



BUILDING A WORLD
WHERE *Everyone*
Belongs

Spring 2020

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L'Arche Community Life

The L'Arche Greater Vancouver community continues to live our mission to make known the gifts of people with developmental disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships. Our core values are at the forefront of our day-to-day activities. Here are the highlights of the last three months:

January - Embrace the Identity and Mission

We are inspired to live the L'Arche mission every day

We gathered together to talk about what is important to us as we anticipate our years of transition during the construction of our new building. It was a rich experience with creative ideas and a **deep commitment to be intentional about keeping our relationships and community life strong** during this period.

February - Stand on Humble Ground

We earn trust and acceptance when we come as we are

Young seminarians, Paul Vo and Jeremy Keong, joined us as live-in volunteers for the month of February. Here's what they had to say about their L'Arche experience:

"Throughout my time at L'Arche I felt fully accepted, and never got the feeling that I was an outsider. My encounters with the core members, assistants, and other members of the community are unforgettable; they have touched my heart in many ways. I am forever thankful for my time at L'Arche and all the great work happening there." ~ **Paul**



(L-R) Paul, Garth, Niall, and Jeremy - the NHN crew

"My month at L'Arche allowed me to experience what it means to be accepted for who you are, and yet still challenged to become a better version of yourself. Everyone, especially the core members, taught me so much about what it means to be valued, seen, and known. I will never forget the sense of belonging that I felt while I was at L'Arche!" ~ **Jeremy**



Mary and Arthur on Valentine's Day lunch at the Emmaus

March - Open to Mutual Relationships

We develop meaningful, life-changing friendships

Once a month on a Friday evening, L'Arche hosts "Connections" where people with various abilities come together and have fun. Attendees include people from L'Arche, students from local colleges, and people who want to get to know us because one of their family members lives with a developmental disability.



A fun connections evening for the young and young at heart.

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Our Neighbours Helping Neighbours crew is out in the community every day. You can see them doing yard work for seniors and people with disabilities, delivering Meals on Wheels and collecting cardboard from a local community centre that's then taken to the recycling depot.



NHN crew taking a break from yard work for a photo op



Meals on Wheels delivery for seniors



Trip to recycling depot!

Re-development Project and We All Belong Capital Campaign Update

Over the next six months we will move from our main building to different interim locations to meet the needs of our residents, day programs, administration, and meeting spaces. The L'Arche Project Team is working together to advance the project through various approval processes. The complexity of this project continues to result in extensions to the timeline to meet requirements for building permits and demolition.

To date, thanks to our many generous and loyal donors, we are excited to announce that we have secured \$2.9 million in donations and pledges. Due to changes in design and construction the minimum campaign goal has been increased to \$6 million. Local and provincial governments have indicated a commitment of another \$7.1 million towards the projected total cost of \$20 million.

We recognize that we are creating something much more than simply a structure made of bricks and mortar. We are sharing a value system that declares that our communities are richer, stronger, and healthier when we recognize people's individual uniqueness and create opportunities for them to share their gifts.

CURRENT BUILDING PROJECT TIMELINE

PRE- DEMOLITION

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Spring 2020 | Building permit submission |
| Summer 2020 | Achieve rezoning—3rd City Council reading |
| Fall 2020 | Complete relocation of residents and staff |

DEMOLITION AND TENDERING

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Late Fall 2020 | Hazmat abatement and demolition (condition of 4th reading) |
| Early Winter 2020 | Achieve rezoning—4th and final City Council reading |
| Late Winter 2020 | Final costing and tendering, building permit issuance |

CONSTRUCTION

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 2021 - 2022 | Site construction (18 months) |
| Spring/Summer 2022 Move in / Building Occupancy | |

A Message from the Board President and the Executive Director

Dear Family, Friends, and Supporters of L'Arche,

We assume many of you are now aware of the news about Jean Vanier, as a result of the release of the findings of an independent inquiry commissioned by L'Arche International. We have spoken with many of you as the news unfolded and apologize to those whom we were unable to speak with given the demands over the last few weeks.

The news has devastated those of us who loved and were inspired by the life and vision of Jean Vanier. The response within our community has been shock, confusion, anger and grief. We heard these same expressions from many of you.

We want you to know that we remain as committed as ever to serving people with and without disabilities. L'Arche Greater Vancouver has been an intentional community for over 45 years. This will continue. Jean's original inspiration, that people with developmental disabilities have a unique gift to offer our world, and that we are transformed and become more human through our relationships with each other remains true. Our commitment to those we serve is needed more than ever.

Jean Vanier was an inspiring figure. He spoke eloquently about human dignity, especially the dignity of the disabled. His words and vision changed the lives of many. Unfortunately, Jean Vanier also had a dark aspect to his character, an aspect inconsistent with the vision he shared about honouring those who are vulnerable. Now we must reconcile the good work that Jean did with this new information.

