

2022

Richmond Christmas Fund

Year in Review



Time Hasn't Dimmed the Magic



90 years is a long time. A *lifetime*. The Richmond Christmas Fund, though, which marked its 90th anniversary this past holiday season, is still as vibrant and vital as ever.

Reflecting on that milestone, we're struck by the parallels between past and present.

The Christmas Fund was created in response to the Great Depression, to ensure that families, despite extreme financial hardship, could enjoy a festive holiday celebration. In recent years, the challenges have been different – a global pandemic, skyrocketing inflation – but again, the Christmas Fund has been there to support our neighbours in need.

And in 2022, the need was significant. In all, we provided grocery vouchers to **2,835 people**, a **22% increase** from the previous year. Included in that number were **1,178 children and teenagers**, who also received a selection of toys, books, and gift cards.

We never want to see our fellow community members struggling. But we're in a unique position, because we can do something about it. That's the part that never gets old. That's the magic of the Christmas Fund. Each holiday season, we get the opportunity to act, and create small but meaningful moments of joy for hundreds of Richmond families.

Of course, we don't act alone. We never have, and never will. The Christmas Fund is brought to life by its supporters, and that was true again this past year.

In 2022, **80 volunteers** contributed **1,288 hours** to the Christmas Fund, serving as Registration Assistants, Greeters, Toy Sorters, and more.

At Lansdowne Centre, the Richmond RCMP hosted their 8th Annual Toy Drive, which was notable not only for the **1.7 tons of toys collected**, but also for the **6,440 mini-donuts** given out to supporters!

2022 also saw the return of A Not So Silent Night, the Christmas Fund's signature fundraising event. Held December 7, at the new Porsche Centre Richmond, the gala reception and auction set a record, raising over **\$110,000**. Credit goes to Santa himself, Wayne Duzita, who led a volunteer committee that organized the whole thing.

We want to thank everyone who helped make the Christmas Fund's 90th holiday season a success. Every donation mattered and made a difference. So did every toy, and every volunteer hour. After nine decades, the Christmas Fund is still shining brightly. That's because, each year, our community's spirit of giving is re-kindled and glows anew. It's our supporters, always, who provide the light.



Numbers From Our 90th Holiday Season



2,835 Richmond residents received assistance



Among those we helped were **857 children**, **321 teenagers**, and **368 seniors**



On our busiest day, we served **774 people**



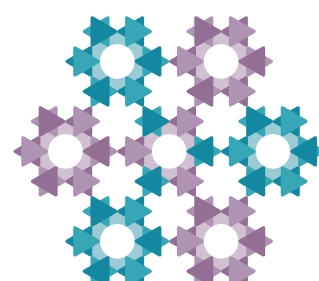
In all, we distributed **8,600 toys**



80 volunteers supported the program, contributing **1,288 hours**



410 individuals and businesses donated to our 2022 fundraising campaign



Richmond
Christmas
Fund

Meet Our 2022 Angel Donors



The Christmas Fund relies almost entirely on community support, and we're grateful for every donation we receive. Each year, however, certain businesses and groups go above and beyond, each contributing **\$10,000** or more. We call them our Angel Donors, and their generosity provides the financial foundation for our work. In 2022, as the need in our community grew, so did our list of Angel Donors. We proudly acknowledge each of them here.

Richmond Auto Mall Association - \$37,500 • Richmond Realtors - \$16,300 • Superman & Lois Production Team - \$12,850

The Province Empty Stocking Fund - \$11,550 • Gulf & Fraser - \$11,000 • Herband - \$10,000 • Intelli Group - \$10,000

Larco Hospitality - \$10,000 • Platinum Pro-Claim Restoration - \$10,000

Summit Customs Brokers & Manitoulin Transport - \$10,000 • TD Bank Group - \$10,000

Santa's Scrapbook



In 2022, our partnership with the City of Richmond grew even stronger. For the third straight year, City employees participated in an online fundraising campaign, as well as a 50/50 raffle. Together, these initiatives raised over \$5,000 for the Christmas Fund. City staff also organized toy drives at community centres, libraries, and other City facilities. It was as if all of Richmond had become Santa's workshop!

For 19 years, the Richmond Auto Mall Association has been the Christmas Fund's biggest supporter. Its annual Windows of Hope campaign has raised over \$400,000, including \$37,500 in 2022. This past year, the Auto Mall also hosted A Not So Silent Night, at the new Porsche Centre Richmond. For the event – a gala reception and auction – the dealership was transformed into a winter wonderland, where the mixing of festive feeling and community spirit led to an outpouring of generosity, and a fundraising total that topped \$110,000.



Setting up and taking down the Christmas Fund Toy Room are two of the biggest jobs of the holiday season. Luckily, this past year, we had a lot of help. Across multiple days – and sometimes in the snow! – volunteers from Sage, Starbucks, ASPAC, Richmond Centre, and the Chartered Professional Accountants of BC all lent a hand. Moving boxes, building shelves, sorting toys: their work happened behind the scenes, but helped make countless holiday wishes come true.

The Richmond RCMP Toy Drive gets bigger and better every year. We know because, rather than counting toys, they now measure the amount of donations in metric tons! At the 2022 edition, held at Lansdowne Centre, community members donated 1.7 tons of toys, along with over \$26,000 in cash. There are many reasons to attend the event – the mini donuts, the dunk tank, the chance to meet Santa – but for us, the RCMP are the real stars. From top to bottom, the toy drive is their undertaking, and they've made it spectacular.



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