

AUTUMN
2015

THE STAR



Developmental
Disabilities Association

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THE DONATION ISSUE





“
Fewer health services mean
that we each have a greater
responsibility for our own health,
so we do not need to depend on
others for our care.

”

HEALTHCARE 2015

BY ALANNA HENDREN

Us humans are an odd lot. For the sake of money, impulse, instant-gratification, or any other sort of stimulating activity (excessive food, drink, smoking, sugar, fat, partying, sitting, stress, screen time, etc.) – we sacrifice the long-term and put ourselves at risk. This is human nature, part of our adaptive evolutionary strategy to stay alive today and let tomorrow take care of itself. No one should feel any guilt about adopting short-term strategies – we have no control of the pre-wiring of our primitive brains – but we need to acknowledge that the choices we make today will have an impact on our future in all areas of life – wealth, happiness, family, society and most importantly, our ability to survive and thrive. The good news is that we can use the more evolved parts of our brains to keep us living longer and smarter.

The Baby Boom is aging along with a medical system that has grown in sophistication and innovation but is now stretched to the point of care-rationing. This is happening throughout the world by reducing access to General Practitioners, creating long surgical wait times, long wait lists for tests, specialists and publicly-funded services, particularly long-term-care services. These necessary financial constraints (taxpayers will only pay so much) can impact any and all of us to the point of life and death.

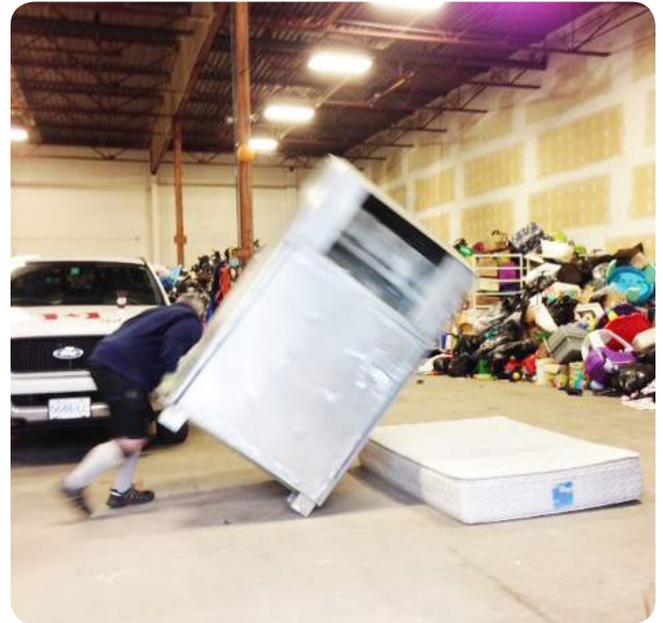
The Global Burden of Disease project, subsidized in great part by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, recently analyzed real health data from every country in the world and discovered that 2.3 billion people (out of a total of just over 7 billion) suffered from 5 or more health problems in 2013. 80% of these folks were under 65 years of age. From 1990 to 2013, the number of people in developed countries suffering from 10 or more ailments grew by 52%.

Globally, the most common of these diseases are low back pain, diabetes, migraine, anemia, anxiety disorders (including depression), hearing loss and osteoarthritis. There are genetic components to all these disorders but most can be delayed or prevented altogether by making better choices for the long-term, through nutritious diets, exercise and time for relaxation, preferably with friends and family. It's the same old story, much easier to say than do.

The problem with youth is that old age seems so distant and impossible to the young. Only in our adult years do we feel the pains of old accidents, health battles, poor diets, psychological turmoil, past excesses, sleep deprivation and the sacrifices we make for economic survival and our children. We, who were once invincible become achy, begin to see our bodies sag and have lower back pain from too much sitting – something our homo-sapiens bodies were not designed to do for hours on end without otherwise moving very much.

The healthier we are as we age, the more we can enjoy the blessings life has to offer and use the wisdom we've acquired to better serve ourselves, our families and our communities. Fewer health services mean that we each have a greater responsibility for our own health, so we do not need to depend on others for our care. With increased demand on health care services and health insurers, costs will increase and the health care system will transform to either pay these high costs, decrease access and/or tolerate poorer quality. The health care safety net that defines many of us as Canadians can only remain accessible and high quality if we all take more responsibility for our own lives, lifestyles and bodies.

The best way to deal with the healthcare system is not to need it.



BUSINESS CENTRE CELEBRATES 35 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

BY DEANNA BARLOW

Through your generous donations for 35 years DDA's business operations has been raising funds to support people with developmental disabilities!

We are proud of how this business has evolved over the years; we've increased our collection methods while gaining incredible support from amazing loyal donors! In this edition of the STAR you'll read about some of our dedicated supporters.

Although we've had challenges with for-profit bin companies' operating in what was typically a charity's role, we've seen the community rally around our organization. The public response to the Canadian Competition Bureau notice regarding these operator's misleading advertising and deceptive marketing has been very encouraging.

On Earth Day we launched DDA's custom designed, locally built, user friendly donation bin. These bins were designed based on our experience and donor feedback, and... a little help from someone who tried to "test" the bin by crawling in! Here are some photos of our user testing.



DDA'S RESIDENTIAL PICKUP SERVICE – 105 TIMES DONOR!

BY LAURA KERSWELL

This Vancouver resident (who prefers his good deeds be kept anonymous) has donated to DDA since 2010. He donates at least once a month and is a 105 times donor.

As a manager of an apartment building – he puts a notice up for his tenants and tells them when DDA will be coming – and when people move out and leave stuff behind he collects it for us – Thank you for supporting DDA!



CLOTHING AND HOUSEWARES DONATIONS

By donating clothes to the DDA you help benefit our community. Through your donations, valuable reusable material is kept out of landfills, thus reducing energy and material consumption.

