



AN ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cowichan REALTORS® Assisting The Needy

NANAIMO, BC – They had a good time, and dug deep to help the less fortunate members of the community, at the annual Vancouver Island Real Estate Board (VIREB) Zone Christmas Luncheon. Held December 2 in Duncan, the Cowichan Valley REALTORS® donated a pile of unwrapped presents for the Salvation Army’s yearly Toy Drive and \$775.00 to the Cowichan Valley Basket Society – the operators of the local food bank. “We’ve got a great bunch of people here,” said Zone Director Jason Finlayson. “People who work hard to give back to the community they’re a part of.”

Held at the Cowichan Meadows Golf & Country Club, more than 100 REALTORS® turned out to enjoy a meal, to mingle with their peers and to assist the Basket Society. In operation for more than 20 years, the Cowichan Valley Basket Society operates both a food bank – providing monthly hampers for families in need and a soup and sandwich kitchen six days per week. The funds raised came through table donations from the REALTORS® in attendance. Finlayson also announced a \$3,000 bursary to Vancouver Island University (VIU) Cowichan Campus that was being funded by the local REALTORS®.

“The funds, to be divided over a three year period, will go to students in the region who are in need of financial assistance to continue their studies,” he said. “VIU will be matching the first year’s \$1,000 donation, making it a \$2,000 sum for the first year.”

The presents collected by the Cowichan REALTORS® were delivered to the Salvation Army office later in the day by REALTORS® Cliff and Barbara Moberg along with Zone Director Finlayson. The gifts are to be wrapped and distributed to families throughout the region.

One of the speakers at the event, VIREB President Jim Stewart, was on hand to thank the local REALTORS® for their ongoing contribution to the community, and to sum up his term as President which concludes at the end of the year.

An additional bequest for support came from Century 21 REALTOR® Wendy Shaw who spoke at the Luncheon asking for donations of tents and warm clothing for those residents lacking adequate shelter. “These people need help, and if you have any old tents or clothing you’re not using, your donation would be appreciated.”

“These are challenging times,” Finlayson said. “But the Cowichan Valley is full of people, like these ones here, willing to help.”

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