

Volunteer Nanaimo



October 2022

3148E Barons Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 4B5

Dates to Remember

Our office is CLOSED for
Thanksgiving
Monday, October 10



In This Issue

p.1 *Member of the Month:*
**Vancouver Island
Symphony Society**

p.2 **Volunteer Nanaimo
Ongoing services**

p.3 **Angel Network**

p.4 **YouthCan 20/20
Youth NetWork**

Contact Us

3148E Barons Road,
Nanaimo, BC 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

Vancouver Island Symphony Society

The Vancouver Island Symphony (VIS) is one of two professional orchestras on Vancouver Island. The VIS presents an annual season of world-class orchestral performances at the Port Theatre.

In addition, the VIS annually performs a series of three concerts at the Sid Williams Theatre in Courtenay and at the Tidemark Theatre in Campbell River.

By attracting professional musicians and soloists from across the country, offering special education and community concerts and programming, and engaging active donors and volunteers, the VIS serves as a creative asset to the many communities of the growing Central Island area. Its wide-reaching audience and commitment to education are helping to *Keep Music Live!* and foster the next generation of audiences and performers.

The VIS currently has 34 core musicians who travel from various communities on Vancouver Island, Greater Vancouver and British Columbia to play onstage together each month.

The VIS engages numerous volunteers throughout the year, primarily during the active season from October to April. Volunteers



help in the office with mail-outs, at special events and fund-raisers, at our Education Concerts to usher in the school groups; with back-stage hospitality at the concerts, and out in the community engaged in marketing and advocacy activities.

continued over...

Vancouver Island Symphony Society *cont.*

The VIS also enjoys the commitment of a volunteer board of directors. These volunteer directors bring their expertise in governance, policy and fiduciary responsibility to the organization on a monthly basis.

Throughout the last two years of the pandemic, volunteers helped the VIS clean up the office records, and do mail-outs.

The return to a more recognizable season in October 2022 will allow the VIS to engage with its volunteers in a more active and rewarding way.

New volunteers are always welcome by contacting the VIS Office at 250.754.0177.



Website and program schedule:
<https://www.vancouverislandsymphony.com>



Volunteer Nanaimo Ongoing Services

TAX CLINICS

Offered once a month on Fridays.

Call 250-758-7121 for information or to book an appointment.



WATCHDOG Computer Services

Technical support for non-profit agencies and individuals within our community.

Offered by donation - plus cost if parts are purchased.

We welcome donations of used computers - **especially laptops** - which are refurbished and redistributed to members of the community.

More information: 250-758-7121.



Do you, a parent, grandparent or loved one have interesting memories and life stories to share? Do you have time to visit and share stories with a senior?

If you answered 'Yes' to one of these questions, then our **Hand in Hand Generational Storytelling Project** is for you!

Developed by Volunteer Nanaimo with a grant from New Horizons, our vision is to engage seniors by developing personal connections and story telling opportunities with avid listener volunteers.

The volunteer creates a written and/or digital memento for the senior to share with their family and friends, connecting with seniors through phone calls, FaceTime chats, and when permitted, in-person visits.

For more information or to register, **seniors interested in participating should contact Michelle** at 250-713-9630, **potential volunteers call Gwen** at 250-667-1803 or email handinhandnanaimo@gmail.com.





With fall headed soon into winter, we're gearing up for our annual **Christmas Angels** program, which provides an important service to individuals, families and seniors in our community over the Christmas session.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

GET CRAFTING!

Our Second Annual Christmas Craft Fair will take place **Saturday, December 3**



Table rental \$25.00

All proceeds benefit our Christmas programs.

Contact vnanaimo@gmail.com for more information or to **book a table:**
vnanaimo@gmail.com
250-758-7121

You might choose to help in one of several ways.

- ★ Let us know if you are aware of any commercial space that we might use as collection, sorting and distribution space for this program.
- ★ Plan with your family or co-workers to 'Adopt' a family or individual, youth, individual adult or family.
- ★ Make a donation to help fulfill the wishes of Christmas Angel clients... via eTransfer to vnanaimo@gmail.com or in person at our office.
- ★ Contribute gift cards, movie passes or small gifts.
- ★ **CONTACT US** at vnanaimo@gmail.com or 250-758-7121. Or check our website for updates and more information: www.volunteernanaimo.ca.

Angel Crafters

is in search of experienced knitters or crocheters to put together our donated squares into blankets.

Please call 250-758-7121 to sign up.

*We're always accepting yarn for our crafters!
Washable sayelle/acrylic, please.*



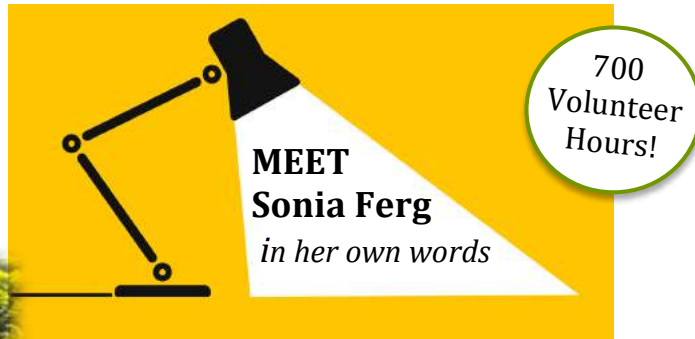
Helping Hands
It's the Little Things



We seek volunteers who are willing to give a helping hand to seniors and challenged individuals in our community with special requests. De-cluttering, home and garden work, packing, short errands...

For more information
250-758-7121 or
vnhelpinghandsvolunteer@gmail.com

Volunteer Nanaimo Youth Making a Difference!



"I joined Youth 20/20 in September 2019, but I have always liked to give back to the community ever since I started volunteering at 15 - with Youth Network. I have met amazing people through community service, and it is nice to see everyone benefit from our work.

Volunteering means a lot to me. I get a sense of purpose when I help out others. It makes a person's day to give people your time, which I think is the most precious thing of all.

My favourite experience was planning a music and craft event at a dementia care home. I noticed that some people who were not as verbal started responding when I played music or did crafts with them. It was amazing to see their joyful, smiling faces. I also enjoyed planning the annual Halloween for Hunger Event where we collect food for Loaves and Fishes, and the International Night during which everyone brought a dish

from their background, and we talked about our culture and heritage.

Before joining this group, I was unsure about how to organize events. But I have since learned some valuable leadership and communication skills, helping coordinate the volunteers through email and zoom. I have also learned to create promotional materials and plan events, learned about time management, developing my social skills as I have met like-minded people, becoming more I have become confident in my abilities as a volunteer.

I think it is very important to give through acts of charity. Everyone should be grateful for everything that we have and be willing to help our environment and everyone around us. It is critical to be kind and compassionate.

I have also learned is that if you have a project or passion you should go for it and make it happen. Every idea counts and can become something significant. "

To learn about our youth programs and activities:

Follow our Instagram and Facebook pages

@youth2020cannanaimo and @volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork.

For more information email: youth2020cannanaimo@gmail.com or volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com



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

www.volunteernanaimo.ca

Editor Lois Peterson.

If you'd to know more about anything you read here, or would like to contribute material, please email us at vn3148@gmail.com with 'Newsletter' in the subject line.

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