We appreciate the following items at our clothing donation bins and through our home pick up service:

- ✔ Accessories (ties, hats, belts)
- ✔ Bathing suits and undergarments
- ✔ Books
- ✔ CDs, DVDs and records
- ✔ Clothes
- ✔ Glassware
- ✔ Pots and pans
- ✔ Sleeping bags
- ✔ Small Appliances
- ✔ Sporting gear
- ✔ Stationery supplies
- ✔ Table linens
- ✔ Towels
- ✔ Toys and games



Bottle Donations (through green bottle bins only):

Here are some items that can be recycled through our bottle donation bins:

- ✔ Drink cans
- ✔ Drink pouches (wine bags, juice bags)
- ✔ Glass bottles (wine, beer, cooler, liqueurs)
- ✔ Plastic bottles (soft drink, water, coolers, spirits)
- ✔ Polycoat containers (drink boxes, drink cartons)
- ✘ We do not accept any milk containers.

What we are unable to receive:

- ✘ Automobile parts
- ✘ Batteries, chemicals, cleaning products
- ✘ Construction materials (wood, pipes, doors, tubs, cabinets)
- ✘ Cribs, car seats, swing sets
- ✘ Food
- ✘ Furniture
- ✘ Hazardous waste, flammable products
- ✘ Large appliances
- ✘ Mattresses
- ✘ Television, computer monitors/equipment
- ✘ Weapons, firearms, explosives

FOR ITEMS WE ARE NOT ABLE TO RECEIVE

Please contact Recycling hotline at
604-RECYCLE (604-732-9253) TOLL-FREE: 1-800-667-4321
EMAIL: hotline@rcbc.ca

PROMOTING DDA CLOTHING DONATION BINS!

BY TANYA TERNOWESKY

There's a new DDA donation bin at Cambie and E 41st!

A big shout out to Willie Amero, Alex Hartman and Michael Naples, three regular participants at the Main Street Drop-In, who generously volunteered to hand deliver donation bags into mailboxes of houses in the surrounding neighborhood.

Michael stated of his experience "It was my first time doing it and I enjoyed it and would like to do it again", which he did the following week.

Alex said "I enjoy delivering flyers! It took me a while to learn how to get the hang of it, but once I did I was able to do it independently", which he is very proud of since he is volunteering a lot with the Drop-In with the goal of gaining employment.

Great job guys and thanks for all your enthusiastic help!



**BENTALL KENNEDY
CHARITY DAYS
EXECUTIVE PARK,
RICHMOND**



**BROADWAY
TECH
CENTRE,
VANCOUVER**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

BY SUKHBIR KANG

Overall, this year was a very successful event season for DDA!

Community events offer DDA the opportunity to connect with our donors, this year our focus was to promote our WHITE clothing donation bins. Our new promotional products showcasing our donation bins were very well received- too often we ran out of products! By participating in these events you realize how recognized DDA is in so many communities!



HYACK PARADE

**NORTH DELTA FAMILY
DAY PARADE**



**RILEY PARK
COMMUNITY DAYS,
VANCOUVER**



DDA'S RESIDENTIAL PICKUP SERVICE- 100 TIMES DONOR!

Mr. and Mrs. Grimard of Vancouver have donated to DDA through our residential pickup service 100 times! On August 1, 2015 our driver Glen recognized their contribution and spent some time getting to know why donating to DDA was so important to them.

Mr. Grimard grew up close to people with developmental disabilities; his mother's uncle had Down syndrome and his cousin Cerebral Palsy. Sadly his cousin passed away at Woodlands Institution at the tender age of 8 years old. Legally blind himself Mr. Grimard has spent his life working with people with developmental disabilities including teaching skiing. In Mr. & Mrs. Grimard's home the rule is if you want something new you



need to donate something that is still useful! We appreciate how these donations contribute to DDA's programs and services! Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Grimard!



NIGHT AT THE NAT

BY ALANNA HENDREN

I took my father to the DDA Night at the Nat this year and again marvelled at the wonderful, rich, cultural diversity in our community. And everybody loves a ball game!

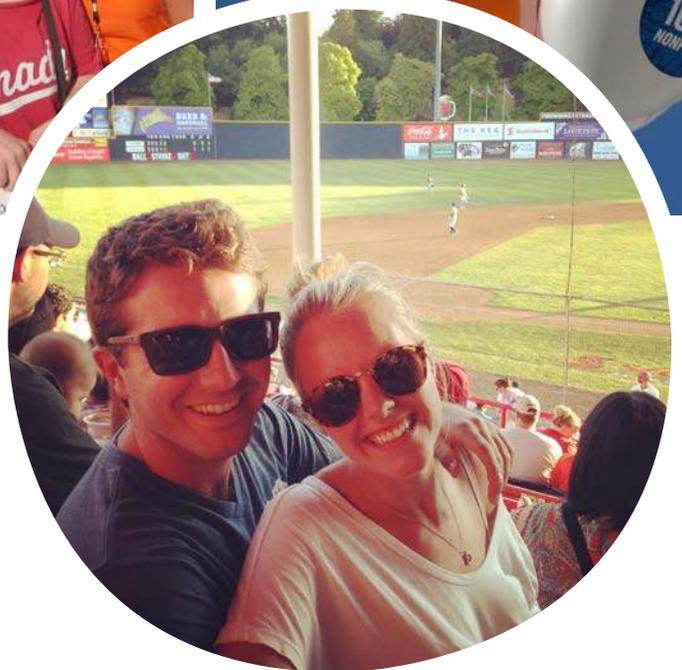
The first time my father (a born Vancouverite named Al Hendren) came to Nat Baily Stadium was over 70 years ago. He later had a friend who went to every ball game he could get to whenever he was in town. No doubt everyone who has attended a ball game at Nat Baily Stadium over the decades has enjoyed the atmosphere of a wholesome sport, big hot dogs, and a nice cold beer in the sunshine (with luck). Dad says it has always had that atmosphere, in addition to the excitement of who will win the game!

