



WHISTLER  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
— SOCIETY —

**FEBRUARY  
2021**

**SUPPORT US**

**Support For A Healthy Community**

**T**  **GETHER**

## **A Note From Our Executive Director**

In the last number of weeks Whistler has experienced the highest number of cases and transmission of the virus causing

COVID-19 that the community has seen since the start of this global pandemic. Whistler Community Services Society is proud to play a significant role in supporting our residents most vulnerable to challenges in food security as well as mental and emotional health, particularly during this time of emergency. **TOGETHER**, we have been able to offer our essential services without interruption throughout the pandemic. As we continue to navigate challenging times, we adapt to ensure we are able to carry on supporting all those who need low barrier access to assistance when life presents overwhelming challenges.

WCSS continues to have a focus on responding to the complex needs of the community. **TOGETHER** with other care providers and partners, we ensure efforts continue to go into supporting a healthy community through aid for residents affected by COVID-19. Two additional outreach workers have been hired in response to increased demand for accessible assistance with mental, emotional, and financial health challenges. Our food security programs have expanded to include deliveries to households unable to attend the food bank. The management team has been hard at work advocating with various agencies for new safe isolation sites to help limit the transmission of COVID-19 - we are thankful that these sites became a

reality a few weeks ago.

At this time we must ask all residents and visitor alike to join us in remaining vigilant in our collective efforts to curb the transmission of COVID-19. We can do this **TOGETHER** by following provincial health orders, washing our hands regularly, wearing a mask outside our home, and staying home when not feeling well. This virus is being contracted and causing health issues for ALL AGE GROUPS WITHIN WHISTLER. We are all susceptible to contracting and sharing this virus.

We must all do our part as this virus greatly impacts our economically vulnerable population who are working in forward facing, essential service roles and specifically those who live in high density or multigenerational housing.

**TOGETHER:** At a time when we still need to be apart, we need to remember that as a community, we are all in this **TOGETHER.**



With Gratitude,  
Jackie



## **NEW- Donate Using Stocks**

Whistler Community Services Society is pleased to announce that we are now able to receive your donation by way of a gift of stocks or mutual funds through our partners at [Canada Helps](#).

Did you know that a gift of securities can

help reduce your exposure to capital gains taxes? Donating securities themselves rather than donating the proceeds of a sale of stocks or mutual funds means a larger tax receipt for you, and more money going to the charity (us). It really is a Win-Win!!

[More Information](#)

## Income Tax Program

The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program connects low income residents of Whistler with a volunteer to assist with filing simple income tax returns. Benefits of this program include:

- Working with a volunteer or Outreach worker to prepare tax statements
- Determine eligibility for federal and provincial tax credits
- Get tax returns filed electronically



## More Information

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## Get Your REACHOUT! WHISTLER Pin

Whistler Community Services Society and Arts Whistler have partnered for ReachOut! Whistler - a campaign to raise awareness and funds for mental health and wellbeing programs with the help of a beautiful locally designed enamel pin. Grab yours at the Re-Use-It Centre starting Saturday February 20th.

[REACHOUT! WHISTLER INFO](#)

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## Getting To Know Us

Recently, we sat down (virtually) to get to know Kara who recently joined WCSS as our

Finance Assistant. We thought it was a great way to introduce her to you too!

***Where did you grow up?***

I was born in Toronto but grew up in St. Catharines, a town about an hour south of Toronto in Ontario's Niagara Region.

***How long have you been in Whistler?***

I am excitedly celebrating my tenth anniversary in this incredible town this year! I'm almost a local!

***Why was WCSS an attractive employer for you?***

When my parents would take my sister and I camping they would always emphasize the importance of "leaving your campsite in a better state than you had found it." That really resonated with me as a child and I grew up hoping to apply that wisdom to as much as I could in life. Years later when heading off to University in pursuit of a combined major in Law and Human Rights my goal was to leaving the world in a better state than I had found it. I am so grateful that WCSS has been doing the same for this incredible community for over thirty years! I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to come to work everyday alongside wonderful people helping to build a healthy and resilient community. I am convinced that the work we do here daily will leave the world a better place.

## ***What would we find you doing outside of work hours?***

Snowboarding, hiking, camping, studying, running.....after my eight month old puppy.

## ***What's your favourite food?***

Does coffee count? If not, anything with an abundance of carbohydrates. If I could dream up an ideal meal I would probably just put pasta on a pizza.



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Whistler Community Services Society provides inclusive support to build a resilient community. Following our values of *Trust, Respect, Inclusion, Advocacy, and Collaboration*; we aim to work with the community to deliver low barrier services for healthy living.





8000 Nesters Road, Whistler, BC, V8E 0G4

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