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named fund focus

Vancity Community Foundation

An Investment In The Human Spirit...

sharing your story...

Submitted by: Jacqueline Dagg, Vancity Community Foundation

The Named Fund program at the Vancity Community Foundation (VCF) is growing rapidly and having an incredible impact on community. The creation of your Fund is a big part of this community impact and I wanted to take a moment to say thank you and congratulations for all the work and dedication you have put into the creation of your Fund. Each Fund created at VCF has a different focus with a different story behind the purpose but they all share a vision of a just, sustainable and healthy community.

VCF would like to properly recognize you for your personal vision and I wanted to let you know in advance that I will be contacting you in the following few months to ask that you share your story with us. In the coming years I want to be sure your history and wishes are properly documented and will remain in “your file” forever. Of course, you are welcome to make changes or add thoughts along the way but ultimately, this way we hope to properly and accurately share your story with those who donate to your fund as well as those who are the recipients of your granting dollars.

To begin, I will send an email (or letter if more appropriate) to initiate your thought process by suggesting a few questions for you to consider. The questions will relate to such topics as the title of your fund (if unique), the purpose of your fund, the reasons behind your desire to establish this community legacy and as well as some information about you as an individual, the person the fund was established in honour of, and/or your organization (if applicable). I would be thrilled to meet with each of you to discuss your own legacy so if you would like to get a jump-start on this conversation, please feel free to contact me anytime to set up a meeting for us to chat. If you would rather not meet in person, you are welcome to provide your thoughts via email or mail, and alternatively, if you wish not to answer the questions at all, that is okay too.

Thank you for all the hard work, energy and thought you have put into the creation and continued growth of your Named Fund. Each Fund is unique yet they all share a vision of community that can only continue to grow and prosper in the years to come. I will be in touch with you soon...

Thank you for your *investment in the human spirit.*

To share your story please contact Jacqueline Dagg, Manager of Communications and Resource Development by telephone at 604-877-7241 or via email at jacqueline_dagg@vancity.com.

10 new named funds join our family

Our Named Fund family is continuing to grow in number. With ten new funds recently approved and several more in the works, the Vancity Community Foundation currently administers over *7 million dollars* in named endowment funds. Congratulations to you for your foresight and generosity. We are proud to be able to support you and your investments in our community.

named funds

- Amy Dalgleish Memorial Endowment Fund
- Arts and Culture Legacy Fund
- BC Borstal Association Fund
- BC Community Sustainability Fund
- BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Fund
- BC Litigation Fund
- BCCFA Scholarship Fund
- Better Environmentally Sound Transportation
- BGH Community Fund
- Brooke Forbes Legacy Fund
- Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives BC Fund
- Chiron Family Fund
- CoDevelopment Endowment Fund
- Cooperative Commonwealth Fund
- Co-operators Fund, The
- CSR Leadership Fund
- Cull Family Fund
- Currie/Baehr Family Endowment Fund
- Cyndi & Jim Poynter Thoracic Nursing Education Fund
- Director's Fund
- Donald George Robson Fund
- Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Legacy Fund
- Driscoll Family Fund
- Elizabeth Fry Society Endowment Fund
- Farm Folk / City Folk Endowment Fund
- FORED Environmental Conservation Fund
- Garbha Foundation Fund
- Grace Mirehouse Memorial Award Fund
- green grass productions inc. Community Projects Fund
- Grey Community Fund
- Gulf & Fraser Financial Group Fund
- ICBC Endowment Fund For People with Disabilities
- Innovation Fund
- Interior Savings Community Development Fund
- Jennifer Prosser Wade Endowment Fund
- Jhajj Foundation
- John Freeman Educational Fund
- Joy and Ken Williams Education Fund
- Judith Marcuse Project Fund
- Kay Stovold Memorial Fund
- Krannitz Family Fund
- Laura Napodi Endowment Fund
- Leo and Frances Longo Fund
- Leon C. Morel Memorial Scholarship Fund
- LEPS Bursary Fund
- Lions Bay Community Scholarship Foundation Fund
- Margaret Mitchell Fund for Women
- Mary Mira Kasljevic-Robson Fund
- Mowat Family Fund
- Myasthenia Gravis Association of BC Fund
- Nancy Grant Fund
- Nechako Valley Community Foundation
- North Shore Community Resource Society Endowment Fund
- Pang Kui Chiu Fund
- PLAN Circle of Friends Legacy Fund
- Purple Papillon Fund
- Quart Family Fund
- Richard E. Sanford Fund
- Robert Chambers Memorial Endowment Fund
- Sawicki-Runka Sustainable Environment Fund
- Shannon Meehan Legacy Fund
- Sharon Martin Community Health Fund
- Shooting Stars Foundation Endowment Fund
- Silver Tubby Fund
- Somerville Fund
- SPARC - Michael Goldberg Fund
- Spectrum Endowment Fund
- Squamish Credit Union Endowment Fund
- Strandberg Family Fund
- The Calarchi Fund
- Vancitizens' Legacy Fund
- Vancity Place for Youth Society Fund
- Vancouver Women's Fund
- VIPY Fund
- Watson/Colley Memorial Endowment Fund
- Williams Family Fund
- Youth at Risk

Congratulations & welcome to the following individuals and organizations for the creation of their new Named Funds:

BC Community Sustainability Fund was established by FORED BC a non-profit society that engages citizens, communities and volunteers in activities and choices that protect, conserve, rehabilitate, enhance the environment and promote sustainability. This Fund will generate income for the organization to develop and distribute best practices templates on integrating sustainability values into community decision-making.

BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Fund will provide scholarships to assist Canadian students, ordinarily residents of British Columbia, to further their education in horticulture or related studies in a recognized accredited college or university. The Council was established in 1943 and is the umbrella group for over 100 garden clubs in BC.

Brooke Forbes Legacy Fund was created in honour of Brooke Forbes, a former Associate Producer at CBC Radio in Vancouver. Brooke worked on The Early Edition in the seventies and early eighties in Vancouver then moved to Toronto to work as a producer on many of CBC Radio's network programs. Brooke retired last year after 25 years of service and died April 22nd, 2006 after a heroic battle with cancer. This Fund was created to pursue one of Brooke's passions in life – introducing minority youth to the magic of making radio.

The CSR Leadership Fund was established by Vancity in recognition of Priscilla Boucher. Priscilla left Vancouver and Vancity to further her career as the Vice President of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Assiniboine Credit Union. Vancity has created this legacy in honour of the incredible work Priscilla has accomplished both personally and professionally in our community, and in particular, her achievements in the area of corporate social responsibility.

FarmFolk/CityFolk Endowment Fund was established by the FarmFolk/CityFolk Society, a non-profit organization that works with food communities toward a local, sustainable food system. FF/CF works on projects that provide access to and protection of foodlands; that support local, small scale growers and producers; and that educate, communicate and celebrate local food communities.

Jhajj Foundation was created by Parm and Kulwant Jhajj and income from the Fund will be used to support qualified donees pursuing community economic development initiatives.

Shannon Meehan Legacy Fund was created in memory of Shannon who was a staff member of the Powell River Association for Community Living. Shannon's family, in partnership with PRACL created this fund in his memory as his sudden death was a heartfelt loss to both staff and clients. The income from the fund will be used to support the Powell River Association for Community Living, its programs, operations and activities.

SPARC BC Michael Goldberg Fund was created in honour of Michael Goldberg, in recognition of his recent retirement. The Fund will generate income to support SPARC BC, its programs, operations and activities. Preference will be given internally at SPARC to support advocacy projects as per Michael's passion, commitment and dedication to advocacy work in community.

Squamish Credit Union Endowment Fund was established in December 2005, when Squamish members voted in favour of a Partnership Growth Model merger with Vancity where Squamish will operate as an independent business unit within Vancity. The Squamish Credit Union Endowment Fund was established to support charitable works in the communities within the Sea to Sky Corridor.

