



ROTARY CLUB OF VANCOUVER

Community Service

The Community Service Committee is always seeking to support projects where it can make a difference in the community.

STAY IN SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Rotary Club of Vancouver Stay in School Program has made 2 x \$7,000 awards each year for the last 3 years to qualifying grade 10 students at Gladstone Secondary School. Working with school counselors the program identifies students with potential for post secondary education who might not pursue it because of financial constraints. Students, who are selected, receive \$1,000 during the high school years to fund activities that will enhance their applications for post secondary education. They will receive \$1,500 per year for a maximum of 4 years to help defer expenses during their post secondary education.

Award recipients are paired with a Rotary member to enable ongoing consultation with the student to monitor their progress and ongoing qualifications for the award. It provides the student with a "sounding board" for educational and career opportunities.

We are receiving applications for our 4th year of the awards. Funding for the awards comes from the Rotary Club of Vancouver Foundation.

NORQUAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOT BREAKFAST PROGRAM

This program is a part of the Vancouver Rotary Club's "Adopt a School Program". Norquay Elementary School is located in Vancouver. The program provides a hot/cold breakfast to 100-125 children daily. Those that can, pay a nominal amount. Rotary donates \$6,000 a year. This program has been offered at Norquay Elementary School since 1996. It is supported by the School, Rotary and the School PAC.

NORQUAY ELEMENTARY READER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Again, this program operates at Norquay Elementary School in Vancouver. Every new child in grades K-3 receives a book to take home and keep. In addition, volunteers from the Rotary Club of Vancouver and others recruited by Rotary attend the school each week to do One-on-One reading with a child who needs special help.

This program has reached over 200-300 children every year since it commenced operation in 1998. Rotary donates \$1000 a year. This program is totally operated by the Rotary Club of Vancouver. To read more about the program at Norquay School [click here](#).

HIPPY

The HIPPY program has been at the Britannia Community Centre since 1999. Rotary has supported the same since 2006 with an annual grant of \$5000. HIPPY is a literacy program -HIPPY stands for "Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters". It is a school readiness program that targets low income (42-50%), E.S.L.(55%) and isolated families in the Strathcona and Grandview-Woodlands neighborhoods of Vancouver. These neighborhoods have the lowest school readiness scores in British Columbia. Our monies purchase materials and supplies for the program. The weekly visits to the home by the HIPPY Home Visitor are designed to teach the parent how to teach the child how to read.

There are four Home Visitors, serving about sixty families, with twenty families on the wait list. In 2006-2007, these Home visitors spent 4220 hours visiting homes. SFU determined that HIPPY graduates outperformed or equalled the performance of preschool and non ECE children on School readiness (Early Development Index) and scored higher on the socio-emotional test (Braken Test). The program is free to participants

SOCCER CAMP

The Community Service Committee also assists the Vancouver Police Department in conducting a free soccer camp at Strathcona Park in Vancouver. The Club donates \$5,000 annually and the time of volunteers. This year, 2009, will be the 20th anniversary of the Soccer Camp.

THRIVE – NOOTKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

THRIVE at Nootka elementary school in east Vancouver is a Grade 4-7 classroom specifically suited to help one particular kind of student: those with dyslexia who seem to show lots of potential yet still end up falling behind their peers in key areas. The Rotary Club of Vancouver has supported THRIVE in the form of a \$5000 donation that purchased a new iMac computer, learning resources, books and is helping to pay for their SMARTboard.

EMERY BARNES PARK

In 2003, the Committee worked closely with the Parks Board to see to fruition the Club's major capital contribution to the construction of Emery Barnes Park. The Park provides a focal point to the surrounding community and much needed green space in the urban setting.