



# OUR CHILDREN - OUR FUTURE



Boys & Girls Club  
Services of Greater Victoria  
A good place to be

Summer 2007 Volume 10, Issue 2

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## Chuck Dalsin Memorial Golf Tournament



Whether you are a scratch golfer or a duffer, the Select Mortgage / Chuck Dalsin Memorial Golf Tournament is your opportunity to exercise both your physical and your charitable muscles!

The lucky 13<sup>th</sup> annual Select/Chuck Dalsin Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at the Cedar Hill Golf Course on Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup> with a shot-gun tee off at 12:30. Registration this year is \$125 which nets you a full round of golf, dinner and a prize – we throw the fun in for free! You can also join us just for dinner (only \$50!) – the food is always great and along with the meal you also get a prize. And did we mention that the prizes are always great?

This tournament always sells out and we are already over half way there so please call us to register, sponsor, order dinner tickets or donate a prize. There is a registration form on our website:  
[http://www.bgcvic.org/whats\\_happening/GolfRegistration2007.pdf](http://www.bgcvic.org/whats_happening/GolfRegistration2007.pdf)

Sponsors to date include:

#### Event Sponsor

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For the third year we are holding the **Skies the Limit Golf Ball Drop** and this year the prizes make it a no-brainer to buy a ticket! Only 1,000 tickets have been printed and each one sold (only \$5) will be matched to a labeled golf ball and dropped from the bucket of a Saanich Fire Truck. Prizes are:

- 1st Prize: A Trip for two to Montreal on WestJet with a 2 night stay at the Marriott Chateau Champlain donated by WestJet and Marriott Hotels. Valued at \$2,600.
- 2nd Prize: Travel Voucher for two to fly anywhere in Canada that WestJet flies! Donated by WestJet and valued at \$2,260.
- 3rd Prize: Tour of A-Channel studios for two with Hudson Mack and Dinner with Hudson after – priceless! Donated by A-Channel.

If you would like to buy tickets please email us at [development@bgcvic.org](mailto:development@bgcvic.org) or call us at 384.9133. You can also buy them through Select Mortgages – call Melanie Ross at 483.1360.

Boys & Girls Clubs provide children and youth with safe and supportive environments to gain new skills, experience a variety of activities and develop a strong sense of self. Last year Mary Dalsin (the late Chuck Dalsin's wife) alluded to our camp fundraising campaign, Create a Ripple, in her message in the event program. That analogy is a particularly apt one for us as we have been

Continued on page 3...

**This ad space is available to promote your business/organization and help us cover the costs of producing this newsletter!**

Contact Kate Mansell at 250.478.3872 or email her at [kmansell@bgcvic.org](mailto:kmansell@bgcvic.org) for rates and more information.

## Create a Ripple - Lots of Updates!

At the **C-FAX Community Awards** on April 12<sup>th</sup> Mel Cooper presented Dave Curtis, Co-Chair of the Create a Ripple Campaign, with a cheque for \$100,000 from **Santas Anonymous!** These funds have been designated for a cabin and at Santas Anonymous Annual General Meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup> it was announced that the cabin will be named in honour of **Mel Cooper**. This is such a fitting tribute to a man who has really been the heart and soul of Santas Anonymous for the majority of its existence. Also at their AGM Mel announced that he and Carmela are stepping down from their Board. Although we know that Mel will never stop giving to this community we are absolutely delighted that the gift that was made to the Create a Ripple campaign will forever recognize his incredible contribution to both Santas Anonymous and Boys & Girls Clubs.

In April we also received a \$100,000 pledge from **Viking Air** Thank you **Dave Curtis!!!** We are working with Dave and Viking Air on determining the best use of the funds. Also received around the same time was another capital grant from the **Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General - Gaming Branch** of \$89,750! So April was a darn good month!

On July 16<sup>th</sup> **A-Channel** spent several hours at camp filming and interviewing participants, a participant's mother, staff, Richard Gray, Co-Chair of Create a Ripple, and Kelly Muller, a graduate of the Coastline Challenges program from many years ago. Meribeth Burton created two news pieces that ran on the 5 and 6 o'clock news on Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. We received a lot of positive feedback from these excellent pieces that ran and even one donation came in as a result. A promotional piece will also be created from filming that day and will be run as a PSA (public service announcement) later in September and into October. Again, our sincerest thanks to both **Richard Gray** and **Meribeth Burton** for making this happen. This is a substantial contribution to our campaign.

