

## Thank you

We would like to thank all of our funders, partners, donors, and supporters. We also want to thank those donors who wish to remain anonymous. Know that your generosity and financial support goes a long way in helping us continue to deliver our programs and services and was a large part of making 2018 such a great success.

## Our Funders

Province of BC: Community Gaming Branch  
Government of Canada: Canada Summer Jobs

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Mr. Paul Florio and the Florio Bursary Program  
Kids Up Front (Vancouver)  
Volunteer Burnaby

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## Our Donors & Supporters

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Vancouver Community College Faculty Association  
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra  
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Whole Foods Market  
WorkSafeBC: Helping Hands



# Annual Report 2018

## A message from the Chair

2018 marked an incredible milestone year for Volunteer Grandparents as we celebrated 45 years of program delivery in British Columbia and what a year it has been!

We're very happy to report that we saw increases in grandparent matches and school matches. Our service delivery continued to be excellent. Our organization continued to be stable from an operational perspective and our board governance was strong. We received student summer career placement contracts from the HRDC and supported a local student for 16 weeks.

As we continued to celebrate our 45th year anniversary, we attracted positive media attention both locally and regionally throughout the year. We had yet another very successful and well attended annual Volunteer Grandparents Summer Picnic on a gorgeous Burnaby summer day.

We're proud and grateful to be working with a wide range of dedicated caring individuals and organizations. The value of intergenerational programming is tremendously important for the improvement of our community and sustaining of a healthy community.

We've come a long way since we first incorporated in 1973. As we move forward in 2019 and looking forward to the next 45 years and beyond, I'm very proud of what Volunteer Grandparents has accomplished. Volunteer Grandparents is ready for the challenges and achievements ahead.

On behalf of the board, I'd like to thank all of our volunteers, donors, and supporters for their support and dedication. I'd also like to say thank you our Program Manager, Veronica for all of her hard work.

We've achieved this as a team, together. Thank you Volunteer Grandparents family. Here is to another great year!

Woosang Lee  
Chair, Volunteer Grandparents



## 2018 Program Highlights

In 2018, Volunteer Grandparents celebrated our 45th year of program delivery! For 45 years our organization actively engaged wonderful volunteers in both our Family Match and School Grandparent Programs.

Highlighting Some Special Long Term Connections...

*"We are very grateful for the match that led to a long term relationship and enriched our lives in Canada. We have been blessed to be welcomed to Ron and Lynne's family and have celebrated many holidays together. The children went on local trips with them, the most memorable of which was a 3 day trip to Victoria. Now that the kids have grown, we still remain family friends."*

Katy K., Family matched in 2011 to Volunteer Grandparents Lynne and Ron F.



*"Denys has been very dear to our family. There were times, Denys' presence over a phone call conversation felt like a rock behind me; he has shared his wisdom (with outmost sincerity), when I only needed to talk to and confide in an elder during some tough moments of raising my child."*

Mia P., Family matched in 2009 to Volunteer Grandfather Denys F.

We also had tremendous support with program promotions in the community from our volunteers in our Ambassador Program. Staff and Ambassadors attended these special events: Hats Off Day in Burnaby, the Canada Day Celebration at Deer Lake Park, the Edmonds City Fair and the North Burnaby Community Fair.

In mid-2018 we received funding from Canada Summer Jobs that enabled us to hire a university co-op student, Maria Pollock, for 16 weeks from May to August. In addition to planning the annual picnic, Maria also created new marketing materials, wrote an article that was published in the Burnaby Now, and maintained our Social Media Sites. We would like to thank the City of Burnaby for the printing grant which enabled us to print all of our updated marketing materials. We now have some new reusable picnic signage, a new window cling and a new roll up banner!



We would like to thank Metropolis at Metrotown and Walmart for their financial support for our School Grandparent and Family Match Programs in 2018.

## 45th Anniversary Celebratory Picnic

On July 28th, 2018 we hosted our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at Confederation Park. This cherished event gave us the opportunity to recognize the valuable contributions of our program participants and volunteers! For our theme, we thought: "What better way to celebrate 45 years other than with music?!" and thus invited Los Tambores to perform a fun and interactive musical performance to engage our attendees! This day wouldn't have been the success it was without the generous contributions from our community partners such as Vancouver Community College Faculty Association, Panago Pizza, Fresh Direct Produce Ltd., and Costco! Every year the picnic serves to provide a valuable opportunity for volunteers and families alike to connect and celebrate yet another year of successful program delivery. We're so grateful for everyone's support not only for the picnic but for the organization as a whole and look forward to many more years to come!



## Breakfast Television (BT) Award

We would like to congratulate our long standing volunteer grandfather, Kehar Aujla for winning the Breakfast Television Award for giving back to his community.



## Kids Up Front

Kids Up Front is a non-profit organization that redistributes donated tickets to local events. Volunteer Grandparents has been a proud member agency of the Vancouver Chapter of Kids Up Front since 2009. Over the past nine years we have been able to send children from our Family Match Program, along with their families and volunteer grandparents to see BC Lions and Vancouver Whitecaps games, live performances by Theatre Under the Stars and Vancouver International Puppet Festival, plus many other great events. In 2018, our organization received 218 tickets at a total value of \$6940.19

## Get Involved!

Become a Volunteer Grandparent! Share family occasions, explore and be a part of your community with a grandchild. Become a single grandparent or volunteer with your spouse or partner. It doesn't matter if you have grandchildren or not – what matters is that you care and you want to be involved in your community. As a Volunteer Grandparent, you will be joining a growing number of seniors who are dedicated to building strong communities through intergenerational connections. Applications are accepted throughout the year from individuals and couples. Visit [www.volunteergrandparents.ca](http://www.volunteergrandparents.ca) today!