

Lotus Light Charity Society

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Press Release May 31, 2024

2024 Lotus Light Community Caring Day Event for Vancouver DTES Community and Homeless

Lotus Light Charity Society (Vancouver) is hosting its 8th Annual Lotus Light Community Caring Day on Saturday, July 20th, 2024 @ 1:00 PM at Lotus Light Charity Society's headquarters at 347 East Hastings Street. Lotus Light Charity, together with our corporate sponsors and community partners will distribute free BBQ lunch, food hampers and personal care items to over 1,000 people in the area, lowincome individuals and families, seniors, women, children, youth and the homeless.

Every July, **Lotus Light Community Caring Day** brings together individuals, businesses, neighborhood groups, and community service volunteer groups to raise awareness and provide resources and support to the most vulnerable members of our local Downtown Eastside community.

THANK YOU FOR CARING! Lotus Light Community Caring Day is thankful for the continued support of the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver Police Department, the Strathcona Community Policing Centre (SCPC), Chinese Community Policing Centre (CCPC), Grandview-Woodland Community Policing Centre (GWCPC), Vancouver Aboriginal Community Policing Centre (VACPC), MLA Joan Phillip (Vancouver-Mount Pleasant), Vancouver City Councilors Pete Fry and Lenny Zhou, and event sponsors Superstore, St. Germain Bakery, Freshpoint, Save-On-Foods, Wholesale Club, Starbuck, Ba Le Deli, Terra Breads, Pink Pearl Chinese Restaurant, Golden Seafood Restaurant, New Town Bakery, and more.

PUBLIC DONATIONS WELCOME! The Lotus Light Charity Society (Vancouver) welcomes financial donations to strengthen our continued operations to deliver essential services and programs to our community's neediest members. We are grateful for any in-kind donations in assisting the work we do. Charity tax receipts are available for donations of \$20 or more. We accept cash or cheque donations payable to: Lotus Light Charity Society or by Visa or Mastercard, or by online donation through our website: www.vllcs.org/en/donation/. Charitable Registration BN 14110-4893-RR0001

For more information or to find out how you can contribute to the "2024 Lotus Light Community Caring Day" project, please contact us at:

LOTUS LIGHT CHARITY SOCIETY

#200-357 Hastings Street East Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1P3 Tel: 604-685-5548 Fax: 604-605-1002 Email: Ilcsvancouver@gmail.com, Website: www.vllcs.org Donations of any amount are welcomed!



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Lotus Light Charity Society's Mission

The Lotus Light Charity Society aims to promote a stronger community from its motto "through caring and learning, we help to build a better tomorrow" and relies on financial and in-kind donations from individuals and corporate sponsors to support the charity's multi-faceted services and programs (social assistance, education, medical assistance, and cultural awareness).

For the past 31 years, the Lotus Light Charity Society (LLCS) has proudly served Vancouver's most vulnerable residents, including low-income families, children, seniors, and the homeless. The Lotus Light Annual Winter Charity Drive has provided sleeping bags, emergency food and winter care packages to various homeless shelters and non-profit groups in our local community. In the 2023 winter season, over 50,000 winter care items have been distributed through our community partners collectively over the winter months. Lotus Light Emergency Soup Kitchen, established in summer 2020 to meet the food needs of vulnerable groups in DTES community, continues preparing meals twice a week to help the homeless in our community and the low income seniors and elders living in SRO building. More than 40,000 meals have been prepared and distributed to help the vulnerable groups in DTES community. The LLCS (Covid-19) Community Caring Drive has distributed over 530,000 lbs. of much needed foods across the lower mainland and tens thousands of affected families and individual benefited from the program. The LLCS Scholarship Program has been providing scholarships to support over 260 financially disadvantaged students who have achieved both academic excellence and exceptional community service. The LLCS Annual Rice Donation Program has contributed over 385,000 pounds of rice to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank and other community service organizations, helping more than 100,000 beneficiary families over the last 28 years. The Lotus Light Children Assistance Plan supports students from low-income family in inner-city schools with non-perishable foods, household necessities and grocery gift cards. The program has donated a total of \$22,000 gift cards benefit hundreds of impoverished students since 2021, and donated over 60,000 lbs of grocery foods since 2013.

Every summer, *Lotus Light Community Caring Day* brings together individuals, businesses, neighborhood groups, and community service volunteer groups to raise awareness and provide resources and support to the most vulnerable members of our local Downtown Eastside community. On July 8th, 2017 at Oppenheimer Park located in the heart of the Downtown Eastside's Strathcona Chinatown neighborhood, the first annual *"Lotus Light Community Caring Day"* was officially proclaimed by the Deputy Mayor of Vancouver, City Councillor Tim Stevenson to recognize Lotus Light Charity Society's excellent community service in the local community amongst a gathering crowd of over 1,000 people.

Lotus Light Charity Society charitable registration # (BN 14110-4893-RR0001)