Our thanks also to Create a Ripple Cabinet members **David Shaw** of law firm **Shaw Sauder** and **Kris Charmley**, VP of AON Reed Stenhouse (who is also Chair of our Foundation) for sponsoring ads that are running in the new **Douglas** magazine.

In addition to the great ripples created by the donations reported above, we are slowly creating a media ripple which we know will return to us as generous support for our campaign!

**Santas Anonymous Society** is now celebrating 30 years of helping children in Greater Victoria. The Society has no paid staff - all costs for administering the Society, including honorariums and out-of-pocket expenses for lead volunteers, are paid for by C-FAX 1070, now a CHUM radio station.

Their Christmas activities include a Food Hamper Program that sees approximately \$90,000 worth of food being distributed in hampers to designated families throughout the Capital Regional District. Their Toys, Games & Gifts Program benefits between 3,000 and 3,500 children who receive two presents each (and each worth approximately \$40) which are donated anonymously by C-FAX listeners and shoppers at local malls. The presents match actual requests from the children themselves.

Santas Anonymous also continues the "spirit of giving" throughout the year with Special Fundraising Projects that have supported not only Boys & Girls Clubs but other organizations like the CNIB, Victor School, the Victoria Read Society, the Salvation Army, Stellys' High School, Victoria General Hospital and the Jubilee Hospital Mental Health Crisis Centre.



## Progress at Camp

There was some moving goin' on out at camp in July but fortunately no shakin'! After much preparation work, the roof structure that covered two old trailers was raised and blocked in place. This allowed John's Mobile Home Moving to haul out the trailers to make way for the pouring of the concrete foundation for the multi-purpose activity shelter that is being built over the summer.

The shelter will provide much needed space for indoor programming during inclement weather as well as a storage area for gear. We are also going to install some of the old climbing wall



holds to create a small indoor climbing facility.

While this "new" facility is going to be well used we still are looking for that

"angel" who can help us realize our dreams for a new Outdoor Education Centre!



## Adventure Camp Carnival – Silver Lining to the Dark Clouds



The day started under gloomy skies and ended in a drizzle but, in between, the air was filled with children's laughter!

The Adventure Camp Carnival is an annual event that has steadily grown and this year's carnival was the first of hopefully many cooperative efforts between Boys & Girls Clubs and Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Together this partnership attracted over 300 people out to the Metchosin Wilderness Camp for a great fun-filled day for families along with "Bigs" and "Littles". While they were enjoying the outdoors they also learned a little about Boys & Girls Clubs and Big Brothers, Big Sisters.



Close to 30 volunteers transformed the camp into a carnival-like atmosphere complete with giant carrot mascots, colourful balloons, and fun games for the kids like the crown &

anchor, plinko, mini-putt, hockey shoot, balloon pop, and the fishpond. We also had other great activities like face painting, the bouncy castle and obstacle course, and the always-popular dunk tank. As always, kids enjoyed our traditional camp activities: canoeing, archery, and the climbing

tower. The tower had a steady line up and children as young as two had a go at seeing how far they could climb!

Sponsors Thrifty Foods and Peninsula Co-op kindly donated their tents but went even further. Thrifty Foods donated all the hamburgers, hot dogs and buns! We were able to purchase all the pop from the donation we received from the Peninsula Co-op. Other local businesses also supported this family filled day by providing an abundance of prizes, ensuring that everyone went home smiling and arms overflowing.

While the carnival is primarily to offer an affordable fun-filled day to families, we are elated to report that we raised nearly \$4,700 through ticket and raffle sales and Foresters' generous support. The net proceeds are being split equally between Boys & Girls Clubs and Big Brothers, Big Sisters to provide campships.

Our thanks to Foundation Chair, Kris Charmley (who brought his wife Valerie and daughter Alisha to help out!), Foresters for once again being our event sponsor and partner, and to all the staff, volunteers,



and families who made this event come alive with their participation. Plans are already in the works to make next year's carnival even bigger and better. We hope to see everyone next July, rain or shine, for more fun!



### Select Golf Tournament - continued from page 1...

For us as we have been creating ripples in the lives of children and youth for nearly 47 years.

