

Exciting New Projects Funded By Your Donations

Our mission: Supporting safe affordable housing and programs that enhance the lives of people in need in the inner city



CCF Board member Robin Elliott with some of the young people who will be using the UNYA van: Herb, Holly and Jenny.

increased self-sufficiency. UNYA believes that Aboriginal youth have the right to live safe, healthy and positive lives that are free from negative influences. The new van will ensure that Aboriginal youth have access to culturally relevant programming, workshops, recreational activities, one-to-one support and transportation to other resources that will help them learn and develop further skills for safer, healthier lives.

Elizabeth, a 17-year-old participant in UNYA's Cedar Walk alternate school program, wrote CCF a letter about what the van means to her. Here is some of what she wrote:

"Now we can go on field trips like other schools. Now we can ride in a nice new van in style!! We can go to career fairs and workshops and not wait for the bus or Skytrain. Also we can go see the eagles out in Brackendale when they return. This month we will be going to the Britannia Mines. We just want to thank you for doing this for us. You are awesome."

Urban Native Youth: Riding In Style

Central City has provided funds to the Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA) to purchase a 15-passenger van. UNYA has been providing services to Aboriginal youth since 1988 and currently offers 18 programs, employs over 85 staff, has over

95 community partners and works with more than 100 volunteers. All this enables over 5,000 interactions with youth each year. UNYA supports urban Aboriginal youth ages 11 to 24 with advocacy, preventive and support services that respond to their immediate and long-term needs while providing opportunities for youth to build upon their strengths and develop

Safe Space at the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre



For over 30 years, the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre (DEWC) has provided much-needed services to women and children in Vancouver's

downtown eastside. The DEWC is one of the only safe spaces in the neighbourhood exclusively for women, and serves over 300 women every day. As well as providing crucial refuge, the DEWC offers basic necessities like hot meals, laundry, a secure mailing address, phone access and toilets and showers. They also supply toiletries, haircuts, sewing machines, clothing,

computer access, harm reduction supplies and first aid. The Centre has a ground floor drop-in centre, and offices and multi-purpose space on the basement level. CCF is providing funding to renovate and equip the downstairs. More and newer computers will be purchased for skills training, and the space in general will be made more comfortable, accessible and welcoming. This will allow for more activities and training that increase women's health and empowerment; private space for women to meet with lawyers, social workers, health care providers and other professionals; and a safe space for women to schedule family visits with children in care.

Anne-Marie Monks has used a number of the Centre's services over the past eight years and works as a volunteer at the busy front desk. She says that a renovated downstairs will have a very positive impact on the women who come to the Centre. The ground floor area is almost always crowded and noisy, and it is difficult to hold support groups or other activities there. Anne-Marie is starting university courses this fall at the age of 60, and looks forward to better computers, as well as a quiet and private setting for services like the grief and loss support group and nurses' visits.

**More great
ideas for
the next
100 years**

Projects Update

Phil Bouvier Family Centre

Extensive renovations are well underway at 717 Princess Avenue, the site of the new Phil Bouvier Family Centre. The late Phil Bouvier was a much-admired Executive Director of the Foundation, and played a central role in facilitating this project in its earliest stages. The Centre will provide a critical resource and serve the unique needs of families

and children living in Vancouver's downtown eastside and Strathcona neighbourhoods.

Vancouver Native Health Society will be responsible for operating the centre as a family service hub housing the Vancouver Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Program and other family services, a training centre for parents and a new 89 space child care centre, to be managed by Ray-Cam Cooperative Centre. "Building the Phil Bouvier Family Centre represents another example of the caring values that underlie the Central City Foundation. We haven't

always had the know-how or the means to fix the daunting problems faced by people in our inner city by ourselves, but we've always tried to help where we can," says President and CEO Jennifer Johnstone. In addition to the wonderful support of our Central City Foundation donors, we have received generous support for this project from the Ministry of Children and Families, the City of Vancouver, Vancouver Foundation, Vancity Community Foundation and others.

"Building the Phil Bouvier Family Centre represents another example of the caring values that underlie the Central City Foundation..."

