



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)'s **2017 Annual Charity Winter Drive** is now in full holiday gear, distributing much needed sleeping bags and winter emergency care packages to Vancouver's street homeless through our community partners now and 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 40,000 items for Winter Charity Drive 2017. At **2:30pm**, there will be a public distribution of hundreds of sleeping bags, winter care packages and food 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. This Christmas season, Lotus Light will donate 40,000 items of clothes, winter garments (toques, scarves, gloves, socks) including new sleeping bags, non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products 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: **Nesters Market Yaletown, London Drugs, St. Germain Bakery, Pine House Bakery Kingsway, Superstore Grandview Highway & Metrotown, Costco Richmond & Downtown, 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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