

For Immediate Release

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PANDEMIC OF KINDNESS

By Susan Cairns

There's a Pandemic of Kindness sweeping throughout the Langley School District and Community. Its reach is far and wide and perhaps more contagious than CO-VID 19. Symptoms to look for include feverish generosity, a rash of benevolence and heart-warming flutters of activity.

Let's explore the evidence. The first percolations of the pandemic erupted on March 17 when the Langley School District Foundation realized that students would be without a source of regular meals. So, with the help of dozens of businesses, corporations, associations and individuals, the Foundation made a commitment to continue on with their Food for Thought Programs, even during the suspension of in-class instruction.

The Pandemic of Kindness manifested itself in a series of unprecedented donations. Infinity Properties immediately sent out a challenge to all their vendors and suppliers, and they responded with an ensuing donation of more than \$25,000. Then Spake Media threw down the gauntlet and dozens were there to match the \$10,000 challenge.

And it didn't stop there. The Foundation received grants from Vancouver Sun Adopt-a-School, Breakfast Club of Canada, Loblaws and Save-On Foods, amounting to more than \$150,000. At the same time donations kept coming in from a never-ending list: VWR Capital, Shewan Foundation, Western Water Farms, Premium Brands, Horizon Landscape, Envision Financial, Darnell & Co. Law, Valley Traffic, Mitsubishi, Langley Advance/Times, Viaduct Sheet Metal, CHP Architects, Township of Langley, United Churches of Langley, Township of Langley Firefighters Charity, Langley Rotary Sunrise, Aldergrove Rotary, Tzu Chi Foundation, Beatniks Restaurant, Sudden Impact, BIZ Canada, Freshco, Super Save Group, Re/Max, Fred Welsh Industries, Jewish Foundation, Langley Advance/Times and the Langley Principal Vice-Principal Association (LPVPA).

The Foundation is profoundly grateful to all its donors, but we still need help. We started the program on April 6, 2020 and are now into our 11th week. We are spending more the \$32,500 every week with a commitment to continue on with our program until September or October of next year and maybe beyond. Please donate if you can to www.langleyschoolschooldistrictfoundation.com.

To see the Student Success section in Langley Advance/Times <https://bit.ly/3eyuNi1>

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