Anyone can go to a baseball game. It is perhaps our most inclusive spectator sport - children, teens, adults, seniors, rich, low-income, gay, straight- anyone can enjoy the spirit of community at a ball game. DDA is proud to sponsor our annual Night at the Nat precisely because of the

spirit of inclusion evident in the actions of the staff and management at the ball park.

Summer is also a time of parades for us - again, an opportunity for us to promote our clothing recycling efforts and to celebrate community inclusion.

Seventy years ago, people with developmental disabilities did not go to the ball park, let alone march in a parade. They would not have been sitting in the sun eating a hot dog or even seen by the people in their community. Their parents would have been told to place them in an institution and go on with their lives shortly after they were born. There were no educational or social opportunities in communities, so people with developmental disabilities lived their lives behind institution walls without ever having committed a crime. Fast forward to today and nobody cares if anyone has a disability in the midst of the cheering, the sunshine and all the beaming smiles at Nat Baily Stadium. And the Vancouver Canadians won!!!



I was the lucky one at Fairware who was able to attend the Vancouver Canadian's baseball game last week. It was my first Canadian's game and I had a great time! I wanted to say thank you to you and everyone at Starworks Packaging and Assembly for the tickets – what a thoughtful gift. I look forward to working with you in the future!

— Zoe Quinn, Fairware Promotional Products



CANADA DAY PARADE

BY SUKHBIR KANG

On July 1st Canada Place hosted the nation's largest birthday celebration outside of Ottawa. The popular Canada Day parade attracted an estimated 300,000 spectators.

We love participating in this great event and are proud of the recognition we receive. Our entry numbers have been moved forward from 37 to 25! DDA's two trucks, volunteers and clients participated in the parade, engaging the crowd. I was told by the parade organizers how much people enjoyed DDA participating in the Canada Day Parade. Everybody likes our pick-up truck with the teddy bear wearing DDA t- shirt. Our summer student Quinn

was amazing, waving to the crowd while driving the pick-up truck. Our entry was next to the Japanese Consulate general float. There was regular chatter between people from their floats and ours – people were taking pictures and genuinely enjoying themselves, which really shows what a multicultural country Canada really is. I am very thankful to everybody that made this event such a big success. Wilson, DDA's Residential Manager was the Star and, handed out the most magnets. Steven from DDA's Finance Department, who loves to participate in DDA events, joined us again this year and brought his wife Angela. We handed out 1000 Magnets in total in addition to other SWAG items. Here are photos of DDA's participation – this is always a very popular event!

MY PRIDE MARCH WITH THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION

BY LYLE LEXIER

I walked with the DDA truck carrying my big rainbow flag and a placard saying "Even people with disabilities can be GLBT". Five other individuals marched with the DDA van. They handed out magnets, stickers, and other DDA goodies. In addition to myself, there was another self-advocate walking the parade with us.

I enjoyed people taking my photo with my rainbow flag and sign. A few friends even greeted me as I passed them. I was even interviewed in French by a reporter from Quebec! I was able to answer his questions in French about why I participate in the Pride Parade each year and who I was marching with.

I do it because it makes me feel good to advocate for the gay, lesbian, bi, and transgendered community and the disabled community. It is important to me to



accept diversity in the community whether religious, racial, ethnic, language, disability, or sexual community. I have been in the parade for about 15 years now. I always march with my big rainbow flag and a placard through the whole parade route. I enjoyed the music and dancing. Also I enjoy seeing the colorful floats. Before marching with the DDA for about three years, I used to walk with my church. I find most gay and lesbian people to be accepting and open minded.

Even people with a disability can be part of the GLBT community.

DDA EARNS 5TH ACCREDITATION AWARD IN 2015

BY PAUL SANKEY

In June of 2015 a team of 4 CARF Surveyors rated the Developmental Disabilities Association on more than 900 Standards and the result was outstanding! The 2015 Survey resulted in DDA's fifth 3-year accreditation award. (The others were in 2003, 2006, 2009, and 2012)

The CARF survey report recognizes DDA for quality and innovation in creating person centered services that achieve meaningful results for individuals and families.

The CARF Survey team identified the following strengths of DDA:

- ▶ The organizational culture at DDA appears to be strong and healthy. The principles and core values of the organization are clearly articulated and consistently honoured in all relationships and throughout all program activities.
- ▶ The leadership at DDA is highly respected, both inside and outside of the organization. DDA is considered a leader in the sector in the Vancouver area and beyond, due in large part to the exceptional level of leadership at the organization, from both an executive and governance perspective.
- ▶ DDA has developed excellent plans related to critical areas of operations, including the risk management, accessibility, cultural diversity, technology, and strategic plans.
- ▶ Staff orientation and training are effective and comprehensive at DDA. Strategic investment has been directed towards key frameworks and initiatives such as Relias Learning and the bi-annual conference that is hosted by the organization to maintain attention on continuous growth and learning among the staff members. This contributes to job satisfaction and staff retention that, in turn, lead to enhanced quality of services for individuals and families.
- ▶ DDA has managed and invested resources wisely and established a sound base of finances to operate from. This has permitted DDA to take on initiatives not funded by government, such as the Family Support program, a proactive and preventative service that is highly valued by families and individuals in the community.
- ▶ DDA is active in provincial initiatives, making it a valued and influential player in discussions, strategic planning, and policy development at the provincial level. This is an excellent example of how the organization pursues advocacy initiatives on a larger scale.
- ▶ By maximizing/organizing services, our Infant Development Program (IDP) has reduced and even eliminated wait lists as it affords different types of services to allow families to have help soon after applications are received in the form of group services, consultation, and training in addition to the most desired one-to-one service provision.
- ▶ Families express high satisfaction with the services as well as the dedication of staff members and contract providers they have encountered. This is, in part, also due to the longevity of staff members throughout the organization, the multiple choices offered to families, and the ease with which families can move from programs as their family members age out of the various services. The idea of a "tweenies" program to serve children who reach the age of three has been a great way to have children continue to receive services from infant programs to preschool programs.

