

Volunteer Grandparents Create Ripple Effects



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www.volunteerburnaby.ca

By Tam Pham,
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When a stone is thrown in the water, a ripple effect is created, similarly to volunteering, as the effects are long lasting and impactful. With every volunteer effort, this ripple effect reaches out to the communities through the kindness and engagement that is shared to others, building towards a healthier and more sustainable future. Grandparents' Day is every day for our senior volunteers at Volunteer Grandparents, who are constantly creating this ripple effect with their outstanding impact upon the communities and the younger generations.

Through our Family Match Program, our senior volunteers are matched with families of children who do not have accessible grandparents, providing long lasting support and love by sharing their skills, knowledge, and experience. As a result, the ripple effect of long-term, extended family relationships and bonds are created.

Additionally, our School Grandparent Program allows our volunteers to dedicate their time and expertise in providing valuable community service to elementary school classrooms. In this program, they work in partnership with educators by participating in activities with children, such as reading, listening, and arts and crafts, further giving back to the community and the younger generation.

Lastly, through our Ambassador Program, our volunteers have the opportunity to share their love and passion for intergenerational bonds and grandparent connections through promoting our programs at fun and exciting community events throughout

entertainment, and the strengthening of intergenerational relationships. In planning and attending the event, I have had the privilege of meeting and connecting with these wonderful individuals, as I have been made aware of their volunteer efforts and how they



the summer. By doing so, our Ambassador Program volunteers also create that ripple effect through their significant community engagement.

With National Grandparents' Day happening this month, I would like to highlight this year's 10th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, which celebrated the impact of these ripples that our volunteers constantly create. With the community support from our wonderful donors, the event was a huge success in celebrating the valuable contributions of our volunteers and program participants. The day was fun-filled with delicious food,

have created long-lasting and impactful ripples. Our organization and our programs could not have been possible without our volunteers. Their passion and understanding for intergenerational connections and extended family bonds will forever leave an impact upon me.

In addition, with so much history of volunteerism, our organization has undergone many changes, while always aiming to fulfill our mission of facilitating intergenerational connections. Our newest initiative was the official launch of our brand new website at the end of August and our volunteers continued to create

grand ripple effects with their ongoing support. Several program participants and our Program Manager, Veronica, generously donated their time in testing the website and giving us helpful suggestions and feedback. As a result, the brand new website features an easier and more intuitive experience, which further highlights the long-lasting effects of their impactful volunteering.

You are always creating extensive and far-reaching ripple effects when you are volunteering, just like the efforts of every single one of our wonderful volunteers. So perhaps for this year's National Grandparents' Day, you can do something grand! Are you over the age of 50? If so and if you believe in the importance of intergenerational relationships and grandparent bonds, want to meet new people, share your skills, experience and love, as well as leave a positive ripple effect upon the community, then perhaps volunteering for Volunteer Grandparents is the thing for you! To learn more about our programs or how to become a volunteer, check out our brand new website at www.volunteergrandparents.ca



SFU FAIRS WEEK 2016
September 20th - 22nd
Burnaby & Surrey
Campus

SAVE THE DATE!

VOLUNTEER FAIR
Thursday, September 22nd
10 AM - 3 PM
Burnaby AQ and Saywell Hall
SFU Burnaby

Volunteer
...you'll be glad you did



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