

The Ourplace

"Ourplace Society works in compassionate Christian love with those who are homeless and others in need to enrich and improve the lives of all."



Volunteer

Official Grand Opening

June 24, 2008 - 8am -5pm - (see invitation on back)

- Everyone is invited and you are welcome to bring friends, family, neighbors to see where you volunteer, what you are part of

- There will have free breakfast, lunch and dinner for everyone

- The official ceremony will take place from 1:30-2:30 this will include recognition for First Nations, speeches, presentations and recognition of our partners in the building of the facility

- There will be aboriginal art sale, free music, facility tours throughout the day

- The day will operate as a regular day of operations so volunteers will be expected to do their regular shift

- If volunteers want to volunteer beyond their regular shift and get involved as a volunteer with the festivities then please contact Cheryl A (388-7112 ext 243 or volunteer@ourplacesociety.com) ASAP

- Volunteers who normally volunteer on days other than Tuesdays are encouraged to participate and to volunteer for this special day

- All volunteers on this day will receive a t-shirt.

- Duties that volunteers will do on the day are grounds cleaning, food services, information booth, guiding tours, moving tables/chairs etc.

- Shifts will be organized throughout the day but most shifts are approximately 3 hours long.

Ask Vickie

What services are offered by the hygiene area?

Dear Gentle Reader,

The hygiene area provides people with showers, footbaths, washrooms, and supplies so that they can shave or brush their teeth. The hygiene area has all of the supplies for anyone who uses their services including clean towels, shampoo, deodorant, razors, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Volunteers in this area are part of a team that works to help people feel good about themselves.

Next month's question:

How do I inform ourplace of a forthcoming absence?



Number 27 - June 15, 2008

Bruce E. More - Editor

**"Ourplace" is the Alliance of
The Open Door & Upper Room
919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4**

Donations

Clean adult clothing (such as socks, hats, coats, sweatshirts and pants) in good repair are needed. In addition, we need towels, toiletries, warm blankets, sleeping bags, softball equipment, coffee mugs, picture frames, alarm clocks, clock radios & cd players. NOTE - new items needed: Art supplies, music equipment, beauty supplies (makeup, lotion, etc.) and more paperback fiction books.

Please contact Reception at 388-7112, extension 255 or by email at admin@ourplacesociety.com if you have any questions about donations.

If you wish to make a financial donation, please stop by our new building at 919 Pandora Avenue. Our staff will gratefully receive donations, whether by cheque, cash or credit card.

Calling all Volunteers

In addition to our ongoing efforts to recruit volunteers for the dining room and the nutrition bar in the drop-in centre, we are also currently looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- * Bread Pick-up
- * Hygiene Area
- * Clothing Room
- * Reception

If any of these current opportunities is of interest to you, please contact 388-7112, extension 243 or volunteer@ourplacesociety.com.



On homelessness:

"More than a decade after our fellow citizens began bedding down on the sidewalks, their problems continue to seem so intractable that we have begun to do psychologically what government has been incapable of doing programmatically. We bring the numbers down—not by solving the problem, but by deciding it's their own damn fault.

Parents have railed against shelters near schools, but no one has made any connection between the crazed consumerism of our kids and their elders' cold unconcern toward others. Maybe the homeless are not the only ones who need to spend time in these places to thaw out - Anna Quindlen (Newsweek Pulitzer Prize winning columnist

Bus Passes

The program is open to all Our Place staff and regular volunteers. The cost is \$29.02 bi-weekly.... Or \$58.04 each month.. except for 2 months where there are 3 pay periods. In 2008 this is in February and July (the cost would be \$87.06 for those months).

Passes are only good in the CRD. (the annual savings is just under 2 months worth of monthly bus passes)

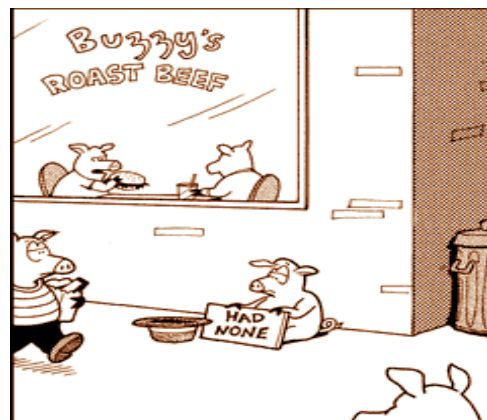
Participants receive a swipe card with their photo on it (which doesn't expire & therefore saves the hassle of obtaining new cards monthly). Pictures taken at BC Transit administration office on Garbally/Gorge Road People MUST sign up for ONE YEAR. May opt out if job / shifts changes or place of residence renders the program inoperable – or balance of year payment is required.

Tax Exempt bus pass – a tax credit may be claimed on income tax return. Volunteers will be issued a receipt for the annual amount paid & # of months paid

Where a person has an existing monthly pass, BC Transit will refund a prorata amount so that people are not paying twice in the initial month of sign up.

Should a person no longer volunteer/work for OPS, they must surrender their pass

Volunteers would have to provide OPS with post-dated cheques for the 1st of each month for the month cost.



Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way

Official Grand Opening of New Building - June 24, 2008

THE OPEN DOOR AND THE UPPER ROOM

SCHEDULE

- 7:00 AM
*Courtyard Set-up begins
- 8:00 AM
*Pancake Breakfast for everyone in Dining Room
- 9:00AM
*Drop-In Centre opens until 4:00PM
*Hygiene/Clothing/Games open until 3:30
*Aboriginal Art Sale in Chapel time for closure to be determined
- 11:30 AM
*BBQ Lunch for everyone in courtyard
- 1:00 PM
*Musicians play in courtyard
- 1:30 PM
*Official Ceremony in courtyard stage, ribbon cutting
- 2:30 PM
*Refreshments served in courtyard
*First Nations song and dance in courtyard stage
- 3:30 PM
*Closure of basement
- 4:00 PM
*Roast Beef Dinner for everyone in Dining Room
*Presentations to significant contributors
* Closure of Drop-In Centre

5:00 PM
*Meal ends/cleanup

6:00 PM
*Building secured

*It is with honour and the greatest respect that we acknowledge the
Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
on whose traditional territory we stand.*

We invite you to join

*A representative on behalf of the Government of Canada;
Hon. Rich Coleman, Minister responsible for Housing;
Mayor Alan Lowe, City of Victoria;
John Ronald, Chair of Our Place Society Board;
Alan Campbell, Vancouver Island Health Authority;
Jack Hall, The Real Estate Foundation of B.C.; and
Our Place Society*

for the official opening of

Our Place

Date: June 24, 2008

Official Ceremony: 1:30 p.m.

Address: 919 Pandora Avenue

Refreshments will be served following the ceremony

Open House 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This supportive transitional housing is funded by the Government of Canada; the Province of British Columbia through the Provincial Homelessness Initiative and the Premier's Task Force on Homelessness, Mental Illness and Addictions; the City of Victoria; Vancouver Island Health Authority; The Real Estate Foundation of B.C.; and Our Place Society.

Canada

