

2007 Annual Report



Message from the President- Scott Fraser

Volunteer Grandparents is an organization on the mend! After coming to the brink of disappearing only two years ago, VG is growing stronger every day.

Dave and Veronica have restored programs, rebuilt relationships and refocused the organization on what it does best: bringing together families with the caring, nurturing individuals we know as Volunteer Grandparents.

Volunteer Grandparents is an organization with a long history and one particularly challenging chapter behind us. As we turn to a new page I can only see great things ahead for Volunteer Grandparents in 2008.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Scott Fraser'.



A granddaughter with her volunteer grandmother at the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Message from the Program Coordinator- Veronica Grossi

2007 was a year of continued growth for our non-profit organization. Our mission to 'bridge and enrich the generations' by fostering intergenerational understanding, communication and cooperation between the generations is achieved through our Family Match Program and the School Grandparent Program. Supporting existing connections and creating new matches was accomplished throughout the year.

Considerable program exposure was gained by the diverse array of media coverage in 2007. Not only did we have articles published in Good Times Magazine, the Burnaby Now and the North Shore News, but we were also featured on CBC radio, CMFL 107.9 and CTV with Pamela Martin. Additionally, presentations were made in a number of different public venues to help gain program exposure and to continue to recruit new families and volunteers.

To recognize the importance of our volunteers and the wonderful connections with the children and the families, we held a picnic at Confederation Park on August 3rd. There were over 60 people who attended including: office staff, board members, volunteer grandparents who have been matched with families, unmatched volunteers, families, and unmatched families.

We have many positive things to look forward to in the upcoming year as well. Securing our new office site located at 203- 2101 Holdom was an amazing feat. We will now be accessible by sky train! Secondly, new funding from the New Horizons for Seniors will enable more opportunities for our volunteers to connect with each other through informational workshops.

Volunteer Grandparents is very fortunate to be one of the charities affiliated with the Lower Mainland Charities Association (LMCA). The funds received from the Boardwalk Gaming Centre at Highgate Mall in Burnaby helps Volunteer Grandparents provide our programs to senior volunteers and families.

The level of commitment from our volunteers and families is truly amazing. I would like to thank the Board, Dave Baspaly, my office colleagues, and all of our wonderful volunteers and families for your involvement with the Volunteer Grandparents Organization.