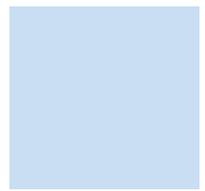




inside reach

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newsletter
2020



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Preschools are open!

North and South Delta preschools were back in session this fall with COVID-19 safety measures in place. Learn more on page 5

inside reach

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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.



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Message from the President



For me, fall is usually a time of anticipation. A new school year and new activities lead to a family get together over a special dinner, then waiting for the fun of Hallowe'en and then ending the year with another celebration. The fall of 2020 has been quite different; at times challenging and uncertain.

At REACH, we welcomed new young students to our preschools in a very safe environment and planned program changes to accommodate more outdoor play and learning. Our other programs have adapted and adjusted to the "new normal" and are supporting more children every year.

Our Annual General meeting was held virtually on September 19th and friends and families were able to join us on Zoom. We did miss the socializing. Our Board elections were part of the evening and we have full slates. We are extremely fortunate to have two hard working Boards; the Society Board oversees the programs and strategic plans of REACH and the Foundation Board helps with the funding to put more children and youth into programs.

We were disappointed to say goodbye to long time Society Board member Lynn Haley who has offered so much to the Board with her connections to the work done at Semiahmoo House and her professional expertise in staff relations. Thank you, Lynn, you will be missed. Lynn has accepted

a role on our Advisory Committee joining other talented members of our community who can be called on for advice in their fields of expertise. We also send our thanks to Agnes Douglas and Inder Saini who have stepped back from the Foundation Board and have offered so much to us.

Our Reach for the Stars Gala was also a virtual event this year, so no party clothes but lots of the same fun. The Gala organizers and volunteers dropped off a goodie bag to each person registered filled with treats from some of our sponsors. With the help of technology, we were able to include the journey of a family who is being supported with REACH services and saw how their lives have been positively impacted. The work of our therapists was showcased with songs from two youngsters. They brought tears to my eyes! I would like to thank our sponsors, organizers and volunteers who made each attendee feel part of a great gala at home. What a successful evening!

Looking forward, we are in challenging and uncertain times with the coronavirus making changes to our services look a little different but still possible. While it is impossible to predict how events will unfold in the coming months, we want you to know that we are weathering the storm successfully due to the hard work of staff, volunteers and the patience of our families. Thank you on behalf of the REACH Society Board.

On behalf of the REACH Society Board of Directors,

Phyllis With, President

2020/2021 Board of Directors

Reach Child and Youth Development Society :

Phyllis With, President; Angela Keulen, Vice president; Ryan Thomas, Treasurer; Marcia McCafferty, Secretary; Shirley-Ann Reid, Director; Karen Ostrom, Director; Carmel Tang, Director; Stuart Bowyer, Director; Lois Wilkinson, Director; Brent Graham, Director

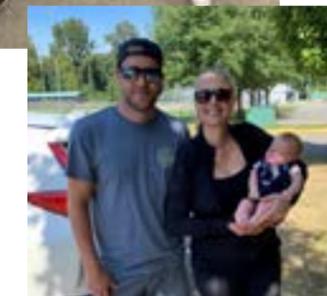
Reach Child and Youth Charitable Foundation:

Denis Horgan, Chair; Katherine Bamford, Vice Chair; Ryan Thomas, Treasurer; Tom Siba, Director; Valerie Bartlett, Director; Jeff Scott, Director; Somi Benning, Director; Laura Dixon, Director; Sharon Schoeffel, 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.

Summer Scavenger Hunt - Cruising for Clues



DELTA, BC

From August 27-30, 2020, REACH held an outside, physically distanced event planned in Delta called Cruising for Clues – a Summer Scavenger Hunt. REACH Foundation Director Jeff Scott explains: "We thought the idea of a car rally was a great way to create a fun outdoor team/family activity in the safety of your very own personal bubble. We needed to find a way to maintain the urgency, excitement and competition of the traditional car rally but with the social distancing we need to keep our families safe. As a result, we thought teams could track their time, items found and progress independently, and submit electronically. We wanted as many people to participate as possible so we eliminated the group finish area and encouraged further separation by holding the event over several days. Teams can now participate at a time which suits them best within their comfort zone and results will be reconciled after the event. Our family is excited to be able to get out and participate in this unique fundraiser for REACH."