Imagine a pebble as it impacts the water. It makes a small splash and then it does something truly remarkable ... it transfers the energy from the thrown pebble into small ripples and those ripples then travel out in all directions ... some of them

even end up back at the edge of the lake were you stand. At Boys & Girls Clubs we encourage children and youth to set goals for themselves that are bigger than they might have imagined. As we all help them to achieve those goals, we change lives. It ripples out and empowers, inspires and motivates others to also make a difference. Ultimately, the impact can make a difference in the lives of

hundreds or even thousands of people.

So when you sign up for the tournament think of the impact beyond the golf ball you hit. You have started a new ripple effect in the world and the beautiful thing is it eventually comes back to you.

Thank you for creating a ripple....

## Boys & Girls Clubs starved for funding *Published: Wednesday, June 20, 2007 in the Times Colonist*

*Organization's vital services will have to be cut back without more cash*

For more than 40 years Boys and Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria has been offering a comprehensive range of programs and services for children, youth and families. While we continue to provide the preventive programming that is the core of our philosophy, many of our services receive government funding to address specific, community identified needs. We are a non-profit, non-union agency with a history of exemplary cost-effectiveness. However, we face critical funding challenges.

For the past six years we have not received any type of budget increase from the provincial government for any of our programs that it funds. We have recently been advised by the Ministry of Children and Family Development that for the contract years 2007 and 2008, the funding has been increased by 1.6 per cent per year.

While greatly appreciated, this increase falls considerably short of what we need to provide the critical services for which our agency is well-respected. Since 2000, the consumer price index increased by 10.3 per cent. Many of our costs have risen much more: The cost of the health benefit package we provide our staff has increased by 99 per cent; insurance

costs have risen 54 per cent; and, rental rates have escalated by 30 per cent. These are market-driven expenses that we cannot control. But our contracts have not been reviewed and these expenses have not been taken into consideration by the government in funding our programs.

During this period we have found our staff have been required to deal with increasingly challenging cases. Referrals are more complicated. Participants often present multiple issues, such as mental illness combined with serious addictions. Increasing numbers of children are exhibiting signs of having experienced trauma -- grief and loss, physical or sexual abuse, or witness to violence -- as evidenced by their severe behaviour. Helping these children and youth requires staff who have appropriate training and experience. However, the fiscal restraints in our government contracts leaves us with inadequate funding to offer competitive wages or provide additional training. The vicious cycle of budget cuts and service reductions has forced many dedicated employees to look elsewhere to find a job where wages and benefits are commensurate with their skills. It is increasingly difficult to recruit and retain qualified staff. This has a direct impact on the services we can provide in the future as well as our

ability to maintain proper accreditation -- something that is, ironically, mandatory for all ministry-contracted agencies.

This is not a tirade against MCFD. Ministry staff are not only aware of these discrepancies but have demonstrated a willingness to help us address these challenges. The reality is that we have yet to see any positive results. Subsequently, our board has instructed me to start planning remedial steps to address our funding inadequacies. A reduction in service is imminent without funding increases.

The real issue is the need to convince Treasury Board to provide Children and Families Minister Tom Christensen with a budget to fund adequately the services that are needed by some of our region's most vulnerable children and youth. We applaud the provincial government's current efforts to attract additional human resources to our booming economy. We ask only that the B.C. citizens who have already dedicated their careers to working with our vulnerable populations be treated with the professional respect they deserve and be remunerated accordingly. Otherwise, articles like the recent one on program closures at the Nanaimo Family Life Association will become standard reading in the months ahead.

## Investing in our Children and Building Community Assets

Have you considered making a gift to Boys & Girls Clubs and reducing your capital gains taxes by donating stocks, bonds or mutual funds?

Since May 2006 the Federal Government has eliminated capital gains tax on donations of appreciated shares of publicly listed securities to public charities. Donating this way offers an even greater return for you. This way of giving is of particular interest to the many who have enjoyed significant capital gains in their investment portfolios.

We have been fortunate to be the recipient of several large donations of securities over the past couple of

years which have benefitted our Create a Ripple campaign.

Here's how it works...

Suppose that two years ago, 1,000 shares of Suncor Energy Inc. were purchased at \$50 per share for a cost of \$50,000 and that today these same shares are valued at \$90,000 or \$90 per share. Prior to May 2006, if the owner of the shares wanted to donate these shares they faced paying taxes on half of the \$40,000 capital gains. Paying the tax of \$8,740 (43.7% on \$20,000) was not something anyone was eager to do, especially since they were trying to make a difference with their donation.