We commend L'Arche International for their commitment to the truth, regardless of how disconcerting this might be. Their commitment to the truth is a powerful statement of our values as an organization. We also commend the women who stepped forward and shared their experiences so that the truth could be known. This must have been difficult for them. We hope that the public acknowledgement and condemnation of such behaviour assists them in their healing.

L'Arche Greater Vancouver continues to meet the highest standard of care for those we support. As a CARF accredited organization, we abide by a set of rigorous standards related to training of personnel, care of people, and business practices. Provincially, we are under the direction of the Community Care Facilities Act and our homes undergo annual licensing inspections. We also abide by standards set by L'Arche Canada and are regularly evaluated to ensure we are true to the core values of the organization. We continually review our policies and practices and look for ways to improve them. It is our intention to use this experience as an opportunity to honour our commitments, deepen our compassion, and affirm our resolve to facilitate safe and caring relationships with everyone.

We are grateful to the many who have offered their compassion, support and prayers to us in our time of need. Thank you for reaching out to us when you also must feel deeply saddened by this news. The message we have received repeatedly is that while this is indeed disturbing news, it does not change their admiration and support for the work of L'Arche. One donor stated – "The litmus test in my mind is what you and your colleagues are doing in the local community. I only see stellar ministry and, so far as I am concerned, I am happy to support your good works."

In gratitude for your compassion and support,



Thank You!

We gratefully acknowledge the financial contributions from the following churches, businesses, and organizations in support of L'Arche Greater Vancouver.
(December 2019 to March 2020)

Andrew Mahon Foundation	SCHW Holdings Ltd.
Archdiocese of Vancouver	Spiel Foundation
Arrowhead Motor Inn Ltd	St. Andrew's Book, Gift & Church Supply
C.W.L. of Canada OLPH Council	St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity, SFO
Catholic Women's League	St. Augustine's Catholic Church
City in Focus Foundation	St. Patrick's C.W.L. Maple Ridge
Gerard Search	St. Peter's C.W.L.
God With Us Inc.	St. Peter's Church
Holy Cross C.W.L.	St. Theresa's C.W.L.
J & G Servant Foundation	St. Thomas Anglican Church
Ladner United Church	The Diocese of New Westminster
L'Arche Canada Foundation	The Giustra Foundation
Mauro Family Fund	The Leone Carey Carlisle Alter Ego Trust
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish	Tundra Sales Inc.
Our Lady of the Lake C.W.L.	Vancity Royal Oak Branch
Point Blank Creative	Virginia's Arc Private Foundation
Quiet Cove Foundation	Wyn Systems Inc.

Tribute Gifts

The following people were honoured/remembered with a gift to L'Arche Greater Vancouver:

In Honour

Sid	Philip Beeby
Diane Bruce	Creation House
Leah Goard	Tom & Carolyn Goard-Baker
Chris Grimes-Goard	Neil Jongbloed & Julia Bayliss
Nathan Korstanje & Hitomi Imamura	Audrey Schell
Kelsey Trigg	Ron Van De Reit
Rick Volman	Ben Volman

In Memory

Chris Cochlan	James Colgan
Joseph Deli	Georgina Douglas
Richard Brian Fraser	Dawn Goard
Charles Hart	Basil and Peter Henney
Kirk Huckvale	Angela Lant
Vivian Lee	Mrs. S C Wong

Our heartfelt thank you also for the generous support of many individuals and families who wish to remain anonymous. We could not be L'Arche without your support!

☒ YES, I would like to support the work of L'Arche locally!

Thank You for supporting the work of L'Arche in Greater Vancouver

If you prefer to donate online go to:
www.larchevancouver.org and click "Donate Now"

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FIRST NAME: _____ INITIAL: _____

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CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

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By providing your email address you are agreeing to receive emails from L'Arche Greater Vancouver. This may include e-newsletters, event invites or requests for support.

- ☐ I would like to become an Ark Builder by committing to a gift of \$500 or more a year.
☐ I would like to receive information about donating securities or leaving a gift in my will.
☐ I wish to remain anonymous.

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HERE'S MY GIFT OF:

- ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100
☐ \$50 ☐ Other: \$ _____

- ☐ I have enclosed my cheque payable to
L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver.
☐ I prefer to use my credit card.
PLEASE FILL OUT CREDIT CARD INFO BELOW

OR I WILL GIVE MY MONTHLY GIFT OF:

- ☐ \$60 ☐ \$40 ☐ \$20 ☐ Other: \$ _____

- ☐ I prefer to make a monthly contribution by credit card
PLEASE FILL OUT CREDIT CARD INFO BELOW

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard CSV# _ _ _

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