



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Central Vancouver Island



BIG Times

April 2018



A Huge Thank you to the Rogers Foundation

A Huge Thank you to the Rogers Foundation whose funding made it possible for us to purchase a new van for the Recycled Clothing Program. This van will be a huge asset for our agency and will significantly reduce our costs and improve the operations of our clothing pickups. This in turn helps fund our programs. Thank you Rogers Foundation for making this possible for us!!

thank you!

Thank you to some outgoing Board Members

A BIG Thank you to Kathy King for over 10 years of dedicated service on our board! Thank you Kathy, for all your amazing contributions, we wish you all the very best!!

A BIG Thank you as well to our outgoing Board President, Don White who has served on our board for 6 years with 2 years as our Board President. Thank you so much Don for your leadership and guidance to our board, it is greatly appreciated!



We would love your vote

We have been nominated in the Non Profit Category for the 2018 Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce Awards! We would love your vote! Please vote for us : Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island in the non profit category!

Voting is open till April 6th

You can vote by [clicking this link](#)

Birthdays and Match



Anniversaries

Birthdays for the month of January:

Little Sister Jessica
Big Sister Sara
Big Brother Dean

Birthdays in February

Hay Young – In School Mentor
Big Sister Amber
Danielle – In School Mentor
Chelsea – In School Mentor
Frank – Board Member
Trisha – In School Mentor

Birthdays in March

Little Brother Felix
Little Sister Pauline
Little Brother Kalen

Birthdays in April

Little Brother Darius

January Match Anniversaries:

Big Sister Colleen and Little Sister Kassie (1 yr)
Big Brother Matthew and Little Brother Darius (1 yr)

February Match Anniversaries

Big Brother Jason and Little Brother Ezra – 2 Years
Big Sister Janet and Little Sister Chloe – 2 Years

March Match Anniversaries

Big Couple Steve and Brigit and Little Sister Lexi (1 Year)
Big Brother Liam and Little Brother August (1 Year)

April Match Anniversaries

Big Brother Bruce and Little Brother Felix (4 years)

Welcome to our NEW MATCHES:

Big Brother Alan and Little Brother Aysen
Big Sister Emily and Little Sister Abbi



Thank you Brechin Lanes

We want to offer a sincere "Thank you" to Brechin Lanes for once again supporting our agency during the spring break! They sponsored our agency by donating \$5 for each lane booked during Spring Break. We also sold paper bowling pins which were personalized and posted at the venue. In total Brechin Lanes raised \$750.00 which will directly fund our programs!

Thanks Brechin Lanes!



Welcome to our new Board President, Tiannay Lang

We want offer a congratulations and welcome to our long time Board Member and Former Little, Tiannay Lang who is now serving as our Board President! Congratulations and Thank you Tiannay for stepping into this role and we wish you all the best!!



Welcome to our new Executive Director, Jennifer Kemp

Welcome and Congratulations to Jennifer Kemp who will be taking over the position of Executive Director of our agency this month. Jennifer has served our agency for many years as a Board Member and as Resource Coordinator prior to taking over the Executive Director role from Denise who is retiring after over 21 years of service to our agency. Congratulations and all the very best, Jennifer!

Thank you Doug!

Congratulations to Big Brother Doug who was chosen as "Mentor of the Year" for 2017 at our recent AGM. The award was given in memory of Felix Toulouse. Doug has been a fantastic mentor, Congratulations Doug!



Thank you Kaylin and Saeka

A BIG Thank you to our fantastic practicum students Kaylin Compton and Saeka Tsunoda. Both Kaylin and Saeka have been involved in In School Mentoring as well as Facilitating the Go Girls Program. They also have been involved in Program Planning and Administration. Thank you Kaylin and Saeka for doing a fantastic job!



Saeka has just completed her practicum hours with us, Thank you Saeka for doing an excellent job for us!



Annual Summer Picnic - September 9th

Our annual picnic at Rathtrevor Beach is coming up on Sunday September 9th 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



Thank you to our Clothing Shoppers and Donors!

We want to say a sincere "Thank you" to all of our shoppers and those who have donated clothing to the Big Deals Boutique. The Boutique is steadily growing and becoming better known and we have welcomed many new shoppers to our boutique!

Come on down and check out our new Spring Fashions, new stock is coming out every week!

Visit us Wednesday to Saturday from 10 AM - 4 PM
at our office at 2030 Northfield Road in Nanaimo

250-756-2447
(we now accept Interac Tap)



New Programs Starting in April

We are happy to report that we are launching 5 New Go Girls Programs right now at:

Springwood School
Uplands School
Park Avenue School
Forest Park School
Gabriola Elementary School

We are also launching 2 New Game on Programs at:

Brechin Elementary School
Georgia Avenue School

We are expecting to serve a total of 50 children with both programs!

We are looking for a volunteer facilitator for the Game on Program at Georgia Avenue School. If you have Friday Afternoons free the sessions will run from April - June for 7 weeks. The main goal of the Game On program is to develop an appreciation of the benefits of an active, healthy lifestyle among boys and young men. In addition, the program provides participants with the tools they require to implement an active, healthy lifestyle. If you are interested call Stephen at 250-756-2447 or email stephen.cochrane@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

A BIG Thank you to everyone who is contributing their valuable time to make a difference in the lives of deserving children!

Thank you Nikki



We want to extend a BIG "Thank you" to Nikki McLellan from Island Savings who has volunteered as an In-School Mentor with our agency since 2012. Nikki has mentored three different children in the In School Mentoring Program and has been a tireless supporter of In School Mentoring and was given an award at our recent AGM. Congratulations Nikki!!

Thank you Andy Parker

A special thanks to Andy Parker whose 5



year match just came to an end in May but he also has given 5 years of mentoring prior to that in the community program. Thank you for dedicating 10 years of service to children!



Farewell Denise

Our Executive Director, Denise Robinson is retiring this month after over 21 years of exemplary service. Denise has been an incredible leader and guide to our agency over many ups and downs over many years. Denise started with our agency in 1997 when we were known as Big Brothers of Nanaimo and was instrumental in growing our agency to what it is today.

Denise's most memorable highlights over her career include the amalgamation in 2001, giving us the name of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island. She also loved watching our programs expand and grow over the years. She also enjoyed watching us add and launch new programs in our community including In School Mentoring, Go Girls and Game on. Also memorable was our move to our current location on Northfield Road, the expansion of our Recycled Clothing Program and the launch of our latest enterprise, "Big Deals Boutique".

Denise is an incredible person and it is a sad farewell for all of us. She has been an amazing gift to our agency all of these years and we wish her all the very best in her retirement.

Thank you Denise!

Irish Blessing:

"May the dreams you hold dearest be those which come true, and the kindness you spread keep returning to you."

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

Big Deals Boutique Hours
Wednesday to Saturday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

VISIT US ONLINE

www.bigscvi.ca