

Goings On

FASD Action Fund

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is a term used to describe the full range of lifelong disabilities associated with a permanent brain injury caused by prenatal exposure to alcohol.

In May 2006, a \$10 million FASD Action Fund was established through the Ministry of Children and Family Development at the Victoria Foundation to promote prevention, public education, and parent and caregiver education. The fund also supports demonstration projects in each of the five regions in the province which focus on improving outcomes for children and youth with FASD through peer support, social and life skills development, transition supports, and school-based and other initiatives.

Over \$8 million has already been granted by the Victoria Foundation from the Action Fund to a wide range of projects that fit the Fund's mandate.

Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society

The Victoria Foundation and The Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society announced in September their partnership in managing and awarding scholarships from \$36 million in endowment funds established by the province of BC.

"We are pleased to partner with the Victoria Foundation in the administration and stewardship of our scholarship funds," said Mike Apsey, chair of the Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society. "With support from the Government of British Columbia, the Society has quickly increased the number and value of its scholarship programs."

The funds provide scholarships under five programs to students attending public post-secondary institutions both throughout the province and internationally. The programs are for transfer students, aboriginal students, international education, study abroad, and general educational opportunities. To date, the Society has awarded over \$1.2 million.

"Working with the Scholarship Society builds on the province-wide impact the Victoria Foundation has," said Tom Burley, Chair of the Victoria Foundation.

For more information, contact Wes Crealock wes@victoriafoundation.bc.ca

Mission

The Victoria Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life in our community through the stewardship of permanent funds and other gifts and by grantmaking for charitable purposes on Southern Vancouver Island and beyond.

The current market value of our total assets under management is over \$138 million.

Charitable BN 13065 0898 RR0001

Let Us Know

Are we addressing you correctly? Please help us keep our mailing list up to date.

We encourage readers, on an ongoing basis, to submit letters or ideas for articles in *Connections*. Fax, call or write Shannon Drew-Burrows, Communications Director, Victoria Foundation with any suggestions.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information about ongoing activities at the Victoria Foundation and throughout the community. If you have any questions about the Foundation or would like to discuss making a gift, establishing a fund or applying for a grant, please contact:

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Tips for the Smart Donor



As the giving season approaches, charities and non-profit organizations begin to fundraise in earnest. As such, donors often feel overwhelmed, especially when faced with a multitude of worthy causes.

Here are a few key tips to consider this giving season:

1. Do you always give to the same organization(s)? Enrich your giving experience and consider other worthwhile causes.
2. If you give to many organizations, consider occasionally donating a larger sum to a single organization. This may enable that organization to have a greater impact on the issues it is addressing.
3. Involve your family – children, grandchildren and other family members may enjoy helping you determine where to give this year. The Victoria Foundation's website offers on-line giving so that you can make giving decisions during the holidays and still receive a 2007 tax receipt.
4. Consider topping-up your endowment fund – organizations benefit from the long-term planning ability afforded by permanent endowment contributions.
5. Ask questions – the Victoria Foundation "connects people who care with causes that matter" – ask us how you can maximize your giving impact today.

6. Start now if you plan to donate a gift of securities or mutual funds – transfer times may vary depending on the type of security.

Did you know...

- that between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2006 the Victoria Foundation received over \$20 million in new gifts as gifts of securities? This represents over 47% of the dollar value of the total gifts received during that period.
- that the Foundation can flow through a gift of securities to your favourite charity? Many smaller organizations don't have the capability to easily receive gifts of securities and on-line giving portals charge a fee for this service, which means the charity ends up receiving less money. We provide this as a complimentary service – 100% of your gift goes to the charity named. Just remember the year end deadlines to ensure your 2007 gift of securities can be received and allocated by December 31.
- gifts of **qualifying public securities** are exempt from capital gains tax? They are therefore an extremely effective way to work philanthropy into your tax planning goals. As with everything, consulting your professional advisor with regards to your unique personal situation is always recommended.

Please contact our office at 250.381.5532 for information on how to process a gift of securities.

