

# Together

Making a Difference



Giving Hope Today

Spring/Summer 2018

**The winter months have passed – whew!** We now embrace the fresh start of spring and the wonderful colours of summer! The Salvation Army diligently works to bring fresh starts in the lives of people, where we celebrate changed lives and are ready to continue giving hope. Despite the challenges people face, each day is an opportunity for our staff and volunteers to come alongside the most vulnerable in our community and continue to share the hope and wonder of a fresh start! When I see and hear what is happening around the globe, we have so much to be thankful for. I realize everybody's circumstances are different, but our mission and message of hope is one that can overcome anything this world throws at us. I am grateful to know this truth and share it daily. I am also grateful for the generous support of our

community and partners that contribute to the work of The Salvation Army and our message of hope!

Will you consider giving – to help someone understand the hope of a fresh start and experience a changed life? I pray that God will continue to bless and keep you, and lead you as you give generously to the work of The Salvation Army here in Abbotsford.



**Captain Mark Dunstan**

*Corps Officer/Pastor*

*The Salvation Army Cascade Community Church and Ministries*

## The Salvation Army's Camp Sunrise

Camping has been part of The Salvation Army's ministry since the early 1900's. Leaky cabins, bologna sandwiches, and cold showers have given way to modern facilities, first-rate meals, and creative programming. Each year, over 14,000 marginalized children attend our many camps across Canada, including Camp Sunrise located on the Sunshine Coast here in British Columbia.

Summer camp is an unforgettable experience in the lives of these children, and it couldn't happen for them if they weren't sponsored. Your gift can be the deciding factor that makes a child's impossible dream come true. The cost is \$300 per child, and our Abbotsford goal is to send fifty children to camp each year. If you would like to help, simply call our office at 604-852-9305 and ask to donate to "Send a Kid to Camp".

**SEND A KID TO CAMP!**  
Your sponsorship can make a child's dream come true. Please donate today.



## Our 2018-2019 fiscal year finds us with some shortfalls as well as ongoing needs at the Centre of Hope

**Shelter Program: \$90,000 shortfall**  
26 beds – 20 men and 6 women.  
80% funded by BC Housing

**Pantry34 Program: \$15,000 shortfall**  
providing healthy snacks and beverages to 20 local schools.  
38% funding has been provided to date

**Medical Supplies for the Clinic:**  
We are regularly in need of funds to provide non-prescription medication to clients.

**Veterinarian for Pet Care Day:**  
We are seeking vet services once per month to assist our pets and owners.

**Please contact us if you have a heart for assisting in any of the areas listed above.**

# A Message from Our Chaplain:

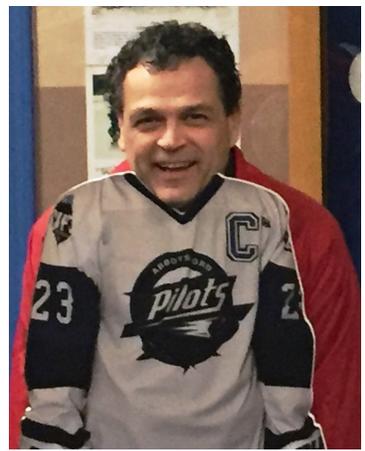
Please allow me to introduce myself, I am Chris Kendall and I have the privilege and honour to be the Chaplain at The Salvation Army's Centre of Hope in Abbotsford.

I became involved with The Salvation Army in my early twenties. I had come out of a highly addictive and reckless lifestyle and through a series of events and experiences - I had a dramatic conversation with the Lord Jesus Christ. He literally rescued me from complete destruction.

I was looking for a church to attend when my mother suggested The Salvation Army. I walked into the East Kildonan corps of The Salvation Army in Winnipeg - I was overwhelmed by the presence of the Holy Spirit, and I knew beyond a doubt that I had come home!

We moved to the West Coast and continued to be involved with The Salvation Army, my wife as the fulltime director of the kid's day care program and myself as the director of community services for New Westminster and the Tri-Cities.

I left The Salvation Army to pursue a career with the Ministry of Social Development and remained there until I retired in 2017; when I humbly accepted the current position of Chaplain.



I feel excited to wake up each day with anticipation of what God has in store. When I respond to the call on my life and step into His purpose for my life, things just start to go wild. Sometime there are bumps on the road and detours, but as I pursue Him, things move in the right direction, and He brings me into a spacious place.

# Community Partners:



Since 1990 Choices Markets has been a leader in offering local, organic and specialty food items in a warm

and welcoming environment. Choices Markets opened its doors to the city of Abbotsford in the fall of 2015 and has quickly established itself as a community store that prides itself on delivering personal and exceptional customer service. We are passionate about healthy living and sharing our knowledge with our customers. In addition to selling specialty groceries, Choices also employs Full-Time Dietitians and Holistic Nutritionists. Need advice? Choices offers free health consultations. Whatever you need, Choices is here to help.

The Salvation Army helps those in need with compassion, respect and integrity and that's how we treat our customers. Choices Markets is dedicated to supporting the community of Abbotsford and partnering with the Salvation Army will allow us to reach even more of the citizens of our community.

## Mark's WELL WORN

Mark's is a supportive partner in the Abbotsford Community as we are locally owned and operated. We appreciate all of our customers as they support us by shopping



local. We find joy in helping out those who are just getting back on their feet and need work boots to those who struggle with just getting by on a daily basis. Any clothing or footwear that can be passed on to anyone in need is given to The Salvation Army to hand out. It's awesome to know we are making a difference in the lives of those who live in our community.



## Men's Camp

Supportive Independent Living residents, past and present and Salvation Army leadership enjoyed a weekend at Men's Camp at Camp Sunrise on the Sunshine Coast - in September of 2017. A rejuvenating time in which to enjoy fellowship, hear the Lord's message and share testimonies and life experiences.



## Pamela's Success Story:

I was a happy and outgoing child raised in a home with good morals and values.

Outside of my home I was abused by adults that were supposed to be looking after me. One was a school teacher, and when confronted gave me a gift of a necklace to buy my forgiveness. It confused me that no steps were taken to protect me from her.

My young mind believed that I was somehow bringing this on myself, and I was to blame, so I accepted it and said nothing after being abused by others throughout my life. This led to me having little respect for myself, and as I became older, those experiences and my lack of boundaries led to abusive and unhealthy relationships.

Drinking was an escape and a band aid for the negative way I felt about myself. It helped me cope with the pain of some very horrible situations cause by bad choices and judgement. I was an out of control party girl looking for acceptance by some pretty wild people in pretty scary places.

I didn't think I could every quit drinking even though it was causing intense damage in my life, and to be honest I was scared to lose the only thing I found comfort in. I didn't want to face the wreckage of my past either.

Walking downtown one day, I was in search of a AA meeting list, as I had promised my then boyfriend, I would try to get help for my drinking before he had to end our relationship due to my recent alcohol related disappearing act.

I saw a pamphlet for The Salvation Army - Chef Training Program and thought to myself, maybe if I began a new career, my life would improve and I could finally get it

together. I made the call and aced the interview. I was nervous beginning the course and through my behavior, it was becoming evident to my instructor that something was going on with me that was affecting my performance in class. I admitted I was a heavy drinker and could not imagine how I was going to stop.

It was suggested that I might consider entering an alcohol treatment centre. I started the Opportunities program offered by The Salvation Army - Langley and learned a new way of living. I found a new sense of purpose and hope. I started to gain confidence and self-esteem. I learned the importance of setting goals for myself moving forward.

I completed treatment and moved on. I graduated from the Chef Program with amazing marks and a great sense of accomplishment.

My relationship with God grew with my regular chapel attendance and new amazing Christian friendships.

I began working in the kitchen at The Salvation Army's - Centre of Hope in Abbotsford as an employee shortly after completing the course and have since been employed in many different departments - shelter, outreach, meal centre, etc.

God is leading me to become an officer for The Salvation Army. I have been accepted as a candidate to attend the College for Officer Training in Winnipeg - and I look forward to that very much.

I want to spend the rest of my life spreading the love of Jesus Christ - that is what I love to do the best - and I am an example of how God can turn anyone's life around.



*Pamela serving in the EDS truck*

## Introducing an Amazing Volunteer:

Marie Lashley is a 30 year resident of the Abbotsford/Mission area where she has raised her now 22 year old son.

The most important things in her life are her faith, family & friends, and living a healthy lifestyle. She loves being a Race Director for the Santa Shuffle because it incorporates all of those things! She loves to give back to a community that has given so much to her.

