

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE : MARCH 20, 2018

MARK R. ISFELD PAC TO HOST AN INFORMATION NIGHT FOR THE COMMUNITY ON SUBSTANCE USE AWARENESS

Comox Valley, BC: On Wednesday April 18, 2018 starting at 7pm, the Mark R. Isfeld PAC is hosting an information night for the community in the Gym at Mark R. Isfeld school located at 1551 Lerwick Rd, Courtenay. The evening will cover a wide range of topics around substance use including: early warning signs, the facts behind addiction, how substance use affects teenage brain development, fentanyl and the opioid crisis, legalization of marijuana, rehabilitation support, and other topics. Mostly it's chance for the community to learn and become more aware of substance use in our society and how to support those affected by it.

The evening will include a presentation by John and Jennifer Hedican who will tell the story of the loss of their son Ryan, a Mark R. Isfeld graduate, to fentanyl poisoning. Additionally, the evening highlights a number of speakers covering a range of expertise in substance use, mental health, and addiction medicine:

- Dr. Charmaine Enns - Island Health - North Island Medical Health Officer;
- Dr. Ramm Hering - Physician Lead, Primary Care Substance Use for Island Health, Addiction Medicine Specialist;
- Dr. Theo Jankowski - Addiction Medicine Fellow with the BC Centre on Substance Use;
- Wendy Morin - John Howard Society - Youth and Family Substance Use Counsellor;
- Amanda Ridgway - John Howard Society - Substance Use Prevention and Early Intervention Coordinator;

The evening will conclude with a question and answer period between the audience and the speakers. All are welcome to attend.

About Mark R. Isfeld PAC: The Mark R. Isfeld Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is made up of parent volunteers.

MARK R ISFELD PAC PRESENTS:

AN INFORMATION NIGHT FOR THE COMMUNITY

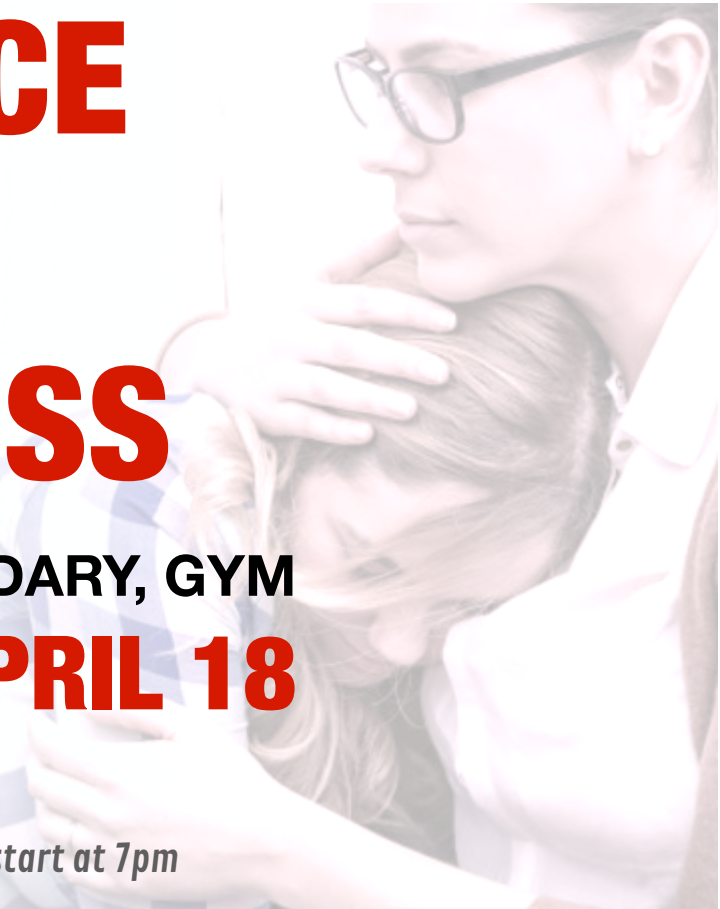
SUBSTANCE USE AWARENESS

MARK ISFELD SECONDARY, GYM

WEDNESDAY APRIL 18

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Doors open at 6:30pm and speakers will start at 7pm



Presentation by : **John & Jennifer Hedican** tell the story of the loss of their son Ryan to fentanyl poisoning

Speaker panel : **Dr. Charmaine Enns** - *Island Health - North Island Medical Health Officer*

Dr. Ramm Hering - *Physician Lead, Primary Care Substance Use for Island Health, Addiction Medicine Specialist*

Dr. Theo Jankowski - *Addiction Medicine Fellow with the BC Centre on Substance Use*

Wendy Morin - *John Howard Society - Youth and Family Substance Use Counsellor*

Amanda Ridgway - *John Howard Society - Substance Use Prevention and Early Intervention Coordinator*

Substance Use Awareness : An Information Night for the Community

EVENING SCHEDULE

7:00 pm

1. Lisa Taylor MC - 2 min
K'omocks greeting , introductions, opening remarks :

Gila'kasla (gay-la-kass-la) Welcome everyone. I would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of the K'omoks First Nation. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on the land and the gift of working with their children.

2. **Ryan Hedican's story** - 30min
John & Jennifer Hedican w/ power point slides
3. Lisa Taylor MC - 1 min
Thank you and transition to panel speakers

7:35 pm

4. **Dr. Charmaine Enns** - 5 min
North Island Medical Health Officer
5. **Dr. Ramm Hering** - 20 min
Physician Lead, Primary Care Substance Use for Island Health, Addiction Medicine Specialist
6. **Dr. Theo Jankowski** - 10 min
Addiction Medicine Fellow with the BC Centre on Substance Use
7. **Wendy Morin** - 10 min
John Howard Society - Youth and Family Substance Use Counsellor
8. **Amanda Ridgway** - 10 min
John Howard Society - Substance Use Prevention and Early Intervention Coordinator
9. Lisa Taylor MC - 1 min
Thank you and transition to questions from the audience

8:30 pm

10. **Q&A** - 20 min
Open mic for questions from the audience
11. Lisa Taylor MC - 1 min
Closing remarks and guide people to resources available in the room.

TOTAL TIME: 1hr 50min