



West Vancouver Community Centres Services Society

westvancouver.ca/wvccss

September 2010 E-Newsletter

Build Community, Buy a Brick Unveiling Ceremony September 9th, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm



Please join the West Vancouver Community Centres Services Society Chair Barbara Brink, Board of Directors, and Mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, as they unveil the initial bricks from the Build Community, Buy a Brick fundraising campaign.

Celebrations will take place on Thursday, September 9th between 5:00pm and 6:30 pm in the Atrium with the official unveiling and dedication starting at 5:30pm. Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to wvccsscampaing@westvancouver.ca by September 6th.

Message from the Chair: Celebrating Success



This fall the Society is celebrating several important milestones. The initial bricks from the Build Community, Buy a Brick Campaign will be unveiled on September 9th from 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm. This campaign is essential to raising funds needed for a variety of programs and services in the Community Centre, including the Summer Camp Volunteer Program you will read about in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing the initial bricks laid at the doorstep to our beautiful new Community Centre. It is an important first step to raising funds necessary to enhance programs and services offered at the Community Centre.

The Society was also successful in applying for the Grant for Change. This grant will provide funds for the Society to develop communication tools to continue building awareness of the Society's role and responsibilities. We look forward to launching some of our new tools before the New Year and will keep you apprised of them as we move forward.

You Belong Here!

Barbara Brink

Message from the Executive Director: Fall Back into Community



The Fall provides us with an opportunity to re-connect with our friends and neighbours after a summer away. Part of this is staying connected to the wonderful activities that are available in our community. This Fall there are more opportunities than ever before to get involved and active at the West Vancouver Community Centre. West Vancouver's Fall and Winter Leisure Guide is available online and in Community Facilities. Take some time to flip through the pages and find a new fitness class, art program, or drop in activity that piques your interest. Also, in an effort to keep you connected to the activities going on in your Community Centre we have launched several new

tools. Westvancouverrec.ca is the new Recreation web portal; designed to give community members access to schedules, upcoming activities, and more. In addition, you can view the new interactive Leisure Guide while you are here; flip pages and click on course barcodes for more program information. Finally, sign-up for Facebook or Twitter to stay connected to the latest and greatest information on our programs and services.

This Fall stay connected and explore something new with all the great programs available at your Community Centre.

You Belong Here!

Sue Ketler

Focus on the Governance Committee



The Governance Committee, chaired by Al Thompson, plays a vital role in the operation of the West Vancouver Community Centres Services Society. The purpose of the Committee is to assist the Board in ensuring that the overall business, stewardship, and governance responsibilities of the Board are conducted efficiently and effectively. The Governance Committee is concerned with Society compliance with the Society Act, Board performance and accountability, Board organization, and the retention of quality directors and appointed officials to meet policy, fiduciary and fundraising obligations.

In the coming year, the Governance Committee is focused on specific projects including:

- Ensuring the Society is compliant with the regulatory requirements of the Society Act
- Further refining the Director's orientation and development program
- Ensuring the Directors manual is current and complete
- Researching Society membership policy options and recommending changes as required
- Reviewing the Constitution and Bylaws
- Recommending a Director Succession Plan
- Planning the 2011 Annual General Meeting

The Committee looks forward to achieving their 2010 - 2011 goals in support of the Society and the Community Centre.

WVCCSS Memberships

There are many great benefits to being a WVCCSS member, including an advanced preview of the Leisure Guide, complimentary admission passes, and invitations to guest speaker events. In addition, members receive voting privileges at the AGM; this ensures your voice is heard in major decisions affecting the Community Centre. The cost is \$10 to become a member and to get involved in your Community.

Do you know of someone who would be interested? Please forward them this e-newsletter or encourage them to contact wvccssmembership@westvancouver.ca

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Summer Camp Participants learning to cook at the West Vancouver Community Centre

Feature Event: Heritage & Harvest

You are invited to celebrate West Vancouver heritage at the West Vancouver Community Centre on October 17th, starting at 11:00am.

Highlights of this fun filled event include:

- Official ribbon cutting for the new breezeway that connects the West Vancouver Community Centre and the Seniors' Activity Centre
- Join Mayor, Council, and the community for the Peter Jones Dedication at 1:00 pm to recognize the former Mayor for his legacy in building community capacity
- Honor 100 years of service for the Girls Guides of Canada and open the 25 year time capsule with the Lions Area Girl Guides
- Take part in one of the many activities for families and kids happening throughout the day

Events details will be available soon at westvancouver.ca

New Courses at the Community Centre

Youth Masters Swim Program	Course Details
Arts Fusion	Course Details
Open Studio: All Media	Course Details
Violin - Group Class	Course Details

For all courses and activities check out the online and completely interactive [Leisure Guide](#)

Staff Profile: Stacy Metz



Stacy Metz has worked with West Vancouver Community Services for over six years. As a Program Coordinator she has the opportunity to work closely with the Society and the public to mold and shape the program offerings available to the public. Adult Learning programs are one of the areas that have received attention over the past year after West Vancouver Community

Services assumed responsibility of Adult Learning from the West Vancouver School Board in the Fall of 2009. Since then it has been full steam ahead on tailoring courses to the specific needs of West Vancouver residents. When asked why Adult Learning is an important addition to the program offerings at the West Vancouver Community Centre, Stacy replied, "Opportunities to continually learn and develop your skills and capacities is of benefit to all of us. Studies have shown that keeping mentally active improves your memory and cognitive abilities and there are also great social connections that occur".

There is a wide range of Adult Learning courses offered this Fall including: languages, meditation, cooking, beauty, and others. You will find all of the program offerings in the online Fall and Winter Leisure Guide, [here](#), or on the West Vancouver website, [here](#).

Volunteer Profile: Akanksha Stevens



Akanksha Stevens, a grade 12 student at West Vancouver High School, spent her summer volunteering! As one of 130 Summer Camp Volunteers this summer, Akanksha gained experience and leadership skills that she plans on using in her immediate future. This experience will provide an advantage when applying for scholarships and jobs. As a

volunteer she has had the opportunity to volunteer in a variety of areas and remarks, "Even if you don't have experience in a specific area the volunteer program helps you with that, there are training sessions to get you ready and the staff is friendly." She credits the volunteer program for developing a wide variety of skills, "Being with so many kids, helps you learn about different situations all at once".

Akanksha and 130 others took part in the Summer Camp Volunteer Program. The West Vancouver Community Centres Services Society supported this program with financial assistance. Your support is needed to continue the expansion of programs like these.

...you belong here!