



United Way
Central & Northern
Vancouver Island

United Way's Starlight Galaxy Film Festival Raises \$7500

All Night Film Festival for Teens Was a Fun, Safe Night for a Good Cause

Nanaimo, BC – October 1, 2013 – On Friday September 27 over 400 teens stayed over night watching movies and eating popcorn for the United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island's **Starlight Galaxy Film Festival**. The evening raised \$7500 for the \$750,000 **Agent of Change** fundraising campaign that funds 33 programs in our community in 2013/14, including 11 life-changing programs for kids and youth.

"The Starlight Galaxy Film Festival is a hit every year with teens and this year we are thrilled to have had youth be a part of our campaign fundraising," said Signy Madden, Executive Director, UWCNVI. "There are kids and teens in our community that are struggling with issues like suicide, depression, loss of a loved one and bullying, the programs that United Way funds help deal with those issues first hand and get teens and their families the help they need."

For the 13th year, Galaxy Cinemas donated the space for the festival, the movies that played all night, and the popcorn and pop. The staff also donated their time to be there and serve the food. Island Radio helped promote the event on 102.3 The Wave and 106.9 The Wolf. Over 30 volunteers, including students, RCMP officers and a first aid attendant made this year's event both a fun and safe evening. Christopher Briggs of CIBC Wood Gundy did a wonderful job of managing the volunteers for the entire night.

The 2013/14 fundraising campaign for United Way kicked-off in September and donations can be made online via Canada Helps at www.uwcnvi.ca, via phone at 250-729-7400 or emailing info@uwcnvi.ca

About United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island

UWCNVI improves lives and builds community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action. Since 1958 UWCNVI has helped strengthen the communities it serves. Because of the generosity of donors and volunteers, UWCNVI is able to fund 53 charities supporting 60 programs in the Central Island, the Comox Valley and Campbell River this year. UWCNVI also manages the Success by 6 early childhood development programs throughout the Central and Northern Island and plays a part in working to reduce homelessness by being the Community Entity for Nanaimo's Homelessness Strategy. United Way's Better at Home program to help keep seniors living at home will begin in Nanaimo, Parksville, Port Hardy, Comox Valley and Port Alberni in 2013 and 2014.

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For additional information please contact:

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United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island

Change starts here

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Comox Valley : PO Box 3097 Courtenay, BC V9N 5N5 |250 338 1151
Campbell River : PO Box 135 Campbell River, BC V9W 5A7 |250 287 3213
www.uwcnvi.ca



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Blaine Lukaitis, Galaxy Cinemas; Laura Heikkila, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island & Rob Bye, General Manager, Island Radio.

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