“
For decades, DDA has evolved to be a responsive and innovative organization and is considered a leader in the developmental services sector locally and throughout the province.
”

- ▶ The use of integrative and innovative technology allows the organization the opportunity to identify the unique preferences of individuals and match those needs with a response that promotes participation in daily services almost seamlessly.



The 2015 Accreditation survey results speak both to the quality of the services provided, and the dedication and abilities of employees and volunteers in providing those services.

The CARF Survey team summarized the survey outcome as follows:

“On balance, DDA provides highly valued services and supports to individuals and families in the greater Vancouver area. For decades, DDA has evolved to be a responsive and innovative organization and is considered a leader in the developmental services sector locally and throughout the province. The leadership at DDA is highly respected and has been instrumental in developing and nurturing a culture of commitment and excellence based on the core values of the organization. Staff members at all levels are dedicated and creative, continually designing

and implementing individually tailored supports that respond to the unique needs of individuals and families. The organization is especially strong in the area of rights and advocacy, going above and beyond all expectations to create innovative ways to promote inclusion and citizenship, all with the direct involvement of the primary stakeholders of the organization. The overall financial health of DDA has put it in the enviable position of being able to develop initiatives and supports that benefit individuals, families, and the community in general. This is an impressive achievement within a constrained economic environment. The organization's commitment to continuous quality improvement means that it will not simply rest on past accomplishments but will likely continue to pioneer new ideas, remaining current with the needs of the community it serves. This is an organization that has an impressive history of service, advocacy, and community development that remains determined to achieve further levels of excellence.”

DDA's next accreditation survey will take place in the spring of 2018.

The work that leads to continuous improvement and enables future successful accreditation is ongoing. The contributions of everyone at DDA: the people who we support, volunteers, employees, Board Members and community partners, in pursuit of the mission of DDA, enable us to achieve such outstanding accreditation results.

**CONTRIBUTE TO THE STAR!
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Do you have comments, thoughts, or your own stories about DDA or people with developmental disabilities?

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO
COMMUNICATIONS@DEVELOP.BC.CA

ABOUT CASH 4 CLOTHES

Cash 4 Clothes is a great way to raise money for your organization or team, and support children and adults with developmental disabilities. Here's how it works:

**Collect a minimum of 75 to 150 full bags at one time,
and receive \$2.00 per bag**

**Collect over 151 full bags at one time,
and receive \$3.00 per bag**

We'll come and pick up all the bags after you have completed your clothing drive.

We also accept housewares as part of our Cash 4 Clothes program. These items must be bagged separately and may include dishes, pots and pans, books and glassware. "Hard items" and "soft items" must be separated into two different bag colors. For a complete list of acceptable items, please visit our acceptable items list.

Register your group today and receive your Cash 4 Clothes starter kit, which includes donation bags and a Cash 4 Clothes poster to display at your school, team room or organization.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

please contact us at 604.233.5415
or at cash4clothes@develop.bc.ca

THANK YOU

100% Of the profits generated from your generous donations benefit the services and programs at Developmental Disabilities Association

DDA IS
100%
NONPROFIT

THE RICHMOND CENTRE FOR DISABILITY

Ella Huang, the Executive Director of the Richmond Centre for Disability writes about her experience with DDA's Cash 4 Clothes.

What do you like about our program?

The cash4clothes program is a great project to help with fundraising for smaller organizations and community groups like local parents' groups. On one hand, there's revenue that can be raised to supplement the activities of the community groups to benefit their members; on the other, it's an initiative to promote recycling and sustainability. For instance, our Chinese Support Group received donations from our members, committee members and volunteers, they sorted through them and packed for cash4clothes. It's always good to know that the resources will go to some families and not be wasted. Moreover, the collaborative effort of the group is highly valued, This is an initiative the group gets together once a year to work on., is a great relationship building experience..

What have you been able to purchase through this program?

We were able to host a Christmas Party and a Chinese New Year Spring Dinner for our members at a nominal cost, with subsidy by funds raised through this project.

Do you feel the students felt involved in the fundraising?

Our committee and many volunteers (we have more than 30 volunteers in addition to 16 committee members) felt extremely involved in the fundraising.

Other comments?

The RCD and its Chinese Support Group thank DDA wholeheartedly for running the program. Because of you, we were able to bring our committee and members together. It's more than a fundraiser, it's also a collaborative mission that solidifies what we believe in. Thank you!



CLOTHING DRIVE



CASH 4 CLOTHES EXPERIENCES WITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS' PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Recently Tessie from the Business Centre connected with two successful Cash4clothes participants to learn more about how DDA's fundraising program worked for their school.

Susan Tse, PAC Secretary of Quilchena Elementary School in Richmond

What do you like about DDA's Cash 4 Clothes Program?

The Cash 4 Clothes program was a fantastic fundraiser for our school for many reasons. Firstly, we love the fact that we're able to support adults and children with developmental disabilities while raising funds for our school! Secondly, this fundraiser did not require our school families to spend money or to purchase anything, only to clean up their closets and to donate items from their home. Thirdly, clothing bags and posters were provided for us, and the clothing bags were picked up directly from our school. These aspects of the program made it very easy for us to organize the event! Finally, an added bonus is the fact that reusing old clothing is environmentally-friendly. We can't speak highly enough of this worthwhile program!

What has your school purchased with the funds raised through the program?

