

## The Cowichan Watershed Board raises our hands in thanks to the community volunteers, partners and sponsors who made our 12<sup>th</sup> annual Lower River Clean Up a huge success – Huy tseep q'u siem – thanks to all of you!!

Every year the Lower Cowichan River Cleanup event honours the longstanding human legacy of both reliance and stewardship on our river, by removing garbage and recycling from its waters and banks. The cleanup is the feature community event hosted by the CWB, in co-operation with Cowichan Tribes, and could not take place without the help of the hard-working volunteers from the community and our generous partners and sponsors. This year, on August 22nd, 125 volunteers helped remove over a metric ton of waste. Every year those involved feel great satisfaction seeing piles of rubbish and contaminants removed from our waterways, and appreciate the chance to "look after our river", touch base with other concerned Cowichan Valley residents, share a meal together and have some fun!

We would particularly like to thank Cowichan Tribes for hosting the event; acknowledge our sponsors: the Duncan Garage, Real Canadian Superstore, Paper Excellence, Drillwell Enterprises; thank our Partners: the Duncan Rotary Club, Cowichan Green Community, CV Citizen, All Seasons Services; and offer a special thanks to our truck drivers, team leaders, registration crew, the Duncan Rotary cooks, Vern Canute for always being there, City of Duncan and North Cowichan for providing access keys, and CVRD for free tipping!

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude for the words of wisdom and encouragement from the leaders who welcomed everyone to the event: Cowichan Tribes acting Chief Cindy Daniels, Cowichan Elder T'uwaxwiye (Philomena Williams), Cowichan Tribes Councilor Stuart Pagaduan, and CVRD Area E Director Alison Nicholson.

"If we look after the river it will look after us..."

www.cowichanwatershedboard.ca