



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Central Vancouver Island

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



18th Annual General Meeting March 28, 2019 – 6:00 pm

Beban Social Centre Room #7
2300 Bowen Road
Nanaimo, BC

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction (Board Members and Staff)
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of AGM Minutes March 1, 2018
5. Reports
 - A. Board President Report
 - B. Executive Director Report
 - C. Director of Service Delivery
 - D. Finance
 - i) Approval of Financial Statement 2018
 - ii) Approval of 2019 Budget
 - iii) Approval of Accountant for 2019
6. Mentee Testimonials
7. Felix Toulouse Memorial Award – Community Mentor of the Year
8. Island Savings Division of First West Credit Union Award – In School Mentor
9. Election of Board Members
10. New Business
11. 2018 Photo Show
12. Adjournment

Frank Bailey	Board
Stephen Cochrane	Staff
Kaylin Compton	Practicum Student
Renee Clements	Board
Marjorie Driscoll	Attendee
Doug Emes	Mentor
Ira Francis	Little
Kalen Francis	Little
Shannon Katz	Board
Jennifer Kemp	Staff
Kathy King	Board
Matt Laing	Attendee
Tianay Laing	Board
Lorana LaPorte	Donor
Elaine Layman	Accountant
Roger Lytton	Board
Karen McBride	Board
Barb McLaughlin	Member
Pat Newton	Staff
Giz Paziewski	Parent
Denise Robinson	Staff
Maureen Rumley	Donor
Jerry Sauder	Staff
Jen Schlueter	Mentor
Amanda Sonnberger	Parent
Barry Sparkes	Member
Bruce Taylor	Mentor
Chris Waddell	Donor
Don White	Past Chair
Deedee Woodward	Parent
CJ Woodward	Little
Janet Wright	Board

BOARD PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island continues to be an incredible organization. This past year we have experienced a number of changes. From changing board members, including a new board president to a new executive director to an increase in staff. The continued support has helped to make this transition an amazing experience that has had a positive impact on the organization. Volunteers, board members and staff who are dedicated, hardworking and passionate create an environment that is truly inspiring.

A main focus this past year has been to continue taking steps to become more financially stable. Through a number of different methods I feel we are closer to where we want to be, with plans in place to help continue this for the coming year.

Mentoring programs are so important, especially with today's challenges. Speaking from my personal experience, I would not be where I am today if it wasn't through the continued support from my mentor. Big Brothers Big Sisters works hard at providing a number of different mentoring program options, from one on one mentoring to group mentoring programs. Through the hiring of additional staff we are one step closer to achieving another one of our main goals; that every child who needs a mentor has a mentor. With the increase in staff we now have the means to serve more children.

On behalf of the board and staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island, I would like to sincerely thank you for your past, present and continued support.

Tianay Laing
Board President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Looking back at 2018 and reflecting on the years ahead for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island, I am both grateful and hopeful. Grateful for the generous support we continue to receive from our volunteers, board, staff, supporters and community members that allows us to serve the children and family of Central Vancouver Island. Hopeful for the future of mentoring in our community and across the country as we see a strengthened recognition from all levels of society that mentoring is not just a “nice to have” but a “need to have.”

In my first year of becoming Executive Director for our agency, I had the pleasure of following in the footsteps of our previous ED Denise Robinson, who dedicated over 20 years of her life to establishing, strengthening and securing the future of mentoring for the children and youth in our area. Denise has always been a mentor to me, and I’m grateful to have such a strong example to guide me. Something we have always shared is the ability to embrace change and move forward with the times when it comes to staying relevant with our programs and seeking new resources for sustainability. Our clothing program is an example of this and though there are still challenges to overcome, we have seen this program become a viable in-house fundraiser for our agency with solid potential for financial growth, and continued opportunities for employment and unique volunteer experience to a variety of people. Looking at the financials for 2018, there is a range of different funding sources coming in from large bequests to small donations from events held by our Fund Development Committee to fundraisers done by our families and small businesses! This gives me great hope that our reach is getting farther and wider every year and our stories are being shared and heard.

