



## **NEWS RELEASE**

*November 22, 2008*

### **The Coquitlam Foundation embarks on profile-raising project**

The Coquitlam Foundation has teamed with the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce to launch a project aimed at raising the profile of the Foundation.

The Foundation has inserted its promotional pamphlet and an explanatory letter into the Chamber's monthly mailing to its membership, which number several hundred in the Tri-Cities area.

The Coquitlam Foundation's board hopes the promotional exercise will encourage Coquitlam residents to support the foundation's philanthropic endeavours. It is also hoped that the mail-out will alert Coquitlam residents to the many funding opportunities that the Foundation offers.

Following is the text of the explanatory letter that is now being distributed:

### **Tri-City Chamber Members:**

#### **What do you think of when you hear the word "philanthropy?"**

Wealthy industrialists donating millions of dollars to worthy causes? Overseas aid workers devoting their lives to relief work? Caring and compassionate individuals such as these certainly embody the values of philanthropy, but philanthropy—which is the heartfelt giving of one's time, money or property for the benefit of others—grows at the community level too. In fact, it's what the Coquitlam Foundation is all about.

The Coquitlam Foundation is a federally registered charity, whose purpose is to act as a catalyst and resource for philanthropy throughout our community. This is especially significant at this time of the year, because November 15 is National Philanthropy Day. To raise awareness about this important day, the Coquitlam Foundation and four other community foundations from the North Fraser region embarked on a variety of promotional events, including a series of newspaper advertisements, to help our communities better appreciate the merits of philanthropy. As the National Philanthropy Day's slogan says, we believe we can

***Change the World with a Giving Heart.***

This is a conviction that has motivated the Coquitlam Foundation since we were launched in 1992. Indeed, for the past 16 years now, the Foundation has been dedicated to improving the quality of life in the community by responding to the unmet needs of residents by attracting, managing and distributing contributions.

The Foundation and the Funds managed by it have distributed some \$475,000 to charitable organizations and individuals since 1992. As well, it currently manages charitable funds worth in excess of \$1.4 million, including the Tri City Chamber of Commerce's Elite Athletes Fund.

Most recently, the Foundation and the Funds we manage distributed \$91,000 in grants and bursaries in our last fiscal year. Grant recipients include groups ranging from the Dogwood Dragon Boat Team and the B.C. Wheelchair Basketball Society, to the PoCoMo Youth Services Society and the Children of the Streets Society. As the Foundation grows, we look forward to helping meet more of Coquitlam's needs by

***Connecting Donors to the Community.***

### **So, where does this money come from?**

The Foundation receives funding from a variety of sources: a direct-access gaming grant from the provincial government; corporate and individual donors; community organizations with which it partners; and even other community foundations, such as the Vancouver Foundation. In addition, the Coquitlam Foundation holds the ...

### **Coquitlam Foundation Annual Spring Gala**

fundraising event in May each year. This past year, the *Denim and Diamonds* and Tanya Tucker Concert at Red Robinson Theatre raised over \$14,000. A very special thanks to all of the donors, supporters, and volunteers who made it a success!

Also this year, we were a participant and recipient in the

### **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Peter Legge Charity Golf Classic**

a relationship that benefited the Foundation by the score of \$23,000. A very special thanks to Peter Legge and the event volunteers, donors, and supporters!

And speaking of Peter Legge, he is our Honorary Chairperson and, as such, played a leading role, along Mayor Maxine Wilson, in our special Kickstart Campaign. Mr. Legge and Mayor Wilson have our deepest gratitude for all the time and inspiration they gave to ensure the success of the Kickstart Campaign. We are pleased to report that the campaign total stands at \$105,000, thanks to the generosity of these companies that support our community:

**The Beedie Group; BFW Developments Ltd.; Bosa Properties Inc.;**  
**The Intergulf Group of Companies; Morguard Investments Ltd.;**  
**Mosaic Homes; The Onni Group of Companies;**  
**Park Lane Homes Ltd; Polygon Homes Ltd.; Progressive Construction;**  
**Unimet Investments Ltd; Wesbild Holdings Limited;**  
**and, Wesgroup Properties.**

A very special thanks to them all! Their contributions have allowed us to take an exciting new step forward, bringing the Coquitlam Foundation to a new level by establishing the position of Executive Director. We are proud to share the news with you that we have now contracted with **Laurel Lawson**, a talented administrator and project manager who is a long-time Coquitlam resident, to take on this exciting task.

All of the Coquitlam Foundation pioneers, donors, supporters, and volunteers past and present as noted above continue to contribute greatly to our community and all stand as examples of philanthropy among us in Coquitlam. We thank all of you for helping create and continue the success of the Coquitlam Foundation in building a better community for all.

Yours truly,

Colleen Talbot  
Chair of the Coquitlam Foundation  
[www.coquitlamfoundation.com](http://www.coquitlamfoundation.com)

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