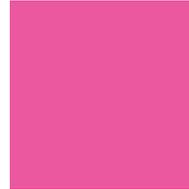




"BELIEVING IN POTENTIAL"

inside reach

SUMMER
newsletter
2020



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REACH Gala 2020 Family Story

Here's Pete! We're going virtual with the Reach for the Stars Gala this year on October 3rd and Pete's story is our feature video. Turn to our back cover to learn more about this year's event...

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.



5050 47 Ave, Delta, BC V4K 0C8
604-946-6622 Fax: 604-946-6223
info@reachchild.org
www.reachchild.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



In the beginning of March, we had no idea that this Corona-virus would change the way we go about our daily life. Some of the things we are doing now are becoming more natural. All my meetings are now on Zoom and my contacts are

extremely limited. My "bubble" has expanded to include my children and grandchildren. If I need to go to the grocery store, I am sure I have a mask with me and wear it. Our garden has never been this weed free and I have overcome the need to make bread!

During this time, REACH has been extremely fortunate in continuing to support our children and families. The staff have spent many hours gathering up the necessary Personal Protective Equipment so that programs can be maintained. They have sourced hand sanitizer, masks, protective barriers and instructed our therapists and other staff in ways to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Many of our fundraising activities had to be cancelled, postponed, or presented in a different way this year. Our wonderful Gala has been postponed until October 3, 2020 and will look quite different because it will be a "virtual" event.

Another "virtual" event coming in September is our Annual General Meeting. Mark your calendars for September 10 and visit the website home page to join into the event. Unfortunately, you will have to provide your own snack

this year "in the comfort of your home"! At this meeting we will be electing members to both the Society Board and the Foundation Board. All our Society Directors are standing for re-election except Lynn Haley. We will miss her input into the business of the Society. She has a wide range of knowledge and expertise that we have called on numerous times in the past few years. She will stay in contact with REACH and will become part of our Advisors to the Board. Thank you, Lynn, for your support and commitment to REACH.

As September approaches, families are wondering what the opening of schools will look like. We are now using the catchphrase the "new normal" to explain so many changes. I hope the new normal in the school system will work for our students and families.

In the words of Dr. Henry:
Stay calm Stay safe and Be kind to others

Thank you for your continued support!

On behalf of the REACH Society Board of Directors,

Phyllis With, President

2019/2020 Board of Directors

Reach Child and Youth Development Society :

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

Reach Child and Youth Charitable Foundation:

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

Reach for Beauty



L:R Kristin Bibbs, Rod Winning, Jan Strehler, Linda Edwards

DELTA, BC (July 26, 2020) –

From July 26 to August 10, 2020, REACH held a virtual art auction “Reach for Beauty”. You can still visit www.reachforbeauty.ca and view the works of art that were available thanks to the donations of local artists. Artists Gary Nay, Yorke Graham, South Delta Artists Guild (SDAG) members, REACH staff and many more are participated in this community effort that raised over \$9,000!

SDAG members Rod Winning and Jan Strehler dropped off a large number of paintings recently from fellow artists at the guild including several of their own.

The SDAG has been a long-term supporter of Reach for the Stars Galas and REACH events committee member Linda Edwards contacted SDAG to procure paintings for this new venture.

REACH Development Manager Kristin Bibbs explains the reason for launching the Reach for Beauty virtual auction: “Due to current restrictions on physical events, we have had to come up with new and creative ways to continue to fundraise. Our virtual art auction is a perfect avenue as it allows people to view and purchase inspired creations from the safety of their home while simultaneously supporting REACH. The generosity of the participating artists has been truly extraordinary and we are excited to showcase their incredible talents.”



REACH Virtual AGM - September 10, 2020

Here are the smiling faces of our REACH Society Volunteer Board of Directors at last year’s AGM. This year, we will be taking COVID-19 precautions and having a virtual event on Zoom, on the evening of Thursday, September 10th, 2020. The meeting will last for one hour from 7 to 8 pm and it will be very easy to attend from the comfort of your home or wherever you happen to be with an internet connection.

Register with us at info@reachchild.org or call 604-946-6622 ext. 0 to receive the REACH Annual General Meeting link and package.



Reach Society Board of Directors, 2019 Annual General Meeting

Volunteers help REACH Return to In-person Service

It's always a team effort at Reach Child and Youth Development Society.

Earlier in June, REACH Society president Phyllis With visited Ladner's main office with husband Jan to deliver 36 jugs of hand sanitizer to prevent spread of COVID-19 during back to in-person program operations. REACH social enterprise FINDS volunteers Karen Ostrom (who also serves on Reach Society board), Donna Grant, Sue Richards and Stella MacDonald were on site assembling and sorting PPE into individual bags for staff. More than 150 bags containing hand sanitizer, visors, masks and disposable gloves were prepared to keep staff and clients safe



Pictured left to right clockwise: Jan & Phyllis With, Donna Grant, Sue Richards, Karen Ostrom and Stella MacDonald

Although FINDS Children's Exchange thrift store remains closed at the moment, the hard work and dedication of its volunteers continues.



