HASTINGS SUNRISE Community Policing CENTRE

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the mini Bulletin
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Hastings Sunrise CPC, 2620 E. Hastings Street, phone 604 717 3584

Digital Skills for Seniors

With traditional ways of keeping in touch curtailed by Covid-19, many of us are turning to online communication tools such as Zoom to prevent a sense of social isolation setting in.

But for those without access to a computer, the internet, or the skills to get into an online meeting, this is not an option.

It's never too late to learn new skills

Frog Hollow's proposed Program "Hello Virtual World" is looking to change that for seniors in the Hastings Sunrise area.

Lysandra Chan, senior programs coordinator, explains that currently Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House offers a One-to-One In-Person Digital Literacy program on Mondays from 10 a.m. to noon to teach online literacy skills. However, social distancing rules mean a very limited number of participants can attend. There is a waitlist for this program and the time with participants is extremely limited (half an hour per senior).

Frog Hollow is applying for a grant that would provide tablets and wi-fi sticks (which allow access to the internet without a subscription) to seniors in their own homes. They will pair this equipment with one-on-one instruction from a qualified Frog Hollow trainer. Safety protocols such as wearing masks and sanitizing equipment will be followed to ensure the health of all.

Frog Hollow Wellness Connectors, whose role is to check in on seniors via phone, will help identify those in the community who could benefit from this opportunity, but anyone over the age of 50 can sign up.

The aim is to recruit trainers who can communicate in languages primarily used by senior participants such as Cantonese and Spanish, but translation services can be offered for a range of languages.

Registration is likely to begin April 2021 for the in-home program but digital literacy classes at the centre are on-going. Pre-registration is required and the person to contact is Manda at 604-760-5351 or manda@froghollow.bc.ca.

■ ***Loretta Revoczi***

Volunteer Rachel Leung celebrates another Community Cleanup shift!

How You Can Help!

By this time in a normal year (before Covid-19!) the Hastings Sunrise Community Policing Centre (HSCPC) would have met most of its annual fundraising goals.

But 2020 has been no ordinary year. Public events like our spring Shredding Day and our fall Dine For Safety fundraising dinner at Tamam Fine Palestinian Food have had to be cancelled, in the interests of public safety.

To close the gap between civic funding and small grants, and the actual cost of operating our many programs, we are kicking off a **Donate For Safety** campaign.

We are reaching out to our supporters to help us realize our vision of a community made safe for all through volunteering and citizen involvement.

Our goal is to raise $7,000 by Dec. 31, 2020.

We are encouraged by the rate of early donations and hopeful of meeting our goal!

To donate, visit www.hscpc.com/donate-for-safety/ or call us at 604-717-3584 for more information.

Look, Listen and Be Seen!

Autumn signals a return to standard time and early evening darkness. It's an ICBC fact: Pedestrian injuries increase significantly in fall and winter on BC roads.

Help protect your family by reviewing the following pedestrian safety tips. When you can, drop by the HSCPC office to pick up a ICBC pedestrian reflector (while supplies last) to reinforce your safety while walking.

Look: Teach children to make sure all vehicles have stopped before entering the road.

Listen: Create a habit of putting away all electronic gadgets while walking - so you can hear approaching traffic that may be hard to see.

Be seen: Wear bright clothing with reflective gear, especially at night or in poor weather.

Set a good example: Never run or jaywalk to cross the street; cross roads at designated crosswalks.

Road rules: Teach children by creating fun interactive games of guessing the meaning of traffic signs on the way to your destination.

Flashlight: Pedestrian operated flashlights help bring immediate situation awareness to drivers approaching an intersection.

Be aware; Fridays between 3 and 6pm, at intersections during winter months, are higher risk times. Contributing factors are poor weather, driver distractions and failure to yield right of way.

Always look, listen and be a safe pedestrian.

▪ ***Harry Mah***

K9 Calendar

Volunteer Kajol Gounder with 2021 VPD K9 calendar, $15 cash at HSCPC office. Proceeds go to BC Cancer Foundation and BC Children's Hospital

VPD K9 Unit facts:

- Oldest unit in Canada (1957)
- Unit operates 24/7
- K9s are trained in: tracking • criminal apprehension • evidence recovery • detection of narcotics, firearms and explosives
- K9s have a badge
- K9s wear a fitted ballistic vest
- K9s wear fitted footings during hard winter conditions
- K9 vehicles have constant air conditioning
- K9s are very social, have a high drive
- K9s are extremely obedient (not to crooks!)
- A typical K9 retires to a simple family life with its human partner.

How to Get Back Lost Keys

Losing your keys is a big problem – but there's a solution waiting for you at the HSCPC office.

"Lots of people contact the office each year about lost keys," says Clair MacGougan, executive director.

So, we are teaming up with the TB Vets Key Tag Program to offer tags and donation forms that offer a simple, low-cost solution.

Just pick up a tag at our office and attach it to your key ring. Then return the donation form to TB Vets, or donate on-line. Anyone who finds your keys can drop them in any Canada Post mailbox and they will be safely returned to you.

The program was started in 1946 to support WWII veterans suffering from TB. Now the money raised provides funding for respiratory equipment for BC hospitals and first responders -- $1 million this year.

More than half a million keys have been returned since the program began. ▪

You can now report crimes directly to Vancouver Police at our office using our new dedicated VPD reporting computer.

Office hours are 9:30-4:30 Monday to Friday, 10-4 Saturday.

Working together for a safe community

The Hastings Sunrise Community Policing Centre works in partnership with the Vancouver Police Department

Other Partners: