

R.R.SMITH *news*

- NEWSLETTER -

AUTUMN 2016



AN EDUCATIONAL LEGACY
THE CHARITABLE ARM OF THE BCRTA

604.871.2260

Toll Free: 1.877.683.2243

www.rrsmith.ca

General News

On September 24th, R.R. Smith will hold its Annual General Meeting. At this meeting delegates are going to vote on changes to the way R.R. Smith is funded. Since R.R. Smith was established by the BCRTA to function as its charity, the main source of grant money has come from BCRTA general funds in the form of a member donation. The BCRTA is proposing funding changes to comply with the CRA rules for Not For Profit organizations. The BCRTA has been advised that BCRTA membership fees cannot be used to fund charities. Therefore, R.R. Smith has been asked by the BCRTA to charge a membership fee. BCRTA will collect and forward this fee to R.R. Smith. The BCRTA is proposing to split the current membership fee of \$40, with \$38 BCRTA membership and \$2.00 R.R. Smith membership.

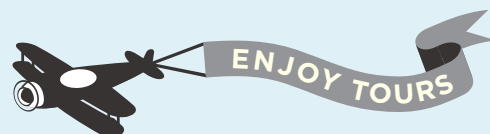
The R.R. Smith Library shelves, as viewed in the Fall 2016 Postscript, have been filled with books thanks to generous donations from members and branches.



In the last year R.R. Smith has helped 19 educational charities in BC and around the world. Unless otherwise stipulated, all Branch and Member donations are put into the Grant fund for distribution in March. Donations could also be put into the R.R. Smith Endowment fund, one of the six University funds, one of the charities that have been previously granted funds, or other donor specified educational charities. Tax receipts are issued in February. Please send donations to:

R.R. Smith, #100 - 500 W. 6th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 4P2

R.R. Smith has an affinity plan with Enjoy Tours. When BCRTA/RR Smith members and companions book a tour with Enjoy Tours, the company sends a small donation to R.R. Smith but only if you register as a BCRTA/RR Smith member. This affinity plan helps raise funds for educational projects in B.C. and around the world. It costs our members nothing. The 2016 catalogue is on line. www.enjoytourandtravel.com/tourcatalog/ Book fun events for yourself and your branch.



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Delivering the Books in Guatemala

A Big Thank-you to RR SMITH MEMORIAL FUND FOUNDATION FOR THE 2 GRANTS FOR \$1000: ODISHA, INDIA AND GUATEMALA. I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY THESE PHOTOS OF THE BOOKS THAT THE RIDGE-MEADOWS RTA SENT TO THE SCHOOL IN ESCUINTA IN DECEMBER. THE R.R. SMITH GRANTS WILL ENABLE US TO ADD TO THIS LIBRARY.

THANKS, KEN HOLMES

Hi! We had a great morning on Monday delivering the books to the San Gabriel school at the garbage dump. The kids did not want to give back the books that we used to take some pictures. The teachers are so excited.

Thank you for the work that you are doing to help these kids become readers which will make them leaders in Guatemala...

Blessings,
Judy Bergen

****The last picture is of the garbage dump...so much smoke/fire from the methane gas. They still live on the dump.*



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Thank You from Devi Jal Kumari School, Gorkha, Nepal

Dear R.R. Smith Members,

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your generous donation to go toward furniture and whiteboards for the first classrooms of Devi Jal Kumari School in Aprik Village in Gorkha, Nepal. Prem K Khatri founder of our Nepali partner NGO Sambhav Nepal traveled eight hours from Kathmandu to Aprik Village to lay the cornerstone for the first phase of the new school. The photo shows the cornerstone ceremony on April 25, the anniversary of the earthquake that destroyed the village and school. Prem is in the photo wearing a white kata scarf and red lower malla.

With most sincere appreciation,

Patti Shales Lefkos
President and Founder
Nepal One Day at a Time



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Vancouver Opera's Spring Break Opera Camp

Dear Ms. De Vries:

Please convey the thanks of the Vancouver Opera Guild to the R. R. Smith Fund Foundation members for their grant of \$1000 towards the cost of Vancouver Opera's Spring Break Opera Camp. We're very grateful for this contribution towards our own support of what we feel is a very worthwhile project.

*Spring Break Camp took place March 14 to 18, 2016 at Nootka Elementary. This program is offered to the Vancouver School Board at no cost through the Community Partnerships Program. This year, 18 students in Grades 4 to 7 from three different elementary schools participated in the program. The students were recommended to the program based on need and on their interest in the performing arts. The group worked with Teaching Artists Rory Cowal, Evelyn DeLaHaye and Shannon Leddy to create a new opera based on the book *The Giving Tree* by author Shel Silverstein. The final performance was full to capacity with supportive parents and families. Two of the students from this program have gone on to register for the Summer Camp program in July 2016 at Vancouver Opera – one in the Junior Camp, the other in the Teen Intensive.*

Yours sincerely,
Gwyneth Westwick, Past President
Vancouver Opera Guild



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Thank You From The Betty Huff Theatre Company

RR SMITH MEMORIAL FUND THANK YOU

I am writing on behalf of the Betty Huff Theatre Company to thank you for your generous grant donation this past year. We asked specifically for help in purchasing a new mixer for our theatre company. The new 32 channel mixer was up and running for our production of Aladdin and provided the best sound we have had in many years. Our two 12-year old students who had to run the board had no trouble understanding how to make it work and all the cues were computerized in the board. It also allowed us to record every channel and produce a top quality digital recording of their show. You can check it out at www.bettyhufftheatre.ca just click on Aladdin and click on the video link or check out the pictures from the show.



