



The Alliance of  
THE OPEN DOOR AND THE UPPER ROOM  
919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4

# VOLUNTEER'S NEWSLETTER

www.ourplacesociety.com Number 20 - October 15, 2007 Bruce More - Editor

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Our new home. This is not an architect's drawing. It's the real thing! Photo taken Oct. 12.

## OUR NEW HOME

Bob Frank

While walking towards the new facility, I recalled looking down into a big pit with lots of dust and noise. Looking up today and seeing the glass and finished brick work, I realize the visions of our new society are very quickly becoming a reality. Somehow I sense completion as the date of occupancy draws near, but I understand it is only the beginning. The building is one of the required tools to do the real work: to enrich and improve lives – and what a tool it is!

It has six floors, thirty three thousand square feet, built and equipped to accommodate the needs of our programs, all designed to extend a hand to our inner city family. There's a basement to support hygiene needs along with some clothing and recreation spaces. The first (ground floor) has many features: a large and welcoming reception area, the living room or drop in space for socializing, coffee-bar, and an accommodating courtyard. Add to that a state of the art computer lounge, and we can then move up to the second floor. Here we find the dining room and an industrial size kitchen, classroom and community space, and administrative offices. Above that three more floors of suites will house up to forty five men and women who want to reach for something better in their lives.

In addition to the new building we will need a strong team of volunteers who are well trained and willing to serve. You are part of that group, and the society understands its responsibility to provide all the support we can. The building is a part of that commitment: it offers an environment, and a comfortable platform to engage in your important service work.

### Happy October Birthday!

Eileen C, Brian K, Diane D, Kym K,  
Tim D, Dorothy B, James D

### We need volunteers! Who can YOU ask?

1. Drivers willing to **pick up bread** from local stores and deliver it to the drop-in centre both on weekends and weekdays. Back-up driver volunteers are also needed.
2. Workers are needed **every day**:  
7am until 3 pm.

#### Call:

Pandora Street Soup Kitchen: Brian or Peter at 388-7114 or Johnson St. Drop-in

### Donations:

WE NEED: **yarn**; **towels**; **footwear**; **clothing- seasonal garments**; **trousers**; **shirts**; **under garments & belts**, Bedding- blankets, sleeping bags, ground mats.  
**Toiletries- toothbrushes**, feminine hygiene products, razors, deodorant, brushes & combs. Knapsacks, backpacks, small tents.  
**Non-perishable foods**: Canned or other dry packaged foods, coffee.

### Ask Vickie



What changes can I expect in the new building?

Dear Gentle Reader,

As we are coming from 3 locations into one, we can expect more centralized organization. There will be more controlled entry, giving the opportunity for all of us to support each other in a safe and secure environment. Of course the biggest change will be the modern, well equipped building which will be catering to a much enlarged family with fairly large usage of the facilities at the peak meal periods.

#### Next month's question:

Will I be doing the same volunteer job in the new building?

**“Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way.”**