



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**FOREMOST CANADIAN THOUGHT LEADER ON**  
**COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS, RANKIN MACSWEEN, COMES TO VICTORIA**

One of the founders of the Community Economic Development movement in Canada and the first CEO of a Community Investment Fund in the country is coming to Victoria.

Rankin MacSween helped to create New Dawn Enterprises in Cape Breton, in 1979, and then established Nova Scotia's first Community Economic Development Investment Fund. New Dawn Enterprises runs several social enterprises, develops affordable and assisted housing; runs a trades training program; and channels RRSP eligible investments into the region's locally owned businesses and affordable housing projects.

MacSween is coming to Victoria from September 24-30 to share knowledge with government, business, community, academic and social movement colleagues based on his extensive experience in social innovation and progressive community change. MacSween will be discussing key trends and issues in social innovation for sustainable community development.

Rankin MacSween will be the featured speaker at three public events.

Wednesday, September 24  
9:30-11:00am

The Inaugural **Annual General Meeting and Launch of the Vancouver Island Community Investment Fund**, at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre.

Wednesday, September 24  
11:30am-1:30pm

The **Community Social Planning Council's Annual General Meeting**, at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre.

Thursday, September 25  
5:30pm-7:30pm

**Investing in Community – a public forum with Rankin MacSween** at the University Club, University of Victoria.

MacSween's visit coincides with several initiatives emerging in Greater Victoria:

- The launch of a Vancouver Island Community Investment Cooperative that will operate a local ethical investment fund similar to New Dawn's.
- The implementation of a Labour Market Development Partnership to build a strategy in the region for the sustainable livelihoods of all residents.
- The creation of a Social Innovation Resource Centre for the region that builds connection, learning, technical assistance, space and functions for a new generation of social enterprise, poverty reduction and prevention initiatives.

For more information about Rankin MacSween and New Dawn Enterprises please visit:  
[www.communitycouncil.ca/MacSween](http://www.communitycouncil.ca/MacSween).

Sponsored by the Community Social Planning Council, Vancity Credit Union, BC Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation, and the BC Partners for Social Impact, MacSween's visit provides an opportunity for our region to learn from leading expertise and springboard that knowledge into action in Greater Victoria.

Rankin MacSween will be available for media interviews and appearances from September 24-29, independently or with personnel from the Vancouver Island Community Investment Cooperative or Community Social Planning Council. Telephone interviews may be arranged for print media.

Media requests can be directed to:

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