need.

2. Relationships Between People and Creation:

- a) Strive to be ecologically sensitive in the care of the land and other living creatures.

3. Relationship Between People and God:

- a) Foster a willingness to believe that a Power greater than ourselves will help us become the persons we want to be in the service to others.

B. The holistic development of persons and groups, always focusing on learning and growth.

This provision is unalterable.

**ARTICLE IX – GIFT and COVENANT (between the Sisters of Saint Ann and Vancouver Island Providence Community Association in Title Transfer 2009)**

1. The Association will exercise stewardship of Providence Lands on the terms and conditions herein contained and in accordance with the values and principles described in its Constitution and to use Providence Lands in good faith in a manner consistent with its Purpose, Mission, and Mutual Covenant as contained in its Constitution and further will:
  - a) Not convey, assign or otherwise dispose of Providence Lands or any portion of Providence Lands, or encumber Providence Lands, without prior written consent of the Sisters;
  - b) Protect and maintain Providence Lands to ensure that non-renewable resources are sustained and preserved;
  - c) Continue to permit use of trails on Providence Lands by First Nations peoples of the Cowichan Valley particularly on easterly areas of Providence Lands to high rock bluffs overlooking Cowichan Bay for recreation and sacred purposes, provided that such use shall be consistent with its stewardship of the Providence Lands;
  - d) Continue to allow, from time to time, use of the Providence Lands by the Sisters of St. Ann and by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria, provided that such use shall be consistent with its stewardship of Providence Lands.
2. The Association will, in the event that the Association ceases to operate as a non-profit association or is dissolved or ceases to use Providence Lands in accordance with the Purposes set out in the Constitution of the Association, transfer Providence Lands to the Sisters of St. Ann pursuant to the determinable fee simple reverter.

This provision is unalterable.