

# BIG BROTHERS BIG NEWS



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## In This Edition:



Meet our match:  
Aiden & Connor!



We're an official  
charity partner of  
the Vancouver Sun  
Run!



Our annual  
Big Brothers  
photoshoot!

## Help us Reconnect for Brighter futures



Help us help youth  
this holiday season.

**DONATE TODAY!**

'Tis the season of giving and what better gift is there than that of friendship!

Help us reconnect for brighter futures and donate to Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver during this holiday season.

Over the last year, we have made sure more than 700 children and youth in our communities have had safe social interactions, planned activities, and a friend to talk to during this time of uncertainty and isolation. These connections are imperative for the youth we serve because a mentor is a friend who helps realize a young person's full potential during their formative years.

This holiday season, we ask you to give what you can so that we can continue to keep our kids connected. Right now, [you can still double your donation's impact thanks to our matching donors who will match your donations up to \\$10,000!](#) Thank you for supporting the youth in our communities.

**Spaces available in our  
Teen Mentoring program**

## SPACES AVAILABLE IN OUR TEEN MENTORING PROGRAM!



### Spots for Little Buddies!

Hey parents, educators, and youth! We have 10+ mentee spaces left in our Virtual Teen Mentoring program. So, what are you waiting for? [Sign up](#) soon before they fill up!

The Teen Mentoring program provides children in grades 1-7 with a Teen Mentor who is a positive role model and friend. The Teen Mentor and Mentee build a bond and friendship through playing games, doing activities, or just hanging out! The focus of the program is to enhance the Mentee's self-esteem and confidence.

Learn more about the program [online](#), see what our participants say of their experience in this [video](#), or [read](#) Cora and Gisele's teen mentoring story.

## Volunteers needed in your area

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN-SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAM



### Do you live in one of these areas and want to volunteer?

Speaking of fantastic programs – we have a need for more adult (18+) volunteers for our In-School Mentoring program for elementary schools in these neighborhoods:

**Surrey:** Guildford, Saint Helen's Park, Cloverdale, Newton, and East Clayton

**Burnaby:** Metrotown, Edmonds, and Sullivan Heights

**Coquitlam:** Burquitlam

**North Shore:** Lynn Valley

**Vancouver:** Strathcona, South Vancouver, Sunset, Grandview-Woodland, and West Point Grey

Ready to volunteer? Then [click here](#) to start!

Want more info before applying? Read our [program page](#) or contact us at [volunteer@bbgvf.com](mailto:volunteer@bbgvf.com).

[Learn more about In-School Mentoring](#)

## Meet our match: Aiden & Connor!



When it comes to hobbies, 10-year-old Aiden is like most kids his age. You can find him playing video games, perfecting skateboard tricks, and practicing his guitar after lessons every week. But in addition to all these things, he also has a strong mentor, brought into his life by Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver.

As an only child, Connor was initially nervous about becoming a mentor because he never really had one for himself. But during his pursuit of a career in youth education, he saw how much sense it made to his future.

Read their full story on our [Mentoring Matter Blog!](#)

A BIG thank you to K+S Potash for helping us share this great story. Click [here](#) to read more stories on the positive impact of mentorship that K+S Potash Canada has supported.

## BIG success on the greens



While the cold and rain (and snow!) are here to stay, we want to take look back at the wonderful day at the Shaughnessy Golf & Country Club for our annual B2Gold Big Brothers Golf Classic!

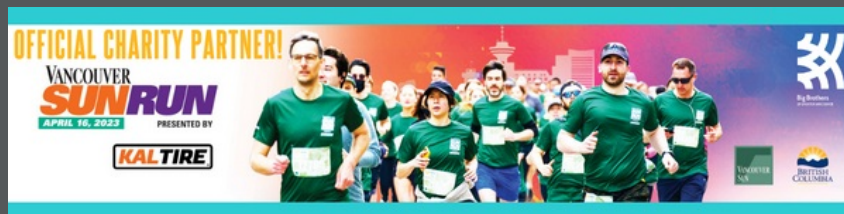
It was so much fun in the sun that was made even better by how much we raised to support children and youth in our communities: nearly \$350,000!