Marie started with the Santa Shuffle through connecting with Cascade Community Church. "A number of years ago I walked into Cascade, and I instantly felt this overwhelming sense of compassion, warmth and authenticity and I knew there was something really special about this group".

A few years later she was asked if she would like to help out with the Santa Shuffle. It was a new initiative, and Marie was a runner and could help figure out what those crazy runners would be looking for in a run, and what needed to happen to make it safe and successful. The rest is history!

"I have been a Race Director for the Santa Shuffle for over 10 years now, and it is a privilege every year to serve along-side such an amazing group of people. We started with very humble beginnings with 100 participants, and have grown to over 400. One of the greatest changes that I have seen is the huge increase in the number of families. I really love how it brings all ages together to support those in need in our community. We have some exciting new initiatives on the horizon, and I hope to see it continue to grow!"





## Shipwrecked!

SHIPWRECKED, the Vacation Bible School - held during Spring break - was where kids learned that Jesus rescues! We chose this amazing adventure that helped kids (and youth) begin or deepen their faith by discovering that Jesus cares about them personally and rescues in life's toughest circumstances. This was a week full of fun, incredible music, and a relaxing island-getaway setting all come together to point kids to Jesus. 60 participants throughout the week and 35 volunteers - both youth and adult enjoyed this enriching experience. Sally Ann came along for the fun!!



## Why We Support The Salvation Army ...

**Sid & Daphne Johnson are supporters of The Salvation Army in Abbotsford because of their work in our community with Families and Children.**

*"We are happy to help support the Pantry 34 Program in our community to help children receive nutritious snacks when needed. It takes a village sometimes to raise a child and without The Salvation Army many children would not get the support they need."*

*"Salvation Army provides amazing work in the community, trying to help the underprivileged with food, clothes & programs that try to get people on their feet again and in crisis. I am pleased to help Salvation Army when & where I can."*

**Davina Graham**  
Photography by Davina

We were so honoured to have a visit from Chief Bob Rich and Sgt. Judy Bird. They made a presentation to the Emergency Disaster Services & Cascade Ministry leadership teams for their prayers, spiritual care and support on November 19th, 2017, the day of the memorial service for fallen APD member Constable John Davidson. God bless everyone at the Abbotsford Police Department for everything you do for our City every day.



*L-R: Captain Mark Dunstan, ED Ian Pollard, Chief Bob Rich, Lt. Col. Peter Roed, Chaplain Chris Kendall & EDS representative Dennis Steel.*

**God Bless the APD!**



## New Website Launched

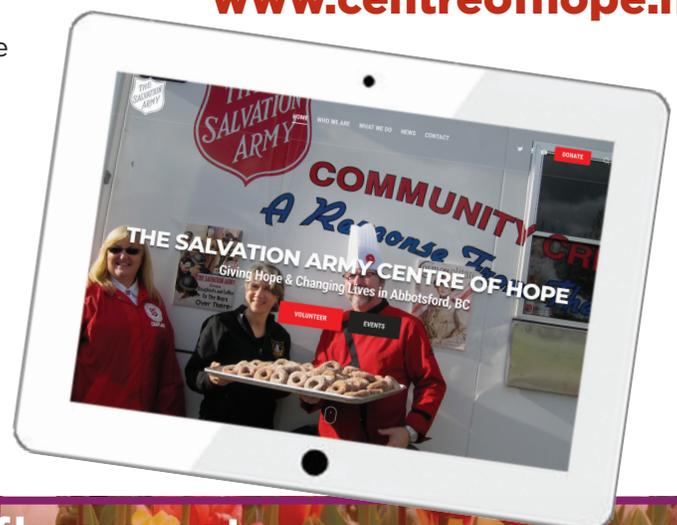
We have launched a new website for The Salvation Army - Centre of Hope and we're excited to introduce you to the new look! The new site provides a clear message of who we are and our mission and values.

It is full of information about the programs and services offered at the Centre of Hope as well as some special features we will let you discover as you navigate through.

We are very proud of the new website and feel it will create the experience you are looking for when you pay us a visit. Check out the new website [www.centreofhope.net](http://www.centreofhope.net)

There are not enough words to express our appreciation and thanks to our webmaster - who wishes to remain anonymous - your generosity and contribution is the biggest blessing!

[www.centreofhope.net](http://www.centreofhope.net)



[www.centreofhope.net](http://www.centreofhope.net)  
Others ... Our Calling, our Motivation, our Commitment