



inside reach

SPRING
newsletter
2021



in this issue...



L:R Alison Martin, Mayor Harvie, Kristin Bibbs, Inder Saini

4th Annual Taste of Reach

Sending THANKS to Tasty Indian Bistro for making a pandemic safe Drive-Thru edition of the popular North Delta based fundraiser possible.....*more page 3*

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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@reachchild.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.



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Message from the President



After the long winter of COVID-19 necessary restrictions, we were all looking forward to renewed hope this Spring. At the same time, we were faced with new variants of the virus, we had the opportunity to receive a protective vaccination. I received my "jab" in mid-April and expect my next one early in the summer. The numbers I like to follow on the regular COVID-19 updates are the number of people vaccinated and the direct link to the lowering of the transmission. Please get vaccinated!

REACH continues to be a busy hub of the community. Both the North Delta and South Delta Preschools continue to operate providing both indoor and outdoor experiences. The preschool in Ladner added to its outdoor space with a new fenced area accessible directly from the classroom. With an exceedingly kind donation from Premium Fencing, the area was enclosed by a group of talented employees in memory of a colleague. We are honoured to be the recipient of this donation. With the Spring weather, the youngsters in North Delta have had plenty of outdoor time in their newly improved play area.

April was Volunteer month. REACH, like so many non-profit organizations, relies heavily on its dedicated volunteers. Our children's thrift store, FINDS is totally run and staffed by volunteers. But... due to COVID-19 they are presently distanced at home ready and hopeful for re-opening in September. Both the Society and

Foundation Boards are volunteers and we have continued to meet via Zoom for the past year. We are fortunate to have other volunteers who are also able to continue supporting our programs through Zoom and other venues. I would like to acknowledge and thank them all.

On April 23, I had the pleasure of picking up my dinner from the parking lot of Tasty Bistro on Scott Road. It was the 4th Annual Taste of Reach Drive Thru Fundraising event with enough food to last us two nights. I now know why the restaurant is called Tasty Bistro because it was beyond tasty!

After many tentative dates and cancellations, by the International Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) REACH was finally surveyed in late April. The CARF standards are extremely high, and Reach came through with many accolades. I was interviewed by one of their team and was able to give her many of my personal reasons for continuing to volunteer at REACH. After more than fifteen years on the Board, I believe in the work that continues to be done, the professional attitude and experience of our staff, the need in the community for our programs, and how proud I am to be a small part of a great organization

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; Pindi Mann, Director

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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.

A Taste of Reach Drive-Thru Edition

DELTA, BC (April 23, 2021)

Tasty Indian Bistro developed a pandemic version of the annual fine dining fundraiser benefitting Reach Child and Youth Development Society (REACH). The 4th Annual Taste of REACH event was held on Friday, April 23rd, 2021 at Tasty Indian Bistro's North Delta location. This year, guests drove through and picked up their meal because of COVID-19 safety. Those individuals passing the meals to guests in their cars wore masks and engaged in frequent sanitation of the hands. Guests also wore their masks while receiving their package to ensure safety for all.

As in previous years, a gourmet dinner was provided by sponsor Tasty Indian Bistro: each \$150 ticket provided 2 appetizers, 2 main courses, naan and rice. Dessert was provided by Just Cakes and a bottle of wine was also provided with each ticket. Charton Hobbs, Mark Anthony and The Drinks List were the wine sponsors. Over the last 3 years, A Taste of Reach has raised \$195,000 to support children with developmental needs in the Delta, Surrey and Langley areas. "Our Annual Taste of REACH events have been incredibly successful in raising both funds for and awareness of the services offered by REACH within Surrey", says REACH Development Manager Kristin Bibbs. "We are extremely excited and incredibly grateful to the Tasty Bistro family and



L:R REACH Directors Katherine Bamford, Ryan Thomas, Phyllis With, Kristin Bibbs

all sponsors for making it possible to host our 4th annual event in a different way this year!"

Speakers at Taste of Reach fundraisers have raised awareness about the importance of seeking help when behavioural and developmental issues present for children. REACH family testimonials remove stigma from seeking support, allowing children with needs to reach their potential. Tasty Indian Bistro owner Inder Saini shares his reasons for sponsoring the fundraiser that benefits children with needs: "I believe helping people grow and achieve their full potential is the route to happiness - both theirs and yours."



Surrey Councillor Linda Annis



Surrey MLA Randeep Sarai



The Take Out Feast at home



Jeff & Carolyn Scott dine virtually with friends



Former REACH liaison Sylvia Bishop



Drivers Experience Groupe (DXG) support the event



REACH Foundation Chair Denis Horgan

Announcing REACH Annual General Meeting

Everyone is welcome at REACH AGM 2021 Join us virtually and possibly some in person on the evening of September 16. Learn about what goes on behind the scenes at Reach Child and Youth Development Society. Listen to our volunteer Directors and celebrate the great community we have built together.

