# A Year to Forget A Holiday Season to Remember

A lot of things didn't happen in 2020. They were postponed or cancelled because...well, you know why.

The Richmond Christmas Fund could have been among them. But, against all odds, it wasn't. Thanks to a remarkable outpouring of community generosity, the Christmas Fund went ahead, and as a result, **2,866 of our neighbours in need** experienced the magic and joy of a holiday celebration.

To run the program safely, we completely re-imagined it. We registered clients online, over Zoom. Families were given specific times to come and pick up their items – a combination of toys, books, grocery vouchers, and gift cards, all pre-packaged based on household size and composition. Distribution happened almost entirely outdoors, with volunteers donning gloves, masks, and face shields, and interacting with clients from behind acrylic barriers. We went through gallons of hand sanitizer.

Those are the logistics, the steps we took simply to run the Christmas Fund. The other part of the story – the most important part – is the way in which the community came together and rallied around our cause. We were overwhelmed and overjoyed by the support we received.

The Richmond RCMP held their annual toy drive, turning it into a drive-through event. They collected more donations than ever before – enough to fill four storage lockers.

The Richmond Auto Mall's Windows of Hope fundraiser couldn't happen in person, but dealerships, suppliers, and sponsors still contributed to the Christmas Fund. In fact, they set a new record, giving \$40,250.

And a committee of 12 community leaders, headed by Wayne Duzita, Rob Howard, and Michael Chiu, organized the Christmas Fund's first ever online auction, A Not So Isolated Night. More than 120 people participated, and the digital event raised over \$36,000.

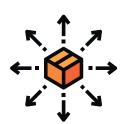
There are so many donors to recognize, so many volunteers to thank, so many supporters to acknowledge. That's the part that overwhelms us. In 2020, we put out a call for help, because we needed it like never before. And the community's response was so resounding that we can never fully express our gratitude.

During a global pandemic, at the end of an exhausting year, the Christmas Fund happened, made possible not by a miracle, but the collective effort of an entire community. Richmond's giving spirit has never burned brighter.





## 2020 Richmond Christmas Fund The Story in Numbers



**9** Distribution Days



2,866 People Helped

Comprising

849 Children319 Youth347 Seniors

**1,351** Adults



6,000 Toys Given Out



**71** Volunteers **1,359** Hours Contributed



**334** Donors



#### Countless

Masks, Gloves and Bottles of Hand Sanitizer

## The Christmas Fund's Angels

This past year, 334 individuals and businesses made monetary donations to the Christmas Fund. Every dollar mattered, and helped create a holiday celebration that a Richmond family will cherish forever.

There are eight donors, however, whose generosity went above and beyond. Their gifts, of \$10,000 or more, were the foundation of the Christmas Fund's success. Some were long-time partners. Others were new supporters. Together, they're our **2020 Angel Donors**, and they made Santa proud.



















## The Richmond Christmas Fund **Giving Tree**

\$15,000 Richmond Realtors

## \$1,000 - \$2,499

- Alvin Chow
- ANAF 284 Steveston
- Banh Mi Tres Bon
- Bryan Wevers
- Bryce Rositch
- Campbell Froh May & Rice LLP
  - Chong Lee Market
  - Conway Richmond
  - CUPE Local 394,

Richmond Outside Workers

- Eda Koot
- FortisBC
- Gilmore Gardens Residents Council
  - Goodwyn Enterprises
  - James and Christine Tyrer
    - Jordan George
      - Joy May
    - Lee Howarth
    - Lisa Wong
    - London Drugs,

IT/Project Management Department

- Mar-Con Wire Belt
  - Michael Chiu
- Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation
  - Patti Martin
  - Phyton Biotech
    - Shay Keil
  - SmartCentres
  - Steveston Smiles
  - Terry and Linda McPhail
- Transpacific International Services
  - Vijay Sidhu











Richmond Auto Mall's Windows of Hope





Auto West Group

Windows of Hope

- Herbaland
- Pacific Gateway Hotel
- Platinum Pro-Claim
- Richmond Auto Mall Association
  - Sage Foundation
  - TD Bank Group

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

- Canadian Tire Ironwood
- Canadian Tire No. 3 Road
- City of Richmond Employees
  - Ian Pak Yen Law
- Richmond Pentecostal Church Child Care Society
- The Province Empty Stocking Fund

### \$2,500 - \$4,999

- Coast Capital Savings
- Dorset Realty Group
- Gilmore Park United Church
  - Granby Enterprises
- Kiwanis Club of Richmond
  - Manitoulin Transport
    - McDonald's
  - New Coast Lifestyles
- Penta Builders Group
- Poly Culture North America
  - Rubina Hope for Kids
- Summit International Trade Services



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