Vancitizens' Fund was established by the Vancity Marketing group in honour of the BC Chapter of American Marketing Association's Marketer of the Year Award recipient. Vancity was chosen by the BC Chapter of the American Marketing Association (BCAMA) as the recipient of its 2005 "Marketer of the Year" award, one of BC's most prestigious marketing awards and the BCAMA's highest honour. Vancity then established this fund for community granting by future award recipients.

give a gift of securities...

In a huge victory for the charitable sector, the 2006 Canadian federal budget includes a provision to eliminate the capital gains tax on gifts of appreciated securities to charities. The government recognizes that donations made by individuals help build capacity in the charitable sector, which benefits Canada's overall prosperity. This new legislation will make gifts of appreciated securities traded on North American and international exchanges an even more attractive philanthropic option for all donors.

Changes to capital gains tax contained in the 2006 federal budget* could make donating publicly listed securities (i.e. shares, bonds or units of a mutual fund trust) directly to your Named Fund much more cost-effective for you than giving a traditional cash donation. This is especially good news if you own securities that you have previously avoided selling because you did not want to deal with the capital gains tax.

Giving shares is now an even more tax effective way to contribute to your Named Fund.

As anticipated by some analysts, the federal government has included provisions in the budget to fully exempt the capital gains tax you would normally pay on the profits of selling publicly listed securities, providing you donate these securities directly to a registered Canadian public charity such as the Vancity Community Foundation. You will still receive a charitable receipt for the full market value of the donated securities, so this new change extends your tax savings even further. (Before this development, donors paid a portion of the capital gains tax when making a charitable donation of securities that had appreciated in value.)

As always, it's a good idea to seek professional advice from your own tax or financial advisor but if you have any questions about how to make a gift of securities directly to your fund please contact Jackie at 604-877-7241.

**Please note that this tax change affecting donations of publicly listed securities was presented as part of the federal government's May 2 Budget Plan 2006, which states that this change was to be effective immediately. This information is of a general nature only and should not be considered a definitive analysis of tax law nor a substitute for professional advice.*

A letter from...
BC Council of Garden Clubs

The BC Council of Garden Clubs is delighted to have become one of the donors in the Vancity Community Foundation by establishing a permanent legacy in the form of a Named Fund.

Our organization was formed in 1943 and is the umbrella group for over 100 garden clubs in B C. The Council sponsors and supports the B. C. Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Trust Fund, which provides scholarships and bursaries each year to Horticultural Students at various colleges and universities throughout BC.

Our Thanks to Jacqueline Dagg for her guidance, patience and genuine interest in our deliberation process in becoming a donor. We are looking forward to a long and beneficial relationship with the Vancity Community Foundation.

green grass productions **Community Project Fund**

Submitted by: green grass productions inc.

Our Named Fund has supported Street Art Works Mentorship Society for the past ten years and is proud to continue to be a major sponsor of this important work. This Society primarily works with young people who present with multiple barriers to securing sustainable employment. Through engagement using art as a creative tool, these youth show amazing talent and skill, which is encouraged by their mentors and molded into a skills set, which the youth use for work, life and interpersonal relationship building.

One of our graduates with mentor and former art teacher Baruta.

A recent graduation ceremony was celebrated at Ironworks Gallery in Railtown where the youth from the program mounted their own exhibition and silent auction raising money for the organization as well as exposing their talent and skills to a large audience. The event was sponsored by *green grass productions inc*. and Western Economic Diversification Canada and was an amazing success. We would like to say a big thank you to the Ironworks Gallery, the many local BC artists who donated artwork for the auction and to the musicians "Triton Zon" who donated their time and wonderful sounds to the evening.

Green Grass Productions Community Fund with support form Vancity Community Foundation is pleased to announce that this year they are donating $20,000 to support these innovative and life changing programs for at risk youth.

