



Richmond Christmas Fund



2025 Year in Review

Like Clockwork

Time flies when you're brightening the holidays for families in need!

Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives (RCRG) has now been operating the Richmond Christmas Fund for 25 years. During that time, some things have remained constant, like the incredible support we receive from the community. The program itself, however, is always changing, as we strive to improve the client experience while maximizing our capacity to help as many people as possible.

In 2025, it felt like everything we'd learned in previous years came together, resulting in the best version of the Christmas Fund yet. The program ran like clockwork, and we were able to provide **1,360 residents** – including **590 children and teenagers** – with an unforgettable holiday celebration.

A major game changer was the introduction of a new, appointment-based registration system, which dramatically reduced client wait times. It made the Christmas Fund more accessible and welcoming, without limiting our ability to meet the overall community need. Client feedback was universally positive, so this new way of running the program is here to stay.

Of course, that the Christmas Fund can spring into action and operate like clockwork isn't a foregone conclusion. The mechanism that keeps the program going is our community's giving spirit.

In 2025, that spirit was reflected in major fundraising campaigns like the Realtor Challenge and the Richmond Auto Mall's Windows of Hope. It could be felt at events like Steveston Beer Fest, the Richmond RCMP Toy Drive, and the Christmas Classic Car Cruise. It was brought to life by every volunteer, every donor, and every supporter.

Getting the Christmas Fund to run like clockwork requires teamwork, and if the past 25 years have taught us anything, it's that there's no better team than the Richmond community. Thank you for another extraordinary holiday season.

Time Well Spent

2025 Christmas Fund Statistics

of Households Served: **576** 

of Donors: **235** 

of People Helped: **1,360**

By Age: **404** Children **186** Teens **709** Adults **61** Seniors



of Grocery Vouchers Distributed: **1,231** 

Value of Toys Given Out: **\$46,460** 

of Volunteers: **67** 

of Volunteer Hours: **591** 

A Lifetime of Generosity

On November 10, 2025, Richmond lost a legend when Jack Tadg O'Hare passed away at the age of 82. He lived a full and adventurous life, building a successful career in the hospitality industry. In 1987, Jack and his wife Jane – with help from friends and family – opened O'Hare's Pub, which has become a cornerstone of the Steveston community and a major source of support for the Richmond Christmas Fund.



Each year, led by Jack's daughter Erinn and her husband Grant, O'Hare's organizes Steveston Beer Fest. Held at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, the event highlights craft beer from BC and beyond, as well as food from local merchants. It also raises proceeds for the Christmas Fund: since 2013, Steveston Beer Fest has contributed over \$100,000 to our cause.

Above all, Jack valued family and community, and in O'Hare's Pub, he found a way to combine the two. His loved ones will carry on the business and his legacy of generosity. They started with Jack's obituary, asking friends, family, and community members not to send flowers, but to honour his memory by making a donation to the Christmas Fund.



To See Full Story 

In the Nick of Time

After the Christmas Fund had closed for the season, we were contacted by Angela Toussaint, program manager at Atira Women's Resource Society's Cadence Second Stage Housing facility. She wanted to know if we could provide last-minute help for one of her families: a mom and two young children fleeing domestic violence.

With Christmas just a few days away, we did our best to make a holiday wish come true. [Read the full story in The Province.](#)

Big-Time Support

The Christmas Fund is made possible by countless acts of kindness from every corner of our community. Each year, though, a small group of individuals, businesses, and community organizations leads the way. Their monetary and in-kind contributions are a shining example of Richmond's giving spirit, and provide a foundation for the Christmas Fund's success. With endless gratitude, we proudly recognize our 2025 Angel Donors & Major Supporters:

Granby Group of Companies

Innovation Networks

McDonald's

Montrose Properties

O'Hare's GastroPub & Liquor Store

Platinum Pro-Claim Restoration

RBC Royal Bank

Richmond Auto Mall Association

Richmond News

Richmond Pentecostal Church Child Care Society

Richmond Realtors

Sirota's Alchymy

Summit Customs Brokers & Manitoulin Transport