The Crossing at Keremeos

In March 2000, CCF Board Member Peter Spencer heard an interview on CBC Radio with Rob Ruttan of a group called From Grief to Action. Rob was telling the heart-wrenching story of his family's struggle to find resources to save the life of their son who was struggling with drug addiction. His story moved Peter to bring

this issue before the Board of Directors of the Central City Foundation, who shared his concern about the lack of services. BC and Newfoundland are the only two jurisdictions in Canada that don't have long-term residential addictions treatment for youth. Very soon thereafter, CCF purchased a 58-acre piece of property near Keremeos, BC that had been home to an adventure ranch and, for many years, BC's Outward Bound camp. Then began a long process, together with From Grief to Action, of meetings and discussions with government, community groups and others to

build a long-term residential treatment centre for youth challenged by addictions. And now, together with the land and buildings to be provided by CCF, we have a commitment of \$2.4 million in operating funding and support services from Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health and Interior Health, and the operational expertise of Portage Program for Drug Dependencies. Portage is an internationally renowned Canadian treatment organization that operates similar programs for youth in Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic Canada. Over the course of the next several months, CCF and From Grief to Action will lead a capital campaign to raise the remaining funds needed to complete the site. We hope the Portage Program will providing services at The Crossing for up to 42 young people between the ages of 14 to 24 by the summer of 2008.



Launch of the Crossing • At the media launch of The Crossing at Keremeos: Lauren Gill, Portage graduate; Fred Inglis, CCF Board; Jennifer Johnstone, CCF President & CEO; David Love, CCF Campaign Director; The Hon. George Abbott, Minister of Health.

Funded Projects 2007



Crabtree • Some of the children who will be using the new van at Crabtree Corner.

Along with the projects featured on pages one and two, the Central City Foundation has recently provided grants to a number of other exciting initiatives, thanks to the open-hearted generosity of our donors.

Tradeworks Training Society— This Side Up Project

This Side Up is a social enterprise that provides entry-level employment and training to women in the Downtown Eastside; the business manufactures small wood products. The funding from CCF will be used for the purchase and deployment of a laser engraving system, a key piece of machinery that will allow for faster start-up and more efficient operations. This equipment will provide additional training opportunities for women in computer-assisted design and manufacturing—valuable skills in today's marketplace.

Take a Hike Youth at Risk Foundation

Take A Hike empowers youth who struggle with drug and alcohol addiction, physical and mental abuse, low self-esteem, depression, unstable homes and trauma, and, in particular, supports those at risk of not completing high school. They have had remarkable success with their combination of academic, therapeutic, adventure-based and community involved learning programs. The program serves 40 students per year in grades 10-12. The funding from CCF will be used for adventure-based learning equipment and clothing, which the majority of the students cannot afford.

Potluck Café Society

The Potluck Café is a social enterprise that operates a restaurant and catering business to provide meals at low or no cost to residents of the inner city as well as training and employment opportunities. The catering business has grown well and they now have more than 800 clients. New catering contracts that will likely lead to full sustainability for this organization have been secured but new equipment is needed to be able to properly serve them. The funding from CCF will be used for kitchen and catering equipment.

Kiwassa Neighbourhood House

This project will replace the outdated and inadequate computer server and network for Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, which has served children, youth and families in East Vancouver since 1949, with an emphasis on the needs of the socially, economically and culturally disadvantaged, including new immigrants and Aboriginal families. An effective computer server and network is critical to the success of these ongoing programs and services.



Group Hiking • Members of Take A Hike are now well-equipped for their outdoor adventures.

Community of Hope

Community of Hope has been providing a drop-in centre and soup kitchen to at-risk youth, urban aboriginal people, immigrants and low-income residents in Mount Pleasant for 10 years. This project will assist the organization to improve recently acquired space adjacent to their existing storefront and thereby improve their counselling, refuge and meals programs as well as promoting better community relations with local business neighbours who have recently been concerned with building conditions at the COH.

Hastings-Tillicum Community School Society: Kids First Program

The Kids First Program, founded 7 years ago by Hastings Elementary School, is an after-school program for inner city children that focuses on developing academic and life skills. The funding from CCF will be used for equipment and supplies for educational, art, sports and recreational programs.