Health and Safety Corner

Linda Wong, REACH IDP Consultant

Safe Summer Activities During COVID-19

Many parents are asking how they can still have a fun and safe summer with children during these challenging times. Dr. Bonnie Henry always reminds us, "few faces, bigger spaces". For all of us, this can mean we can spend time outdoors in playgrounds at a safe distance from a small group of friends. Please continue to wash hands before and after playing on equipment, avoid unnecessary touching and consider using hand sanitizers.

There are many activities you can do around the home to keep things fun and engaging for your little ones too! "Very Well Family" has these fun suggestions:

- Have children help you grow fresh herbs in the garden
- Make a bird feeder. Watch birds visit your yard and add to your list of bird sightings.
- Camp in your own backyard!
- Make a time capsule. Have each family member write something they are grateful for and include a special item in the time capsule. You can open it as early as Thanksgiving or as far off as elementary/high school graduation.
- Pack a picnic in your neighbourhood park.
- Press summer flowers. Make a pressed flower picture with waxed paper.
- Collect rocks and paint them. Turn them into pet rocks or garden ornaments.
- Participate in REACH Cruise for Clues Scavenger Hunt :)

REACH Infant Development Program is here to help

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BABY or TODDLER'S DEVELOPMENT?
Can't make it to the Doctor or Health Unit to ask your questions? The Delta Infant Development Program is accepting referrals and working through various means to connect with newly referred families. Please see our website Infant Development Program page for more information about Delta IDP or to make a referral:



Lions Clubs Donate Masks to REACH



Renie D'Aquila and Rae-Anne Schneider mask up

REACH was fortunate to have the Surrey Central Lions Club and Chilliwack Mount Cheam Lions Club sew and donate 400 washable cloth masks to REACH including knitted fasteners with buttons that save the wearer's ears by giving the elastics on the mask something to attach to on the back of your head! Cheerful and colourful fabrics were used to keep REACH Centre for Children a friendly place for our small visitors.

The Vancouver Opera also provided fabric masks to REACH at a greatly reduced cost. Staff are also lucky recipients of masks that would be made into fantastic stage costumes under normal circumstances!

Tsawwassen Mills & Ivanhoe Cambridge donate!

On June 5th, Ivanhoé Cambridge employees from Tsawwassen Mills were planning to volunteer at Reach Child and Youth Development Society (REACH) during their Giving Back Day. That was before COVID-19 hit and respecting social distancing guidelines rendered it impossible. Instead Christine Babkine, Director of Corporate Responsibility, reassessed how Ivanhoé Cambridge could still give back to their community and chose to donate \$1,750 in lieu of volunteering efforts.

REACH CHOICES program manager Katie Scozzafava was thrilled to receive this support to children and families and visited Mastermind



Katie Scozzafava loads up Mastermind Toy purchases

Toys at Tsawwassen Mills to provision on June 25, 2020. "This generous donation has helped us to equip our staff and families with tools to work on goals at home in a productive and creative way where kids are having fun and learning at the same time", she reports.

The toys, crafts and learning tools will be used with children and youth at REACH by behaviour consultants, occupational therapists and speech-language pathologists. These materials will help children to work on routines, following directions, sequencing, communication, fine motor skills, social skills, problem solving and turn taking.

Announcing Cruising for Clues!

Looking for something to do during the Dog Days of Summer that's COVID-19 safe? Reach Child and Youth Development Society has an outside, physically distanced event planned in Delta called Cruising for Clues – a Summer Scavenger Hunt. It's affordable at \$30 per vehicle and flexible with four dates to participate: August 27, 28, 29 and 30th. Participants can purchase a ticket on any of the dates and cruise for clues in Delta on the date that suits them best. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/cruising-for-clues-tickets-115543083473> to purchase. Show proof of Eventbrite purchase at Ladner or Tsawwassen McDonald's and your car will receive free ice cream cones! All those who get most answers correct will be entered the Grand Prize Draw – BBQ package including beers for 6 courtesy of Newmans Fine Foods and Four Winds Brewing! There are two Runners Up prizes – \$50 gift card for Boca Grande Donut Shop and \$50 card for Starbucks. Email your answers to kristinb@reachchild.org on the day you participate to qualify for prizes with a photo of your team if you are comfortable being shown on REACH social media feeds



REACH volunteers Christine Sutherland, Khya Fellingham, Linda Edwards and Jeff Scott in a Cruising for Clues press shot with their families.

Environmental Focus

Karen Field, REACH PBS Consultant



If you have been making the most of the daylight and warmth by spending time camping or barbecuing, you might be wondering how to dispose of empty propane cylinders or butane canisters.

DO NOT include these with your recycling. These canisters and containers that held flammable material—such as propane, butane, and other lighter fluids—require special handling. They pose a fire and explosion risk inside trucks and at processing facilities if they are collected with other containers. Please contact your local government or the Recycling Council of BC (1-800- 667-4321) for information on how to safely dispose of these.

