

BIG BROTHERS BIG NEWS



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Mentoring Month:
Hari & Noble's story



We need mentors
in Surrey!



Books for kids!

January is Mentoring Month!



January is Mentoring Month and we're celebrating our volunteers!

We've been out in the community meeting with our mentors this month so that we can share their stories with you!

First, read about what mentorship look like and means in the words of our Big Brother, Hari.

"To me, the mentorship part happens quite silently. It's not us kind of lecturing them or sitting there and teaching them a whole bunch of things. It's purely through action. So, simple things like always turning up on time and things like that. That I know has a ripple effect."

[Click here](#) to read Hari's mentoring story.

Next, we have our Big Brother, Zayd, who will be celebrating one full year with his Little Brother in February.

"I would say, I see myself more as a friend. A mentor, I think of that more in a professional way. Like someone that's just sharing their perspective with you all the time. But like this experience, it's more of a two-way street."

To read Zayd's full mentoring story, [click here](#).

All good things come in threes.

So last, but certainly not least, we have Gurtej & Andrew's match story.

"He's made me less serious. I get told from my friends a lot that I don't

really have an off button or I can't just hang out. He's made me much more relaxed in some aspects, or more childish, or more playful in some areas of life."

To read Gurtej and Andrew's match story [click here](#).

Fun fact! You may have seen these two on Global BC on Jan. 17th for International Mentoring Day! If you missed it, head on over to our social media to watch the segment.

To watch their Global BC news segment [click here](#).

BIG need for mentors in Surrey!



Urgent! We have a critical need for mentors in Surrey right now!

We've had to stop accepting new families into our Surrey Community Program wait pool until we find more volunteers to meet the need.

Right now, we need 30 volunteers so we can open the wait pool to new families!

If you're ready to get back to it, start for the first time, or know someone who's ready to volunteer as a Big, now is the time!

Curious? Want more info? Inquire about volunteering here:
<https://www.bigbrothersvancouver.com/volunteer/inquire/>

Have questions or concerns? Book a quick video or phone call with us here:
<https://calendly.com/bigbrothers/introchat>

Ready to volunteer right now!? Then fill out the volunteer application form:
<https://www.bigbrothersvancouver.com/volunteer-application-what-should-i-expect/>

[I want to volunteer!](#)

Seen us in the news recently?



That's right! Local media has been helping us get the word out for the BIG need for volunteers.

We've been in print, radio and TV. Here's a list where you can read, listen, watch and share some of the stories:

Watch: Gurtej and Andrew on [Global BC](#) and our Big Brother Zayd on [CBC News at 6](#).

Listen: CKNW 980 [The Jill Bennet Show](#) and CBC Radio [The Early Edition with Stephen Quinn](#).

Read: [CBC news](#), the [Indo-Canadian Voice](#), [Daily Hive](#), the [Surrey Now-Leader](#).

[READ: Big Brothers Stops Accepting New Families in Surrey](#)

Books for children!



Celebrate who you are through reading!

Celebrate who you are through reading!

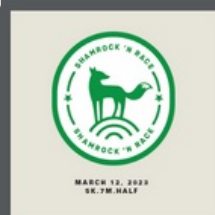
This month we discussed anti-racism books for children in our Inclusion Committee and how we can better educate the next generation through children's literature.

I Am Enough is a book written by Grace Byers. She was inspired to write this book by her younger self. When Grace was growing up she wished to see books better represent people who look like her. So, she wrote a book just like that!

You can watch an author's reading of the book here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_l4jeZH84k

Or download a copy of the book to read here: <https://fliphtml5.com/bzpzl/cxkm/basic>

St. Patrick's Day event!



JOIN US AT THE 2023 SHAMROCK'N RACE



Are you feeling lucky? Then join us on Sunday, March 12th, at the 2023 Shamrock'n Race 5k, 7M & Half Marathon and race to support Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver!

Located in beautiful Burnaby, the race takes place at Burnaby Lake.

Lace up in support of local youth! [Sign up here.](#)

Not a fan of running, but still want to support youth? We need event volunteers!

Take part in all the fun while giving back. [Contact us here](#) to volunteer.

See you there!

[SIGN UP HERE!](#)

We want to partner with your workplace!

**MAKE AN IMPACT
IN YOUR COMMUNITY
THROUGH YOUR BUSINESS**



This month we had the tremendous pleasure of visiting the Hays Vancouver office to present and educate the team on all the awesome ways they (and you) can volunteer to help youth in our communities.

And what a fantastic and eager-to- volunteer team they are!

We had such a great time meeting them and we'd love to meet you too!

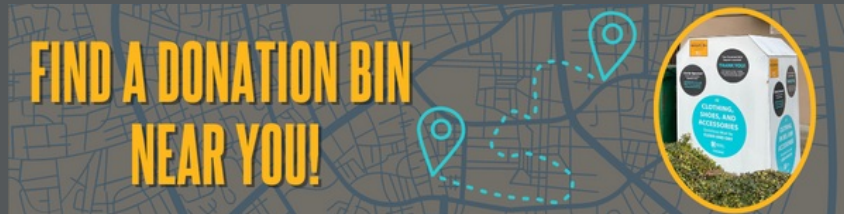
If you want to get your workplace or company involved with volunteering or just want to learn more about what we do at Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver, get in touch!

Email us at volunteer@bbgvf.com

"I'd strongly recommend you invite them down to your office and hear about all the ways you can make a difference to children's lives across the Lower Mainland, they could really do with your help, more now than ever."

-Harry Jenkins, Senior Director at Hays.

We're easier to find than ever before!



Want to keep on giving?

Well you're in luck! It's now easier than ever before to donate your used clothing for a good cause!

We've made a map of all 30+ donations bins across Greater Vancouver to help you find the one nearest you!

[FIND A DONATION BIN!](#)

Holiday Campaign success!



We want to give a BIG THANK YOU to all of you who donated to our holiday fundraising campaign this holiday season.

We raised \$36,765! All funds raised go toward our free youth mentoring programs in our communities.

A special thank you to our matching donors: the O'Sullivan Family and the Hoeschen Family. Each matched \$5,000 of your donations this year.

Holiday door decoration competition!



Nothing like a bit of friendly competition in the name of holiday spirit!

At our Kingsway office, lots of colleagues joined in on the fun to make our space festive. Let us know which one is your favourite!

We all had inspiration along with our designs. Can you find the door that matches the inspiration below?

"When not helping his friends in Santa's Workshop, The Abominable Snowmonster (AKA: Bumble) dreams of becoming a Big Brother for other furred yeti youth. In the meantime, he's enjoys spending time in the snow."

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 Westminster, the Tri-Cities, Burnaby, the North Shore and Vancouver.

RUN WITH US!

**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, private foundations, and individuals.

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 City of New Westminster, the City of Surrey and David Hughes.



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of the Lower Mainland



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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.

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