

MARCH 2022

SUPPORT US

BETTER TOGETHER



A Note From Our Executive Director

This month Whistler Community Services Society has continued to engage, provide programming, and most of all remain committed to listening to the needs of the communities of our lands and first nations territory. We do this in an effort to provide responsive programming, supportive people, and a strong sense of belonging within our buildings and services.

This work is a journey we are on that has no final destination, instead its a road and path that has lots of bumps, twists and turns but the goal is to always be moving forward. We also don't plan to be alone on this journey. We intend, and are committed, to work



alongside and in partnership with our community in an effort to support and advocate for important issues such as food insecurity, under housing and homelessness, financial wellness, and the overall care of the community that resides here.

This month, has shown that this work continues to be supported by generous philanthropy, groups such as the Whistler Health Care Foundation and Katz Amsterdam Foundation as well as grassroots community groups such as the Rotary Club. Provincial and Federal government grants have been allocated to support cultural safety and connectedness in partnership with the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre as well as funding to expand programming for our mature residents. We are also grateful to those who shop in our stores, donate to our social enterprises and residents who raise funds for important programming. Every dollar ensures that we tackle issues which support necessary change.

In the words of Margaret Wheatley, "There is no greater power for change than a community discovering what they care about." We remain committed to that discovery and feel inspired to act.

With Gratitude and a hopeful heart, Jackie





Thank You Rotary Club

On Monday, March 7th, the Rotary Club of Whistler donated \$11,200.00 to WCSS to create fridge space specifically for the Breakfast Club Program perishable foods. This WCSS program supplies nutritional courtesy meals and snacks to all the 5 schools in Whistler so that no child will be hungry while they are attending school. Thank you Rotary Club of Whistler.

Ramadan At The Food Bank

We will be offering a Turkish lentil soup to-go at the food bank on Friday, April 1st for the first day of Ramadan. Thank you so much to <u>Table-19</u> who will be preparing the soup.

The month of Ramadan is all about hunger, fasting and understanding what people go through when they go without food. That is the idea behind the fasting but it also fosters self-constraint, and instills humbleness and gratefulness for the abundance one gets to experience in their lives and to share it with others.

While people fast from sunrise to sunset, evenings are a big celebration around meals and sharing. In areas where Ramadan is widely celebrated it is very common for community dinner tents to come up during this month to feed anyone and everyone.



Connect With The Food Bank



Physiotherapy Assistance Program

The Physiotherapy Assistance program provides financial support to physiotherapy for Whistler residents who qualify. Participants can receive 6 subsidized one on one physiotherapy sessions to aid in recovery after an injury, childbirth or concussion. We are currently partnered with Back in Action Physiotherapy and Massage, The Movement Lab, Peak Performance Physiotherapy and Lifemark Whistler Physiotherapy.

REMINDER: Outreach Extended Hours!

Our Outreach team is now available for appointments until 6pm Monday through Saturday every week. We are always searching for ways to connect with new and existing clients as best we can - these extended hours allow for more flexibility to seek support.



Connect with Outreach



Getting To Know Us

Meet Fraser, he has been one of our hard working team members on the food security program since November 2020. You will see Fraser in the Food Bank, preparing meals for the Breakfast Club Program, driving to pick up recovered food from local business, or dropping of groceries for residents forced to self isolate.

Relocating to Whistler from Bermuda 13 years ago has proven to be a great experience. He is a Red Seal Chef with a minor in hospitality management - a wonderful combo in a town like this. When asked why he chose to work at WCSS, he proudly responds with "I chose to work for WCSS as an opportunity to share my experiences and work for some of the most incredible people I had ever known. I have mentioned this on several occasions this job is one I truly love and enjoy. I feel I have a natural want to help people and support them any way possible."

When not working hard at WCSS, you will find Fraser spending time with his wife, on the golf course, in the garden, working with animals, and often in the kitchen, cooking.

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 here.

Thank You

Whistler Community Services Society is proudly accredited by









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Our mailing address is: PO Box 900, Whistler BC, V0N1B0

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