If you would like to run for election on our society board, forward your nomination to info@reachchild.org and contact front desk at 604.946.6622 to register. This year's event can be attended from the safety and comfort of your home in a virtual environment. No travel or childcare needed! Please save the date because your attendance is important to us.

Announcing Councillor Lois Jackson's REACH role



Councillor Jackson at REACH GALA 2016

We're grateful to have Councillor Lois E. Jackson assume her re-appointment as liaison for Reach Child and Youth Development Society at City of Delta. Councillor Jackson is a long time supporter of REACH and has spoken on our behalf many times.

Infant and Toddler Development

The Covid-19 Pandemic provincial restrictions concern many parents about how they could affect their baby's development. This topic has been brought up as babies and toddlers born in the past year have had limited opportunities to socialize with other baby friends or even their own extended family members.

According to Today's Parent, *"Learning happens in the context of relationships. For babies and even children up to age three, the most important primary social interactions they have are with their caregivers—that's where they're going to learn the most about social skills. Parents model how to engage in social interactions. Most children then take those learned skills and apply them to their social interactions with other children, caregivers and teachers later on in their lives"*. (Resource: <https://www.todaysparent.com/baby/baby-development/will-all-the-under-socialized-babies-born-in-2020-be-ok/>)

Sometimes first-time parents are curious when certain developmental milestones happen. It is important to understand that every baby achieves milestones in their own timing. No two babies are the same, even identical twins! A resource that Infant Development Program Consultants recommend is "Zero To Three" <https://zerotothree.org/resources/series/magic-of-everyday-moments>. They have series of topics such as "Building Blocks of Development", "Brain, Body and Mind from Birth to 3 Years", "Physical, Language and Social-Emotional Development" and "Nurturing Attachment and Managing Challenging Behaviours".

An essential part of parenting a new baby is to love them and respond to their needs. There is a lot of information on the internet. Trust your gut and if you would like more information on milestones or if some aspect of your baby's development doesn't feel right, "Baby Navigator" <https://babynavigator.com/> is a good resource to look into.

If you have any concerns or questions about development, the REACH Infant Development Program takes referrals from parents too. Visit Reach website to learn more: <https://reachdevelopment.org/child-development-programs/infant-development-program/>. We are always willing to work with families to help achieve their child's full potential!

Ken and Rexie Model Skills at REACH Front Desk:



Brushing Teeth



Soccer & Sportsmanship



Modelling Prepositions In and On

Children visiting REACH for therapies delight in the constant antics of friends Ken and Rexie. We're grateful to our creative front desk manager Rae-Anne Schneider who engages children with the happy duo daily.

Feelings First



In response to parent concerns about COVID-19 restrictions affecting their baby's development, a Social and Emotional Development (SED) Messaging campaign on social media began in May 2021. (BC Child Development Alliance) REACH will be posting a weekly video and message on Facebook and Twitter for the duration of the campaign of the Social and Emotional Development Messaging Campaign. For more information visit the [Feelings First website](#). Messages include:

- o SED starts early!
- o Parent Child Connection – “Be present not perfect”
- o Encouraging and Modelling positive behaviours – “catch your child doing something kind”
- o Language and Communication – “Children don't need speech to talk”
- o Stress Management – “Routines relieve stress”

Spring Hatching Chicks at Preschool



Preschoolers were delighted to track the progress of egg to chick in April and early May.



Recycling Help

Karen Field, REACH PBS Consultant

Have you ever wondered what can be recycled or when your collection day is? Well there's an app for that!! Download Recycle BC's recycling cell phone app to find out what recyclable material goes where and find your nearest depot location. In some communities you can also check your collection day and receive notifications about your recycling pick-up and services. Recycle BC's app is a free and convenient way to learn about recycling in BC.

REACH CARF Survey 2021

CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) Surveyors spent 3 days with REACH in April 2021. Why is it important for REACH to attain this designation?

As an organization receiving funding from Ministry of Children and Family Development, REACH's operations and services are required to conform to over 1,000 International standards. Typically every three years, our accrediting body CARF conducts an extensive external evaluation.

This year our evaluation was virtual rather than in person because of COVID-19. We uploaded documents to demonstrate evidence of conformance with the standards. Surveyors sought input on the quality of REACH's services from families we support, our funders, Board members and staff. The survey tells us what we are doing well and ways we might continue to improve.

For example, some of the questions the survey team members ask families are:

1. Do you receive the services you need and want from REACH?
2. Are you treated with respect?
3. Are you actively involved in determining and providing input to the services your child is participating in?
4. Are your questions answered in a way you understand?
5. Do you know where to go with questions or concerns?