If you are interested in gaining more information about Street Art Works Mentorship Society, how to be a sponsor, volunteer, mentor or just out of personal interest, please contact Darren Usher, Executive Director, at 604-876-0234 or via email at darren@streetartworks.com.

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my VISA Rewardsplus

Visa Points… *yet another way to grow to your Fund or support your favorite charity*

Vancity Visa recently launched a rewards website at https://www.myvisarewardsplus.com. Using this tool Vancity Visa Card Holders can donate their rewards points to charity. The process is simple. Sign up for rewards and watch your points grow as you use your card. When you are ready to donate your points, simply log into the rewards site and complete the donation form. Type in your Named Fund as the charity of your choice. Vancity Community Foundation will handle the rest! Ask friends and family to donate their points too. Tax receipts for donations of $10 or more will be provided. Points are converted at 100 points per dollar, minimum donation of 1,000 points or $10 is required to complete an online donation.

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective
requests your support…

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective is a volunteer-driven women's organization. Since 1972, we have promoted and supported women helping women to help themselves. We are women who value women's knowledge, support one another to take charge of our own health, and raise awareness and inspire action for the feminist advancement of women's health. Our activities and resources include:

- a women's health resource library
- a health practitioner directory (30% of the women who contact us need assistance finding a new family doctor)
- workshops including the Patient's Rights workshop which provides Aboriginal women, poor women, and immigrant and refugee women with self-advocacy skills and information about BC's health care system
- *HER VOICE*, our women's health newsletter
- *Titbits*, our fact sheets about women's health including Endometriosis, How to find a Doctor, Depression, Accessing Abortion, etc.
- collective advocacy through the media regarding women's health issues
- organizing and attending community events and marking occasions such as the International Day of Action for Women's Health and International Women's Day

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective is committed to fighting for appropriate, quality health care for all women in BC. **Your donation will assist us with this important work and we can provide you with a charitable tax receipt so that you may personally benefit, as well!**

Fraser Valley Humane Society Spay and Neuter Program
requests your support…

Last summer a Mission citizen was surprised when she found an obviously pregnant cat hiding under her daughter's bed. The Fraser Valley Humane Society was contacted and soon the scared cat was settled in to a warm kennel at a local vet hospital and given the name "Beauty". Shortly after settling in, and before her injuries could be treated, Beauty gave birth to 7 kittens. Beauty raised her kittens in a foster home until they were ready to be weaned and adopted to new homes. Her tail was amputated due to the severity of the injury but she quickly recovered. At this time another litter of malnourished kittens were dropped off at the society as there was no mum-cat looking after them. Beauty readily accepted these sad kittens and nursed them until they too were healthy and ready to be adopted into forever loving homes.

Beauty is just one of the over 500 cats helped by the society in 2005. The community is overflowing with cats like Beauty, which is why the society implemented a novel spay and neuter campaign in 2005. By sterilizing 70% of all cats in the community the growth rate of the population will be stopped. Consequently the number of feral and unwanted cats will be reduced to a manageable level. This technique has been successful in many American states. The Fraser Valley Humane Society will demonstrate to other Canadian communities that this approach will, for the first time ever, establish a true no-kill solution to cat overpopulation.

The program is free and accessible to all residents. It success is dependent on grants from organizations that recognize our approach as a sustainable solution to the problem faced by animal shelters everywhere. For more information please visit our website at www.humanesociety.cjb.net

The Creative Peace Network
requests your support...

The Creative Peace Network Society is seeking funds for Peace it Together 2006, a 19-day transformative program for 32 Canadian, Palestinian and Israeli teenagers.

Peace it Together will address the seemingly insatiable need among youth impacted by conflict to find new avenues for hope, strength and joy. Part of a long-term strategy of building a constituency for peace among Israelis and Palestinians and improving the relationship between cultures in Canada, it will enable the participants and the wider community to:

- overcome stereotypes and increase understanding for the “other”, and
- become inspired and empowered community leaders.