With the money that was raised from this fundraiser, our Quilchena Parent Advisory Council (PAC) was able to support some of the many initiatives that we have at the school. Some examples of items that we worked to raise funds

for this past year were: iPads, indoor rainy day games for classrooms, outdoor sports equipment, basketball jerseys, guided reading books, math learning materials, school-wide hip hop lessons, and field trip subsidies for students.

Do you feel the students felt involved in the fundraising?

The students at Quilchena had several opportunities to participate in our fundraiser initiative. Some families involved their children by having them sort and choose items to donate at home while others volunteered to deliver flyers in their surrounding neighbourhoods. Some of the older students in the school helped to move clothing bags each day as they were collected, and these students also helped to move the clothing bags outside the school on pick-up day. We collected clothing bags in our school foyer as a good visual reminder to families to bring in their bags of clothing. It was exciting to hear students talking to each other in the mornings about donating clothing for such a good cause!

Linda Chen, PAC Chair of David Oppenheimer Elementary School in Vancouver BC

What do you like about DDA's Cash 4 Clothes program?

This is a great and relatively easy fundraiser to organize. We find the program very flexible in that it can be arranged for any day of the school year. Students, families and teachers of the school simply need to bring in the full bags on prearranged days and the truck picks them up. We find out exactly how much money we have raised as the bags are counted on the spot on pick-up day. Our school families like it because it's a great incentive to donate and give away clothing, toys and household items that we no longer need, but they're still useful and in good condition so we don't want to throw them away. We get the extra nudge to fill those bags by knowing that the donated items will be recycled, reused, and repurposed for other worthwhile charitable endeavors right in our communities. It is also instilling in our students the concept of reuse, recycle. It's a great way for them to realize the importance of giving back to the community. With some organizational work and forward planning from our PAC, this is definitely a fundraiser we can count on.

What has your school purchased with the funds raised through the program?

Our school has held successful drives for over three years now. Funds raised helped to subsidize gym programs, field trips, author visits and most recently we've purchased books and supplies for the home reading library.

Do you feel the students felt involved in the fundraising?

David Oppenheimer is truly a wonderful school with so much school spirit! We have fantastic participation at all grade levels and that is further encouraged with a bit of friendly competition. Our kids and parents actually look forward to the next cash4clothes drive!

Other comments? We find the people at DDA so very nice to work with. From Tess in the office to the drivers, everyone is pleasant and helpful. As long as the opportunity is there, we will continue the cash4clothes tradition at our school.



NEW CLOTHING DONATION BINS IN THE LOWER MAINLAND

THANK YOU to our new bin hosts for supporting DDA
Be sure to drop off your donations at any of our white DDA donation bins!



Queensborough Landing
Re-Use-It Ltd.
Unit A - 409 Boyne St. New
Westminster



Wesgar Industries Ltd
1634 Kebet Way, Port Coquitlam



Tsengdok Monastery
1502 Angus Dr, Vancouver



Firing Pistons Automotive
14815 Fraser Hwy, Surrey



Esso
2335 Clearbrook Rd, Abbotsford
7260 Park St, Mission



Fountain Tire
2725 Kingsway, Vancouver
828 SW Marine Drive, Vancouver



Sears Surrey Outlet
13583-104 Ave, Surrey



Smilestones South Surrey
3590 King George Blvd, White Rock



Otter Farm & Home
Cooperative
34981 Lougheed Hwy, Mission



Richmond News
5731 No. 3 Rd, Richmond



Greystone Manor
11657 Ritchie Ave, Maple Ridge



Khalsa Diwan Society
8000 Ross St, Vancouver



P & D Automotive
2895 E 22nd Ave, Vancouver



Mr. Pets
3548 Westwood St, Port Coquitlam



Sunwood Retirement
Community
12241- 224 St, Maple Ridge



ABC Main Auto Tireland
3590 King George Blvd, White Rock



Kal Tire
969 Cliveden Ave, Delta



Safeway
2609 Westview Dr, North Vancouver



Gardenworks Mandeville
4746 Marine Dr, Burnaby



Potter's 152nd
3231 152nd St, White Rock

TO LOCATE A BIN NEAREST YOU, VISIT www.develop.bc.ca



DDA RECEIVES \$5,000 FROM THE YOUTH AND PHILANTHROPY INITIATIVE

BY TANYA CHEUNG

Earlier in April, we were approached by four enthusiastic youths who were interested in learning more about DDA – Sarika, Suhailah, Harneet and Ashley were grade 10 students from Kwantlen Park Secondary in Surrey and were participating in the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) project. Their project involved selecting a charity, meeting with the charity to answer questions, and finally creating a presentation based on their meeting. We were thrilled to not only be picked, but to learn that their presentation did exceedingly well and was selected to be the winner in the final presentations, which awarded DDA \$5,000.

When we first met with Sarika, Suhailah, Harneet and Ashley, based on the questions that were asked and their interest in DDA, we had no doubt they would do well. It is no surprise that they aspire to be lawyers and doctors one day. Their deep connection to DDA was stemmed by Sarika's brother who has Down's Syndrome, and Suhailah, Ashley and Harneet's admiration for DDA's mission and values.

The Youth and Philanthropy Initiative is a global initiative run across Canada, US and Europe. Thousands of high schools participate each year. Founded in 2002, its beginnings were rooted from the experience of the MAC Aids Fund, when values-driven decisions were made to engage and power the public to stand up for the most vulnerable members of the community. Since inception, they have donated over \$12 million to charities across Canada, United Kingdom and New York. DDA plans to use the donation to fund a hot breakfast program for children in our child care centres who are living below the poverty line.



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL

BLAINE'S MOVIE REVIEW



BY BLAINE MACDONALD

This movie review is about JURASSIC WORLD, the long awaited fourth installment of the Jurassic Park series. This story takes place within a dinosaur themed park called "Jurassic World" where scientists have created a new breed of dinosaur to boost attendance at the park. When this smart and vicious new dinosaur attacks everything it sees, it's up to a manly researcher played by Chris Pratt to save the day.

