

### In this issue:

- Shop Local
- SHARE Superstars
- Adopt-a-Family Christmas Program
- Creative Arts Festival
- This Year's Events
- Silent Auction
- Evacuee Support
- In the New Year

DECEMBER 2023

# S.h.a.r.e. Superstars



#### FEATURED VOLUNTEER

RENATE

Renata started volunteering with S.H.A.R.E nearly a decade ago with her husband Jurgen.

Being the dedicated woman she is, she has helped S.H.A.R.E wherever it's needed. Renata has volunteered in nearly every department we have from sorting donations to hanging clothing.

The linen section however is where she really shines! She ensures our linen department is taken care of almost every single week. Even though it may not be the most fun task we have, Renata understands the value it brings to our store and organization and how important it is to maintain.

From the warehouse to hanging and tagging, Renata has contributed thousands of hours and has been integral to S.H.A.R.E 's operations. Thank you for everything you do, Renate!

#### FEATURED VOLUNTEER

**BRENT** 

Brent has been our faithful and valuable volunteer at SHARE since he started in June 2023.

He volunteers his time graciously once a week, helping out in the warehouse and various areas of the store – wherever we need him! He's always cheerful and ready to lend a helpful hand. Brent has expressed that he has a desire to bring some positive value to the community and because he works in shipping at his retail job, he has lots of skill to bring to SHARE.

Thanks for choosing to share your time with SHARE, Brent. We appreciate you!







## 'Tis the Season to Shop Local



#### TREES - UPDATE

We have gone through our selection of trees and have no more in stock.



We're fortunate to have a diverse donor base. This means we receive all sorts of interesting odds and ends. Our front-of-store boutique is full of all sorts of gift-appropriate items from brand-new toys to vintage collectibles. There is something for everyone on your list at S.H.A.R.E.



# Holiday Hampers



The Adopt-a-Family Hamper Program runs annually to help folks in our community focus on family more than finances during the holiday season.

The holiday season brings about many feelings. For a lot of families, it is an expensive, stressful time. Between trying to plan and provide a festive meal, purchasing gifts for the whole family, while also balancing the usual monthly budget—it stacks up quickly, usually on the parents or guardians.

Fortunately, there are individuals, families, and businesses that recognize this burden and are doing their best to support their neighbours. We have had such a positive response for hamper sponsors this yearwe can't thank you enough for helping families that have found themselves needing a hand up this year.



We had another
successful
Adopt-a-Family
season at SHARE!
Approximately
75 families
were able to receive
Christmas hampers with
the generosity
of local donors!



### Creative Arts Festival

#### Our mural artists: Tyrone Whitehawk and Sarah Jones

In 2022, S.H.A.R.E. had decided that it lacked curb appeal and that the front of the building needed a facelift. In deciding how to refresh our look, the Board of Directors considered several options but decided that rather than simply replacing the old signage, they would look at being more creative and take the artistic route. Being that the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission had recently put out 94 calls to action, S.H.A.R.E. wanted to be part of this initiative. Subsequent conversations with Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society resulted, not only in a collaborative grant application, but also in the commissioning of two up-and-coming mural artists, Tyrone and Sarah. The S.H.A.R.E. mural represented the biggest project either of them had ever done. Over the course of the project, Tyrone and Sarah learned to collaborate with each other and to incorporate their very different styles. They were invited to include elements of their indigenous heritage and to interpret them so as to represent S.H.A.R.E.'s commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. In doing so, Sarah and Tyrone needed to consider what the Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities have in common. They gained a great deal of practical experience in planning and delivering a project of this size. They gained business opportunities as passers-by asked for their business cards, with the potential of new projects. But most of all they learned to cope with adversity and work through extreme heat, wildfires, evacuations and smoke. Throughout it all, Sarah and Tyrone remained resilient and renewed their commitment to completing the project. A Creative Arts Festival was held on September 23, 2023 outside on the store grounds, where the mural was dedicated to the public and blessed by an elder from Ki-low-na Friendship Society. Indigenous dancers performed for the festival-goers and an acrobatic show was put on by Kinshira, a local circus group. Kelowna jazz musician Colin Moorman played for us, and we raffled off many gifts donated from local businesses.



## Silent Auction



# What we got up to this year!







In August 2023, Kelowna was seriously affected by the wildfires and at SHARE we wanted to do what we could for those in need of help. We offered evacuee support in the form of clothing and household goods for those who had to leave their homes.



This year we expressed appreciation to our partner organizations by distributing gift-card Christmas wreaths

## In The New Year

### **VOLUNTEERING**

We are always on the hunt for volunteers but we are making it a goal of ours for 2024 to secure more regular volunteers to help operate our store. If you are available for a few hours a week between Monday – Saturdays 10:00 – 4:30, consider helping out at your favourite thrift store!

### PARTNERSHIPS

We're looking forward to strengthing our legacy partnerships and nurturing our new ones in 2024 with more partnered events and programs – be sure to keep an eye out!



It has been so amazing seeing how many folks are shopping secondhand this year for the holidays. Buying secondhand gifts helps the environment, local shops, and can help stretch your dollar.

Be proud of your Thriftmas finds and feel free to tag us @KelownaShareSociety!

## THANK YOU, THRIFTERS!







until stock is gone!



New Year

