

Volunteer Nanaimo



March 2021

3148 Barons Road, Nanaimo. BC V9T 4B5

Dates to Remember

Closed for EASTER
Monday April 6

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



Member of the Month

The Port Theatre

Live events are an important part of the cultural and economic fabric of Canada and our community.

Like so many industries, the pandemic hit theatres hard as we were the first to shut down and will be one of the last to return to our full capacity of 800-seats.

More than ever before, the Port Theatre Society needs financial help to keep up operations and prepare for recovery. We have invested in excellent live-streaming technology and trained our staff in new ways because our industry is evolving. Showcasing important artistic work in a time of a pandemic, bringing some of the very best to our community and streaming it back out to the world, is inspiring and uplifting.

“When COVID-19 hit in March, the Port Theatre was shut down due to the public health order. As a result, we were unable to provide our youth programming. Following the August public health order, the Port Theatre was able to reopen in October 2020 to in-person audiences of 50. Our first Spotlight show, Joelle Rabu and Nico Rhodes took place on October 17, 2020. In addition, we were able to pivot and launch our first live-stream show to very satisfied patrons,” explains Bruce Halliday, General Manager / Director of Programming.

The Port Theatre experienced a second shutdown in November and December 2020. Due to the latest provincial health order, to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in-theatre audiences are not permitted.



Continued on p. 2

The Port Theatre cont.

The good news is that the Port Theatre will be able to livestream every Spotlight show this spring!

So much energy and effort goes into presenting a Spotlight season, and COVID-19 has greatly impacted our patrons, artists, sponsors, and staff. As The Port Theatre Society continues to adapt, we are now offering livestream performances with or without an in-theatre audience. During these uncertain times, no need to wonder if shows will be postponed.

We truly hope you enjoy these fabulous shows! So please join us online to celebrate live performances.

VOLUNTEER VOICES: Emmy Matte

Emmy Matte started with the Port when it first opened in 1998 and stepped down from volunteering in September of 2020, due to the public provincial health order. Emmy had accumulated 1,500 hours of volunteering over those years.

Having surmounted more than most, Emmy is a humble woman of very few words. (Thus it was challenging to gain much background life information).

Her passionate love of music, originally brought her to the VI Symphony as a volunteer usher at St. Peters Church. When the Symphony moved its performances to the new Port Theatre, Emmy simply went along with them.

Here began a long-standing relationship. Emmy thought nothing of doing three performance shifts a month. Traveling from Gabriola for the first many years, then having moved to Parksville, she added an even longer commute to her volunteer job.

Emmy's love of productions has kept her happy in this commitment. She loved to help make the public's Port Theatre experience a most enjoyable one. And she enjoyed the closeness of this large group of volunteers, as a strong social connection.

"I witnessed its growing pains in the beginning years, and look what it has become! A major cultural venue that all of us volunteers are very proud of. May the Port Theatre stand for many years," Emmy Matte says.



Volunteer Nanaimo Services



No computer at home?

Log on with us!

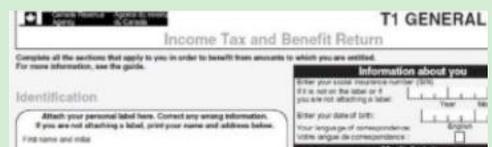
We offer free computers to:

- **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**

We can help you apply for the BC Recovery Benefit

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.



Now Available

Tax Return Service

for low income clients

We can help you with your simple tax return.

Friday and Saturday appointments.

**Call ahead
to book an appointment
for any of the above services
250-758-7121**



Family Day Gift Pack Giveaway

Despite the surprise February blizzard, our Family Day Giveaway was a great success!

49 families braved the snow and nearly 100 children and young people picked up books and games to enjoy at home!

We look forward to serving out community at our...



Our Angel Network Crafters

welcome donations of washable yarn to knit into squares that are pieced together into blankets for babies, seniors, anyone moving into a new home...

Call us at 250-758-7121
Or drop them off at 3148 Barons Road
Monday to Thursday, 9am to 3pm.



Family Fling Into Spring!

Surprise Activity!

Prizes!

Goody Bags!

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday March 21, 22, 23
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 3148 Barons Road

Check our website www.volunteernanaimo.ca or our Facebook page 'Volunteer Nanaimo' for more details.

As always, **Volunteer Nanaimo follows all COVID safety protocols.**

Masks must be work on our premises, social distancing rules apply, and only ONE FAMILY will be permitted to 'fling' inside our offices at a time.



See you there!

Volunteer Nanaimo Youth Making a Difference!



Youth 20/20 Can & Youth NetWork of Volunteer Nanaimo

Thank you to everyone who participated in our **Youth 20/20 Can Neighbourhood Clean-Up** event. Alone, we might just be one. But together we can make a huge difference.

In February, Youth 20/20 Can members created beautiful Valentine's Day cards for the staff at Chartwell Malaspina Resident Care. We wanted the staff there to know that we appreciate everything they are doing to keep our seniors safe. If we could, we would make cards for all the frontline workers. We see what you are doing and sincerely appreciate you.

At Volunteer Nanaimo we have two youth programs, Youth 20/20 Can & Youth NetWork. **Youth NetWork** members - between 11-18 years old - usually volunteer at events in the community but with no in-person events right now, members collaborate with **Youth 20/20 Can** members - between the ages of 15-29 - to engage in online projects, discussions and fun activities.

COMING UP: In the course of the **Living in Colour Mental Wellness Workshop Series** for youth, six community members will present workshops on Resiliency, Living with Anxiety, Coping Skills, Stress Management, Time Management & Standing Up to Depression. The series will take place over a three-week period on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Check out the adjacent poster for more information, and feel free to share it. This event is free and we invite all youth between 15-29 to come learn with us. We will also be hosting a communications workshop on **Getting The Word Out**, and a Spring Break Workshop with WorkBC on **Basic Interviews and Setting Yourself Up For Success**.

As you can see, we have a lot going on.

We are always excited to welcome new members to both Youth 20/20 Can and Youth NetWork!

If you would like to join us or if you know of someone in this age group who is looking for something new in 2021, we would love to hear from you. Email us at

youth2020cannanaimo@gmail.com
volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com



LIVING IN COLOUR Youth Mental Wellness Workshop Series

Zoom code to the conferences:
ID: 840 9757 2582 Passcode: youth2020

AGES 15 - 29
WELCOME

Speakers:	Time : 7 pm
Living with Anxiety - Dr. Derek Poteryko	March 16
Resiliency - Heather McPhee	March 18
Time Management - Sarah Marshall	March 23
Standing up to Depression - Ashley Clarke	March 25
Stress Management - Lyndsay Wells VICS	March 30
Coping Skills - Laura Braun	April 1

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

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 with 'Newsletter' in the subject line.

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