Ninety-four golfers hit the greens for a good cause to raise money for youth mentorship programs in our communities – all made possible by our 29 generous sponsors and 39 dedicated community volunteers!

Click the button below to read the full story of the day's events.

[Read all about our annual fundraiser's success here](#)

## Join us and run for a BIG cause



We're honored to announce that Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver is one of the official Charity Partners of the 2023 Vancouver Sun Run.

Run, walk or donate for Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver and raise funds for local youth mentorship!

Join a team to run or walk with us! When you register make sure you select the SHAW TEAM DIVISION - JOIN A TEAM - In Person 10K. Select our team - **BIG BROTHERS OF GREATER VANCOUVER** -

[Register for the Vancouver Sun Run](#)

[Join our team](#)

All funds raised go toward supporting children and youth mentorship in our communities in Surrey, White Rock, Delta, Richmond, New Westminister, the Tri-Cities, Burnaby, the North Shore and Vancouver.

## Smile for the camera





Big smiles, tasty snacks, and good music! What a day our Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver annual [photoshoot](#) was!

Five matches and their families, from two of our programs, joined us in a cozy Gastown studio in downtown Vancouver on a chilly November day.

It was a busy and exciting Saturday where we, Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver staff, got to meet some of our Littles, Bigs and their families while they in turn got to meet and mingled with each other!

“When you get to actually see in-person, you can feel the impact. You can feel the connections that the Bigs and the Littles have,” Teresa Quach, our Development Officer said of her experience at the photoshoot.

Click the button below to read the full story.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

## A BIG grant



Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver was awarded \$25,000 to support youth leadership programs as a recipient of the 2022 Ted Rogers Community Grant, Rogers Communication announced on Nov. 3.

“We’re thrilled to receive this funding. With this grant, we can directly fund even more youth mentorship programming and take one step closer to reaching our goal of matching over 1,000 children and youth with mentors in our local communities throughout Greater Vancouver,” Mandy Wong, manager of development and marketing at BBGV, said.

Click the button below for all the details.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)

## Our Latest Clothing Drive



OCTOBER



CLOTHING DRIVE

The October IKEA clothing drive was a BIG success! And it was all thanks to YOU, our community, who showed up and gave more than 1400 Kg (3097 lbs) of donations over two days!

That's a lot of clothing and household items!

Your donations go directly to help fund programs for children and youth in all our communities in Surrey, White Rock, Delta, Richmond, New Westminister, the Tri-Cities, Burnaby, the North Shore and Vancouver.

So, THANK YOU for continuing to support us and the young people we serve every day as well as the two volunteers who helped us make this event a success.

Our next IKEA clothing drive will take place around Earth Day in April. The next event date and location is to be determined, so, keep your eyes on our social media and this newsletter for up-to-date information on the next event and many more like it!

If you want to volunteer, but aren't ready to jump into one of our programs consider joining us at an event like this one! Visit us [online](#) or contact us directly at [events@bbgvf.com](mailto:events@bbgvf.com) to inquire.

## PLEASE GIVE A **BIG** THANK YOU TO THESE SPECTACULAR DONORS!

**Along with our volunteers, our generous donors and supporters help make it possible for more than 700 kids to have positive role models in their lives!**

Support for youth comes from a variety of community partners such as municipalities and private foundations.

It's donors like these that help year-after-year fund amazing, free, and accessible mentorship programs for all the young people in our local communities.

Please give a special thank you to the **Ames Family Foundation** and the **City of New Westminister**.

**Canada**

Funded by the  
Government of Canada



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of the Lower Mainland



We acknowledge the financial assistance of the  
Province of British Columbia

### STAY CONNECTED



At Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver (BBGV), we acknowledge that the land on which we work and mentor is the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh; the Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, Tsawwassen, Semiahmoo and the Stó:lō Nation.

#### **Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver**

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