

# iside Character Character

SUMMER newsletter 2017



















# Canada Day CELEBRATION

Reach Child and Youth Development Society staff applied tattoos to many willing recipients on July 1st!

# inside reach

is published quarterly and is distributed free of charge to the membership of Reach Child and Youth Development Society. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe call 604-946-6622 ext. 0 or email info@reachdevelopment.org and write "newsletter" as subject line.

Submissions are welcome. Children's writing or artwork is welcome. Please include your contact information with your submission. Submissions can be emailed to alisonm@reachchild.org with "newsletter" in the subject line, faxed to 604-946-6622 (please do not fax artwork), mailed or dropped off at the front desk. For more information about the "inside reach" newsletter please call 604-946-6622 ext.337.



#3 - 3800 72nd Street
Delta B.C. V4L 1G9
604-946-6622 Fax: 604-946-6223
info@reachchild.org
www.reachdevelopment.org

#### **Reach Play and Learn Centre**

11415 84th Avenue North Delta, BC V4C 2L9 604-501-1502 Fax: 604-501-1359

# Message from the President



Earlier this summer I had the pleasure of going on a road trip with my husband in his 1956 MGA. Over eight days we drove from San Francisco to Delta on the back roads of California, Oregon and Washington states. My husband drove the

car to its limits, over narrow, twisty-turny, often mountainous roads, constantly and energetically shifting gears. I admit I had my eyes closed more than once.

We are shifting gears at Reach and no one has their eyes closed.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our Foundation Board members, our Executive Director, Renie D'Aquila and her wonderful staff team, along with an incredibly generous community, our Building for Children Together Campaign is in its final stages. Our new Child Development Centre is opening later this year. Reach services will soon be more accessible and Reach will be able to support many more children and their families.

Only \$400,000 of our building campaign \$5.7 million dollar goal remains to be raised.
McHappy Day, May 3rd and 'A Taste of Reach',
June 20th, demonstrated the generosity and
heartfelt support from the Delta community.
Our hosts, South Delta McDonald's restaurants

and Tasty Indian Bistro in North Delta, raised almost \$60,000 for Building for Children Together!

The Reach Child and Youth Development Society and Foundation Boards, and our executive staff will soon be shifting gears to focus on telling the story of Reach's values and the people who use our services in anticipation of our new Lois E. Jackson Kinsmen Centre for Children opening its doors.

When people learn how Reach's programs help children reach their full potential and support families whose children have special needs, they will continue to support Reach. When people understand how important it is for the dignity of a person who has a disability to live in an inclusive society and contribute to it, they will continue to be generous. When people appreciate the abilities of a person instead of just seeing the disability, they will contribute to future fundraising efforts.

These are exciting times. Discussions are happening and plans are being put in place to continue to raise funds for Reach to help more clients, reduce wait lists, and expand programs, so the focus will change from a building that everyone who passes by can see and admire, to something intangible -- what is going on inside the building and how people's lives are being improved.

Donna Burke President

# 2016/2017 Board of Directors

#### Reach Child and Youth Development Society:

Donna Burke, President; Tom Siba, Treasurer; Marcia McCafferty, Director; Phyllis With, Director; Karen Ostrom, Director; Lynn Haley, Director; Guillermo Bustos, Director; Shirley-Ann Reid, Director; Carmel Beckman, Director; Stuart Bowyer, Director

#### Reach Child and Youth Charitable Foundation:

Denis Horgan, Chair; Tom Siba, Treasurer; Agnes Douglas, Director; Valerie Bartlett, Director; Katherine Bamford, Director; Bob Mann, Director; Jeff Scott, Director; Ryan Thomas, Director; Ulf Ottho, Director; Ryan Ormerod, Director







Like, follow, look and watch. There are lots of ways to connect to Reach. Visit us at www.reachdevelopment.org to link to all of our social media.

# **Canada Day**



Emma Lea Farms at Westham Island was the place to be July 1st! Reach Board members, families and community friends came for a visit and to pick some strawberries. Volunteers Michelle and Jenyka helped families with their Canada Day tattoos throughout the day which were a hit with parents and children alike.



# **Special Olympics**



Reach's very own Kurtis Reid (center of photo) earned three Gold Medals at the Special Olympic BC Summer Games held in Kamloops July 6 to 8th. Kurtis won the medals for the 100 meter run/sprint, shot put and standing long jump.

The weather was extremely hot (37C to 38C) during the track and field events. The smoke also added another challenge for athletes and spectators. Regardless, this photo sums up the accomplishment and joy for all!

