



## SUMMER 2013 NEWSLETTER

### Be Inspired!

**Aman Jina**, a Grade 7 student, has been supporting SOS for the past two years. Two years ago, he set up a lemonade stand to raise \$30, which he donated in the form of pencils to the **SOS Village in Mombasa**. This year, he partnered with West Point Grey Academy for an African stationary drive, which brought in 5 boxes of stationary donations. Of those 5 boxes, Aman donated 2 to the **SOS BC Kerrisdale Thrift Store**. This summer, Aman will be travelling to Kenya to donate the rest of the stationary to the **SOS Village in Eldoret**. At such a young age, Aman is making a difference in the lives of others. Thank you for being such an outstanding role model, Aman!



Aman donates pencils to the SOS village in Mombasa



The stationary bought in by Aman to the Kerrisdale Thrift Store

### He believes in the Future of our Children!



We at SOS Children's Villages B.C. are pleased to have Mr. **Douglas Dunn**, M.B.A., C.F.R.E. join the team as Executive Director.

Mr. Reinhart Aulinger Chairman of the Board of the SOS Children's Villages B.C. stated that Mr. Dunn is, "Resourceful, solution-oriented and genuinely

innovative, he has a balance of business acumen and focused creative energy. Douglas has proven that he leads by example with a commitment to excellence and gains co-operation on an individual level to achieve team goals. We are very happy to have this seasoned professional join our team and I welcome him to the SOS Children's Villages B.C. team."

Douglas is a C.F.R.E. (Certified Fund Raising Professional) and has been active in the not-for-profit sector for nearly three decades. A Rotarian as well as founder, director and member of 30+ non-profit organizations, his professional career is extremely diverse, and includes leadership positions in private and public companies, as well as non-profit organizations. He is a passionate believer in community and social justice, but with a strategic and business mind set.

In 1998 Douglas, with no undergraduate degree, challenged the entrance exams and in 2000, completed his M.B.A. at S.F.U. His M.B.A. thesis dealt with knowledge management and creating an internet marketplace for knowledge, an "eBay for knowledge". Working with a fellow M.B.A. student Douglas helped create software based on his thesis



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in which IBM expressed interest, however it was sold to another organization and is now known as Tribute, rewarding the sharing of knowledge within a company.

Committed to improving the quality of life for the youth of British Columbia, Douglas has spent the last seven years working with the United Way of the Fraser Valley, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley, B.C. Council for Families and several other child focused social welfare organizations.

Douglas commented that, "The opportunity to work with the SOS Children's Village B.C. was irresistible. I am

delighted to join the SOS team and embrace their community driven focus which is making such a significant contribution to changing the lives of foster children and vulnerable youth in B.C."

Born and raised in Vancouver, Douglas is a vocational underwater archaeologist, scuba diver, sky diver, horseman, space enthusiast, and environmentalist. Husband to Jan Emerton and step-father to two dynamic step-sons, Bryce and Ryan, he lives in the Walnut Grove area of Langley.

Welcome to the SOS team Douglas!

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### Our Programs

#### Learning Club

*Kistie Singh, Learning Club Coordinator*

Our Learning Clubs have wrapped up for the 2012-2013 school year! In total we helped **over 65 students** in academics and social development. Majority of our students this year were in grade 7 and so we're sending off our young students to start their new journey in high school! With all of our workshops and lessons developed to cater to the transitioning teenager, we hope that our students walk into the next year with confidence and composure. They've been a huge part of the success of our SOS Learning Club program, and if we're lucky we may see some of them next year with a new location in a local High School.

This summer SOS BC has developed two programs for our summer learners. **Prep Squad**, developed to get students ready for the new school year, is launching in August. The program targets students' weaker areas in school work and builds and develops skills so students are more confident with their school work when they go back in September. We hope that the attendance rate is high, as we're offering a free service for families and students run by BC Certified teachers!

Our 2nd Summer Program is catered to the children at our Village site. With a 2.5 acre lot, we're hoping we can get the

kids to build a garden while learning essential information on how to care for our environment. Its **Nurture meets Environmental Education**, and we're more than excited to see what we can produce out of our garden post!

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#### Parent-Driven Autism Services

*Doug West, PDAS Coordinator*

Autism is a **developmental disorder** that is characterized by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and non-verbal communication, and by restricted, and repetitive behaviours.

SOS Children's Village BC has developed a new **Parent Driven Autism Service** program for children and youth ages 6-19 years old. This program provides **Neurofeedback** training, behavioural consultation and assessment, counselling, expressive therapy, academic supports and child care worker support.

Parent Driven Autism Services provide parents with more ability to pick and choose which services they want for their child. Every child and family has their own unique set of circumstances and challenges. It makes sense for parents to have more choices as opposed to "one size fits all" programming. As well, we have reduced management and



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administrative costs for parents freeing up funds for more one to one therapeutic work.

Another unique aspect of this program is its use of Neurofeedback training. There is a growing body of research evidence which indicates that Neurofeedback is a great alternative to medications in addressing symptoms common to autism which may include anxiety, ADHD, impulsivity, and emotional regulation challenges. Neurofeedback is a non-invasive training program which teaches the brain to regulate itself better. As the brain learns to do this, symptoms begin to subside, leaving the child calmer, more thoughtful, and better able to manage their emotional state.

For more information about our Parent Driven Autism Services please visit [www.sosbc.org/autism-services](http://www.sosbc.org/autism-services) or call **Doug West** at 604-574-2964 ext.226

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### The SOS BC Village

Summer at the Village is an exciting time. We kicked off our summer with a BBQ welcoming our new Practicum Student, **Cindy Aujula** and Village Coordinator, **Kistie Singh**.

Throughout the summer these two will be spending more time at the village and focusing on summer programming to keep the kids active and busy! Already, they're planning another BBQ because the first was such a success!