In my opinion, this is one of the best movies since the original JURASSIC PARK.

★★★★★/5

Accent Inns™ different in a good way.
stay local. stay real.

accentinns.com
Victoria Vancouver Burnaby
Kelowna Kamloops

RECOGNIZING OUR VETERAN BIN HOSTS: JASON & JASON!

We appreciate all of our bin hosts, but would like to recognize two dedicated hosts, Jason and Jason! Jason Little of Knighthill Auto and Jason Dault of Regional Recycling have supported our organization for a combined 26 years!

Jason with Knighthill Auto was introduced to the business at a service centre for DDA vehicles.

We met Jason Dault, manager of Regional Recycling in Richmond, through our mutual recycling efforts. Our partnership moved from Jason hosting our clothing bins to expanding the operation to include bottles bins.

DDA is thankful for their support through hosting our bins that allow us to raise funds for children and adults with developmental disabilities.



JASON LITTLE, KNIGHTHILL AUTOMOTIVE

Knighthill Automotive had been hosting the bin for 13 years. Jason has established a good relationship with the Developmental Disabilities Association by providing service repairs to the Association's vehicles for 3 years. For him to showcase his continued support, he hosted a bin for DDA.

Background of the business:

Knighthill Automotive Ltd. has been providing automotive mechanical repairs for customers in the lower mainland since 1965. The company was one of the founding members of the BCAA approved repair facilities established in 1974. It has continued to maintain a reputation for the quality workmanship and fair pricing expected by BCAA. It specializes in Automotive Repairs and Fleet Maintenance. The shop is 25,000 sq feet, includes hoist capacity to 27,000 lbs and has secured onsite parking to accommodate cars, trucks and recreational vehicles of all types. Services offered include auto repairs & servicing, vehicle inspections, aircare, commercial fleet maintenance and much more.



JASON DAULT, REGIONAL RECYCLING

"It's been a pleasure to host a bin on behalf of Developmental Disabilities Association for more than 13 years. It has been great for Regional Recycling clients to have the ability to donate clothes, books, toys, etc to help benefit people with developmental disabilities. I encourage other companies to host a bin. There are no servicing issues involved."

RECYCLING WITH REGIONAL RECYCLING

Regional Recycling can take many items that DDA is unable to receive at our donation bins and station. With 6 convenient locations in the Lower Mainland including Whistler and Abbotsford, you'll be able to keep your items out of landfills and maintain our province's status as "the best place on earth".

Items that you can take to Regional Recycling include:

- ▶ Lighting Equipment: fixtures and lights, bulbs & lamps
- ▶ Floor and surface cleaning appliances such as vacuums and carpet cleaners
- ▶ Large and major appliances such as fridges, ranges, and laundry machines

These items can also be recycled at Regional Recycling:

- ▶ Styrofoam
- ▶ Paper products
- ▶ Metal containers
- ▶ Glass containers

...and much more! Please visit www.RegionalRecycling.ca to see the full list.

RR also buys scrap metal parts! They will buy your non-ferrous scrap metals (metals that do not contain steel or iron) which include:

- ▶ Copper
- ▶ Brass
- ▶ Aluminum
- ▶ Stainless Steel
- ▶ Lead
- ▶ Zinc

[**FOR MORE INFORMATION**]
visit Regional Recycling's website at
www.RegionalRecycling.ca

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRES' SUMMER FUN GALLERY

Our Child Development Centres held several fun-filled events where children & parents alike were able to enjoy the great weather Vancouver had to offer. The best part was seeing the smiles on all the children's faces! BBQ's, picnics, and park visits are just a few of the exciting activities organized by our wonderful staff & volunteers. Play, food and fun were had by all! See below for some snapshots.



BERWICK PICNIC



BY JUSTIN JADUNATH

Back on the 20th of July, Berwick Child Development Centre had their Summer Picnic. Berwick Manager Diane, the staff and our amazing volunteers planned a fabulous afternoon for the children and families of Berwick. We had face painting, arts and crafts, as well as two bouncy castles and our lovely main playground set up and open for the children to explore. As the children wound down from playing, we set up a potluck picnic. We provided tasty burgers and hot dogs, and our generous families provided food, salads, and deserts for all to share. Holly, our music teacher, in collaboration with Teacher Kathleen gathered up the children afterwards and they performed a short play of "Mortimer," by Robert Munsch as well as a selection of favourite songs that they have learnt over the past school year. Overall, it was a great afternoon of play, food and song that was enjoyed by everyone!



RIVERSIDE FUN AT THE PARK

BROCK JUNCTION ACTIVITIES



BY THERESA TANG

Brock Junction had a busy summer being out in the community every day. Fun activities included visiting local parks, pools, nature walks, beach barbecues, guided tours and theme days. As we head into fall, Brock Junction After School Program looks forward to our regular activities during the school year such as library visits, baking, swimming and arts and crafts.



CREEKSIDE POTLUCK



KIG POTLUCK & BEACH DAY



WATERSIDE POTLUCK

HARLEY SANGA, RECIPIENT OF ONE OF DDA'S SCHOLARSHIPS

BY HARLEY SANGA

My name is Harley and I am in my second year of Grade 12 at John Oliver Secondary School.

Ever since I started school, I had support in all my classes. From Kindergarten to Grade 7, I had a support staff help me in all my classes. From Grade 8 to 10, I attended the Strategies program at University Hill Secondary School. Strategies is a program designed for Students who have disabilities. From Grade 11 to 12 I attended John Oliver Secondary School in the LALS (Learning Assistant Life Skills) program. It is a program that focuses on work experience for students with disabilities.