# **Reach Joy TV Interview**

Executive Director Renie D'Aquila and Positive Behavioural Support Consultant Monisha Jassi appeared on the Harpreet Singh show June 24 at 8pm and again on June 26 at 7am. Renie and Monisha raised awareness in the South Asian Community of the help available through Reach for children with special needs.

If you would like to watch the Harpreet Singh show episode where Renie and Monisha appeared, please visit: https://youtu.be/C0bWGxcsPjk



#### A Taste of Reach

'A Taste of Reach' raised awareness of services for children with special needs in the South Asian Community and generated funds for Reach Child and Youth Development Charitable Foundation. Parisha Gandhi provided a South Asian family's perspective on Reach Society services to 150 guests in attendance and Monisha Jassi, Reach Behavioural Consultant, discussed the success of her Punjabi-Speaking Parent Support group and shared the message that "Help is within Reach".

Photos taken by Bob Roche

The fun-filled event hosted at Tasty Indian Bistro on June 20, 2017 featured TV personality Mona Patrola, as MC and gourmet Indian cuisine paired with wine and beer tastings donated by Tasty Indian Bistro, Peller Estates, The Wine List and Fernie Brewing. In addition, Just Cakes BC donated signature desserts

for guests. "It was such a beautiful blend of culture and humanitarianism that filled the restaurant at our first annual Taste of Reach event. Oversold and far exceeding our expectations, the evening signifies the value that our community members place on ensuring that every child receives the services they need and deserve", stated Reach Society Fundraising Manager Kristin Bibbs.

Ian Paton, MLA Delta South; Ravi Kahlon, MLA Delta North; Mayor Lois Jackson; Councillor Sylvia Bishop; George Harvey and School Board Chair Laura Dixon attended. Mr. Paton volunteered his services as auctioneer on the spot to support 'A Taste of Reach' live auction. Proceeds from the event totaled an incredibly generous \$48,294 that will benefit Reach Society's Building for Children Together Campaign.

### **May Days Parade**



Reach Society participated in Ladner May Days this year, showcasing the duet bikes available for sign out for children and youth with developmental disabilites. A contingent of preschool familes, staff and volunteers helped make the event a fun-filled success! We even won a ribbon in the process:)



# McHappy Day 2017



Tsawwassen and Ladner McDonald's held McHappy Day to benefit Reach Child and Youth Development Society again this year. Sales of Big Macs, coffee drinks, Happy Meals, iPad raffle tickets, socks and other branded merchandise as well as direct donations to Reach Society totaled \$10,024.85. South Delta McDonald's owner/operator Steve Krawchuck sent a "big thank you to our community for supporting children with special needs. I have been proud to support Reach Society this last 10 years and a huge shout-out to our volunteers too numerous to mention individually, including from the Delta Firefighters, Delta Police and Envision Credit Union."

Local students who generously volunteered their time to perform at McHappy Day included Southpointe Academy Treble Titans Choir and and Holly Elementary Senior Choir. Local youth band Chaos Monkeys performed, dancers from the O'Brien School of Irish Dance, as well as Maydays Choir including members with autism from Abbotsford and dancers from O'Brien School of Irish Dance. Adult performers included Jenny Lundgren and Peg Keenlyside of the Jpegs Band and musicians Em Greene, Mike Greene and Irv Loewen. Local media CISL 650 and Delta Cable were on site covering the fun. The event's success is thanks to the untiring support of McDonald's staff, dedicated volunteers and all South Delta residents who came out and had breakfast, lunch or dinner at McDonald's on May 3th.



#### Calendar

Punjabi Speaking Parent Support Group Are you a Punjabi speaking parent of a child with special needs? You are invited to join our parent support group to connect with other parents and enjoy a caring community of support. Strawberry Hill Public Library meeting room 7399 122nd Street Surrey. Date & Time: 11:45-1:15 pm Last Thursday of each month starting Sept.28. Please call or email to register: Monisha Jassi 604-946-6622 Ext.315 or monishaj@reachchild.org

Mom & Tot Meet-Up Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:30 am. Come and join other moms and 0-3 year olds at the Early Years Centre in North Delta Recreation Centre, inside the Reach Play & Learn Centre. FREE Drop-in program. Parent attendance required.