By *Chuck Burkett* CA, CFP, TEP
Vice Chair and Treasurer
Board of Directors, Victoria Foundation
Member, Estate Planning Council

Connecting people who care with causes that matter®

Connections



VICTORIA
FOUNDATION

#109 - 645 Fort Street Victoria, BC V8W 1G2



Fall 2007

Connections

The Victoria Foundation's Newsletter

Stay tuned in 2008 for changes to the Grant Making process...watch the website for up-to-date details!

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VICTORIA
FOUNDATION

Message from Executive Director / CEO



Foundation Executive Director and CEO, Sandra Richardson. (Destrubé Photography)

The holiday season is once again upon us and we here at the Victoria Foundation have hardly had time to catch our breath to reflect upon the hectic, but rewarding fall of 2007. After building on another successful launch of the second annual *Victoria's Vital Signs* in early October, we have since introduced the 1% For The Planet program to the community, and hosted the Transatlantic Community Foundation Network's international peer exchange on indicator programs.

On top of all these exciting activities, the Foundation has had a welcome return and a new addition in terms of staffing. Dr. Sharon Bearpark returned in September after a nearly year-long adventure around the world, and Leah Burley, a graduate from UVic, joined our team as a student intern and has proven to be a fantastic asset!

As work winds up for 2007, I would like to thank retiring Board Member Joan Barton and Board Chair Tom Burley, who will be completing his term in December. I would also like to welcome Janet Erasmus and Peter Malcolm to the Board in 2008, as well as incoming Chair, Chuck Burkett.

In our continued effort to provide community leadership, the Foundation strives to constantly stay abreast of our community's challenges and triumphs. We need to keep exploring ways in which we can build upon the healthy elements and approach those components that need our attention and support. I would like to thank all of the Foundation staff members and the many volunteers who work diligently to keep our positive momentum going!

Happy holidays and warmest wishes,

Sandy

Victoria Foundation Volunteer in Profile:

Saanich Police Constable Kim Basi

Born and raised in Victoria, grant committee member Kim Basi began work with the Saanich Police almost 20 years ago in 1989 as a volunteer Reserve Constable. In 1995, she attended the Justice Institute of British Columbia and went on to become a Police Constable. After spending seven years in the patrol division and three and a half years working with youths involved in the sex trade, Kim is now responsible for 12 Victoria schools in her job as the Saanich Police Liaison Officer.

Introduced to the Victoria Foundation just this past year, Kim was impressed by how the organization gave back to the community.

"It is important that we help those in our community that are trying to make a difference," says Basi. "There are a lot of agencies out there that would like to bring new things to the Greater Victoria area, but they're not able to because they lack funds. It is nice that the Victoria Foundation is there to assist them and give them a chance."

Kim brings unique insight to the Foundation through her daily work with individuals in the community. She knows firsthand how giving back is so important and beneficial.

"I love working with children and enjoy watching them grow and learn," says Basi. "I work very hard to let youths know that police are not the enemy and try to explain to them that our role is for the overall good of the community."

Kim says she feels fortunate to have the opportunity to teach and build trusting relationships with kids ranging from kindergarten to grade 12. When it comes to her work as a volunteer with the Foundation, she feels proud to be a small, but integral, part of making a difference in the broader community.



Constable Kim Basi

Victoria Foundation hosts peer-based international learning exchange on *Vital Signs*

Transatlantic Community Foundation Network (TCFN)



Dr. Peter Walkenhort (TCFN) and Monica Patten (CFC) with Shelly Johnson of Surrounded by Cedar.

The Victoria Foundation, along with Community Foundations of Canada, played host to delegates from the Transatlantic Community Foundation Network (TCFN) for a three day peer exchange November 11-14, 2007. The purpose of the gathering was to discuss indicator programs, such as *Vital Signs*, and what benefit they bring to community foundations and their communities.

Created in 1999 by Bertelsmann Stiftung, a German foundation, with the support and advice of the C.S. Mott Foundation, TCFN is a learning community comprising community foundations and support organizations from Europe, North America, and Mexico. Presidents and CEOs of community foundations from across North America and Europe

came together in Victoria to discuss and share their own experiences with indicator programs and the importance of collaborative work.

A full two days were dedicated to learning about how indicator programs work with respect to issues such as community consultation and engagement, publication of indicator reports and the subsequent evaluation process. Attendees also discussed how to incorporate indicator programs into their work.