It was a big hit because it provided a way to enjoy a group event safely from inside your car with family members already in your bubble. Everyone who participated welcomed a new, safe activity and the ice cream cones provided by South Delta McDonald's!

Summer Jazz Concert Streamed on REACH Facebook

BURNABY, BC

On Sunday, Aug 23, at 7 pm Gabriel Mark Hasselbach performed a rooftop concert with a full band (Tilden Webb, Adam Rohrluck, and Chris Haas) to support the REACH Child and Youth Development Society. The show included never before heard tunes from Gabriel's upcoming album Tongue & Groove. Fans tuned in on FaceBook Livestream, enthusiastically responding to hearing live music. In addition, a few friends were allowed on Gabriel's deck, socially distanced, to enjoy the music and view firsthand. Sending a big thanks to Gabriel for supporting REACH with this initiative!



Gabriel Mark Hasselbach jazz concert outside

REACH Virtual Gala raises \$90,000

DELTA,BC (Oct.03, 2020)

Reach for the Stars: Gardens of Growth Gala raised \$90,000 to benefit children with special needs at Reach Child and Youth Development Society (REACH) on Oct.03, 2020. The community involvement for the annual Reach for the Stars Gala by sponsors, donors and guests made this special evening possible even during pandemic times. "We deeply missed the in-person gathering of friends at this year's REACH gala and are so grateful to everyone who came together while apart in support of our children and families at our online event", said REACH Development Manager Kristin Bibbs. "The generosity of our auction donors and event sponsors who signed on for a very different event without hesitation was a heartwarming testament to the value placed on helping vulnerable communities during troubling times."



Development Manager Kristin Bibbs with Gala Sponsor Banner

REACH Preschools accepting enrollment

Fall spaces are available at REACH preschools. Our play based learning facilitates social skills development and all are welcome in an inclusive environment. REACH also offers the benefit of child development professionals accessible for questions when children are not reaching milestones. Safety measures include plexi-glass barriers, cleaning protocols and increased time outside on the giant adventure playgrounds available at both North and South Delta.

Contact Preschool Manager Susie Gall at susieg@reachchild.org or 604-946-6622 ext 308 about spaces in either preschool. Preschool South is located in Reach Child Development Centre in Ladner, visit <https://reachdevelopment.org/programs/reach-developmental-preschool-south-delta/> and Preschool North is located in North Delta at 10921 82 Ave., with Punjabi speaking staff on site. Visit <https://reachdevelopment.org/programs/reach-developmental-preschool-north-delta/> for more information



Canadian Red Cross Provides Supplies



Acting in partnership with the Federal Government of Canada, the Canadian Red Cross helped ensure that community organizations receive the support necessary to continue providing critical services for vulnerable populations during COVID-19.

REACH was fortunate to be provided multiple disposable masks and gloves to help essential services continue for our families. In addition, we received access to on line training "Preventing Disease Transmission".

As the Covid-19 pandemic stretches on this year, it can be challenging to think of some fun things to do during the upcoming holiday season! Kids and adults of all ages usually look forward to some fun outdoor activities with family and friends. While the orders from Dr. Bonnie Henry can change by December, here are some safe indoor family activities you can enjoy together according to [realsimple.com](https://www.realsimple.com)

Bake a pie, try out some new flavours!

Load up a cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows

Roast some root vegetables (potatoes, beets, squash)

Build a gingerbread house (use graham crackers, icing and your leftover Halloween candy!)

Cut paper snowflakes

Spend the day in your pajamas and watch a movie at home

Get take-out and do a living room picnic!

And my personal favourite..... Watch Christmas movies!

Remember to continue to stay safe and socially distanced to protect yourselves and our loved ones.



Halloween Fun at Preschool



Remembrance Day 2020

REACH Preschool children painted poppy rocks to acknowledge Remembrance Day this year. Dr. Bonnie Henry advised us to stay home from ceremonies this year and our children placed their rocks at Ladner Cenotaph during preschool sessions.



REACH Statement of Diversity and Inclusion

In October 2020, the Reach Child and Youth Development Society Statement of Diversity and Inclusion was revised: REACH sees the diversity of individuals and of our communities as a strength. This diversity can take the form of differences related to race, culture, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, gender expression and presentation, sexual orientation, religion, age, ability, socioeconomic status, and neurotype (that is, a difference relating to how an individual interprets and responds to social cues and processes information).

