



E-Connections

The Electronic Bulletin of Volunteer Richmond Information Services



"Bringing people and services together through community information and volunteerism"



February 2011
E-Connections #6

Richmond Christmas Fund Review

A Community Comes Together

The Richmond Christmas Fund experienced another successful season thanks to the support of generous donors and over 130 volunteers. This year the program helped over 2,200 individuals, including 979 children and teens.

Providing help to the families was no easy feat as this year was also the first time the Richmond Christmas Fund offered same day registration and distribution. This allowed families with children 12 years of age and younger to pick new, donated toys from the McDonald's Toy Room on the same day they registered, as opposed to coming back on a later date. The families appreciated the new process; for many, it made arranging transportation and child care much simpler. It required a lot of flexibility and teamwork but the volunteers came through. They processed nearly 200 registrations during the first two days of the nine day registration period!

Another area the Richmond Christmas Fund saw success was in its fundraising efforts. The program exceeded its goal through creative fundraising activities like the 10 x \$10 Challenge, which used social media to encourage donations, and the December Dime Drive, a spirited competition between schools, businesses, and sports teams to see who could collect the most dimes over the course of 10 days. As well, generous partners and supporters hosted countless community events like Aspac Developments' *Giving the Gift of Christmas*, Art Knapp Plantland's *Eat, Shop and Be Merry* and the Richmond Auto Mall Association's *Windows of Hope*, to name a few.

The Richmond Christmas Fund is grateful for the overwhelming support. Thank you for making holiday wishes come true.



Richmond Christmas Fund Volunteer Appreciation Event

Photography by Pat MacIntosh

Volunteer Richmond News and Notes

Workshops & Training

Featured

Showing Your Love:

Meaningful Volunteer Recognition

Thursday, February 10 | 11:30am - 1:00pm
FREE (VRIS Members) | \$10.00 (Non-Members)

Put on your thinking cap and join us for a "Scattergories-inspired" Brown Bag session to share your volunteer recognition experiences and learn new ideas. This workshop will help you get geared up for National Volunteer Week April 10-16. You will walk away with brilliant and innovative ways to motivate and recognize your volunteers.

Upcoming

I&R Networking Meeting

Wednesday, February 16 | 9:00am - 11:00am
FREE

Successful Fundraising

Monday, February 21 | 9:00am - 12:30pm
\$40.00 (VRIS Members) | \$55.00 (Non-Members)

Evaluating Social Media

Monday, March 7 | 9:30am - 12:30pm
\$40.00 (VRIS Members) | \$55.00 (Non-Members)

Volunteer Management Training Series

Wednesdays, May 18 - June 22 | 6:00pm - 9:00pm
Cost To Be Determined



Caregivers Drop-In Support Group

This group gives caregivers - those who provide unpaid care and support for adults aged 55+ - an opportunity to learn from each other, problem solve, share experiences and, most importantly, support one another.

Dates: 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, February 9 (no meeting February 23), March 9, March 23, and ongoing

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Location: South Arm Community Centre
8880 Williams Road
In the Board Room

Although there is **no cost** to attend, registration is required by phoning 604-279-7020 or e-mailing info@volunteerrichmond.ca.

National Volunteer Week



Canada truly is a nation of volunteers - 12.5 million of them to be precise. During National Volunteer Week, April 10 - 16, we'll shine a spotlight on their inspiring efforts. This year's theme is **Volunteers:**

Passion. Action. Impact. [Click here](#) to view the official NVW website and stay tuned for news on how we'll be celebrating in Richmond.

Programs

- Child Care Resource & Referral Centre
- Information & Volunteer Centre
- Leadership Richmond
- Richmond Christmas Fund
- Seniors Community Support Services

Funders

- United Way of the Lower Mainland
- City of Richmond
- Province of British Columbia
- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- The Government of Canada

Circle of Friends

- Opacity Design Group
- Richmond Review
- Richmond Centre
- Coast Capital Savings
- Richmond Chamber of Commerce
- Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation
- Innovation Networks



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