



BIG Times

August 2017



A BIG Thank you for Supporting the Drive Through Big Bumper Breakfast!

On Thursday, July 13th we had a special fundraiser supporting our programs called "The BIG Bumper Breakfast". We sold delicious homemade breakfast wraps which also came with a coupon for a Free Personal Panago Pizza as well as another bonus prize. The fundraiser took place at Country Club Centre.

In total we raised over \$3000 that will go toward our mentoring programs in the community!

A BIG Thank you to our Sponsors:

Casino Nanaimo
Cross and Company Chartered Accountants
Uplands Dental Clinic
Sylvan Learning Centre - Nanaimo
Panago Pizza - South Nanaimo Location
The Bald Guy Real Estate Team
Maureen Rumney
Starbucks - Country Club Centre
Breeze Salon & Spa
The Children's Treehouse
Country Club Centre
Save-On-Foods - Country Club Centre
ADIA Salon



Auction on Facebook

**Facebook Auction Fundraiser
September 15th - 25th**

We will be featuring a special Facebook Auction to help fund our programs running from September 15th - 25th! We will be featuring a number of donated items that supporters can bid on including a special Westjet Trip for 2 wherever Westjet Flies.

Rules and Guidelines for the auction will be posted on our [Facebook Page](#) and our [website](#) so stay tuned!



New Grand Opening for the BIG Deals Clothing Program.... stay tuned!!

Our store is undergoing some renovations and new stock is coming in, so we are planning a NEW GRAND OPENING!

We will be posting new store hours on our [website](#) or [facebook page](#) so stay tuned!!

For more information, give us a call at 250-756-2447 or email: jennifer@bigscvi.ca



Update on our Programs

We continue to receive applications for both mentors and mentees in all of our programs. We are happy to report that Nine Schools have committed to offer our programs in the Fall term! We are also happy to report that over 90% of our In School Mentors had a positive experience this year and have committed to volunteer again in September!

We are also happy to report that we will be having a Practicum Student, Saeka Tsunoda who is a 3rd year student in the Child and Youth Care Program at VIU who will be assisting us in September!

Thank you again to all of our mentors, parents, littles and School Partners for making our programs a success in our community!



Congratulations to our 2016 Mentor of the Year! - Andie Roberts

Congratulations to Andie Roberts who is our 2016 mentor of the year. Andie did in School Mentoring, Go Girls at Springwood Elementary School and also helped recruit new mentors.

Thanks so much for your contributions, Andie and thank you to all the mentors for making a difference in the lives of deserving children.



Day on the Water at the Nanaimo Yacht Club

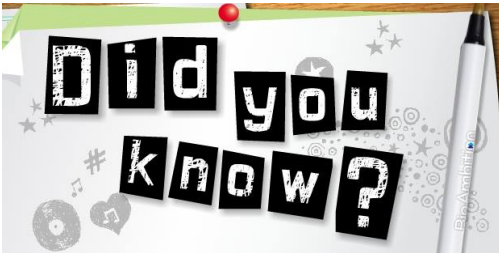
We are happy to report that 14 Bigs and Littles had a fun day at the Nanaimo Yacht Club on July 8th! They had a blast kayaking, paddleboarding and sailing. Thanks to everyone who came out and The Nanaimo Yacht Club for hosting us!



Our Annual Summer Picnic is coming up on Sunday Sept. 10th

Our annual picnic at Rathtrevor Beach is coming up on Sunday September 10th from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM. There will be games and food for everyone. A BIG Thank you to the Light of Christ Church for putting this on for us!

Please RSVP to Stephen by September 1st. Call 250-756-2447 or email: stephen.cochrane@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca



DID YOU KNOW??

- Big Brothers Big Sisters has been offering mentoring programs in Canada since 1913 and offers mentoring programs in over 1000 communities from coast to coast!
- Over 425, 000 Children and Youth have been served by our programs across Canada!
- We have been offering mentoring programs in the Central Vancouver Island Area since 1971.
- We are one of the MOST cost-effective charities in the industry. We have been named one of Forbes Top 10 "GOLD SEAL Charities" for our outstanding cost-effectiveness in the non-profit industry.



Congratulations to our Littles who have gone to Tim Hortons Camp!

We are happy to announce that Little Brothers Griffin and Little Sister Ella attended Tim Hortons Camp in Kananaskis Country!!

Also congratulations to Little Brother Sam who will be attending Camp Whitehead in Manitoba!

Many Thanks to all the Tim Hortons locations in Nanaimo for sponsoring all these deserving children!!

10 Things to Know before you volunteer as a mentor

1. Make sure you can give at least 1-year to the program. Research shows that kids matched for over a year are more likely to stay in school and avoid risky behavior.
2. Think about how far you'd travel to see your Mentee. Do you have a car? Would you need to ride the Transit?
3. We match you to your Mentee based on your likes and interests not from a waiting list.
4. Think about what times during the week you'd want to hang out with your Mentee. Weekends tend to work best, but ultimately our program is flexible to fit your needs.



5. Do you have any big life events coming up? Getting married? Having a baby? Make sure your significant other is supportive of you being in the program!
6. Are you employed? Do you have any plans on changing jobs within the next year? Location is a huge factor for successful matches so we want to make sure you are staying in the area.
7. We currently have many boys and girls waiting for Mentors. If you have the flexibility, ask about the locations that have the highest need as we serve the entire Central Vancouver Island Area.
8. You don't necessarily need experience with kids to be a Mentor. We provide you with the tools and training you need throughout the friendship to help you through every obstacle.
9. We want you to go into your Match with realistic expectations. Your Little wants a friend who he can hang out with and talk to. Focus on building your friendship before changing his or her life.
10. Matching you with a Mentee could take some time. Be patient! Speed along the process by getting your recommendations together and clearing some time in your schedule for a phone interview.

Volunteer Opportunities

We have openings for volunteers in the following areas in our agency:

- BIG Deals Clothing Program : Sorting and Customer Service.
 - Recycled Clothing Program : Help loading the trailer when we do clothing loads.(a cash stipend is available).
 - Maintenance Handyperson : Assist with Handyperson duties around our agency.
- For more information on these opportunities contact Jennifer at 250-756-2447 or jennifer@bigscvi.ca
- Mentors in the Community and In School Mentoring Programs. For more details visit: <http://www.bigscvi.ca/en/Home/volunteer/default.aspx>

OUR LOCATION

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Central Vancouver Island
2030 Northfield Road
Nanaimo, BC V9S 3B8

Office Hours

Monday to Friday
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Store Hours

Monday to Friday
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

VISIT US ONLINE

www.bigscvi.ca