When I was three years old, I had a stroke. Ever since then my health is not the same. I walk with a limp on my left leg and playing sports is difficult for me even though I like to play sports. I also have a development disability and this is why I need some support in my classes.

My disabilities don't prevent me from doing what I love to do. I love serving at mass at church every day. I was the manager for the Senior Boys Basketball at John Oliver for two years. Last year I joined the Track and Field team. For two years I learned how to play guitar at John Oliver Secondary School. Every week I attend the Filipino club at John Oliver and Tupper Secondary School.

We have a family of four: my father, my mother, my younger sister, and myself. My father works two jobs to support my family. He works very hard to make sure we have food, clothing, entertainment, and family vacations. Graduation is an expensive time of the year. I needed help to pay for the prom. Getting the Developmental Disabilities Association Scholarship will help my family pay for my college tuition. In September 2015, I will be attending the Career Awareness Program at Vancouver Community College.

I really enjoyed my high school years, I am looking forward the future, and I am excited to be going to VCC this fall.

Thank you for all your support over the last 5 years. I really appreciate the scholarship you gave me and the opportunities it will provide me. I look forward to using the money to improve my life in many ways such as getting involved with Jobs West learning how to interview grocery shopping independently and work BC.

I am going to lots of community centres classes and programs on my own now. I eventually look forward to living away from home and using all the skills I will learn from the opportunities provided from the scholarship.

Sincerely,
Remy



► Remy attended the Leisure Challenge Program for five years. Here he is accepting his DDA scholarship at his convocation pictured with Jackie Lanz, DDA's Leisure Services Manager.

MEET OUR DRIVERS



MEET JAY BIDDLE, LONGTIME DRIVER FOR THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Jay has worked for the Business Centre as a driver for 29 years!

What sparked your interest in joining DDA? How did you get started?

A friend's mom worked at Value Village on Hastings Street, my friend told me they were hiring, I applied and by the time I was home 20 minutes later I'd received an interview request!

Tell me about yourself and your role with DDA.

I repair and refurbish our clothing donation bins, some of our bins are 13 years old and others can get quite damaged, it's my job to make them look new again.

You have been with the business for 29 of its 35 years of operation, how has it changed over the years?

Everything has changed! My first thought was the only thing that is the same is what we collect but even that has changed, we used to collect a lot of furniture through regular furniture routes, we no longer receive these items. Our collection methods are different, our routes are different, how goods are received by the stores and how they are measured is different.

What do you like the most about working for DDA?

Accomplishments, setting a goal and seeing the job complete.

What do you see as the biggest challenge in our area?

Competition from for profit bin operators. Securing new bin locations, keeping all our bins active, receiving smaller loads.

How do you see our new donation bins assisting in our operations?

Visibility, the bins themselves stand out to attract more donors. These bins are also more secure.

What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?

I really like the variety in the work, from repairing bins to completing routes.

Do you have any final thoughts to share with STAR readers?

Something most people wouldn't know is I met my wife at DDA! My wife worked in the office so that is how we met, we now have two sons.



MEET QUINN, OUR SUMMER STUDENT

You're back! We were so happy to see your application for a second summer, why did you want to spend another summer with DDA?

It actually worked out really well, I started the summer working in landscaping but with the unusual warm weather the company shut down. I looked on Craigslist and was super happy to see the job advertisement.

Tell me about yourself, what are you studying?

Psychology at SFU, I have one year left. My goal is law school, I'll write the law school admittance exam test this year. I'm interested in business, corporate law.

What is your role with DDA? What do you like the most about working for DDA?

I work on bin maintenance. I also support the drivers if they need assistance. I like the people I work with.

In addition to refurbishing our clothing donation bins you also participate in many community events for DDA, tell me about those experiences.

Events are a lot of fun, good atmosphere, people waving. Otherwise I would never have an opportunity to drive in a parade!

What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?

I take pride in a job well done, finishing refurbishing and decaling a donation bin.

Do you have any final thoughts to share with STAR readers?

I've learned a lot about recycling and navigation; I now know how to drive to different areas. I've really enjoyed my time and was really happy to return.

We wish you the best for your upcoming school year!



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AT THE NAT BAILEY STADIUM

We had a great turnout at our DDA Outdoor movie night this summer! We almost got stormed out but the rain held out and everyone was able to enjoy the movie together. Families also participated in a variety of on-site activities such as face painting, arts and crafts and prize draws. Check out some of the photos we have captured below.



TAX ASSISTANCE & INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

DABC: Who We Are

For over 35 years, DABC (formerly BC Coalition of People with Disabilities) has been a provincial, cross-disability voice in British Columbia. DABC's mission is to support people, with all disabilities, to live with dignity, independence and as equal and full participants in the community. We champion issues impacting the lives of people with disabilities through our direct services, community partnerships, advocacy, research and publications. You can learn more about DABC's work at www.disabilityalliancebc.org.

What is Tax AID?

Tax Assistance & Information for People with Disabilities (Tax AID DABC) is a Disability Alliance BC (DABC) program that provides free and confidential assistance and information with income tax filing.

Who is Eligible?

People who receive:

- Persons with Disabilities (PWD) benefits, or
- Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers (PPMB) benefits.

What We Do

We can help prepare simple income tax returns for the most recent tax year, as well as for prior years. We are very happy to help people who have multiple years of taxes to file. If we cannot prepare your income tax return for you, we will do our best to help you find resources in your community that can.



Need Help with Disability Benefits and Programs?

For over 25 years, DABC's Advocacy Access program has been a place of support, information and advocacy for people with disabilities. Our mission is to help our clients receive the government benefits and services to which they are entitled. The heart of our program is free one-to-one assistance with provincial benefits and Canada Pensions.

