



2006 Annual Report

Message from the President- Scott Fraser

Six months have gone by since our last AGM and, as president, I am pleased to report that a tremendous amount of work has been accomplished. Just to name a few of the highpoints: program numbers have doubled, new collateral materials have been developed and circulated regionally, and perhaps most importantly, the society is fiscally strong and stable.

The Board is particularly heartened that some of the past volunteer grandparents are once again connecting with new grandchildren. The wealth of experience that these individuals bring to the programs will no doubt help the society to grow to yet another level of success. As for the impact on the youth and on the greater community, only time will tell the magnitude of the difference this program will make. Be assured that Volunteer Grandparents is here to stay and on a daily basis is actively making a difference.

As for the staff, there is no doubt in the Board's mind that Volunteer Grandparents is firmly on a path to rebuilding a strong and prosperous organization that is focused on meeting the needs of families, and our volunteers. I feel very confident that 2007 is a turning point for our organization that will see Volunteer Grandparents revitalized and ready

to face new challenges into the future.



One of our wonderful volunteers

Message from the Program Coordinator- Veronica Spiess

Now that Volunteer Grandparents has a stronger foundation, it is an exciting time of expansion and growth for our non profit organization. I am excited to announce that there have been several new family- grandparent matches and school- grandparent matches. By building trust and confidence in existing matches and supporting and encouraging new matches, we can ensure that our mission to 'bridge and enrich the generations' will be achieved.

Our new advertising materials have been distributed throughout the Lower Mainland to different community centres. Furthermore, program exposure has been gained by attending volunteer fairs and participating in information presentations. Additionally, with the help of three Terry Fox Secondary student volunteers, our website is being updated and renewed. Pictures of our intergenerational connections and stories of positive matches will be shared on our website in order to help inspire more participants to get involved with our programs and realize the societal benefits that flow from our extended family connections.

I know that you are wondering, how can I help keep the momentum going? Firstly, if you are a volunteer grandparent or family involved with our organization, you can encourage your friends to get involved too. Share your personal success stories and achievements. How have you made a difference in someone else's life? What kind of personal benefits have you gained through your intergenerational connection? Secondly, you can become a member or make a donation. Your financial contribution will ensure the continued success of making new multigenerational matches.

As I reflect on my second calendar year as the Program Coordinator, I am continually impressed and inspired by the personal stories of successful intergenerational matches. The level of commitment from our volunteers and families is truly amazing. Thank you to the Board, my office colleagues, and all of our wonderful volunteers and families who are involved with the Volunteer Grandparents Organization.