After meeting each other in Vancouver, the youth will gather at the Gulf Islands Film and Television School on Galiano Island. Activities will focus on conflict resolution, leadership training and film-making. In small multi-cultural groups, the youth will create short films about how the conflict impacts their lives, to be screened publicly in Vancouver on August 20. Reunions and follow-up activities will take place throughout the year in the Middle East and in Canada.

Funds are needed to subsidize tuition and airfare for the participating youth.
For more information see: www.creativepeacenetwork.ca

The BC Persons with Aids Society
requests your support…

The BC Persons With AIDS Society (BCPWA) is Western Canada's largest AIDS organization, with over 4,000 HIV-positive members and 25 staff members. We provide treatment information, prevention, support, and advocacy through 30 programs and services. Our work is used as a model nationally and internationally.

Our WALK for LIFE, formerly the AIDS Walk, has funded direct services for HIV-positive people since 1986. We put our mission statement into practice: we exist *to enable persons living with AIDS and HIV disease to empower themselves through mutual support and collective action.* Our 200 volunteers, 3/4 of whom are HIV-positive, donate over 30,000 hours per year. Many have turned their lives around, prompted by their HIV diagnosis, our support and optimistic, pro-active approach, and their experiences at BCPWA.

We have many opportunities for funding. You are welcome to arrange to visit us. Please visit www.bcpwa.org and contact us at 604.893.2264 or denae@bcpwa.org.

If you are interested in supporting any of these requests, please use the contact information provided or get in touch with Michelle at Vancity Community Foundation 604-877-6580 or michelle_eggli@vancity.com

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tell us your story

Now it's your turn. We would like to hear from you. What are you working on? What do you need funding for? Do you have a special event coming up? Is there a certain area in community that you could to support, but don't know where to start? Please send any story ideas, submissions, or thoughts to Michelle Eggli.

Collingwood Neighbourhood House Community Shower and Breakfast Program…

requests your support...

For just over a year Collingwood Neighbourhood House, in collaboration with 3 other community agencies, has been running a twice-weekly breakfast program for homeless members of the community. Once a week this also includes providing showers, fresh clothing, and chiropractic & acupuncture services. These simple offerings have brought many learnings to the neighbourhood house, and ultimately to the broader community. Far from providing just a service, staff and volunteers have developed relationships. This is true also for the homeless and marginalized people who find a healthy community and a place to tell their stories, share their experiences and rediscover their talents and skills.

The program employs a part-time outreach worker to connect people to appropriate resources. Since the program began, 30 people have been helped to find permanent and temporary homes while many others receive medical care, enter counselling or detox, and access disability and income assistance.

The impact of this program is difficult to measure. What it has done for our agency culture and how we have managed to shift attitudes about the homeless has been a challenge, but one filled with rewards. People have told us that they now feel comfortable saying "Hi" when they see a homeless person on the street. They look forward to chatting and hearing their stories, and support their plans to improve their life situations. Parents are teaching their children accepting and inclusive values. Some of the homeless participants are starting to engage and contribute in small ways to our community. They feel a sense of ownership, and are picking up garbage, setting up tables and chairs, and taking care of the building.

For many reasons, people who are homeless choose to be in neighbourhoods like Collingwood. Our goal is to include them as neighbours. We don't see homelessness as an acceptable part of our society. There is a greater task ahead to address the lack of affordable housing, but in the meantime, we will continue to welcome and share and do our best to provide what we can for those most in need.

The growth of the Shower and Breakfast Program has been overwhelming. The program started with a handful of people and we now serves breakfast to up to 90 people. This has meant a stretch to our original budget. We want to be able to continue to offer a high quality program that includes nutritious food, sensitivity and advocacy training for staff and volunteers, direct outreach work, and community capacity building.

Please contact Michelle at Vancity Community Foundation for more information about supporting this program by telephone at 604-877-6580 or via email to michelle_eggli@vancity.com.