



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: December 15, 2009

WEST VANCOUVER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES THE DISBURSMENT OF GRANTS FOR FALL 2009

The Board of Directors of the West Vancouver Community Foundation announces the disbursement of grants for the fall of 2009. These awards assist in funding 8 different not-for-profit groups that provide positive impact on the North Shore. The Foundation also distributed 17 grants this past spring.

The grants were given to worthwhile organizations with a proven record of service to the community- in education, arts and culture, social service, seniors and youth activities.

Canadian National Institute for the Blind, was given a grant to facilitate CNIB's Vision Odyssey: Adjustment to Vision Loss workshops, Vision Health presentations and Rehab workshops. CNIB provides comprehensive rehabilitation services to residents of West Vancouver, who are blind, or have some degree of vision loss.

The Ferry Building Gallery was awarded funds to assist in their exhibition "The Artists of Avalon – Recovering Women Discover Their Creativity" scheduled for the spring of 2010. Funding will be used to assist in their presentations of evening lectures,

Rotary Club of West Vancouver-Sunrise received a grant to support the ethics and values program that is conducted at three West Vancouver Secondary Schools - West Vancouver Secondary, Rockridge Secondary and Sentinel Secondary. The money will be used to prepare facilitator and leader training materials and literature for the students.

Vancouver Adaptive Snow Sports was given funds to purchase special equipment that enables both children and adults to learn how to ski.

Lions Gate Hospice Society was awarded monies to support "Honour a Life", an annual memorial celebration, reception and candlelight walk to the Memorial Tree in a city park.

Canucks Autism Network Society was given a second grant to continue the delivery of the "I can Play" soccer program at the WV Community Centre. The funds will offset the costs of coaching and therapy.

West Vancouver Youth Band will use the funds to purchase a percussion instrument for the new Community Music Hall. The West Van Youth Band has received a number of grants from the Foundation, which enables them to continue their active music program.

North Shore Chorus Society received funds to assist with costs associated with the Christmas concerts at St David's church, "Sing-outs" for shut-ins at Seniors' Homes, and to work with the West Vancouver Legion for Remembrance Day and other tributes.

The recipients were acknowledged at a reception at the WV Community Foundation on December 1.

Foundation Chair, Helen Vanee, stated that the Board was especially pleased to make these grants, as the work that was being done in the community enriched and touched us all. The Foundation is able to provide a positive support system in a time when it is difficult for smaller organizations to raise the money needed to continue operating and to provide much needed services to our community. She thanked all the groups for their commitment, and the time and energy that they each devote to their causes.

Chair of the Grants Committee, Carol Ludvigson, also commended grant recipients for the work being done in all areas. She said, that in reviewing the applications, it was evident that each dollar that was disbursed will bring a direct benefit. \$19,650 was awarded this fall and over \$40,000 was awarded in Spring. There were additional student scholarships that were awarded in June.

The West Vancouver Community Foundation is a registered not-for-profit society that funds projects and programs that benefit the community.

For more information about the Foundation, please check our website at www.westvancouverfoundation.com

- 30 -

For more information contact:
Delaina Bell, Executive Director
West Vancouver Community Foundation
Tel: 604-925-8153
Email: delaina@westvanfoundation.com
www.westvanfoundation.com