When I reflect on the impact our agency has had on the children and youth in our community this past year, I am amazed and proud of the small but mighty team of dedicated people who made it happen. Our Director of Service Delivery Stephen is hard working, dedicated and uses every resource available to maximize the impact of our programs, including training and guiding Interns and practicum students to serve more children in our In school mentoring and group programs and partnering with businesses to offer low to no cost activities for our community matches. With our collective motivation for efficiency, we were able to add a part-time Program Coordinator to our team, welcome Taylor! We have a strong and diverse Board of Directors lead by our Board President Tianay who knows first hand the life-changing effect a mentor can have.

I will wrap up with more gratitude... for the amazing volunteer mentors that have made the commitment to make a BIG difference in the life of a child and allow us to work along side them to make it the best experience possible for them and the littles. While 2018 has still left us with a wait list of children waiting for a mentor, we will never give up on our vision of “every child who needs a mentor, has a mentor.” When I look at the committed team we have in place, I am more than hopeful for our future and excited to build on the 48 years we have been serving the families and children in our community.

Jennifer Kemp

Executive Director



In 2018, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island (BBBSCVI) had the pleasure of serving a total of 219 children. As this role of Director of Service Delivery evolves what remains constant is how honored I feel to be surrounded by such wonderful volunteers who do all the mentoring with children in all our 4 programs.

COMMUNITY PROGRAM

The community program numbers continue to decline with 11 active matches remaining down from 26 less than a year ago. We continue to recruit and need mentors desperately for the 70 boys and 10 girls who are on our waitlist. Once again this year we were able to send a total of 5 littles to Tim Horton's Children's Camps in Alberta. We sent 3 boys and 2 girls to the camps and all had a great time with the possibility of returning once again next year for a 5 year leadership opportunity. We also sent 1 child to Camp Eco Defenders and 4 to Camp Phoenix down in Sooke.

We partnered again this year with the Light of Christ Church to do our annual Picnic at Rathtrevor Beach, but our event got rained out so it didn't happen. Thank you to them for their continued support.

The annual Christmas party was again held at Brechin Lanes where 45 attended: we bowled for two hours, ate pizza and had lots of fun. The children were given books (which were donated by Scholastic) to take home and we gave out t-shirts.

4 of our families were given hampers through Volunteer Nanaimo's Angel program, Island Savings (Jodi Meldrum team) so 13 people in our community program were able to enjoy the giving of Christmas. Every year the families can't express their gratitude enough for the generous help they receive through the partnership with our agency and this program.

For our community matches, we received bowling passes again from Canada Bowls to provide free bowling once a month at Brechin Bowl and Splitzville, 2 Cases of books from Scholastic Canada, Shriner's Variety and Magic Shows, Port Theatre tickets and Islands Savings Theatre tickets. We continue to grow our community partnership program where local Business's give "2 for 1 deals or free passes" to those mentors spending time in the community with children. As part of our attempt to support the matches through our partnership program, we have been able to secure a variety of low / no cost things to do.



2 for 1:

Gabriels Gourmet Café
 Nanaimo Museum
 City of Nanaimo
 Paradise Fun Park (Parksville)
 Riptide Lagoon Adventure Golf (Parksville)

Omtown Yoga
 Nanaimo/Parksville Flipside Gymnastics
 Cobs Bread
 Theatre One

Special Discounts:

Youth Bowl Canada
 Wild Play
 Romper Room
 Board Game House

Airhouse
 Beban Pitch and Putt
 Nanaimo Clippers
 Horne Lake Caves

We thank and encourage you to support these businesses with your patronage.

ADULT IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAM

The In-School (ISM) Mentoring program is offered at 8 schools in our communities:

Brechin Elementary School, Fairview Community School, Uplands Elementary School, Park Avenue Community School, Forest Park Elementary School, Georgia Avenue Community School, Gabriola Elementary and Springwood Elementary School (Parksville).