Happily since May 2006, our investor can now donate the \$90,000 worth of shares and get an additional tax benefit. Not only do they get a tax receipt for the entire \$90,000 but they completely eliminate having to pay any capital gains tax, saving \$8,740!

If you are considering a gift to Boys & Girls Clubs and have shares you wish to donate, we recommend obtaining legal advice before making the donation. If interested please contact Kate Mansell at [kmansell@bgcvc.org](mailto:kmansell@bgcvc.org) or by phone at 250-384-9133 and she will help arrange a consultation for you.

## News Bits

### Annual Appeal

The Annual Appeal, under the signature of Dave Wheaton (Dave Wheaton Pontiac Buick GMC), went out in June and we have had an absolutely marvelous response. Some donors have increased their support from last year and we have a few first-time donors to the appeal which is always so heartening to us! Including the very generous in-kind gifts of postage by Viking Air and AON (thanks Dave Curtis & Kris Charmley) we have received \$32,680 to date!

The appeal is focused on summer camp operations and in particular to help provide subsidized fees and campships so that all kids get a chance to experience the magic of summer camp.

Here is some feedback that we received from one mother:



*"I wanted you to know that Indigo had an AMAZING time:) She raved about the camp and especially your*

*counselors. It was so funny when I picked her up: she listed off about 5 personal stories that counselors had shared with her. It is so funny as a mom to continually be reminded that our kids want to listen to experiences of "others" - not OUR experiences (no matter how relevant or entertaining, he he).*



*Anyway, it was so terrific to hear her chirp on about her activities and Thank you again for all your help in making this happen for Indigo! And please, feel free to pass on this feedback to your staff."*

### Easyhome Backpack Challenge

The Easyhome Backpack Challenge (July 13-14) is a nationwide event which sees a portion of each rental from all their 196 stores on that weekend go to support **Boys & Girls Clubs of**

**Canada.** Last year the Backpack Challenge raised \$50,000 which purchased 2,000 backpacks filled with school supplies that were then donated to local Boys & Girls Clubs across Canada. This year, Easyhome's President, David Ingram, sweetened the challenge by pledging to donate an additional \$65,000 if they reach their goal of \$150,000 this year.

In an effort to reach their goal, the Victoria Easyhome staff approached our club for volunteer support for the local event. Not to pass up an opportunity to help out, Executive Director Ralph Hembruff, Community Club Director Jim Henry, and newby staff members Amanda Dailey and George Kelln offered their time to help out with the event.

On July 13<sup>th</sup> Ralph and Jim donned their volunteer t-shirts, picked up their burger-flipping spatulas and began flashing their pearly whites. They assisted the Easyhome Victoria staff sell hot dogs, hamburgers, and pop to office staff and movie goers passers-by. Saturday afternoon Amanda and George took up the well-worn spatulas to finish off the event! The third annual event was a success and the two-day event saw the BBQ raise nearly \$500 towards Easyhome's goal.

### Variety's Boat for Hope

The Boat for Hope event was certainly a success from the point of view of the kids and families who participated. It was marvelous seeing the kids having such a blast (and literally blasts of water!) on the boats in the inner harbour. Hopefully for the next issue we will have an update on how much we raised.



### Sears – A Company with Heart

Sears continues to astound us with their generous support! They hosted 4 BBQs over the last few months, supported the Children's Carnival with lots of great prizes, donated a

Broil King BBQ as part of a live auction item for the Boat for Hope event and the list goes on! Round It Off days happen throughout the year as do their sale of special plush items. We can never say thank you enough to this wonderful community partner!



### Gordon Head Lions Club

This is a hard-working service club that is all heart! We are so appreciative of their on-going generous support. Below Kate Mansell is receiving a cheque for \$2,000 which will support our summer camp operations. Thank you!



### Thrifty Foods Community Days

We were chosen as one of the charities that would be highlighted in the Community Days campaign that Thrifty Foods is organizing for 2007. We participated in a chain wide Community Day event on April 28<sup>th</sup> that gave us a great opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of our programs and camp project! Our thanks to Thrifty's for continuing to provide sustenance to our bodies and to this community!

### Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada (BGCC) and WestJet Announce New Partnership

A new national partnership between BGCC and WestJet called Passport to Success, was launched in mid-July. Passport to Success has two components: WestJet is donating flight vouchers valued at over \$100,000 to assist Clubs located in cities where WestJet flies, with their fundraising efforts. As this is a multi-year partnership, we will be encouraging WestJet to consider making vouchers available to clubs

## We Thank Our Donors

We are very grateful to the following donors who have contributed to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Victoria Foundation from 12 March 2007 to 30 August 2007. We have endeavoured to make this list as complete and accurate as possible and apologize for any errors or omissions.