The group also went on a site visit to *Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services*, a local urban Aboriginal agency that provides child and family services rooted in cultural values and beliefs to restore and enhance the strength and resiliency in the urban Aboriginal community. Both Board and staff from Surrounded by Cedar were on-hand to meet the international guests.

Victoria Foundation CEO and TCFN member Sandra Richardson has participated extensively in these unique peer exchanges over the years, and finds them to be a fantastic learning opportunity. "Exchanging our experiences and knowledge is to the benefit of all of those involved," says Richardson. "Gaining insight from a group as diverse as the one we have assembled here in Victoria truly helps to advance philanthropy around the globe."

Photo credits for masthead: Tiffany Brown Cooper Photography

Local law firm Horne Coupar helps Victoria Foundation kick off its 1% For The Planet program

The Victoria Foundation works to mobilize local businesses to aid environment

In early November the Victoria Foundation announced that one of Victoria's oldest and most respected law firms, Horne Coupar, joined 1% For The Planet. The law firm is now calling on other local and national businesses to step forward and take a leadership role in protecting the environment.

One Percent For The Planet (1% FTP) is an alliance of over 728 (and counting!!) companies from more than 20 countries that are committed to a healthier planet. Members commit at least one per cent of their revenue each year to supporting environmental causes.

Horne Coupar has made an initial commitment of \$10,000 through the Victoria Foundation and plans to work with the Environment Committee to determine other recipient organizations. From this initial contribution, the Victoria law firm has already decided to donate \$5000 to TLC The Land Conservancy's Endowment Fund, also held in permanence at the Foundation. Horne Coupar's annual commitment to 1% FTP is projected to be "well into five figures."

"Horne Coupar believes that demonstrating a commitment to the health of the planet is simply the right thing to do. It also reflects the concern that many of our estate planning clients share, that our children and grandchildren will live in a habitable world," says partner Mark Horne. "Whatever the tipping points might be for continuing inattention to the earth's carrying capacity for food and water, biodiversity and the quality of human life generally, concerted action is overdue."

Victoria Foundation Board Chair, Tom Burley is thrilled with the announcement. "Having a well-known and respected law firm take a leadership role and sign-on to launch the Victoria Foundation's involvement with 1% For The Planet shows its commitment to the environment and the broad appeal in the community for this program."

In addition to building its environmental endowment fund, the Victoria Foundation will play a vital role in connecting participating businesses with the environmental causes that are a good match for their goals.

If your organization would like more information, visit our website at www.victoriafoundation.bc.ca, or call us at 250.381.5532.



Mark Horne, Partner, Horne Coupar Barristers & Solicitors

Giving over the Holiday season

Thinking about the different areas that make for a healthy community? We can help facilitate your giving priorities and plans. Whether investing in improving something specific or contributing to a broad array of community causes, the **Community Fund** offers an easy, strategic way to supplement your other grant making. The **Community Fund** allows you to support your areas of interest and join other donors to make a collective difference. Contact us to find out more.

Speaker's Bureau:

Do you need a Guest Speaker?

Looking for an interesting and informative presentation for your organization? We have new and exciting topics to offer!

With our recent launch of 1% For The Planet, and the second annual *Victoria's Vital Signs*, the Foundation has fresh and interesting things to share with you and your audience.

Are you part of a group that would benefit from learning in more detail what's going on at the Victoria Foundation? From creating an endowment fund, educating the business community about environmental philanthropy, preparing a grant application, to what types of endowment funds would best suit your needs. Call us now!



Please Contact Me

I would like to learn more about the Victoria Foundation!

I would like to support the *Youth in Philanthropy* Program

I would like more information about:

- Having a speaker from the Victoria Foundation give a presentation to my group
- Establishing a named fund
- Including the Foundation in my estate planning
- Private foundations vs. an endowment fund as a legacy
- 1% For The Planet

My area of interest is:

- Arts & Culture
- Seniors
- Youth
- Health & Wellness
- Community Services
- Education
- Environment
- Sports & Recreation

I would like to add to my existing fund or enclose a contribution of \$ _____ to the Community Fund to be held in perpetuity as capital with returns thereon distributed annually to charitable projects.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

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