

# Life on the Front Line



From the ED's Desk

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As we come to the end of 2016 and look forward to the coming of a new year, we are given the chance to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that presented themselves in the old year. We then determine to use the knowledge and wisdom gained to imagine even greater things for 2017. We call this "experience." I believe such experience is a true gift from God. The ability to reflect and evaluate, and then build upon the experiences we have encountered in this journey called life, is indeed a wonderful gift that we all possess to some degree or

another. The Psalmist David in Psalm 119:59 says, "I have considered my ways and have turned to your statutes." After carefully considering the options, David recognizes that God's ways are the best ways to navigate through this adventure called life. We will be well served to do the same as we strive to be salt and light in our community and beyond.

## GUEST ACHIEVEMENTS

Starting in Oct., B.O.N. after volunteering for Thrifty foods for some time, showing much dedication they was offered a part time position. In late Oct. H.T today at work and has received, retroactively, an increase of \$2.00 an hour. Mr. E.L has a job that keeps him out over mid nights as of Oct 20.

As of Mid Oct.; M. B. works least a couple of graveyards per week at the Wholesale club. He hopes to turn it, into full time.

V. P. moved out at the end of Oct. to visit his family in Courtney, before staying in Nanaimo where he will get his hernia fixed. He left, giving his heartfelt thanks to all staff at the ARC for our support, saying that he would love to reconnect with us sometime & see the place after renovations.

M. K., a past ARC resident of the ARC of several years ago, again found himself in problematic housing conditions, but of Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> found supportive housing in the community. K.C. found a place in the community and will move out of the ARC soon, while M. B. has, as of the end of Oct. found a place off site in the community & a job.

J. G. moved into a room at the end of Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, moving to our Transitional Housing Program (THP).

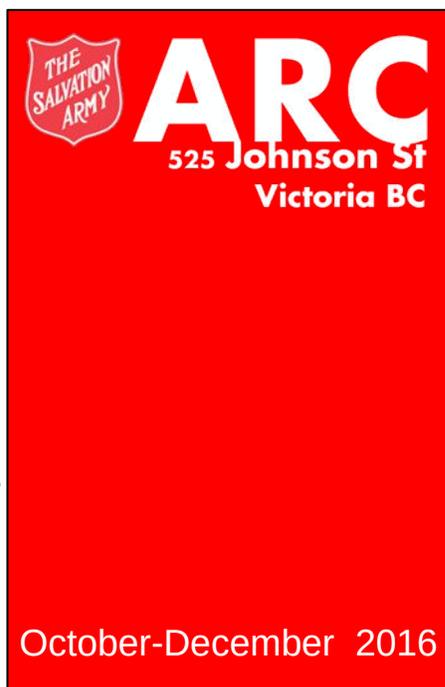
A.A. after a bit of bad luck with housing is back on his feet again & will move out to community again at the start of next month.

J. F. is moving into the community at the end of Oct. with a job as well.

P.W. after doing a great job of marketing himself in his housing search & secured a spot in a 2 person shared suite taking occupancy of his new place on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. In early Nov, L.B. found permanent housing, affordable & close to his work. We wish him all the best!

C.Y. Started work at the Odeon theatre in Mid-Nov. K.G. as of Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> is working full-time night shifts at his job..

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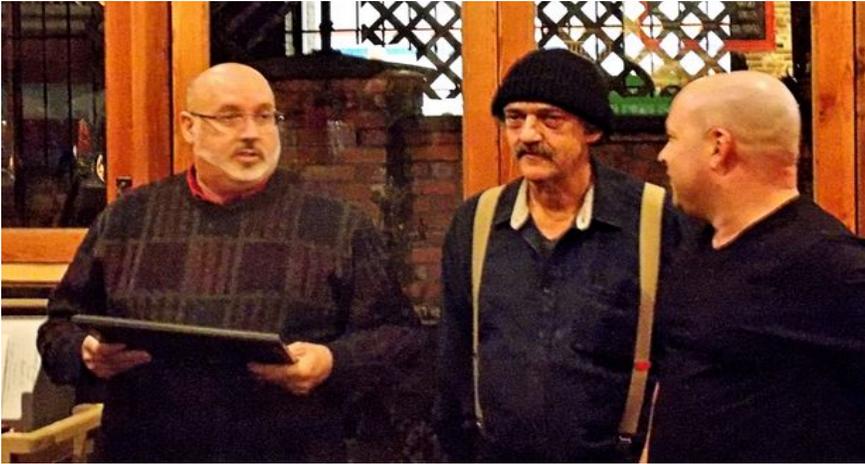
## Quote of the Month

