



## Press Release

### **Commercial Dishwasher Donation Gives Georgia Avenue School Opportunity to Serve Hot Meals**

For Immediate Release - **Nanaimo, BC – March 3, 2011** A recent donation of a commercial dishwasher by Van Roc Interiors, Oceanside Rotary and Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation, is the difference between Georgia Avenue School serving cold and hot meals to their students. The lunch and snack program supports over half of the schools population and generally serves meals to 150-175 students per day – at certain times of the year this number is even higher.

Georgia Avenue has all the other equipment to serve hot meals, including fridges, a freezer, a stove and a regular dishwasher, but without a commercial dishwasher they were not able to offer hot meals due to Health Guidelines for food safety. Any establishment that is serving hot meals to groups must have a commercial dishwasher on site to properly sterilize the equipment. The fully refurbished model costs \$3500 and was installed by school staff.

“We have seen a steady increase in demand over the four years that I have been at Georgia Avenue,” said Principal, Shelley Green “We realize that this is the main meal of the day for the majority of our students. This has prompted many conversations about our menu and having the ability to provide a hot lunch on a consistent and regular basis. The dishwasher donation has given us the ability to do that.”

The new industrial dish washer will allow Georgia Avenue School to provide consistent hot lunches that are both nutritious and will fulfill all the requirements of the “main” meal of the day. The school has dedicated kitchen staff that ensures that the students are receiving the nutrients they need to sustain their learning for the day.

“Oceanside Rotary is committed to helping vulnerable youth in our community,” said Fred Kolodrubsky, Oceanside Rotary. “The dishwasher is the final piece necessary to assure an ongoing food program at Georgia Avenue School.”

There are many other schools in SD 68 that are in need of equipment to help improve the quality of life of their students. If you are interested in donating to the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation please visit our website at [www.nlsf.ca](http://www.nlsf.ca) or contact the office directly @ (250) 753-4074.

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