

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LEAN ON US

We are Here For You

When it comes to the coronavirus crisis, some say we are all in the same boat. But, as pointed out on a missive currently circulating on Facebook and Twitter, we are in the same storm, but our boats are very different. For some the virus means working from home with no daily commute. It means spending less on gas, lattes and dry cleaning. It means going for long walks on nearby wilderness trails and playing with the kids and dogs in a backyard often with a pool, a trampoline or both. But, for others it is not so blissful.

What if your only nutritious meal of the day is no longer available? What if those bare cupboards remain bare? What if, for the first time in your life you feel the pangs of hunger as your parents struggle to put food on the table. What if, what if – the scenarios keep emerging as more and more people succumb to the oppressive reality of the coronavirus crisis. For some it's simply adapting to a new and perhaps better normal, for others it's a life altering catastrophe.

The Langley School District Foundation has committed to provide \$50 gift cards every week to the more than 600 families within the school district who need help. The Foundation started the program during the week of April 6 and will continue distributing cards every week while regular classes are suspended.

The Foundation could not make such a commitment without the help of all our community partners who have donated to the Langley School District Foundation's Food for Thought Program. We've had donations from corporations, businesses, associations and individuals. Local firms including Infinity Properties and Spake Media sent out matching challenges of \$10,000 and many responded. Horizon Landscape, Benchmark Properties Foundation, Valley Traffic, Darnell & Co Lawyers, VWR Capital and Shewan Foundation to name a few. Others came forward as soon as they heard that Langley families were struggling, including the Vancouver Sun Adopt-a-School, Breakfast Club of Canada, Aldergrove and Sunrise of Langley Rotary Clubs, TOL Firefighters, United Churches of Langley, Jewish Foundation, Premium Brands, Christian Life Assembly, Envision Financial First West Credit Union, Beatniks Restaurant, Freshco Grocers, Hugh Aspinall, Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation, Ayerborn Audio/Video Inc., Langley Advance/Times, Lilianne Fuller, Billy Vanderkerhove, Lorraine & Chuck Marr as well as hundreds of individuals.

The Foundation is so grateful for the response from the community, but we still need help. As the crisis continues, more and more families find themselves in dire straits, often for the first time in their lives. We are in this together. Please help, if you can. Donate online www.langleyschooldistrictfoundation.com on the Food for Thought page or send cheques to Langley School District Foundation, 4875-222nd Street, Langley, BC V3A 3Z7.

The Foundation is working with our community partners to ensure that we can provide the resources that are required. Please contact scairns@sd35.bc.ca if your family needs help. If you can provide donations to our Food for Thought Program, please go to www.langleyschooldistrictfoundation.com at our Food for Thought page. We need your help more than ever!! Thank you for all that you do.