

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Don Ross Secondary Students Raise Funds For Howe Sound Women's Centre Society

COAST SALISH TERRITORY/SQUAMISH, BC (July 3, 2018) Howe Sound Women's Centre Society (HSWC) is honoured to be the charitable recipient of funds raised by three Don Ross Secondary Students as part of the schools \$20 Project. Through this program, groups of students are given \$20 and tasked with using the funds to raise donations for a charitable organization.

"The \$20 Project is an incredible way to teach youth the power of making a difference in their community through philanthropic efforts." Says Ashley Oakes, Howe Sound Women's Centre Society's Community Engagement Coordinator. "Not only do the students need to think creatively about how best to stretch their budget; they must also examine what causes they connect with and learn more about the charitable sector".

Through the \$20 Project, four Don Ross Secondary Students raised an incredible \$550.50 by selling freezies and cupcakes to their school community.

In letters to the Women's Centre that were included with the donation, the students expressed their desire to make a difference in their community by supporting women and children in need as well as the need for continued advocacy for women's rights.

Howe Sound Women's Centre Society is very grateful to this enterprising group of students and thank them and Don Ross Secondary School for their generous contribution.

About The Howe Sound Women's Centre Society

The Howe Sound Women's Centre Society is a purpose driven charitable organization that has been serving the Sea to Sky Community for 35 years on the traditional territories of the Squamish and Lil'wat First Nations. The Women's Centre is focused on supporting women, children and youth who are in need of emergency shelter, support, referrals and advocacy, and in particular, those who are experiencing high conflict, violence or abuse. The Women's Centre offers emergency housing through Pearl's Place Transition House and Pearl's Safe Home, children and youth focused programs such as Children Who Witness Abuse counselling, Working Through Separation and Divorce counselling, and Violence is Preventable education, multicultural outreach, and health and wellness programs. We acknowledge and respect the unique needs of Indigenous women and their families given the history and legacy of residential schools. The Squamish and Whistler Women's Centres receive over 3,850 visits annually. The Women's Centre also operates Pearl's Value & Vintage, a second hand thrift store selling gently used and vintage goods, with all proceeds from sales supporting Howe Sound Women's Centre Society programs. For more information, visit www.hswc.ca.

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