More importantly since we didn't have to spend money on the mixer, we were able to purchase snacks for the kids for rehearsals and we were able to give each family a DVD of their kids performing in the show. Inner city school means for many of these kids rather than going home to an empty house they can stay and get homework done, have fun, and interact with others 3 days a week.

While money buys tangible things, what about the intangibles? You helped provide the opportunity for kids to have hundreds of hours of teaching, rehearsals and instructions. Here are the kid's comments:

I would love to do theater next year again. It's really important for me being in theater because I get more and more confident to do things in front of people, and you get good at other things we do in class too.

Theatre is hard work and tiring, but I love it because when I'm up on stage it feels wonderful.

I learned that once you hit that stage you are always in character and even if your feeling lazy or tired feel that way but then again once you're on that stage you're in character. I also learned

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Thank You From The Betty Huff Theatre Company

not mumble always articulate, look at the crowd when your talking, and cheat out the audience should never or at least shouldn't see your back.

It is very important to me because I love singing, dancing, and acting. He should definitely keep doing it because if he does I will join every year.

Being able to help and be a part of the theatre company was an amazing experience because it was team work that made it all fun. The best part about drama was that i got to meet new people and work with them all... I had an amazing 1st experience in drama and I'm glad I joined it.

I felt really lucky and proud to be apart of the theatre company because the show was awesome and i got all my ques right.

So thank you retired teachers for helping us work with our kids and inspire them to be greater than they ever thought possible! We hope you will continue to partner with us for years to come. Making kids dreams come true one theatre production at a time.

Steve Swaddling

- Director Betty Huff Theatre Company





Joyous News from Families For Children - Ratul and Nupur are wed!

Bhabesh and Liton have gone to buy all food stuffs today. Shilpi and Saju has gone to buy some wedding cosmetics, sharee (Nupur to wear) for tonight program as there are some religious rules for today. All our children who live in the hostel and who work outside are phoning to come and attend their wedding. The wedding cost \$416.

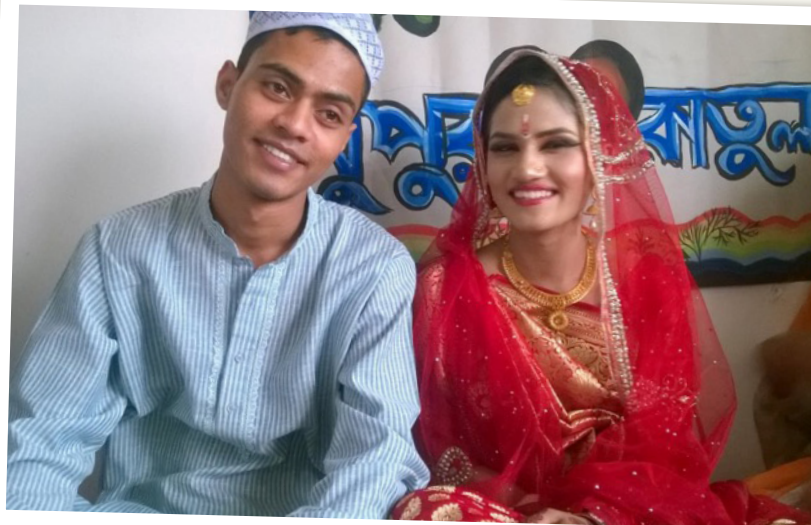
- Shujon

.....

Ratul came to live at Families For Children when he was 4 and Nupur at the age of 8. Ratul received his Bachelor of computer science a few weeks ago and Nupur has been teaching at our FFC school. I hope she will complete her own education ----- grade 10 which is an important grade in Bangladesh. Ratul has a job and is earning a good salary. I have been to several weddings in Dhaka and this is the only couple I have seen smile!!!

- Muriel

Families for Children has received R.R. Smith grants.



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MEMORIAL FUND FOUNDATION

Fill in this form so we have the information we need to provide you with a tax receipt.

Name

Street Address

City

Province

Postal Code

Amount of Donation

To Endowment

To Grants

Mail the completed form and your cheque to:

R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation

100 - 550 W. 6th Avenue,
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2

For donations made by way of bequests, life insurance, real estate or In Memoriam, please contact the President, R.R. Smith Memorial Foundation by mail at the above address or by phone at:

604.871.2260 or toll free 1.877.683.2243

The R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation is:

- A Registered Charity under the Canadian Income Tax Act #86160 2126 RR0001
- Incorporated under the BC Society Act

The purposes of the society are to advance public education in British Columbia and in developing countries.

If you believe, as we do, that Education can make a difference, please support the work of the R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation by making:

- A regular donation which will be used in the year that it is given to support the grants the Foundation makes that year
- A donation to the Foundation's Endowment Fund so the interest earned can be used for future grants
- An "In Memoriam" donation for a family member or friend
- The R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation your Life Insurance beneficiary thereby making your premiums tax deductible
- A real estate donation

WHAT WE DO

- A** Providing scholarships and bursaries to
 - Doctoral students in any area which advances public education, and
 - Deserving students, to enable them to attend post-secondary educational institutions,
- B** Making and administering grants to Canadian registered charitable organizations, the purposes of which are similar to those of the society,
- C** Acquiring school materials, books, equipment, and supplies of all kinds, and donating them to schools,
- D** Providing funding to support innovative projects which advance public education,
- E** Working cooperatively with governments in Canada and other countries, and other charitable organizations.

The Foundation makes grants to projects that meet these criteria and are registered Canadian charities. Application forms are available at www.rrsmith.ca