Reach Preschool Registration Ongoing at inclusive preschools in North and South Delta. Contact Oshrat for more information. 604-946.6622 ext 308 or ostratz@reachchild.org

New Parent Orientation Last Wednesday of each month, 12:30-2:30 pm at #3-3800 72 St., Ladner. This is a program for parents with a recent Autism Spectrum Disorder child's diagnosis. Contact Pam at 604-946-6622 ext 359 or pamc@reachchild.org

Delta Connex Parent Peer Group Last Wednesday evening of each month at Reach Play & Learn Centre in North Delta Recreation Centre 11415 84 Ave. Last Friday morning of each month at Reach Ladner office 3-3800 72nd St. Support for parents of ADHD, FASD and other complex behaviours. Contact Robyn for more information 604-946-6622 ext 328 or robynl@reachchild.org

Down Syndrome Support Group First Thursday of each month, remaining dates for 2017 are Oct.5, Nov.2 and Dec.7. Contact Sarah at 604-946-6622 ext 321 or sarahg@reachchild.org

Harvest Festival Fundraiser Sept 16 2017 Delta Firefighter's Charitable Foundation is donating proceeds from this fun filled evening to Reach Foundation's *Building for Children Together* campaign. Tickets are \$100 and available at: http://www.deltafirefighters.com/2017-harvest-festival/

# Register for FREE Live 5-2-1-0 play boxes! (Part 2 of 2)

Jeannette Tremblay

In the last newsletter, Live 5-2-1-0 balanced lifestyle for children was introduced. One interesting new pilot project that has come from this initiative is the Live 5-2-1-0 play boxes. These are locked boxes that are placed in different community parks all around the province.

All you have to do is register by email, and you will be provided with the lock code. When the boxes are opened, there are a variety of sports equipment and activities that children have access to during their time at the park; just return the equipment when you leave. A current list of participating parks can be found online. Those who wish to learn more, can access research, statistics, games, colouring sheets, tracking sheets, and information regarding individual communities at http://www.live5210.ca/.

UPDATE: In collaboration with the Fraser Health Authority and SCOPE BC, Live 5-2-1-0 Playboxes have been placed strategically in different parks across Surrey — Holly Park, Bridgeview Community Centre, Starr Park, Maple Green Park, Bakerview Park, T.E. Scott Park and Panorama Village Park.

Each box contains a variety of items and equipment including basketballs, soccer balls, skipping ropes, sidewalk chalk, Frisbees, hula hoops and playground balls; however the items available will change with the season, she adds.

Sponsors included VOLO Athletics, KMS Tools, Big Kahuna Sport Company and The Surrey Firefighters Charitable Society which contributed in supplying sports equipment, locks and the tool boxes.

"Playboxes can be different everywhere," says Community Services Coordinator Erin Balmer. "We didn't want the Playboxes to be one set standard. In some locations we have sand toys and we have other play equipment that is more appropriate to more passive parks."

# **Building for Children Together Campaign News**



DELTA, BC (June 2, 2017) — Reach Child and Youth Development Society staff gathered for a photo opportunity with the Diamond family at West Coast Seed's grand opening last month in recognition of a \$15,000 donation to Reach's Building for Children Together campaign. In addition, West Coast Seeds made Reach



the beneiciary of their seedling sale in May raising \$3750. Reach Staff went out to the retail store directly across from our FINDS thrift store in Ladner Village to recognize the proceeds from this non-GMO, organic community event.





#3-3800 72nd Street Delta, BC V4K 3N2

www.reachdevelopment.org/campaign/how-you-can-help You will receive a charitable tax receipt for the full amount of your donation. For more info: 604-946-6622 ext.0



DELTA, BC (June 22, 2017) Reach Child and Youth Development Society receives \$2,500 from the Kinsmen Club of Ladner-Tsawwassen, a partner in project to construct a child development centre in the heart of Ladner. Taking part in the presentation are (from left) Greg Cook, Ian Sandham, Renie D'Aquila, Dave MacMillan, Kristin Bibbs and Stuart Holmes.





DELTA, BC (May 4, 2017) – South Delta restaurant owner Steve Krawchuk presents Reach staff members Kristin Bibbs, Renie D'Aquila and Alison Martin with a cheque for over \$10,000 in proceeds from McHappy Day 2017.

## **North Delta Family Days**

Denise Sheridan and Delta Early Years Centre attended this annual event with community resources for young fami-



lies. In addition, Reach preschool staff were on site to say hello to children and families and to spread awareness of the preschool program. The Reach preschool flyer in Punjabi (pictured right) was available at the event. For information about Reach inclusive preschools, don't hesitate to contact manager Oshrat Zemel at 604-946-6622.



# **Reach Building Construction Update**



May 31



July 17



July 26

DELTA, BC (July 26, 2017) - Reach Child and Youth Development Society President Donna Burke and Reach Foundation Chair Denis Horgan walked inside our new child development centre for the first time today. The tour was conducted by Corporation of Delta's Greg Scott, José Teres and Reach's Dan Layton: steel toes, work vests and hard hats were mandatory! Many large windows and sky lights on the third floor provide bright, large spaces for children in an inclusive community location beside the library, park and recreation centre.

# We're Moving to 5050 47th Avenue, Ladner, BC!





