



MEDIA RELEASE

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Photo: High-res photo of cheque presentation from Squamish Savings attached.

SQUAMISH SAVINGS PROVIDES FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE PEMBERTON MEN'S SHED/TOOL LENDING LIBRARY PROJECT

The Pemberton Valley Seniors Society (PVSS) a registered charity were successful in their application to Squamish Savings for funds to support the ongoing activities of the growing Pemberton Men's Shed (PVMS) organization, a special PVSS program started in early 2015.

The startup funding of \$40,000 for PVMS has been spent and interim funding to maintain and expand the successful Pemberton Tool Library, the social venture developed by the men to both serve the community and sustain the expansion of the Men's Shed, requires interim funding.

Squamish Savings recognized the worth of the Men's Shed/Tool Library concept and the need to assist the Pemberton group reach self sufficiency. A cheque for \$10,000 was presented by David Thomson, Chair of the Squamish Savings Partner Board, to the PVSS president Marnie Simon and two members of the PVMS (Bill Reynolds and Derek Walton) at a ceremony at the Squamish branch last Wednesday.

Since its inception in early 2015 the concept of the Men's Shed, a place and focus for men to gather to socialize and work on projects, has taken off. A core group of dedicated men spearheaded the project. The group now meets weekly for a "brown bag lunch" and to play pool or cribbage or simply have a chat. The musical members of the group hold a biweekly jam session and have even been hired for gigs at local restaurants and events.

The growth of camaraderie amongst an eclectic group of men and the enjoyment and satisfaction they experience through working side by side on community projects are some of the outcomes of this "men only" organization.

The Pemberton Tool Library (PTL) is operated by the (PVMS) group. The PTL lends tools to members free, or with a nominal service charge for power tools for weekly durations. Some Tool library Facts: June 2015, PVMS started the PTL as a means of supporting the activities of the PVMS and providing a service to the community. The PTL is open 18 hours a week, (Thursday thru Sunday). There is a tool inventory of over 350 tools worth approximately, \$7,000, a combination of donations and purchases. The membership has grown to 60. The public pay an annual fee of \$40 and PVSS members \$10. Use of the tools is free and open to all.

Visit the Pemberton Tool Library site <http://www.pembertontoolibrary.com/> for more information