

For Immediate Release



TD Canada Trust Partners with United Way to Gift Student Backpacks

Nanaimo, BC – December 16, 2014 – In December, TD Canada Trust worked with United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island to hand out 15 new backpacks full of school supplies to two of United Way's Community Partners.

At this time of the year, most students are excited about the holidays and not many want to think yet about their return to school in January. And, for some students, returning to school after the holidays is especially difficult because, unlike all the other kids, they do not have new clothing or new supplies to show their friends.

This year, TD Canada Trust wanted to help change that situation for some students by giving them backpacks full of school supplies before the holidays. To help them reach students in need, they partnered with United Ways across B.C. including United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island (United Way CNVI).

"We were thrilled to receive 15 brand new backpacks full of school supplies," said Gillian Tidey, Resource Development Assistant for United Way CNVI. "We felt like Santa bringing these backpacks to two of our Community Partners, Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren."

Helping United Way staff to deliver the backpacks were Darryl Lenko and Jennifer Moretti from the Nicol St. branch of TD Canada Trust. Staff at Tillicum Lelum and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, a program run by Parent Support Services of BC, will be gifting the backpacks before Christmas so that the students can use their new supplies in January.



Photo caption (from left to right): Jennifer Moretti (TD Canada Trust), Sandi Halvorson (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren), Inga Nielsen-Cooper (Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre) and Darryl Lenko (TD Canada Trust).

United Way Central and Northern Vancouver Island (UWCNVI) has been at work for more than 56 years in our community. With a mission to improve lives and to build community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action, UWCNVI invests in strengthening people and communities including Campbell River, Courtenay-Comox, Port Alberni, Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Nanaimo, Gabriola Island and Ladysmith. Funds donated annually by local businesses and individuals for United Way's Community Fund provide an essential network of social services in your community.

-30-

For additional information, please contact:

Jenn Houtby-Ferguson

United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island

PR@uwcnavi.ca | 250-713-9849

United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island

Change starts here

9-327 Prideaux Street Nanaimo, BC V9R 2N4

Central Island: 250 591 8731

Comox Valley: 250 338 1151

Campbell River: 250 287 3213

www.uwcnavi.ca