



## **Hands up!** Monthly News Letter from WIN

August 2010

### **What's new at WIN?**

If you are interested in resources for emergency food and/or purchasing locally grown/produced items, check out the newest addition to the resources section of our website. The Local Food Resources page is designed to help you source out and acquire local food, and hopefully refer you to local community groups. If you know of any resources that we have missed, by all means email them to us at [win@wincooperative.ca](mailto:win@wincooperative.ca)

### **What's new in our community?**

Did you know that by May 2012, the Hartland Landfill will ban all food waste? This is an important aspect of a sustainable future for our community, especially when you consider that kitchen waste makes up 30% of what is currently being dumped. When details on the alternative are released, we will be sure to let you know!

### **What has WIN been doing in the community lately?**

Thanks to our donors, shoppers, and our fabulous volunteers, WIN has been able to provide New Starts (all the basic household essentials for a woman leaving a transition house and setting up a new home of her own) to almost 70 women and their families so far this fiscal year. Across all of our programs, we have provided more than \$76,000 worth of support to local women in the same time frame.

### **WIN Customer Circle**

We are excited to announce that the WIN Circle has been officially launched. With a minimum \$1.00 donation, you can join the circle and get a custom reusable WIN bag, which is your ticket to great deals at all of the WIN stores.

### **July Quiz Answer!**

Congratulations to everyone who correctly answered last month's quiz question, "Which Canadian province was the first to grant women the right to vote?" The answer is Manitoba, and all the respondents were entered into a draw for a WIN gift certificate. This month's winner is Helena Mota. Congratulations, Helena!

### **August Quiz Time!**

What country is often referred to as the Birthplace of Social Cooperatives, and has seen nearly 6000 social coops formed in the last 15 years? Everyone who phones (250-480-4006 ext 0) or emails ([win@womeninneed.ca](mailto:win@womeninneed.ca)) the correct answer by Sep 15, 2010 will be entered into a draw for a WIN gift certificate. The answer and the winner will be announced in next month's newsletter.

A WIN Westside regular recently said that the Westside Village store is bright, clean and uncluttered which invites people to pop in and take a look. She recently came across two great finds in that store which she was very excited about: two Eileen Fisher pieces, a silk dress and a linen skirt. If you haven't checked out the Westside store yet, why not pop in the next time you are in the neighborhood? You never know what you might find.

### **Volunteering at WIN**

Pat has been volunteering at WIN since February, in the Cook Street production department. This summer has been very busy for us and she has been incredibly flexible and has made herself available for lots of extra hours, which we greatly appreciate. Her cheerful disposition and helpful nature have been a delight for everyone at the Cook Street location!



You may have met her at the donation door greeting donors and receiving their donations, but she also performs other production tasks in the warehouse. She began volunteering at WIN because after two years of retirement she realized that idleness did not suit her. She had heard people at Navy suppers talking about WIN as a worthwhile cause, so she decided to give us a try (and we are sure glad she did). Pat says that there is never a dull moment in the warehouse, where the staff and other volunteers are great to work with. Not only is volunteering at WIN a great way to give back to the community, it keeps Pat busy and having fun. Thank you, Pat, for everything you have done here at WIN!

### **Donor Corner**

If you are interested in helping in your community and clearing out some of that clutter at the same time, consider a donation of some household goods to WIN. The items we are most frequently in need of for our New Start clients are kitchenware in good shape such as pots and pans, toasters and coffee makers, as well as larger things like vacuum cleaners, kitchen table/chair sets (small), and loveseats. For more information on donating to WIN, call 250-480-4006 ext 204 or website at <http://www.womeninneed.ca/donate>.

### **Did you know?**

... that WIN is a cooperative?

More specifically, WIN is a not-for-profit social cooperative. This means that WIN is deeply committed to the cooperative values of community benefit, social responsibility, equity and caring for others. As a non-profit organization, our revenues are used to create and sustain programs which benefit women and their families in our community. Through the operation of three resale shops in Victoria, and thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to be 100% self-sufficient financially, receiving no government funding. For more information about WIN as a cooperative, and to learn about other cooperatives in Victoria, visit our website!

Thank you for taking the time to read this update. Stay tuned for another month!