Here are some of the comments that CARF Surveyors shared in the exit interview on April 28:



- REACH delivers family centered services of high quality and it's very much appreciated by families
- Commended for high level that REACH is functioning at during these trying times
- Families report a high level of satisfaction with REACH
- Staff are passionate and go the extra mile for families
- REACH works to bring about change and has an excellent reputation with stakeholders for providing services to vulnerable children

Client's comments:

"Can't imagine life without REACH"

"Staff is knowledgeable, empowering, kind"

"REACH walks along side families"

REACH Truth and Reconciliation Statement and Workshop

REACH will be including an Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation Statement on our website. "Reach Child and Youth Development Society would like to gratefully acknowledge the elders past, present and emerging and to recognize their honoured stewardship of this land. Our REACH main office is located on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Hul'q'umi'num speaking peoples, including Tsawwassen and Musqueam.. We recognize our neighbours the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Tsleil-Waututh, Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Hwiltsum, and Qayqayt First Nations. As traditional territories overlapped, they too may have a relationship with the lands we now call Delta. All relationships matter to us at REACH. We know we cannot progress into a better future without deep understanding of our past. We pledge to continue to learn and move forward on our journey in reconciliation."



KAIROS Indigenous Workshop Image

In May 2021, REACH Aboriginal Supported Child Development Program manager Carol Kerfoot offered a workshop to all staff called 'Kairos Blanket Exercise' that educates Canadians on Residential Schools, the Sixties Scoop and diminishment of land comprising our indigenous peoples' history.

Premium Fencing Donates to Preschool South



Premium Fencing put up a terrific fence for Preschoolers at our Ladner location in mid-May. Sending a big thank you to Brent and Simon Mitchell who facilitated this terrific donation that keeps our preschoolers safe. Premium's Sam Clare is pictured with his crew beside REACH Prechool Manager Susie Gall. This pro-bono work's value is in excess of \$6,000 and the company donates to a non-profit organization yearly in memory of James Fabiszewski, a Premium Fencing employee who originally suggested an annual pro-bono project.

Envision Financial & First West Foundation Support REACH



As a result of COVID-19, REACH experienced a drastic increase in the costs associated with program and service delivery. We have been providing both virtual and in-person services depending on children's support needs and families individual circumstances. For virtual autism therapies, we have required materials that accompany children's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) so that families can continue interventions in their home.

The 2021 Community Response Grant funds that REACH received were extremely impactful helping ensure that children with extra needs continue to receive the critical support they need to reach their potential during these exceptionally challenging times. We are so grateful for Envision Financial and First West Foundation's incredible support of REACH during these unprecedented times.

M&M Food Market North Delta Support

Each year, Jason Davidson holds M&M Food Market North Delta Charity Days to support the community. In 2021, they ran from May 17-21. 100% of the store's net profits on May 18, 2021 were donated to REACH and Kristin Bibbs, Development Manager, is pictured here with Jason receiving a \$400 donation from the campaign at 1-11161 84 Ave., North Delta location.



The Equal Pay BC coalition is a group of representatives from non-union service providers including REACH. Please visit The Equal Pay BC website to find out more about the campaign:

<https://www.equalpaybc.ca/>

For the last several years, the Ministry of Children and Family Development has stopped providing non-union wage increases consistent with those provided to the union sector, significantly increasing the gap between union and non-union pay rates. The Equal Pay BC coalition has been fighting hard to close the gap on wage rates and filed a complaint with the Labour Relations Board of BC. This complaint will be decided on sometime in the next year, but they need the support of the non-union agencies and their supporters to raise awareness of this issue and increase advocacy for the Equal Pay movement.

Follow and comment on REACH [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) hashtag #EqualPayBC

2nd Annual Reach for Beauty Fundraiser!

Reach for Beauty
ART AUCTION for AUTISM
on-line fundraiser to support local children with developmental needs
June 13 - 28, 2021
Accepting donations now! Contact kristinb@reachchild.org
Paintings | Sculpture | Pottery | Jewellery | Photography
www.reachforbeauty.ca
reach
CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
foundation
MAKING IT POSSIBLE

Reach Child and Youth Development Society (REACH) were delighted to have a visit from Rod Winning who delivered South Delta Artist's Guild donations for Reach for Beauty: Art Auction for Autism. The inaugural online auction for autism was very successful last year and generous bidders and local artists donors raised \$9275 to support local children with special needs. This year, renowned artists Gary Nay, Yorke Graham and Linda Jones return to participate and are joined by Michael Soltis. Reach for Beauty boasts wearable art, artisan furniture and household items, pottery, photography as well as original paintings for easy online viewing and bidding.

Kristin Bibbs kristinb@reachchild.org is collecting donations: please contact her prior to June 10 if you would like to donate artwork. "We feel incredibly grateful for the support of both the new and repeat artists who are participating in our 2nd Annual Reach for Beauty, and excited to be showcasing a wonderful variety of artwork to brighten your day" says Bibbs. Reach for Beauty will be live June 13-28, 2021 at www.reachforbeauty.ca. Proceeds benefit children with developmental needs in Delta, Surrey and Langley. Successful bidders will be able to pick up their art prizes from Reach Child Development Centre in Ladner, 5050 47th Avenue, starting Monday July 5, 2021, between 9 am and 4 pm. For more information visit REACH website at www.reachchild.org.

Starting June 13, Reach for Beauty art auction is live:

www.reachforbeauty.ca