



BIG Times

December 2016



Our Director of Service Delivery, Stephen Cochrane had the opportunity to attend the National Mentoring Symposium

We are happy to report that our Director of Service Delivery, Stephen Cochrane had an opportunity to attend the National Mentoring Symposium that was held in Banff! It was an excellent opportunity to network and learn from some excellent speakers who spoke to a very diverse group of organizations involved in mentoring children and youth.

Stephen said, "It was an excellent opportunity to learn alongside a great mix of organizations. Thank you Banff for an awesome symposium! I am filled with such positive emotion from making solid connections with people all across Canada! I will be the ripple!"



Westjettters for a day!

Little Brothers Kalen and Colton got the opportunity to be "Westjettters for a day" at the Comox Airport on September 30th, thanks to the support of [WestJet](#). This gave them the opportunity to learn about the workings of the aviation industry, how an airport works and gave them some "hands on" experience working behind the counter and in other areas of the airport!

Thank you WestJet for this opportunity for them and your continued support of mentoring in our community!



Update on the BIG Deals Clothing Program

The BIG Deals Clothing program continues to be very successful for our agency, thanks to the efforts of everyone and the support of our community.

The BIG Deals Clothing Program sells a wide variety of Quality Mens, Womens and Childrens clothing with new stock coming in daily thanks to the donations of our local community. Thank you also to Ivorne Elliott and Rijo Varghese who have done an excellent job serving our customers.

We have extended our hours and are now open (New Hours) from Wednesday - Saturday from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

To watch a video testimonial from one of our "Happy Shoppers" just click here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1U_opp7q3w

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



Donate your QF Points to our agency!

If you shop at Quality Foods, you can donate your QF points to our agency by simply telling the cashier that you would like to donate your points to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island when you are at the checkout. Your QF points will be used for the purchase of food and other items for our special events and our programs. Your help is much appreciated!



Interview with Dee Dee Woodward

We sat down and had a conversation with Dee Dee Woodward. She spoke about her involvement with our agency, how the program has benefited her son, CJ as well as herself.

Click to Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_OdPACmdDo



Santa Claus Parade 2016

We had a great time at Nanaimo's annual Santa Claus Parade on November 26th! Fifteen people came out and had a great time!

We are also happy to report that Little Brother Sam had a dream come true! Sam has dreamed that one day he would march in a parade and we are happy to announce we were able to make that dream come true for him!



Interview with Rijo Varghese

Rijo is a internship student from VIU in the MBA Program visiting us from India. He heard about Big Brothers Big Sisters from a friend (Debashish Sinha who also was an internship student with us) as well as the MBA Society at VIU and chose to do his internship with us.

"My goal was to have an experience with a well known non profit in Canada. I wanted to gain some real world experience working in a well known non profit and learn how it operates", he said. Rijo has worked primarily in the BIG Deals Clothing Program as well as assisting in many facets of the agency. As part of his program, he created a research project on the operations of a Non Profit and how those procedures can be implemented in a new country. Another aspect to his internship was to assist our agency by creating a procedures manual for the Big Deals Clothing Program.

"I have learned a wide variety of skills working with Big Brothers Big Sisters! I have learned to be confident in myself and in what I am doing! This opportunity has allowed me to really learn how businesses are run in Canada.", he said.

Rijo also said he appreciates the friendly environment of our office.

"My goal for the future is to work in Corporate Social Responsibility with an organization and my experience here has put me on the path in order to achieve that goal!"



Congratulations to our Match Anniversaries!

July 2016

Big Sister Holly and Little Sister Shae-Lynn
2 years

September 2016

Big Brother Tyler and Little Brother Chris
2 years
Big Brother Doug and Little Brothers Kalen
and Ira
3 years

October 2016

Big Brother Chris and Little Brother Colton
2 years

November 2016

Big Brother Felix and Little Brother CJ
2 years

December 2016

Big Sister Emily and Little Sister Kaydence
2 years



Welcome our New Matches!!

We are happy to report that we have added five new matches to our Community Program!

Thank you to all the Bigs for investing your time in the lives of the children we serve!

Big Brother Dean Little Brother Lincoln

Big Sister Sara Little Sister Mercedes

Big Sister Karin Little Sister Liberty

Big Brother Jason and Little Brothers Brody
and Tristan

Big Brother Cody and Little Brother Duncan



We are happy to report we will be serving six of our families with the Christmas Angel Program!

