



Introduction—South Burnaby Neighbourhood House Society



Celebrating neighbourhoods and community on Canada Day!

A neighbourhood house serves as a community focal point – a place where families and individuals can go to get support and services; a place where new immigrants become involved in their community and can find information and resources that will help them with their adaptation and integration into the community; where seniors and youth can gather; and where all these groups can come together in activities and events that aim to link generations and cultures and create a stronger community.

It seeks the involvement and input of community members in the development and implementation of supportive programs and services. It draws residents together to create a healthier community through their involvement.

We are a grassroots community driven organization and have established a presence in the South Burnaby community where we continue to develop a wide range of supportive community programs and services that are accessible and affordable.

- ★ ***Our mission is to make neighbourhoods a better place to live.***
- ★ ***Our goal is to enable people to enhance their lives and strengthen their communities.***
- ★ ***Our challenge is to work with communities to develop innovative programs and services that meet the changing needs of a diverse population.***

The South Burnaby Neighbourhood House Society was incorporated in April of 1996 and was granted charitable status in 1998. We are community residents of South Burnaby and committed volunteers who worked for four years to establish Burnaby's first Neighbourhood House. On April 1st, 1999, a small storefront site was secured on Jubilee Avenue located in the heart of Metrotown. In October 2001, we expanded to occupy the adjoining storefront. In 2004, we once again expanded and moved into a new larger space at 4845 Imperial Street. Our space has tripled in size allowing for more opportunities to develop programs but we have quickly outgrown our space and now in 2011 we are planning for a larger facility to call home.

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South Burnaby Neighbourhood House



The need in our Community

The need for integrated services that can address human services concerns has been clearly identified as a priority by Burnaby's Community Issues and Social Planning Committee. The Ministry for Children and Families provided the resource of



SBNH - Where Kids can be Kids!

a community development worker for 5 years to assist and support our community group of residents to establish a Neighbourhood House and its programs. We have the support and experience of our agency partners who have a history of offering programs and services to the Burnaby community for many years and believe and support our vision for an integrated service delivery model.

South Burnaby continues to be recognized as an area lacking sufficient supportive programs and services to address the increasing social needs of the community. Our volunteer board is made up of local residents who have a variety of skills and experiences that they bring to our organization. As residents of Burnaby, we believe that a Neighbourhood house while complementing existing services in the South Burnaby area, also delivers services that make a real difference to residents in our community, particularly to families and individuals who live in poverty and lack social support systems. We support individuals of all ages and cultural backgrounds living in our community.



SBNH - Youth Leadership Program
"Developing community leaders for tomorrow".



Our Place in the Community

While the Metrotown area is an exciting and vibrant place to visit and to live, its density and rapid growth has also brought a host of social concerns and challenges. According to the most recent Simon Fraser Health Region Profile, the problems of poverty, crime, and the special needs of newcomers are at the forefront of concerns in Burnaby. 28% of families in Burnaby are considered low income, and the rate of child poverty is 33%. 15% of families have only a single parent, and of those, 85% are headed by women who have a lower average income than that of men. English is not the primary language spoken in 29% of Burnaby households, and the South Burnaby area in particular has a large number of newcomers to the country. Family tensions, childcare issues, and an increasing population, puts a great deal of pressure on the community and its services. We continue to work in partnership with our community and other service providers to identify and address community needs.



Child-Care is an important community service

Our current programs & activities include:

- Storefront drop-in location provides free coffee, community support, program space, information and referral.
- Children and Youth summer day-camp - 4 locations
- Family Resource and Drop-in Support Programs –5 locations
- Neighbourhood Outreach Support
- Community Kitchen—Edmonds School and Maywood School
- Youth Leadership Program
- Youth Homework Program—Stride School and Edmonds School
- School aged before & after school care Programs - 4 locations. Continued research and development of new childcare programs.
- Administration of the "Empty Bowls" Fund Program
- Free Income tax clinics
- Free legal advice clinic
- Community intergenerational/cross cultural dinner events
- Volunteer placements for people of all ages.
- Career placement practicum opportunities.
- E.S.L conversation classes (volunteer facilitated)
- Volunteer facilitated activity groups.
- Multi-lingual volunteer support program
- Establishing working partnerships with; Immigrant Services Society, local schools, Crime Prevention office, Burnaby Parks and Recreation, Burnaby Health Department, Burnaby Family Life, Association of Neighbourhood Houses, Boys & Girls Club
- Networking and Participation in Area service provider meetings
- Volunteer Development
- Resource Development