

The Victoria Foundation celebrates 75 years of connecting people who care with causes that matter®

In 1936 in the midst of the Depression, Burges Gadsden forwarded a \$20 cheque on behalf of his mother, Fannie, to establish the Victoria Foundation. Burges had a vision of creating a local permanent endowment fund that would pool donations and invest them, using the earnings to support long term community needs.

That initial \$20 donation was the establishment of an organization that in the decades ahead would shape many aspects of our community.

The Victoria Foundation grew slowly and quietly at first, holding meetings at the Sunshine Inn - a downtown soup kitchen for the unemployed and homeless. By 1957, the endowment was a mere \$900, but by 1969, assets had reached over \$22,000. It was then that the first grants were made to the Boys' Club of Victoria, the Victoria Association of Community Living and the Maritime Museum of BC - a total of \$7,000!

The Foundation continues to steward its donors, facilitate philanthropy and invest in charitable organizations making a difference in a wide array of areas including; arts, culture and heritage; community services; education; environment; and health and recreation.

This year marks the Victoria Foundation's 75th anniversary, a milestone to celebrate the past,

present and the future.

We invite you to join us on Saturday, June 11 to toast the community and its Foundation at an evening celebration to be held at the Victoria Conference Centre.

The evening includes a reception, an elegant dinner, random acts of art and keynote speaker Tim Brodhead, CEO of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. Brodhead will address philanthropy, social change and the

programs – Every Step Counts - a running program for people experiencing barriers and challenges with housing, mental health, addiction and other related issues. This innovative program draws on the wide-reaching, long-lasting benefits of running and team work to foster self esteem, confidence, energy and positive growth.

Next week, the Victoria Film Festival (February 4 – 13) will air 10 short films from their archives that reflect on and contemplate life in Victoria – from housing to arts to leadership – a salute to Victoria's Vital Signs®. Story Theatre will produce a play for schools about the value of volunteering, there will be a world premiere at Pacific Opera Victoria and the Victoria Symphony, and the Foundation will unveil an exciting new program that will change the future of philanthropy in Victoria.

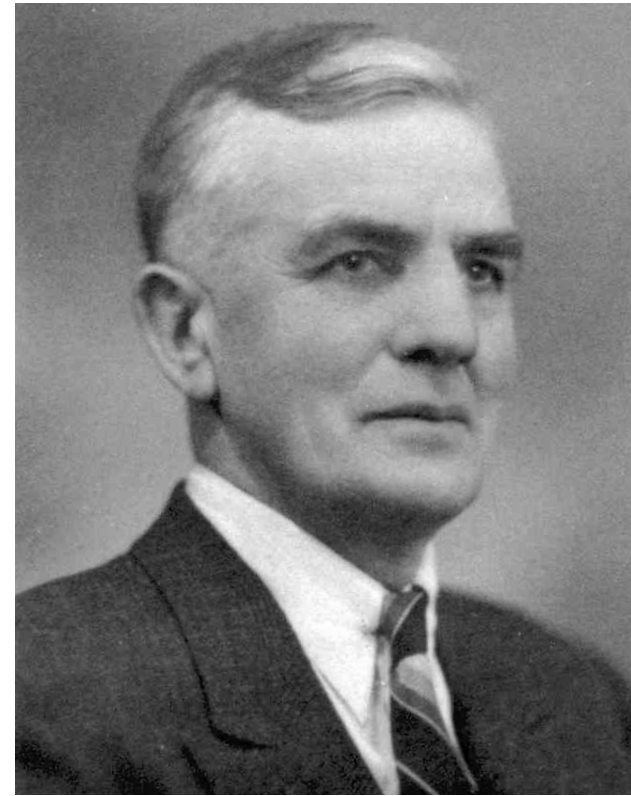
As Canada's second oldest and sixth largest community foundation we have reason to celebrate. Who better to celebrate with us than the donors, charitable organizations, volunteers and people who make up this amazing community? Visit www.75andcounting.ca or call 250.381.5532 to find out more.

important work of community foundations, like the Victoria Foundation. Canadian comedian and political satirist Rick Mercer will also take the stage for one hour, courtesy of Island Savings Credit Union. Tickets are \$200 each.

The Foundation has initiatives planned throughout the year to celebrate *75 years and counting*, including a 75 member team in the TC 10K on Sunday, May 1st. Everyone is welcome to join the team that benefits one of the Foundation's innovative

"We're proud to be Canada's second oldest community foundation and to build upon that rich history as we move forward working together with the community to create further positive impact."

– Sandra Richardson,
CEO, The Victoria Foundation



Burges Gadsden was the man with the vision and founder of the Victoria Foundation.



The Sunshine Inn – where it all began and the original Victoria Foundation office. It was also the city's soup kitchen.



Comedian Rick Mercer will join the Foundation to celebrate 75 years at a special event on June 11.

75 YEARS AND COUNTING.

2011 marks the 75th anniversary of the Victoria Foundation. The donors of yesterday had the same vision as those who give today – to make our community stronger and to support causes that matter. Over 75 years, our endowment has grown, and as an organization, our ability to affect change has grown. Thank you donors and thank you Victoria, for counting on us for 75 years. victoriafoundation.bc.ca



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