

Nanaimo - Ladysmith Schools Foundation

"Helping our Students Reach for Tomorrow"



Fall 2013 Newsletter



Many supporters came out for the Stock the Lockers launch at Staples on Aulds Road.

Stock the Lockers Supports Students in Need

Thanks to you, our generous donors, our fourth annual Stock the Lockers campaign raised just over \$35,000 to support elementary and secondary students at Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools.

Stock the Lockers raises funds to provide school supplies for the start of the new school year and allows us to assist some vulnerable students throughout the year with items such as food vouchers, glasses, dental visits, shoes, clothes, grad fees, and other support as identified by teachers and principals.

For the fourth year in a row, our partner Staples promoted the campaign and raised \$15,000 in donations at the checkouts. For the third year, Coastal Community Credit Union branches also accepted donations and ran promotions, raising \$6,200 and hosting the wrap-up BBQ on September 5 at the Harbourfront Centre, where some staff lost locks for Lockers. A heartfelt 'Thank You' also goes out to Costco and Curves for their donation of supplies.

Media sponsors Island Radio (102.3 The Wave & 106.9 The Wolf), Nanaimo Daily News, and Nanaimo News Bulletin did a great job spreading the word to the community.

In the past four years, YOU, our donors have helped raise over \$175,000. We lack space to name everyone here, but you know who you are – thank you for making an investment in local students' future!



Ian MacCaskell, Maria Lee, Greg Scott, and Michael Brown lost locks for Stock the Lockers.



Retired teachers and volunteers stuffed 500 backpacks and stocked boxes of school supplies.

Please give to support students.

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District Initiative Grant Program

Engaging students in the community

Students at five Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools will benefit from a new NLSF initiative that aims to engage students in meaningful ways with their communities.

The Foundation received a variety of applications from local schools for its District Initiative Grant (DIG) program, and the Selection Committee had a challenging time choosing programs that embody what the initiative is all about – projects that focus on student leadership, community development and social responsibility.

For the 2013/14 school year, five programs will receive \$23,500 in funding raised by the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation for this new initiative.

2013/14 District Initiative Grant recipients

- > Uplands Park Elementary: Leadership & Citizenship program
- > Gabriola Elementary: Comfort on Computers – Students Helping Seniors program
- > Ladysmith Secondary/Primary: Vulnerable Students Leadership program
- > Cedar Secondary: Cedar Leaders – Mentorship program
- > Dover Bay Secondary: Community Garden program

For more information, please visit the website www.NLSF.ca > Programs.

Scholarships and Awards *Your generosity makes post-secondary dreams come true*

Thanks to the generosity and vision of our donors, the Schools Foundation is helping 306 students pursue their dreams of post-secondary education. We salute our volunteers on the Awards Selection Committee, who spent many days and hours pouring over the applications to award the community-based scholarships, bursaries, and awards totaling \$450,000.

Your continued support and encouragement is the reason you make a difference in young people's lives.

More bursaries are urgently needed because many deserving applicants didn't receive a bursary this year. You can help a young person get a post-secondary education by sponsoring a bursary, scholarship or award for local students.



Top Award Winners at District Award Night at the Port Theatre on June 11, 2013. **Back row, left to right:** Dave Hutchinson, Superintendent; Kenda Chang-Swanson; Harjot Minhas; Kennedy Baker; ViVi Pham Do; Patrick Ross, NLSF President. **Front row, left to right:** Paul Kim; Julie Zhao; Daveki Kahlon; Hellen Do; Michael Dong.

Food Programs

Donations for breakfast program

The Breakfast Clubs of Canada (BCC) program has been running successfully in five local schools for almost two years. The BCC program, facilitated by the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation, provides funds to serve daily breakfasts at Brechin, Fairview, Park Avenue, Forest Park, and NDSS. In the spring, the program received a boost in the form of approx. \$1,600 worth of one litre tetra paks of apple and orange juice from Minute Maid and, recently, received a second shipment. Danone also contributes to the program by sending a delivery of yogurt every two weeks.



Erin Van Steen welcomes the recent shipment of juice and yogurt.

Salad bar introduces healthy food choices

In May, over 280 students at Georgia Avenue Elementary school sampled a variety of healthy food options through the school's salad bar program. Your donations helped a school with a high percentage of vulnerable students to offer a variety of healthy food choices to students who may not get these at home.

Last year, a \$5,000 grant from the Coastal Community Credit Union's Spirit Fund allowed us to buy four portable salad bars for Georgia Avenue school; NLSF purchased salad dishes and cutlery. Park Avenue school was also able to benefit from the grant. Previously, both schools borrowed the equipment each time they wanted to offer salad bar lunches.

Your generosity makes programs like these possible, and we welcome your donations to keep our food programs going and growing.

Donor Profile

Lions Club continues motto of serving

Nanaimo Lions Club has supported local students for more than 45 years. Their first donation - \$200 for clothing - dates back to



Dave Alderson

1967, and they have been regular contributors ever since. That initial gift has grown into financial support for NLSF initiatives such as the breakfast program, Stock the Lockers, and bursaries. In June 2013, the Nanaimo Lions Club provided five \$1,000 bursaries for deserving local students. The Club supports many other causes that benefit students. For its 50th Annual Christmas Tree Chipping Project, students and parents from Wellington Senior Secondary School participated by going door-to-door and collecting the trees. For their efforts, the school received \$1,500 to purchase new instruments for their band program.

We are grateful for the Lions' continued support!



Elementary Music *Music grants enrich elementary students*

Earlier this year Forest Park Elementary school received a \$2,500 donation towards their elementary music program.

Music teacher Shelley Wallace has been working with a group of grade four students since January, and she is very grateful for the donation that is already having a very positive impact on her classroom.

Cilaire Elementary and Ladysmith Intermediate schools also received \$2,500 each to purchase musical instruments.

This is the sixth year that Island Radio has donated funds for the program and, during that time, the radio station has put more than \$10,000 back into local music programs.

Thanks to Island Radio and other generous donors, the Foundation has been able to provide funds to purchase equipment to give all elementary students equal access to instruments. Since 2009, donations received by the Foundation have provided \$21,500 for music programs at 11 elementary schools in Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools.

Donor Tea *With your help we can help students*

Thank you to the more than 120 supporters who attended our 10th annual donor tea in April at John Barsby Secondary.

In 2012, our donors helped provide \$480,000 to support local students through our many programs, including scholarships, awards, bursaries; elementary music grants; Student Support Fund; breakfast and snack programs, and much more.

The reality is that there is a great need in our community for programs that encourage student success and assist students who live with the impact of poverty.

“The NLSF Board believes that strong students make a strong community,” says Dr. Patrick Ross, NLSF President. “On behalf of the Board, I want to thank all our donors, who make a big difference in the lives of our students. Through your generosity, we’re able to continue supporting local students. Our programs have a real impact in the lives of students – whether it is introducing young people to music, helping them stay in school, ensuring they start the day with a healthy breakfast, or providing running shoes so they can participate in sports at school.



Members of the Order of the Royal Purple Nanaimo Lodge.

“Your continued support and encouragement make a difference in young people’s lives.”

Chef Bruce Chandler > Memorial Award



The Foundation has established a new memorial award – the Chef Bruce Chandler Memorial Award – to honour the popular John Barsby Secondary’s Chef Training program teacher, who passed away tragically in July.

Chef Chandler worked at John Barsby for 16 years and was passionately committed to his students and the work of the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation.

The first Memorial Award will be presented in 2014 to a graduating student who plans to pursue further studies in culinary arts. The successful recipient will be selected by the Chandler family and staff of John Barsby Secondary school.