YWCA Crabtree Corner

Crabtree Corner Family and Emergency Child Care Centre offers a range of services for the women and families of the downtown eastside. Founded in 1984, Crabtree provides information and services related to housing, parenting, poverty, and drug and alcohol dependency. Crabtree also provides meals for hungry women and children. Transportation is required to support virtually all of Crabtree Corner's programs. This project will enable Crabtree to lease and operate a 14-seat van for a period of two years.

Please feel free to contact us for more information about including CCF in your will, organizing fundraising events, or any other questions about donating to our Foundation. We couldn't do it without you!

Thanks

to Our Generous Donors:
We Couldn't Do It Without You



Gerald Grunewald
CCF benefactor

Bequest Donor Gerald Albert Grunewald

The Foundation recently received a \$500,000 bequest from Gerald Albert Grunewald, along with a letter from the executor of his estate, Lynette Aldcroft, telling us about Mr Grunewald's life. Mr Grunewald was born in Germany in 1929 and was sent to Switzerland to escape the Holocaust; his parents were both killed. He immigrated to Canada when he was 24, and became an investment advisor. Ms Aldcroft writes, "Although shy and retiring, Gerry was wise and understanding and had a great sense of humour... He garnered a fine estate over the years which he wished to share with those less fortunate than himself. He felt a great need to help, encourage others and make a difference in their lives." We are grateful for this incredible legacy from a man who survived unspeakable hardship and loss in his own life.

Champions of the Downtown Eastside Golf Tournament:

Tracey McVicar,
CCF Board Member;
Caithlin Scarpelli,
Atira Women's
Resource Society
and Denny Enjo,
Vancouver Japanese
Language School.



DTES Invitational Golf Tournament

The first annual Downtown Eastside Invitational Golf Tournament was held on May 31, 2007, with proceeds going to Central City Foundation, Vancouver Japanese Language School and Atira Women's Resources Society. The tournament raised over \$63,000 for these organizations in its first year, which is a wonderful achievement. CCF Board member Tracey McVicar was an amazing champion for this event and worked tirelessly for its success. Thank you Tracey!



New Year's
Jennifer Johnstone,
Bruce Langereis and
Mayor Sam Sullivan
at the New Year's
Eve Party benefitting
the CCF.

New Year's Fundraiser 2007

Last year, CCF was approached by Bruce Langereis, President of Delta Land Development Ltd, the developers who are renovating and restoring the Hotel Georgia and building the Private Residences, a new 48-story mixed use tower behind the renovated hotel. The hotel had to close while the tower was being built, and a fundraising celebration was planned for New Year's Eve, with the hotel scheduled to close officially the next day. Bruce was inspired by his old high school friend and now Mayor of Vancouver, Sam Sullivan, to do something about homelessness in Vancouver, and he wanted to find the right organization to which the proceeds from this event could be donated. Fortunately for our programs, and the homeless people who rely on them, he chose CCF. Along the way, Bruce and his team galvanized the development industry to support his vision and the event was a wonderful success, raising more than \$125,000!



When you donate to Central City Foundation you will receive a tax receipt for 100% of your donation (charitable tax number: 134639558 RR0001). You can call us at 604-683-2263, send us a cheque made out to "Central City Foundation" at 206-304 W. Cordova, Vancouver BC V6B 1E8, or use our convenient secure online system: go to www.centralcityfoundation.ca and click on "Donors."



100 Years of a Great Idea

The Central City Foundation is hosting a free party for our community in honour of our 100th anniversary! Please join us as we share stories and celebrate the extraordinary people who have contributed to the Foundation over the years. Sunday, September 23, 2007 in Victory Square Park. Noon to 4:00 PM.

By Frances Wasserlein



For 100 years, the Central City Mission and Foundation have provided help and hope to the most vulnerable people in Vancouver's inner city. Our history isn't a glamorous one; it's not one of the famous stories about Vancouver. It's a simple story about people who have been determined to help their neighbours, determined to soothe the pains of poverty on this city's harshest streets.

In 1907, a small group of men and women decided to start a mission for the poor and unemployed men living in hotels and rooming houses and seeking work or relief on the increasingly busy downtown streets of Vancouver. Like many people at the turn of the 20th century, the group was convinced that spiritual assistance was just as

important for the poor as hot food and a safe place to sleep. At one of their first meetings they agreed to ask each of the Christian denominations to help them establish an inter-denominational organization. This began a century-long relationship between the mission and many churches, individuals and organizations.