This year, six of our families will receive a hamper at Christmas thanks to the generosity of our supporters who are donating hamper items! A BIG Thank you to all the Christmas Angels who have generously donated to our families and to Volunteer Nanaimo for coordinating the program!



Thanks to everyone who came out to support our Bargain Bin Garage Sale

A BIG Thank you to everyone that came out to support our BARGAIN BIN GARAGE SALE on Saturday September 24th! The response was overwhelming and we are planning to host a sale on a regular basis so stay tuned for that! The sale raised over \$500 that will be used to support our programs!



Update on the Game on and Go Girls Programs

We are happy to report that we have run our first series of groups for Game on and Go Girls this year! In total we managed to serve 14 boys in the Game on Program and 13 Girls in the Go Girls Program.

The response from our schools has been overwhelmingly positive. All the schools we have worked with have reported that the children who participated have shown marked improvements in their attitudes and performance at school!

A BIG Thank you to our volunteer Facilitators who invested their time to impact the lives of the children we serve:

Volunteer Facilitators Matt and Frank and our own Stephen Cochrane who coordinated the Game On Groups.

Volunteer Facilitators Melissa, Andie and Taylor who coordinated the Go Girls Groups.

We are planning to offer three new Go Girls Groups in January (at Springwood Elementary in Parksville as well as Uplands and Forest Park Schools in Nanaimo). We are also planning for two Game on Groups at Brechin and Georgia Avenue Schools in Nanaimo.



A BIG Thank you to Island Savings!

A BIG Thank you to Island Savings for sponsoring In-School Mentoring this year! Island Savings has contributed \$20,000 to our In-School Mentoring programs! Thank you Island Savings for continuing to make a difference in the lives of the children we serve!

Christmas Match Activities

There are a number of great family oriented match activities in the community during the Holiday Season. Here a few ideas that may be great possibilities:

1. Ladysmith Light up:
<http://www.ladysmithfol.com/>
2. Santa's Workshop 2016: (At the Vancouver Island Conference Centre)
<http://www.dnbia.ca/?events=santas-workshop-2>
3. 2nd Annual Magical nights of Light: (in Errington)
<http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/2nd-annual-magical-nights-of-light/2016-12-02/?pid=439c6fa32f2e6b6b7fc214ed7d6ec439>
4. 5th Annual First Nations Artisan Faire(in Qualicum Bay):
<http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/5th-annual-first-nations-artisans-faire/2016-12-03/?pid=439c6fa32f2e6b6b7fc214ed7d6ec439>
5. Nanaimo Museum
Capturing ChristmasExhibit:
<http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/nanaimo-museum-capturing-christmas-exhibit/2016-12-01/?pid=439c6fa32f2e6b6b7fc214ed7d6ec439>
6. Pet Pictures with Santa (Nanaimo):
<http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/pet-pictures-with-santa-03/2016-12-03/?pid=439c6fa32f2e6b6b7fc214ed7d6ec439>
7. Milner Gardens Christmas Light Display (Qualicum):
<http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/vius-milner-gardens-christmas-magic53/2016-12-02/?pid=439c6fa32f2e6b6b7fc214ed7d6ec439>



Thank you Kigo Salon and Day Spa!

Thank you to the staff and management of Kigo Salon and Day Spa for raising \$600 for our agency! Your support is much appreciated!



Thank you Anita Smith!

We want to send a special "Thank you" to Anita Smith who served faithfully on our board in a number of capacities! We wish her all the best!



Christmas Gift Giving Campaign

We are happy to announce that we will be launching a special Christmas Gift Giving Campaign this year! We will be mailing over 200 Christmas Cards to our supporters thanking them for their support of our agency and includes a story from one of our board members and former Little Sister, Tianay Lang telling her story about her experience with our agency and how it has impacted her life in a positive way! In the mailout we will also offer the opportunity to support our agency financially this holiday season.

We will also be launching a Facebook Video featuring Tianay speaking about her experience and offering our supporters the same opportunity to support us financially as well so stay tuned!!



Seasons Greetings from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island

We sincerely wish all the very best of the Holidays to all of the supporters, volunteers, sponsors, mentors, community partners and mentees. Thank you to everyone for making 2016 so successful for us as an agency. We wish everyone the very best of the Holiday

Season and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous 2017!!

**Thank you from all of us at Big Brothers
Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island
for making 2016 such a success!**

OUR LOCATION

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

OUR HOURS

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

Store Hours:
Wednesday to Saturday
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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