On July 18<sup>th</sup>, the SOS Staff held an honorary breakfast to celebrate students at the village who have completed another year in school and graduates who have completed their last year of high school. SOS Staff presented gifts to the graduates and a banner to hang in the Rec Center. In the coming weeks our three graduates will have their names added to the banner to celebrate their accomplishments and to motivate our young learners to stay on track!

In the next few weeks we look forward to sharing staff's **Annual Day of Caring** where SOS Staff will gear up to clean up the Village and engage in some yard work! Volunteers are welcome to join! We also have a **Camp Night** with marshmallows and s'mores roasting on the agenda, a **Cultural day** with the Métis, and **Project Wild** launching in August! It's been a great summer so far and we're all looking forward to the new events and programs coming next month!

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## Special Thank Yous!

- **Intact Financial Corporation** provided **\$5000** funding to support the Transition to Adulthood program.
- **Douglas College Students and Envision** presented a Social Media program and a **\$275** donation as a part of the Community Capacity Building program.
- **Accent Inns** for running a **donation drive** to support the Steveston Thrift Store.
- **Home Depot** confirmed a **\$2,500** grant to support landscaping and maintenance of the Village site.
- **Transat** for sponsoring a **3 year** national SOS Canada ad campaign (watch for it around Mothers Day!).
- **CKNW Orphan's Fund** for a **\$4,000** grant to support our kids camps and recreational activities.
- **Envision/First West Foundation** confirmed **\$10,000** for our Transition to Adulthood Program for 2013-2014.
- **Lord Tweedsmuir Rotary Interact Club** presented a cheque for **\$700** and raised **\$1,000** for a SOS Village in South Africa.
- **Knights of Columbus** donated **\$2,250** to support our Camps and Recreation program.
- **Envision Financial** confirmed a **\$25,000** grant to the Learning Club program for 2013-2014.
- **Debora De Merich (\$5,000)** and **Diego De Merich (\$5,000)** donated in loving memory of **Gwenyth Rogers**.

SOS BC appreciates the support and generosity towards the children, our programs, and our organization.



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### Events

#### Skills for Hope

The organization, **Skills for Hope**, donated two brand-new **HP laptops** with warranty, headphones and MS Office to the SOS Village. Thank you for the kind donation!! The laptops will be utilized by the children at the Village to develop their computer skills and assist with homework.



#### Daymaker Day

Thank you to **MegaHair** staff that volunteered at Daymaker Day on April 29th! They gave away freebies to over 40 children. The children got the opportunity to get a haircut/hair style, nail polish application, and face painting.



There were a combination of Learning Club students, Village families and therapy clients. SOS BC provided snacks for the kids/Mega Hair staff. The event was a big success with over 40 kids and Megahair staff even stayed late to make sure that every child got an opportunity.



#### SOS BC Run 2013



A very successful **5<sup>th</sup> annual SOS BC run** occurred on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Richmond Oval. In attendance were Olympian **Alexa Loo** and retired BC Lions player **Lyle Green**, along with "**Marathon Woman**", Violet

Holmes, who is 77 years old and has ran 12 marathons in the past 13 years.



**Richmond Cadets** did a double deed: donated clothing to the SOS BC Thrift stores and also participated in the Run.

An individual volunteering her time at the Kid Zone was **Miss Teen Richmond World**, Danica Tan, who believes that each child deserves a loving family and a safe home. The **McNair Cheerleading Team** did a great job cheering on participants during the run, while **Passing Notes** played some amazing Beatles tunes. Thank you to all the participants and volunteers!



The final run results are online: <http://www.sosbc.org/Run/results>



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### Day of Caring

#### Telus

Thank you to **Telus** staff for volunteering their whole day. They did a beautiful job painting our recreation centre/office at the Village.



#### RBC

A BIG Thank You to **RBC Strawberry Hill & Fleetwood** for volunteering their weekend to clean the Village. They did some painting, cleaning and gardening to make the Village look shiny! If your workplace or a group would like to volunteer for a Day of Caring, please contact the SOS BC office at 604-574-2964.



### Louis Vuitton Sessions

Louis Vuitton is a global SOS partner. In BC Louis Vuitton is working with SOS to provide **5 creative art sessions** for the children at the Village. At the first session, the children learned how to make leather-bound journal covers. The children were focused for the entire session and worked really hard. They also had great fun with Louis Vuitton Staff during the BBQ lunch.



A team of enthusiastic Louis Vuitton staff members during the journal leather-bounding session.

The second session included oil painting in West Vancouver. Louis Vuitton generously provided a catered lunch to the children. There are 3 more craft sessions booked in the near future. We would like to thank Louis Vuitton for their humbleness and generosity.

### SOS BC, Dr. Oetker, and the CFL

Dr. Oetker will be printing Casa di Mama pizza boxes with a SOS Children's Villages Canada message. They have also partnered up with the CFL to launch a Trattoria pizza tour of Western Canada. SOS BC had its own pizza kickoff event on July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Cloverdale PriceSmart. The event included free pizza tastings, CFL players, and the **Grey Cup!**



Our SOS team members with BC Lions players, **Dante March** and SOS BC Ambassador **Lyle Green**.



SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGE  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

# RAFFLE SALE

## PRIZES:

1ST - WESTJET TRIP FOR 2

2ND - HELIJET GREATER VANCOUVER SCENIC TOUR FOR 4

3RD - SOS BC GIFT BASKET

TICKETS: \$5 EACH OR 3 FOR \$10

DRAW WILL BE HELD:

JULY 31<sup>ST</sup> 2013

PRESENTED BY

**WESTJET**

**Helijet**

GAMING LICENSE #54188

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.sosbc.org/news-events/events>