Coastal Savings Pandemic support to REACH



The Coast Capital Savings Community Leadership Team approved \$5,000 in support from their COVID Relief to help families with emergency funding, counselling and PPE for clients and staff. This grant directly helps those in the communities we serve – Surrey, Delta and Langley- and we are very grateful to have this support. Coast Capital Savings was also a bronze sponsor at our Reach for the Stars Gala 2019 and we appreciate their interest in supporting local children with needs – thank you!

Community TV Filming



Delta Cable filmed representatives from Delta Chamber of Commerce, Ladner Business Association and Tsawwassen Business Improvement Association who were interviewed by the Delta Optimist in August 2020

Vancouver Foundation COVID-19 Support to REACH



We are thrilled to announce that Vancouver Foundation has awarded Reach Child and Youth Development Society with a Community Response Fund flexible operating grant of \$50,000.00. REACH sends out profound gratitude for these funds that mitigate the losses to our CHOICES and ABA programs as a result of COVID-19. The Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) program is a skill building program that teaches functional skills to children with autism spectrum disorders. REACH CHOICES program encompasses a diverse range of options. Clients have access to Speech Language Pathologists, Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists as well as Behavioural Consultants specializing in addressing challenging behaviours in children.

First West Foundation Provides Grants to REACH



After the COVID-19 pandemic emerged this spring, the Community Help Fund of Envision Financial, a division of First West Credit Union and First West Foundation supported the purchase of PPE supplies at REACH with two donations totalling \$5,500.

The help did not stop there though - First West Foundation also provided REACH a grant to support our Counselling program in the amount of \$20,000. Mental Health is increasingly a concern as we live with the pandemic. Parents of children with special needs and their parents can receive counselling help at REACH. Due to COVID-19, families are experiencing increased anxiety and stress. First West Foundation is proud to provide grants of this nature through the Envision Financial Community Endowment.



REACH Counsellor Yvonne McKenna with virtual counselling tools. She reports that parents appreciate virtual at-home support.

MCFD Acknowledgement



Shirley Lippmann, Director of Operations, CYSN, South Fraser is retiring from the Ministry for Children and Family Development at the end of August. In recognition of her outstanding commitment over 20 plus years supporting children with support needs she will be presented with the prestigious Premier's Legacy Award in November. REACH Executive Director, Renie D'Aquila who worked closely with Shirley over the years, was filmed alongside of Shirley outside of our Memorial Park inclusive playground on July 23rd in preparation for the award.

REACH Virtual Gala is coming Oct.03, 2020 at 7:15 pm!



This year, we are proud announce our 8th Annual Reach for the Stars Gala with Vancouver Port Authority returning as Presenting Sponsor and CAPTIN Toyota as Platinum Sponsor. "We are passionate about helping as many children as possible reach their potential, which is why we are hosting this year's gala virtually with Live emcee Steve Darling! From the safety of home, guests will enjoy all of the festivities of a REACH gala including silent auction, raffles, and entertainment. Guests will also hear from families with children with special needs about their challenges and inspiring successes", says Development Manager Kristin Bibbs. Email kristinb@reachchild.org to sponsor or to donate to the event and visit our website home page for registration details: www.reachchild.org

Preschool North Playground

Our new community playground at REACH Inclusive Preschool North is ready for action this fall! A \$19,812.00 grant from Tire Stewardship BC made the playground surfacing possible. During COVID-19, outside play is safer than inside play. The playground is accessible to children of all ages and abilities, fosters imaginative play and has sensory elements that are beneficial to children with ASD. Reach Society helps children with any kind of developmental delay including Autism Spectrum Disorder. The physical development that comes to our children through playgrounds cannot be underestimated – strength, balance and agility are learned on them. Our new playground also incorporates indigenous themed equipment with a canoe and tipi included.



Newly Renovated Preschool
ECE Certified Staff
COVID-19 Precautions in place
Huge adventure playground
Spaces available for September

ਨਵਾਂ ਨਵੀਨੀਕਰਣ ਪ੍ਰੀਮਕੂਲ
ਈ. ਸੀ. ਈ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣਿਤ ਸਟਾਫ਼
ਕੋਵਿਡ-19 ਸਾਵਧਾਨੀ ਦੀ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ
ਵੱਡਾ ਪ੍ਰਾਈਵੇਟ ਖੇਡ ਦਾ ਮੈਦਾਨ
ਸਰੰਬਰ ਤੋਂ ਜਗ੍ਹਾ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ



reachchild.org

REACH PRESCHOOL NORTH
10921 82 Ave., N. Delta
Register for FALL 2020 NOW
Contact Susie 604.946.6622 ext. 308



REACH preschools have installed plexiglass to help children be safer in the classroom. We will be open in both North and South locations in September. In addition to the plexiglass, hygiene and physical distance measures are in effect because of COVID-19.

Contact Susie Gall, Preschool Manager to find out more and to register.

Visit our website for our activity calendar:

www.reachchild.org/events-workshops