Central City Mission was incorporated on July 22, 1909. The new Board of Directors agreed that finding a suitable site for a building was their next task, and two days later they made a deposit on the property at 233 Abbott Street. The construction was partially financed by sales of the shares that the founders had issued in 1907, which had realized almost \$45,000 in just two years. The cornerstone was laid in November 1910 and the building served the Mission and its work for 83 years.

Throughout the decades, the front steps of 233 Abbott Street were worn down by the passage of thousands of men every month through the welcoming doors of the Central City Mission. There was always someone there to talk with about work or personal matters. There were prayers, concerts, lectures and films in the

auditorium. Some men lived for long periods at the Mission; others found shelter for a night or a week. Many hot meals were served, made with food donated by generous merchants. A Christmas/New Year's dinner was served every year to hundreds of men by Mission volunteers, members of the Ladies Auxiliary and the directors.

The Mission worked hard to provide food and shelter throughout the Depression and the two World Wars, and by 1949 the mortgage was paid off, freeing up more of the Mission's resources for its work. The staff and directors immediately began developing new programs to respond to the increasing level of hardship on the streets of the inner city.

In the early 1950s the Mission opened group homes for young men who needed a place to live while they sought treatment for mental illness, or took courses to learn skills that would lead to employment. As the years passed, and the work being done by the Mission's social workers was recognized as a model, there was a high demand for places in the residences in Vancouver, White Rock and Richmond, and at the Mission's ranch in Haney. The programs

operated successfully until the mid-1970s when they were turned over to the Vancouver Resources Board, precursor to the Ministry for Children and Families.

The Mission has provided ongoing support to The Dugout since it opened in 1967, supporting their soup kitchen that feeds more than 200 people each day. The earliest needle exchange program was also supported by the Mission.

In the 1960s the Abbott Street building was turned into a long-term care facility for the Mission's aging residents. In the mid-1970s, after many years of planning by the Board, and with support from donors, the City, and the Province, the Mission opened an Alcohol Recovery Program alongside the care facility.

At a Board meeting in February 1989, the Members considered the enormous changes that were taking place in their community. The building at 233 Abbott Street had been sold, and after eight decades in the same location, the Mission was going to relocate. It had been clear for some time that there was no decrease in the need for a long term care facility, or for alcohol recovery

beds, in the downtown neighbourhood. In 1993, the Central City Lodge opened at the corner of Pender and Homer Streets with 120 long-term care beds and 22 alcohol recovery beds. That facility continues to provide crucial services to women and men.

While the Board was handling all of the many details involved in managing its programs, selling one building, and building a new one, they were also in the process of establishing a new and important organization to support their ongoing work. The Central City Mission Foundation was registered as a society and as a public foundation in December 1991.

The Central City Foundation, as it is now known, has established a strong reputation for its programs of support in the downtown eastside and other areas of the inner city of Vancouver. In recent years, the Foundation has bought and renovated the Abbott Mansions and the Cosmopolitan Hotel, as part of our commitment to ensuring good housing in our neighbourhood. We have supported projects that provide food to hot breakfast programs, and food services in residential settings, like the Potluck Café. The Foundation

has made a major contribution to the Fir Square Maternity Unit, helping new mothers keep themselves and their babies healthy. And new projects are constantly in development at CCF. Projects like the Phil Bouvier Family Centre, a new family services centre and daycare in Strathcona that should be open to serve the community in early 2008, and The Crossing at Keremeos, where CCF is building BC's first long term residential treatment centre for youth with alcohol and drug addictions.

The voices of the CCF's first directors and staff can still be heard in conversations and consultations around the Board table, and with service providers and residents in our neighbourhood. The voices speak up for all of our neighbours in Vancouver's inner city. We continue to support the elderly, those who are struggling to meet their health challenges, children who are learning and being cared for and young people seeking to make their way in safety. Thanks to the generous support of the many donors and our community and government partners, the Central City Foundation continues the important work that our founders began 100 years ago, and we look ahead to a strong and productive future.

100th Anniversary