

JULY 2021

SUPPORT US

Support For A Healthy Community



A Note From Our Executive Director

At Whistler Community Services Society, we have and will continue to focus on work which centers around reciprocity. Our staff are engaged in ongoing work, learning and listening in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion. This month many of our staff engaged in training from Ryerson University and a session entitled "Generous Future and Indigenous Perspectives." One of the many learning outcomes from the First Nations teachers of this course is that there needs to be a focus on reciprocity as we learn more about the impact of residential schools and the continuous findings and remains of unmarked graves at residential school sites.

Our staff continues to listen, learn, develop and create programs which is led by the voices of communities, their needs with the intent to create a fluid act of connection which support mutual benefit. Our work is driven by the inequities which exist in the social determinants of health in our community and a willingness to respond and recover which is guided by important voices, underserved community members and

innovated through the work of diversity, equity and inclusion.



With Gratitude, Jackie



Heat Warning

Please be aware that a extreme heat warning has been issued for Thursday through Saturday this week. Temperatures in Whistler, Pemberton, Lil'wat Nation and surrounding communities will reach well into the mid-30's Celsius. Protect yourself from the heat by avoiding high energy activities in the afternoons, drink plenty of water all day long (even if you don't feel thirsty), seek shade as much as possible, and protect your skin with sunscreen. We

will be offering a hydration station each day at the Re-Use-It and Re-Build-It Centres as well as the Whistler Food Bank. We will also be on hand with water on Thursday noon to 5pm at the Whistler Public Library.



Read The Alert



Outreach Services Now Available At Whistler Public Library

As COVID-19 restrictions continue to ease in British Columbia we are pleased to announce that our Outreach team is returning to the Whistler Public Library as an alternate location to meet with one of our team members. Outreach assistance is available on a drop in or appointment basis. An Outreach worker is available during library hours on Wednesday and Thursday each week.

Outreach Information

CampFund Funding Available

Available to families needing financial assistance with children up to 17 years old, our CampFund program helps kids get into the camp of their choice. Offering financial assistance toward camp fee (\$200.00 max per year), children can take part in camps for art, nature and sports and is applicable to both day and overnight camps. CampFund is proudly supported by the Fairmont Chateau Whistler.



More Info



Food Skills and Nutrition Program

Designed for lower-income families, pregnant women and seniors (50+) who are participating in WCSS food literacy programs; our Food Skills and Nutrition Program runs in conjunction with the Whistler Farmers Market from June to November each year. Participants receive coupons for use at the Whistler Farmers Market, access to workshops to learn new skills, and opportunity to meet new friends.

More Info

Indigenous Canada - Free Course

In our ongoing efforts to work towards reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours across the country, and specifically with the Lil'wat Nation and Squamish Nation, our team here at WCSS is encouraged to take time to learn, listen, and inquire about the first peoples of this land.

Some members of our team have taken (and recommend) the FREE University of Alberta Indigenous Canada Course. This is just one great example of how non indigenous Canadians can learn more - we hope readers of this newsletter will join us in further learnings from which we can all benefit.



More Course Info



Getting To Know Us

Meet Chez, a key ingredient to our food security team. 3 years ago he made the move to Whistler for the same reason many of us did - to spend his favorite season, winter, on the mountains skiing and enjoying the fine abundance of west coast powder. As winter led to summer and Chez felt Whistler was a place to call home, he decided he wanted to find a way to give back to the community and started as a volunteer with WCSS. This volunteer role and the people who surrounded him guided him to forego is career and take on a full time role here at WCSS. He is inspired daily not only by the work he does, but also by the organization and the genuine nature of the people who work here! When not at work in the summer, you can find Chez at his favorite campsite, on his paddleboard on a local lake, or pedaling his bike.

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.

Considering leaving an estate gift to Whistler Community Services Society?

Learn more on how to do so <u>here</u>. Thank You







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