Disability benefits (CPP-D). Call 604-872-1278 or Toll-Free 1-800-663-1278 for details, or visit www.disabilityalliancebc.org/programs/advocacy.htm

Taxes don't need to be taxing! Contact us today. **Tax AID DABC**
taxaid@disabilityalliancebc.org 604-872-1278 | Toll-Free 1-800-663-1278 | TTY 604-875-8835

DDA FALL 2015 WORKSHOPS

FREE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WORKSHOP FOR JAPANESE FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Occupational therapy (OT) focuses on helping people with a physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities be as independent as possible in all areas of their lives. Mr. Brian Lai will be joining parents to share information from his many years of experience working as an Occupational Therapist.

MEETING: Saturday, October 3rd, 2015 10:00am - 1:00pm (including cafe 12-1pm)

PLACE: Developmental Disabilities Association, 3455 Kaslo St, Vancouver

GUEST SPEAKER: Brian Lai

With a passion for providing quality and professional OT services to the community in the Greater Vancouver Area, Brian founded Sense Ability Pediatric Occupational Therapy Inc. in 2007. Sense Ability provides support to families and children in the community using a client-centered approach that puts emphasis on family goals and the developmental needs of the child. Brian strives to bring joy and happiness into the child's learning because he believes when children are motivated, they are more likely to reach their fullest potential.

FEE: FREE

SPONSORED BY: Developmental Disabilities Association, The Consulate General of Japan

RSVP: Please RSVP to firststepcanada@outlook.com by September 26th

- * Due to the limitation of space, seats are first prioritized to families. Professionals and others will be contacted depending on availability.
- * Workshop will be provided with a Japanese translator.
- * No childcare is available.

ADULTHOOD? WHAT TO KNOW? HOW TO PREPARE? WHAT TO EXPECT?

Come to this free workshop to learn about what's involved for youth with intellectual disabilities when they turn 19.

MEETING: Wednesday October 14, 2015 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

CONTACT: For more details contact Terry Schenkel at 604-233-5433 or email him at tschenkel@develop.bc.ca

Expressive Arts Kids
calling all creative fun kids with disabilities and their siblings (ages 5-14 yrs) this is a workshop just for you!
October 24, 2015 @ 10 am - 12 noon
3455 Kaslo St, Vancouver (limited spaces available)
For more information and to Register contact:
Terry Schenkel at 604-233-5433 or tschenkel@develop.bc.ca

Are you a young carer or the brother or sister of someone with a developmental disability?

Are you aged between 5-12 and want to make your own art in a workshop?

Then come along - Saturday October 24, 2015 10:00am to Noon. Snacks Provided!

This workshop will be facilitated by an Expression Arts Therapist. Limited Space is Available

STARBURST AUTUMN 2015

FAMILY SUPPORT GROUPS SPONSORED BY THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION

VANCOUVER CHINESE SUPPORT GROUP

General support for children's and adult's issues
in Cantonese and Mandarin.

MEETING: 3rd Saturday of the month
from 6:30-8:30pm

PLACE: 4948 Fraser Street, Vancouver

CHILD MINDING: Available on site when
requested at least one week in
advance of meeting

CONTACT: John, 604-928-8289 or
john_tsang2000@yahoo.ca

DDA YOUTH IN TRANSITION

Support information for transition to adulthood.

MEETING & PLACE: October 7, & December
2, 2015 at 6:30pm at

Developmental Disabilities
Association 3455 Kaslo St.,
Vancouver

NOV MEETING & PLACE: November 7, 2015 at 10:30am
at Vancouver Resource
Society, 2006 West 10 Ave.,
Vancouver

CONTACT: Liz Cochrane 604-733-6252 or
transitionparents@gmail.com

BOLLYWOOD MAZA

Support to families in Hindi and Punjabi

MEETING: Wednesdays 3:30 to 4:30pm

PLACE: 4948 Fraser Street, Vancouver

CONTACT: Michael Hajduk 604-301-2831
mhajduk@develop.bc.ca

VIETNAMESE FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Support to Families in Vietnamese

MEETING: Second Thursday of the Month
6:30pm to 8pm

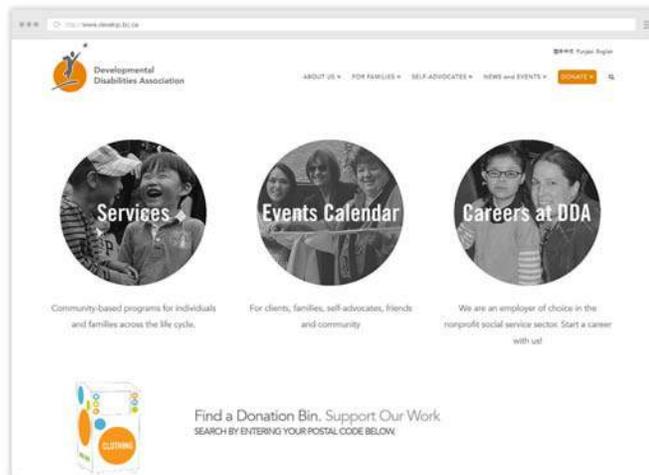
PLACE: 3455 Kaslo Street Vancouver

CHILD MINDING: Available on site when
requested at least one week in
advance of meeting

CONTACT: Nikki Tran at 778-895-2535
from 6:00 to 9:00pm

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

We're excited to announce the launch of our new website! We have made some improvements and the new website boasts many new features that will make it easier for visitors to find the information they're looking for. Our goal was to enhance the user experience and accessibility for our clients, as well as provide valuable resources for our families, self-advocates and donors.



Visit www.develop.bc.ca to see our new website today!

VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA SITES TO FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DDA AND IN YOUR COMMUNITY.



FACEBOOK: facebook.com/dda604



TWITTER: twitter.com/dda604



YOUTUBE: youtube.com/dda604

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**Developmental
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We welcome your comments and feedback. Kindly direct all comments and submissions to rsidhu@develop.bc.ca.