We believe we have a responsibility to demonstrate leadership on diversity issues within our communities and more broadly.

We respect and value the diverse life experiences of our clients, communities, staff and volunteers.

Creating and maintaining a diverse organizational culture is about recognizing and understanding individual

differences, contributions and needs.

At REACH, it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that respecting individuals and valuing diversity is part of every program.

REACH also values inclusion, and we cultivate an environment in which all people are respected, where their differences are embraced, and where they all have access to the same opportunities.

REACH is committed to continual assessment and lasting structural change. This in turn supports a diverse, accessible and inclusive workplace, empowered staff and families and healthy communities.

As an agency, we are aware of and learning about the impact of historical and/or present injustice and discrimination.

Fortis BC Supports SibShops!



The FortisBC SibShops program has begun the first year of their generous three year sponsorship and we were able to hold the first session virtually on Sept 30th! REACH staff has been hard at work preparing session agendas and activity packages for each child as well as creating useful SibShop program Bags filled with course materials! . With all that is going on in the world, and the reduction of social activities for so many kids, we are so grateful to be able to offer this program throughout the year to keep our siblings engaged, connected and feeling supported. REACH is extremely grateful to Fortis BC for making this important program possible.

Delta Agricultural Society Supports REACH Therapies



We are grateful for a \$15,000 donation to help purchase additional Occupational and Physiotherapy equipment needed to conduct virtual services, as well as to help fill our toy resource library. Partial funds were also used for virtual therapy aids such as iPads.

The Delta Agricultural Society has had a long history in Delta and is active in giving to local projects and community groups. Past donation recipients have included Delta Hospital, McKee House, Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust, Delta Museum and Archives, and the Delta Hospice capital project.

Delta Foundation supplies Vital Technological Equipment

REACH Society was supported by the Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund and Delta Foundation. REACH received a \$25,805 grant in July from their Emergency Community Support Fund.

This funding was used for virtual learning aids in our Early Intervention ABA programs that help children with autism. In the photo shown, our young friend is using an application called "TouchChat" that helps him to learn how to initiate



requests. The TouchChat App can also help with teaching children to answer questions.

These tools are important for skill development, behaviour modelling, reduction, acquisition and sensory processing. Our staff use iPads to deliver services, in person and remotely and to observe sessions and coach families.

Environmental Focus

Karen Field, REACH PBS Consultant



Please recycle what you can during the holiday season, but be aware of what can not be recycled.

Occasionally, there are items that may appear to be "blue box recyclable" but don't belong in there. Common items that get mistakenly put in blue boxes this time of year include:

- o String lights
- o Batteries
- o Toys
- o Electronics
- o Ribbons and bows
- o Foil gift wrap

REACH 2020 Seasonal Giving Campaign



Every year, REACH sends out a holiday appeal and this year we are raising funds for our Counselling Program because of the mental health emergency resulting from COVID-19.

Reports of how COVID-19 is adversely affecting the mental health of Canadians are stacking up. At Reach Child and Youth Development Society, we offer counselling to vulnerable populations made even more fragile by the pandemic.

REACH Counsellor Yvonne McKenna says, "Due to COVID-19 there is increased anxiety and stress so counselling sessions are needed more than ever, whether they are done by video or phone. REACH is continuing sessions with caregivers, children and teens as before and remote sessions are possible and effective."

Visit our giving page at <https://reachchild.org/donate-home/seasonal-giving/>

BIG REACH 50/50 RAFFLE!

And the fun continues! We introduced online raffles at our 2020 virtual gala and send thanks to all the guests, sponsors, donors and volunteers who made it a great success. You can still participate in our 50/50 raffle - the winner will be drawn Dec.07. Ticket prices are 1 for \$5; 3 for \$10; 10 for \$25; 40 for \$50 and 100 for \$100. Visit our [raffle website](https://reachsociety.rafflenexus.com/) to buy tickets <https://reachsociety.rafflenexus.com/> Proceeds benefit children at Reach Child and Youth Development Society.

Visit our website to access on-line information:

<https://www.reachchild.org/virtual-resources/>