The ISM continues to grow every year with new schools wanting to offer the program to their students and our hope is to partner with SD#68 / #69 in order to grow and expand this much needed program including schools in Nanoose and Bowser.

Every year the principals and school counselors let me know what a difference the program makes to the children of their school:

“This program has been invaluable for the students and staff at the school. The connection they make for their Little Brother or Sister is beyond top notch. The students come out happier, more engaged and more enthusiastic about coming to school.

The sad reality is there are not enough Big Sisters or Big Brothers for all of the students and children that could use one. With all of our single parent families it really does make it hard on children to have positive adult role models of both genders in their lives. This program delivers just that for the children.



TEEN IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAM

This year we have reached out to Ballenas Secondary School in Parksville which has allowed us to offer 2 Go Girls, 1 Game On and 5 new in school mentors. We continue to have a good working relationship with Springwood Elementary to offer this program in the space it needs. Thank you to Greg Meredith (Ballenas counsellor), Kate Taylor (counselor Springwood) and Heather MacLeod (VP- Springwood) for all their work making this program run so smoothly. We had an exceptional group of 11 teen volunteers, which has been a big success. We continue to look at other high schools to participate in this program as it has proven its value for both the teen and the child receiving support.

GO GIRLS PROGRAM (grade 5-7 girls)

There were 5 Go Girls groups in Jan (grade 6's), 5 groups in April (grade 7's) and 5 groups in October (Grade 5's) all in 2018 because of grant from the BCRPA. All the groups are facilitated by the parents, school staff and V.I.U / practicum students. The groups were offered at Forest Park, Park Ave, Gabriola, Springwood (Parksville) and Uplands. This focussed on self-esteem healthy eating and active living. Thank you to Andi, Chelsea, Elysia, Kaylin, Saeka, Karen, Jenn, Cheyanne, Hannah, Paula, Jessica, Kristin, Cassie for such a fine job that had such a positive impact on the lives of these young ladies. We are looking to grow these programs for 2019.



GAME ON PROGRAM (grade 5-7 boys)

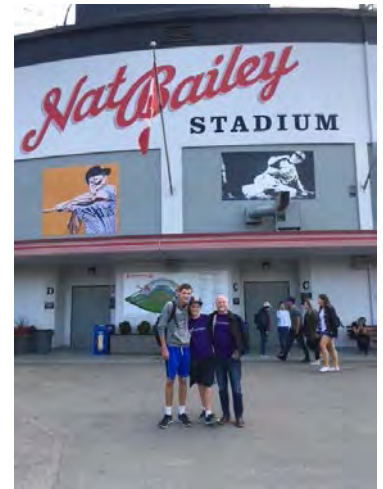
We are very excited to report in 2018, there were 2 Game On programs in January, 3 in April and 3 in October that focused on self-esteem, healthy eating and active living at Brechin, Fairview and Georgia Ave. I was able to co-facilitate along with Matt Dunae (aka Sirreal) who truly made these programs come to life. Hans, Chris and Rob also each facilitated a group and did a wonderful job. We are grateful for our practicum students for their donated hours in assisting with program development, group facilitation and support to our day-to-day operations: Saeka Tsunoda 2017/18, Kaylin Compton 2017/18, Cheyanne McPherson 2018, and Cassandra Ibbotson 2018/19.



I want everyone to know how honored I am to have been a part of this amazing, hardworking, dedicated agency. Together with my incredible mentors we make a difference in our community every day by providing children and their families with quality, safe mentors. I want to thank the community and everyone who continues to support this agency for all the support, kindness and gratitude in the time I have been here as the Director of Service Delivery. I look forward to serving you as we move forward together.

