



Lotus Light Charity Society

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PRESS RELEASE

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Lotus Light's 2017 Annual Winter Charity Drive: Sleeping Bags, Winter Care Packages to Vancouver's Street Homeless Public Appeal for Donations

Lotus Light Charity Society (Vancouver) is pleased to announce its upcoming **2017 Annual Charity Winter Drive**, which distributes much needed sleeping bags and winter emergency care packages to Vancouver's street homeless through our community partners throughout the cold winter months.

On **Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 2:00pm**, Lotus Light Charity Society will present to representatives of the *Vancouver Police Department's Homeless Outreach Program* and the *BC Ambulance Service* and other organizations with a donation of thousands of sleeping bags and winter care packages. At **2:30pm**, there will be a public distribution of sleeping bags and winter care packages directly to the street homeless at Lotus Light Charity's head office, 347 E. Hastings Street, Vancouver. Lotus Light welcomes our community volunteers, partners and local media to attend this annual community caring event!

Vancouver Police Constable Aly Smith, Homeless Outreach Coordinator wrote, "Many people who experience homelessness are not connected to the Downtown Eastside and when they were given one of these sleeping bags, you could see the hope in their eyes. They knew they would be kept warm and they knew there was a community who cared."

Lotus Light Society's 2017 Annual Winter Charity Drive, now in its 22nd year, relies on financial and in-kind donations from individuals and corporate supporters. To-date, over 300,000 winter garments (toques, scarves, gloves, socks) including new sleeping bags, non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products have been distributed to benefit the impoverished and homeless in the Lower Mainland.

"The greatest thing we can do is to help someone in need. Let's work together to bring warmth and hope to help the homeless survive the cold this winter," said Buddhist Master Lian Tzi, President of Lotus Light.

Lotus Light's *2017 Annual Winter Charity Drive* sincerely appreciates the sponsorship support from: **Nester Market Yaletown, London Drug, Superstore Metrotown, Price Smart Richmond, Army & Navy Dan-D-Pak, Produce Terminal, Direct Liquidation, and more proud sponsors!**

In the spirit of its motto "Through caring and learning, we help to build a better tomorrow" Lotus Light Charity Society (Vancouver) is a registered non-profit charity dedicated to helping the most vulnerable in our local community.

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