"You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching, Love like you'll never be hurt, Sing like there's nobody listening, And live like it's heaven on earth."

William W. Purkey



Winters arrives at the ARC, the fog rolls in.



Major Brian & Anthony give Richard his long service award

C.F. decided to go to treatment this week leaving for Innervisions treatment facility over on the mainland as of Friday. We will continue to support him when he finishes treatment. S.K. has left for treatment over in Mission, BC in early Nov., We wish him all the best going forward! D. M. has expressed a desire to go to treatment. We are working on making that happen.

M.A. found a place in James Bay...moving into an apartment on the Nov 1<sup>st</sup> - work is steady...Awesome!!! A.K secured permanent housing & will be living in the Scotsman Hotel. In Mid Nov. R.K. found himself permanent housing, in the basement, of one of his co-workers at Quality foods has offered him a place to live in their basement suite. S.H. procured a new place to live & moved out in mid-Nov. We wish him well.

In Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> M. B. moved out of the ARC & into the Community. & E.L had moved back to Vancouver. As of Dec 9<sup>th</sup> C.H. & H.T. found housing along with D.H., I. Q. & D.M. Notably C.H. Has Housing in Dowler Place in January 2017. We have been busy little Elves. As of Dec 9 J.H. Is this month. On Dec 13<sup>th</sup> R.W. moved out into the community. As of Mid Dec. C.B. Moved out of the ARC & is on the waiting list for Hillside Terrace. As of Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> J.H was attending a late evening recovery program. As of the end of Dec. D.H. was accepted into our Salvation Army Matson Sequoia residence. It's a great building in a nice area, in a tough housing market it is an awesome find for him. It is with delight that we share with all that S.H. has procured a new place to live & anticipates moving out near the end of Dec.

As of late Dec., R.P. got a new job as a waiter starting Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> (& working till 2am Mon -Sat.)Also J.J. a new resident (in a paid

bed) works as a bar tender on the weekends.

**EVENTS**

**London Chef Cooking School**

The London Chef, a downtown Victoria cooking school, partnered with the Salvation Army to help the homeless learn to cook. Many thanks to Kala Mackenzie & caseworkers for making this happen as a huge success. The guys absolutely LOVED it & learned from it.

<http://www.vicnews.com/community/400701a831.html>

**Christmas Party**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of Dec. The Salvation Army ARC held its Christmas party in the very pleasant setting of Willies Bakery. Prizes were given out, as were long service awards for several members.

**Camosun College Training**

Camosun College provided our staff with incredibly useful mental health training. The instructors delved into topics relevant to our

work such as helping clients experiencing paranoia and suicide risk assessment. We are grateful we had the opportunity to do this and hope to do more training with them in the future.

**Extreme Weather Protocol Beds (EWP)**

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> saw the 1<sup>st</sup> activation of SA EWP mats at Centennial United Church. For the 1<sup>st</sup> time because of Chapel construction, the EWP sign was not seen in the Chapel as it was last winter.



**MEMORIALS**

One of our long standing volunteers, Bert Boutler, who served for many years in the community dining room... right up until the time he was unable, due to failing health, passed away on the 19<sup>th</sup>. A resident at our Matson Sequoia Residence, he had suffered a fall a few days before & was taken to the hospital at that time where he passed away. Condolences were sent to the family on behalf of the ARC. Bert's son Glen planned on having a memorial here in Victoria, in a few months. He was very glad to know how beloved Bert was here .

