

History of Seven Potatoes (Organization)

In 1985, the Central Vancouver Island Japanese-Canadian Cultural Society (CVIJCCS) was founded as a social and cultural activity group mainly for Japanese Canadians in the Nanaimo area. Its constitution and bylaws left membership open to anyone who was interested in these activities and that inclusive philosophy still holds true today. In the 1980's, the Society decided that the formal name was too long and unofficially started using the name Seven Potatoes because in the Japanese language Nana = Seven and Imo = Potato(es) thereby using the city's name Nanaimo in its translation. The CVIJCCS became officially incorporated under the Society Act in 1989. Its mission statement is to bring people together to understand and appreciate Japanese culture. The main goal is to provide events where people can interact and enjoy Japanese foods and traditions.