

## **8000 Signatures for the North Shore Youth Safe House**

North Shore –. Please join us for a media event to present the results of the petition with 8000 signatures to the North Shore MLA's at 12:00 noon on Friday, November 16 at Cheers Restaurant at 125 East Second Street in North Vancouver followed by a light lunch. The petition, organized by the North Shore Service Club Committee, is asking Premier Campbell for long-term provincial government funding to keep the North Shore Youth Safe open.

The Youth Safe House, a safe and caring place for youth in crisis, will be opening its doors again soon for our most vulnerable youth because of incredible community support. Although government funding has been announced for homeless people recently, it did not include funding for homeless youth under 19 years of age. And there is a need on the North Shore -- in the past month, the new operator has received at least 17 calls from counsellors, schools, and youth

A private citizen has provided operating funds for one year; the District of North Vancouver has provided the house; numerous companies have provided trade skills and materials to do the necessary renovations to the house; unsolicited donations are coming in from many sources; and now 8000 residents have signed a petition asking the government to provide the on-going funding.

The new operator of the Safe House will be Hollyburn Family Services. They have been providing quality counseling and support services to children, youth, families and seniors, who are experiencing difficulties coping in their daily lives on the North Shore since 1990.

The North Shore Service Committee consists of members from the four North Shore Rotary Clubs, the Seymour Lions Club, and Soroptimists International.

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