

# Volunteer Nanaimo



January 2021

3148 Barons Road, Nanaimo. BC V9T 4B5

## Dates to Remember

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
Our office reopens  
Monday, January 11 at 9 a.m.

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The Nanaimo Red Cross

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**Youth NetWork**

## Contact Us

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V9T 4B5

**Phone:** 250-758-7121

**Email:** vn3148@gmail.com

**Facebook:** 'Volunteer Nanaimo'

**Website:**

<http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca>

**Hours of Business:** Mon. to Thurs.  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



## Member of the Month

### The Nanaimo Red Cross

#### *The Canadian Red Cross*

#### *Always at the forefront of national needs!*

Across the country, the not-for-profit sector is under threat. Each door forced to close leaves vulnerable Canadians without the support they rely on. To keep these doors open, the Canadian Red Cross offers programs to support community organizations so they can continue to deliver vital services to those who are the most vulnerable to the health, social and economic impacts of COVID-19.

Since the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, the Canadian Red Cross has been on the ground supporting Canadians, which makes us uniquely placed to understand the needs of these organizations and to work with them to support their frontline personnel and service delivery to the most vulnerable.

Cont. over



"The Red Cross does amazing work. Every client has a different story and different needs, and they always appreciate access to our equipment and services."

Mary Smith  
HELP Volunteer  
Nanaimo, B.C.

[VolunteerBCY@RedCross.ca](mailto:VolunteerBCY@RedCross.ca)

## Nanaimo Red Cross cont.

Red Cross teams continue to support people and communities, even during COVID-19.

HELP Depots are set up to respect physical distancing and limit contact.

The health and safety of our teams and our clients is our top priority, and we have processes in place to keep people safe. All the while we make sure people and caregivers can access the health equipment they need to return home safely from surgery, illness or injury.

Red Cross can provide:

- Crutches
- Knee scooters
- Walkers
- Canes
- Bathroom- aids
- Wheelchairs
- Commodes
- Other specialized equipment for short term loan.

Even during COVID-19, the need for health equipment continues.

Volunteers are the heart and backbone of this organization. If you have four to eight hours per week to contribute, consider volunteering at the Red Cross Health Equipment Loan Program.

No experience is necessary and full training is provided.

Visit [www.redcross.ca/volunteer](http://www.redcross.ca/volunteer)  
call 1-844-818-2155 or email  
[volunteerBCY@redcross.ca](mailto:volunteerBCY@redcross.ca)  
for more information.



No computer at home?  
Your printer out of action?

**Log on with us!**

**We offer free computers to:**

- **Check email**
- **Print your bank statement**
- **Type and print a document**
- **Print or photocopy**  
10 cents a page – black & white  
20 cents a page – colour
- **Apply for government benefits**

**BC Recovery Benefit:  
Apply now**



**We can help you**  
with your application,  
if you have:

- Your income amount from line 23600 of your 2019 tax assessment.\*
- Your Driver's License or BCID.
- Your Social Insurance #.
- Your email address, if you have one.

*\*If we did your 2019 taxes for you,  
**we do not keep your  
tax information on file.***

**Call ahead  
to book an appointment  
250-758-7121**

**WEAR A MASK**

happy new year

Make **volunteering** your  
new year's resolution

**Call our office** and we can help  
point you in the right directions.  
250-758-7121.

Monday to Thursday, 9am - 3 pm.

mail



**Check Volunteer  
Nanaimo's website**  
to see which other local  
organizations can use  
**your help.**

[www.volunteernanaimo.ca](http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca).

*The best way to find  
yourself is to lose  
yourself in the service  
of others.*

*Mahatma Gandhi*



## **What an extraordinary Christmas season for Angels! And for our community.**

December 2020 was filled with challenges unlike any seen before. Yet we overcame all of the obstacles laid out before us, and triumphed.

**Thank You** to each and every Angel who shopped and donated gifts for any of our Angel families.

To every Angel who donated funds so that we could ensure that each registered senior, child, youth and family was given an amazing Christmas - in a year when things could not have looked bleaker for many.

On behalf of every young person tearing into a new pair of Vans, pulling a cozy new hoodie over their heads, digging into new Lego, getting a first glimpse of storybooks, slime or LOL dolls, we extend armloads of thanks!

For every senior that was surprised by unexpected and ever-so-thoughtful gifts on their doorstep - blankets, socks and even grocery gift cards for some "luxury" items they only dreamed they might have, Thank You!

Thank you to every person who said YES when we reached out to replace beds and dishes and linens and other household items.

I am in constant awe and amazement at the seemingly unending generosity of our corporate and personal neighbours and friends!

While Christmas season is slipping into the recent past, Angel season is always in full swing! We look forward to continuing the Angel tradition, and with your support, helping to brighten and improve lives across our community, throughout the year!

**Once again, sincere thanks to one and all!**

Rita Innamorati, Executive Director Volunteer Nanaimo

*Your generosity  
allowed us to  
provide gifts, household  
items and necessities to  
345 households  
(more than  
1,000 individuals)*

## Volunteer Nanaimo Youth Making a Difference!



### Happy New Year

from Youth 20/20 Can & YouthNetWork  
at Volunteer Nanaimo!

We look forward with excitement to new volunteer projects. Every one gives us the opportunity to shape our community.

In December, we started the month off with our Youth 20/20 Can Random Acts of Kindness calendar, thanks to many community members who participated in this great initiative of spreading kindness.

Next, we participated in a Zoom card-making workshop with Cowichan Youth 20/20 Can, creating 65 unique Christmas cards for Nanaimo Memory Care residents. We also hosted a gingerbread house making event for Youth 20/20 Can members from across Vancouver Island & Powell River, then held a contest for the best decorated gingerbread house judged by Youth 20/20 Can members. **Congratulations to Vivian Le** from Campbell River Youth 20/20 Can who created the winning Gingerbread house, featured in our photos.

Our next initiative to spread kindness was the creation of our 12 Days of Christmas video, which youth worked on all month. We held a COVID Parody Christmas Song contest for the video and had several entries from our youth. Every song was unique and creative. Youth also videotaped themselves doing a random act of kindness for the video.

And finally, we met on Zoom and videotaped ourselves singing the winning song "12 Days of Lockdown" written by Tom Griffin. Check out the video at <https://tinyurl.com/y3ptpgx2>. We hope it brings a smile to everyone's face who watches it! A special thank you to Kamilla Duha for editing and putting the video together.

We are always looking for new members, welcoming youth between 11-29 years old to share their ideas and passion, get connected and have fun while helping to shape our community.

If you, or anyone you know would like to join us, please contact Volunteer Nanaimo Youth Programs, call Gwen & Kamilla at Volunteer Nanaimo 250-758-7121 or email [youth2020cannanaimo@gmail.com](mailto:youth2020cannanaimo@gmail.com).



This newsletter is published monthly by Volunteer Nanaimo, which is solely responsible for its content.

[www.volunteernanaimo.com](http://www.volunteernanaimo.com)

Editor Lois Peterson.

If you'd like to know more about anything you read here, or would like to contribute material, please email us at [vn3148@volunteernanaimo.ca](mailto:vn3148@volunteernanaimo.ca) with 'Newsletter' in the subject line.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Province of British Columbia – Gaming Commission