Submitted by: Stephen Cochrane

- 195 Youth in Mentoring Programs in Schools (Adult , Teen and Groups).
- 5 Youth Participated in Tim Hortons Camp, 1 Eco Defenders, 4 Camp Phoenix.
- 14 Littles, 9 mentors, 8 parents, 4 board, 3 staff and families participated in our Christmas Bowling event.
- 3 Youth Volunteered Sorting and Working in Big Deals Boutique.
- 3 Youth Practicum and 2 MBA students did their internship and practicums at our office.
- 8 Youth from the Me to We club organized a clothing drive at Dover Bay School.
- 45 Youth / family members attended Port Theatre Performance.
- 22 Youth / mentors attended Clipper Hockey Games.
- 11 Youth and Families received Christmas Hamper.
- 26 Youth / mentors received free Bowling from Bowling Canada.
- 22 Youth / mentors Participated in Christmas Parade.
- 9 Mentors attended Hi Five child safety training.
- 30 families received Angel Tickets from the Port Theatre, 4 Vancouver Canadians tickets and 10 Circus Osorio.



\$68,500

Province of BC - Community Gaming Grant



\$48,500

Estate of Evelyn Doris Harper



\$25,700

BC Recreation and Parks Association



\$20,000+

Island Savings - a Division of First West Credit Union



\$5,000+

Ames Family Foundation

United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island



\$2,500+

Country Club Centre
Gabriola Elementary School PAC
HRDC - Summer Student 2018
Rotary Club of Lantzville



\$1,000+

Dynamic Funds
Royal Bank of Canada
Rotary Club of Nanaimo
Shoppers Drug Mart Life Foundation
West Jet Cares for Kids



\$500+

Andy Kidd
Brechin Lanes
Dee Dee Woodward
RBC Financial Group, United Way of Toronto Designated Donor

\$500 and under

Air Miles	Georgio Petricca	Nanaimo Kettlebell Club
Ballistic Strength Nanaimo	IA Clarrington Investments	Parksville Newcomers Club
Barry Sparkes	IBM Employee Charitable Foundation	Russ McDonald
Boston Pizza Foundation	Janet Wright	Solomon Macys
Cathy Smit - Shaw Communications	Jo Smith, National Pilates	United Way Halton & Hamilton
Chris Bard	Jordan Pletz	VIPme VI
Coast Distributors	Light of Christ Church	
Columbia Fuels	LD Vending Machines	
Danielle Sutton	Memory of Gupreet Sran, Catherine Erickson	
Dawn Redden	Memory of M. Sloan, Clare Lefebvre	