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#### Annual Appeal 2007

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## Together We Can Make A Difference !!

Boys & Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria are grateful to receive funding from a variety of sources which allows us to continue delivering quality programs that address the current needs of youth and their families. If you have not already supported us this year please take a moment to clip this form and send it along with your donation to The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Victoria Foundation, 1240 Yates St., Victoria, BC V8V 3N3.

*Official receipts will be issued for income tax purposes. Foundation Charitable Registration 89051-1975 RR0001.*

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 Corporation of the  
 Township of Esquimalt

### Events

Adventure Camp Carnival  
 The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria  
 Coast Capital Savings  
 Custom House Currency

Exchange Ltd.  
 Esquimalt Parks and Recreation  
 Foresters - Victoria Branch 104  
 Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation  
 Home Depot - Langford  
 Miniature World  
 Peninsula Co-op  
 Rogers' Chocolates Ltd.  
 Royal London Wax Museum  
 Saanich Commonwealth Place  
 Sears Canada Inc.  
 Thrifty Foods  
 Victoria Symphony  
 Wal-Mart Town & Country

Dalsin/Select Tournament Sponsors  
 A-Channel  
 AIG United Guaranty  
 AON Reed Stenhouse  
 Bridgewater Bank  
 First National Financial LP  
 GE Money Mortgages  
 Macquarie Financial  
 MCAP Mortgage Corporation  
 McCollom Mortgage Corp  
 RBC Financial Group  
 Resmor Trust

Scotia Express  
 Viking Air Ltd.

### Golf Tournament Prize Donors

Ms. Kate L. Mansell  
 Ms. Sharron Wescott  
 Pacific Coastal Airlines  
 Viking Air  
 WestJet Airlines

Monopoly Madness 2007  
 Dynamex Canada Corp.  
 Custom House Currency  
 Exchange Ltd.  
 Mr. Henry Ducluzeau  
 Purdy's Chocolates  
 Thrifty Foods  
 BC Paraplegic Association

Gifts in Kind  
 COBS Bread  
 Delta Victoria Ocean  
 Pointe Resort  
 KPMG  
 Mountain Equipment Co-op  
 Mr. David Rev Apivor  
 Mr. Robert G. Patterson  
 Ms. Cathy Trudel



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Outside of the WestJet cities in the future. WestJetters will also be encouraged to develop volunteer relationships with clubs at the local level. The partnership was launched between July 17 and 19 when members of twelve Clubs from across the country participated in airport tours. These tours gave the young members a behind-the-scenes look at an airport and an opportunity to meet local WestJetters. For many of the kids, the highlight of the tours was a chance to visit the cockpit of a 737 plane and meet the captain.

Victoria has already benefited

from this great partnership through their donation of travel vouchers which we are using in conjunction with the Dalsin Memorial Golf Tournament. The vouchers are prizes in the golf ball drop. See the story on page one.

**Home Depot - Another National Partner**

Team Depot is The Home Depot associate volunteer force, which enables associates to make a meaningful difference in the community through hands-on service. As a celebration of this year long focus on volunteerism,

The Home Depot will be encouraging all their stores to participate in the company's annual "Month of Service" across Canada throughout September. The Home Depot will be encouraging each store through Team Depot to contact their local Boys and Girls Club to offer:  
 A) up to \$1,000 worth of materials (i.e. paint, etc.)  
 B) volunteers for one day to complete a project that has been mutually agreed upon by the store and the club.

Again our local club has already enjoyed much support from Home

Depot and we look forward to working with them even more closely in the coming years.



BMO Branch Manager Shelly Clarke and assistant, presenting cheque for \$1,000 to Kate Mansell for summer camp.

**Davis Realty Corporation Proudly Supports Boys & Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria**



As an ongoing corporate program Jack Davis, owner of Davis Realty Corporation, will donate a substantial portion of any commission earned on a real estate transaction conducted through his company. A tax receipt will be issued in your name.

All you or anyone you know has to do is state that they wish to have a donation made to the Boys & Girls Club at the conclusion of their real estate transaction.

**Jack's Personal Service Line: 598-6200 Email: jdavis@davisrealty.ca**