On Wed Oct 12, Our Place Chapel held a memorial Tyler Hershey

On Friday Oct. 28, Our Place Chapel held a Memorial for Larry Hay .



Bert in volunteering in the Community Dining Room



New door frames for old spaces and new were brought in, while old steel, gyproc, aluminum & concrete went out.

Framing began in the new mezzanine offices, built where empty space used to be, as well as in the washroom /kitchen spaces intended for this area. All areas included in the first round of renovation have now been closed off & are being worked on. Framing for the Chapel office has begun as well as framing in what will be the Front Lobby & offices area. Plumbing lines have been replaced with many areas awaiting a deficiency check. Completion dates for the first phase are still on target although the construction in Greater Victoria & surrounding areas will likely cause some material delays to the renovation. The staff washroom areas serve staff from the Thrift Store as well & remain the same with male staff using the 2nd floor east corridor (Waddington Alley side) single washroom & female staff using the washroom on the south side of the 2nd floor next to the staff lounge. To move the construction ahead contractors worked in the building on the last week end of Oct. starting around 9:00 to 14:00 Sat. working in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor bathroom areas, entering through the front doors. So as to not interfere with the Christmas Season in the Cafeteria & Thrift Store & subsequent days where sales are the Thrift Store, the construction schedule has been changed. CANPRO took the 4<sup>th</sup>

## ARC RENOVATION DIARY

### October-December Building Changes

The renderings located in the temporary entrance way on the first floor, indicate the hoped for result of this renovation project. Demolition began to make way for installation as the walls – gyproc & framing went up. Abatement continues with concrete and old framing being taken out, all over the centre, making way for new construction. While we continue to see demolition around the building – our first phase of renovation is in full swing. The CRF lounge and laundry rooms were closed off in preparation for redevelopment. Rewiring has been done in conjunction with gyproc & wall braces. Storage & function constantly remain as issues, while we routinely move things in or out or around to accommodate necessary renovation. There is always something being piled somewhere, to be used somewhere else. It is the nature of this useful work. Some reconstruction has begun to happen with removal & re-installation of duct work, plumbing over & electrical components all over the building.





Photo: Lyle Smith Work underway in the Lobby

on this floor will now see it's demise as there is a minimal crew from CANPRO working through the week between Christmas & New Years. Along with this demolition will come the closing of the individual washroom on the east side of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor that was being used as the men's staff washroom. The temporary men's staff washroom will now be located on the second floor south right beside the service elevator. The washroom signage has been changed to reflect this.

As of late Dec. The chapel ceiling frame is now being installed with preparations starting for the installation of floor tile in the lobby. New flooring is being installed in other areas such as the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor boardroom & the life skills lab on the fourth floor.



January 2017 will see completion of a number of the renovated areas & plans will soon be put in place to return the lobby, new offices washrooms and chapel to operation. Thanks again to all for your patience and encouragement to our residents as we work through these changes.



way to rebuilding, new equipment, systems & fittings are being repaired or reinstalled. Dry wall started to go up in the lobby, late Nov..2016.Dec 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> saw the installation of the new Fire Panel system in the ARC. It is since up & running & passed inspection. As we begin to think about welcoming in 2017 our construction around the building continues to progress.



floor common washroom on Wed., Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Starting demolition in this area resulted in an earlier completion date of the entire project. Residents on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor use the two single washroom & showers on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor as well as share the facilities of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor common washroom & accessible washroom. As of December 12<sup>th</sup>, the Chapel has been dry walled. The schedule is still to complete the west 2<sup>nd</sup> floor shared washroom on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. The shared washroom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor & the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor east side will be started at a later date in the new year. As abatement – or removal of old unnecessary parts of the building – gives

Just before Christmas last week the first of the shared washrooms was turned back over to the ARC and was put back in to use. It was a welcome change for our residents who have been remarkably tolerant during all work to date. The other shared washroom

