

Red Fox builds the community leaders of tomorrow

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THE Red Fox Healthy Living Society, established in 2006, is a superb example of how programs that support inner city kids can transform lives and bring hope for the future. Red Fox provides recreation, food and cultural programs that foster healthy, active living, and leadership and employment training in six Lower Mainland municipalities. On any given month 1,000 children and youth are supported by 30 different Red Fox programs.

In Vancouver, the focus for Red Fox is on First Nations and inner city youth - in particular giving them leadership training so they can in turn become leaders for children and youth in their community.

“The youth we work with don’t see opportunities ahead for themselves. But if they see their cousins or neighbors as leaders they can place themselves in that role,” says Red Fox founder and executive director Emma Sutherland.

CLICK has supported Red Fox with funding for a powwow drum and dance group and feasting program.

Emma notes that Red Fox programs are particularly important for children and youth who are withdrawn, shy and not socially engaged. “We’ve seen youth who couldn’t even say their name in a circle eventually lead powwow dance lessons,” she says.

One of the most satisfying outcomes of Red Fox programs for Emma is, over the years, seeing youth who gained skills and confidence in the programs be inspired to give back. Many of those youth become Red Fox staff members – no longer withdrawn but proud to be community leaders.

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John Murphy and Leslie Lee

A FIRM BELIEF that every child deserves the basics in life – healthy food, adequate clothing and a safe place to live – as well as access to opportunities like sports and the arts is what inspired Leslie Lee and her husband John Murphy to support CLICK.

They are keenly aware that one in five children in Vancouver live in poverty. “This is a very sad statistic for our city,” says Leslie. “We need to help these children because they will shape the future.”

The fact that CLICK is run totally by volunteers and is a grassroots organization that knows where the needs are in the community is important to the couple.

“We know that CLICK can identify the programs where the dollars will work efficiently and successfully to make a difference to children who need support,” Leslie says.

Caring about your community has been passed down through the generations in the Lee family, who are outstanding Vancouver philanthropists.

“My grandfather always told my father to give back to the community and help others with your time and support. My father always tries to make a difference whenever he can and I try to do the same,” says Leslie.

This holiday, Leslie and John have donated \$5,000 to CLICK for a “Double Your Donation” matching campaign.

“We encourage those able to help these kids to make a donation and it will be doubled,” says John.



2018 Dinner to Make a Difference

CLICK'S ANNUAL Dinner to Make a Difference at the award-winning Café Medina restaurant was a big success, raising \$20,000 for programs that support children and youth living in poverty in Vancouver.



This holiday season, help us help kids

IT HAS BEEN an honour to serve as CLICK's president for the last five months. I was introduced to CLICK in 2016 through a friend, who asked if I would join her at the “Definitely Not a Gala!” fundraiser, which happens in the annual CLICK-led Inner City Kids Week. I remember thinking to myself, “What inner city?”

I quickly learned that beyond the expensive real estate, the restaurants and busy shops, there are thousands of families struggling to survive in Vancouver. This has a profound effect on children. Parents working long hours at multiple jobs do their very best to make ends meet. But too many children and youth in our city experience hunger and need daily support such as safe out-of-school care. They also need and deserve access to opportunities in areas like sports, recreation and the arts. That's what builds self-confidence and skills, and leads to success in life.

When I stepped into this new role, I met with each of my fellow board members to learn how they got involved with CLICK, and what motivates them to give so generously of their time and talents. We are a diverse group. Some are parents who saw their children's classmates struggling. Some are teachers and coaches, who work with students in need every day. Some, like myself, simply recognize their own good fortune and want to give back. One is a former beneficiary of CLICK, looking to pay it forward.

As 2018 draws to a close, the CLICK team is incredibly proud that this past year we directed \$127,930 to 65 different programs supporting 7,800 children living in poverty in Vancouver – our largest annual funding total in our 14-year history.

This holiday season, we ask to consider making life better for the one in five children living in poverty in our city. Thanks to the generosity of Leslie Lee and her husband John Murphy, the first \$5,000 donated to CLICK by December 31st will be matched dollar-for-dollar.

From all of us at CLICK, happy holidays to you and your family, and we look forward to making 2019 CLICK's best year yet... for the kids.

Jaclyn Tsang
President



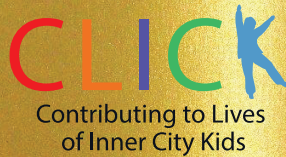
New foundation selects CLICK as one of its first funding recipients

WHEN CLICK was suggested as one of the first grant recipients of the new Schmelke Family Foundation, it ticked all the foundation's boxes – grassroots, volunteer-driven and family-focused with a strong connection to the community. The foundation was inspired by Vancouver residents John and Bonnie Schmelke, who worked hard all their lives and always had family as a core value. “Increasingly many people are struggling to provide the basic necessities needed to raise a family. Our family is grateful for all that we have and are pleased to support an organization doing such important work,” says daughter Alison Schmelke, pictured with husband Paul Haagenson.



THIS HOLIDAY
DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

TO



One in five children in your city lives in poverty.

Donate to say 'Every kid counts in Vancouver!'

Thanks to a generous donation from longtime CLICK supporters Leslie Lee and her husband John Murphy, gifts received by December 31 will be matched up to \$5,000 – so your gift will have double the impact.

You can help us raise \$10,000 this holiday season for children living in poverty in Vancouver.

TO LEARN MORE AND DONATE, VISIT:

www.clicktokids.ca

Tax receipts are issued for all donations over \$20. It is now possible to donate securities to CLICK by clicking the "DONATE SECURITIES" on our website's donation page: clicktokids.ca. When you donate your securities through our site your capital gains aren't subject to tax.

**MARK YOUR
2019 CALENDARS!**



CLICK Conversations, which gives inner city program leaders and CLICK donors a chance to meet and discuss important issues, will take place on Tuesday, March 12. And CLICK's annual fundraiser "**Definitely Not a Gala!**" happens on Thursday, May 16.

Stay tuned for more details on both these events.