General Office help / Yard Maintenance

Bruce Taylor

RBC Volunteers

Kalen & Ira Francis

Kai Stillwell

Recycled Clothing Volunteers

Ian Clements

Frank Quinn

Grant Kemp

Big Deals Boutique Volunteers

Cheryl Spelchen

RBC Bank employees

Isabella Kemp

Renee Clements

Jeanie Mahan

Cheyenne McPherson

Mischa Whyte

Karen Larsen



Staff 2019

Executive Director– Jennifer Kemp

Director of Service Delivery - Stephen Cochrane

Program Coordinator - Taylor Oriecuia

Office Admin/Book Keeping – Pat Newton

IT/Social Media/Grants – Jerry Sauder

Clothing Drivers- Len Giberson & Grant Kemp

Board of Directors

President - Tianay Laing

Vice-President - Janet Wright

Secretary - Renee Clements

Interim Treasurer - Roger Lytton

Director - Frank Bailey

Director - Karen McBride

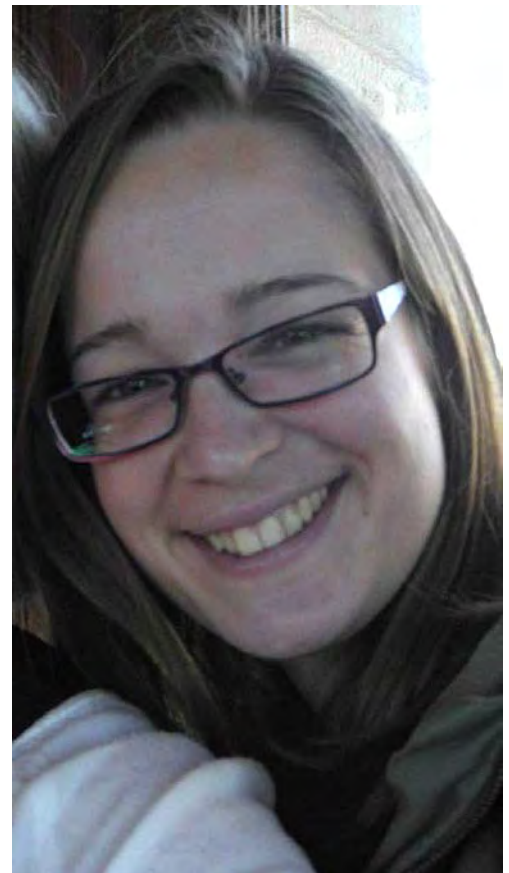
Director - Margie Blackley

Director - Denise Warwaruk

Our Volunteers
contributed a
total of **17,363**
hours in 2018!!!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time spent at Big Brother's Big Sister Central Vancouver Island for my third-year practicum in the Child and Youth Care program at Vancouver Island University. I have learned a tremendous amount from my mentor Stephen Cochrane, especially when it came to learning about case-management skills. Specifically, when it came to powering through multiple screenings of new mentors in a short amount of time. Previously my experience had been limited within an agency setting; but by having the opportunity to experience mentoring both in a one-on-one and a group setting, it allowed me to be involved in my community while obtaining much needed work experience. Being involved in the Go Girls group, I was able to actively work on my Child and Youth Care theories and communication skills, all while sharing information about healthy eating and body positivity with grade five and six girls. During my time at Big Brothers Big Sisters, I was fortunate enough to attend the Youth Advocates meetings on a monthly basis, where community members from multiple agencies came together to discuss what resources and events were available in our community for children and youth. I can now take forth the understanding of how a small idea can flourish into reality for our community's children and youth. This was by far the most valuable information sharing sessions I have ever attended; I truly believe that all students and community agencies should be aware of these meetings. I will never forget my time spent at Big Brothers Big Sisters Central Vancouver Island. I have truly make connections and friends for life.

Cassie Ibbotson,
Practicum Student, 2018-2019.





Being with Big Brothers association has changed my life tremendously. Doug, my Big Brother has been with me for many years. Doug has always been there for me, hanging out, talking, having fun and doing things together every week. Doug has always been there if I ever needed to talk to anyone other than my parents and Doug has done an amazing job at being a Big Brother, and I think that Doug knows the true meaning of being a Big Brother; Doug follows through with everything, he's selfless, caring, loving and a spectacular role model. Stephen, the Director of Big Brothers is a bright, amazing, fun, cool, thoughtful, determined and caring guy who feels like family and always has the coolest opportunities for my brother and I. Doug and Stephen are fantastic male role models and I love them both. Big Brothers feels like an extension of our very small family and for this I am extremely grateful.

Love, Ira.

Little Brother, age 14.

Being a part of Big Brothers & Big Sisters has allowed me to become a strong influence in my community by taking part in the Tim Horton's Leadership Program and the Camp Fircom Leadership Course. This summer, I am employed at Camp Fircom so that I can carry on the necessity of being a profound role model to other children. Both my brother and I's mentor Doug, has become more than a person we visit on weekends, but a person we have now adopted into our family. Playing and enjoying one another's company every week is one piece of the larger puzzle formed by trust, cooperation, compassion, admiration, and perpetual love. Words will never be sufficient enough to describe the person I have grown to be through the mentor who I can now refer to as a father figure. However, it is even more impossible to express who I would have become had I not had the mentor to care for me, help me, and be there every single day giving his undivided attention. Without Big Brothers & Big Sisters, the leadership opportunities, job availabilities, and mentor we have adopted into our family would never have come around to nourish us in the way it does today, and the way it will nourish us for the rest of the time we spend together.

With utmost love, Kalen.

Little Brother, age 17.

In School Matches



Game On + Go Girls!



Community Matches

