

# Volunteer Nanaimo



January 2025

## Dates to Remember

**We are CLOSED**  
December 20 – Jan 3

**Reopening**  
**Monday, Jan 6**



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## Contact Us

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Email: [vn3148@gmail.com](mailto:vn3148@gmail.com)

Facebook: 'Volunteer Nanaimo'

Website:

<http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca>

**Hours of Business:**  
**Mon. to Thurs. 9am to 3pm**



## A HUGE THANK YOU to our Christmas Angels

This year Christmas Angels,  
one of our longstanding and most significant programs,  
served more than 1,700 individuals and over 500 households.

Making the holiday season a little brighter  
and happier for everyone.



**We couldn't do it without you.**

*See over*

# THANK YOU to all



**MANY THANKS to all those who supported our families, individuals, seniors and vulnerable youth in this year's Christmas Angels program.**



The impact you make cannot be measured, as it ripples throughout the future years in the lives of all of those touched.

Every donation and contribution is so appreciated, and we hope leaves a warm spot in your own hearts, knowing the positive impact you have made in someone's life.

THANK YOU to the community organizations and teams for the time required to vet and submit our families to be sponsored.

THANKS ALSO to all of our volunteers, wrappers, drivers and shoppers who put in the extra hours and efforts to ensure that every last hamper went out, right up until Christmas Eve!

*(To protect the privacy of our clients, all images used are stock photos.)*

Our annual  
SPRING FLING  
event begins soon.

Join us for our Fling into Spring activity! Starting on February 17<sup>th</sup> (10 a.m.- 2 p.m.) you can pick up your activity sheets at our office. Drop back with completed sheets March 10 - 15<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. to choose a gift and enter to win one of our grand prizes (to be announced in our February newsletter!)





## Silver Adventures Cafe

# January 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 1-3pm	Wednesday	Thursday 1-3pm	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3	4
5	6	7 Understanding Stress, Self-Care and when to ask for help	8	9 Line Dancing <i>*Note at the Moose Hall</i>	10	11
12	13	14 Bingo <i>*Note at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church</i>	15	16 Paper Art Play	17	18
19	20	21 Tech Talk with Chris	22	23 Cultural Experience Chile	24	25
26	27	28 Service Project	29	30 Scrabble & Puzzle Day		



All events at Volunteer Nanaimo 3148 Barons Rd. unless otherwise noted.  
Please RSVP to [silveradventurescafe@gmail.com](mailto:silveradventurescafe@gmail.com)



For more information visit [www.volunteernanaimo.ca](http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca) under the seniors tab or call Gwen at 250-667-1803

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED - LIMITED PARKING**

# TELUS Friendly Future Foundation and the City of Nanaimo lead the way in supporting our fundraising efforts to support the YouthNetwork in 2025



*Thank you to both TELUS and the City of Nanaimo for their invaluable support.*

**Volunteer Nanaimo's YouthNetwork** has been creating meaningful change in our community since 2001. This program offers individuals aged 11-29 opportunities to volunteer, develop essential life skills, and make a lasting impact. Youth lead and organize events in collaboration with community partners to address local needs.

In the past year alone, YouthNetwork volunteers contributed an incredible 5,505 hours to Nanaimo through various impactful initiatives. Some of their achievements include:

- Organizing a coat drive to collect warm clothing for people experiencing homelessness.
- Hosting a Wisdom of Trauma movie screening and panel discussion, fostering a more compassionate, trauma-informed community.
- Establishing a native plant garden at Beaufort Park and maintaining their adopted Diver Lake Park.

**The YouthNetwork program operates with an annual budget of \$65,000.** We continue to seek further support in our efforts of achieving this goal in 2025. Funding allows us to continue to create inclusive spaces for youth, recruit participants, and collaborate with local organizations to deliver impactful projects. It also supports skill-building workshops that help youth gain personal development and employment skills.

In doing so, young volunteers gain essential life skills, develop resilience and self-confidence, and create meaningful connections - all the while contributing to their community.

**We are actively seeking more supporters to help sustain and grow this program.**

**Here's how you can contribute:**

### **Become a Major Sponsor**

With a commitment of \$500 per month for two years, you'll enjoy exclusive sponsorship benefits, including:

- Recognition as a **Major Sponsor** in marketing materials and social media campaigns.
- Updates on program progress, tailored to your preferences.
- Opportunities to host YouthNetwork staff at your events to showcase the program's impact and your contribution.

### **Make a Major Donation**

If you prefer, you can contribute as a Major Donor and receive a tax receipt for your generous support.

**Make an individual donation of any amount.**

To learn more or to become a sponsor, contact us directly at 250-268-8669 or [volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com)

***Together, we can continue empowering Nanaimo's youth  
to build a brighter future for themselves and our community.***

*See the next page to learn more about how youth engage in this important program,  
and recent activities in the community.*

# Volunteer Nanaimo Youth Making a Difference!

*Volunteer Nanaimo offers young people the opportunity to develop leadership skills while making a positive impact in the community through volunteering.*

## Happy New Year from Volunteer Nanaimo's YouthNetwork!

As we welcome 2025, we want to thank everyone who supported us in creating positive change throughout 2024. Let's look back at the success of our December *Coats for Christmas* clothing drive.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Nanaimo community, we collected over **1,800 warm clothing items!** These much-needed donations are now being distributed by the Salvation Army New Hope Centre, bringing comfort and warmth to individuals in need.

### Get Involved with YouthNetwork

Are you between the ages of 11 and 29 and eager to make a positive impact in your community? Join YouthNetwork!

We offer **free, year-round, and inclusive programming** designed to empower young people. Whether you're volunteering at community events, collaborating on youth-led initiatives that address local needs, or participating in workshops and skill-building opportunities, YouthNetwork is the perfect place to grow both personally and professionally.

For more information, email us at [volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:volunteernanaimo.youthnetwork@gmail.com).

We also invite community groups, non-profit organizations, and businesses to partner with us. If you're interested in collaborating on initiatives that benefit youth and the community, we would love to hear from you.



*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."*  
Helen Keller



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

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

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@gmail.com](mailto:vn3148@gmail.com) with 'Newsletter' in the subject line.

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