



# NINE STORIES OF HOPE

## Special Donor Newsletter

Hello Valued Partner,

In February of 2020, we launched the Nine Stories of Hope campaign to support the building of a new Vancouver Harbour Light facility on the Downtown Eastside. The launch was met with great enthusiasm and great support ... and then we were hit with a world-wide pandemic.

After an initial period of adjustment and re-focus to deal with the fallout from the pandemic, we slowly began to resume the \$20 million fundraising campaign. And with your help, I am happy to announce that we have reached the half-way point of our target. To date, we have commitments totalling \$11,800,000. As a partner in this transformational project, I want to thank you personally for your gift and commitment.

At over \$100 million, Nine Stories of Hope represents the single largest capital investment The Salvation Army has ever made in Canada. The nine-storey, 170,000 sq. ft. purpose-built facility will be a pillar on the Downtown Eastside and will play a significant role in helping address our province's three most pressing social issues: poverty, homelessness and mental health and addiction.

As our single biggest priority for The Salvation Army in British Columbia, we have enlisted the help of some of our community's most influential and passionate leaders. We have also partnered with all three levels of government as well as a significant portion of the corporate community.

Over the next several months, we look forward to some significant dates, including the beginning of demolition in November, a ground-breaking ceremony in March and a very public launch in April/May of 2022. Our goal between now and March 31 will be to raise an additional \$3.5 million to get us to \$15 million before we launch our public phase.

This e-Newsletter is a special campaign edition that we will begin to email you quarterly throughout the year to keep you informed of the campaign's progress.

Within today's e-Newsletter, you will find a recap of the first 15 months of the campaign, including significant gift announcements that we have had the distinct honour of announcing. I invite you to take in the news and articles contained within this e-Newsletter, and to visit our campaign website for more information, stories, and new renderings of the building.

I hope in doing so, you will discover how much your contribution to the Nine Stories of Hope campaign has and will matter in supporting the needs of our community, today, and well into the future.

With \$8.2 million to go, every gift matters. Every contribution will add up to our goal and will contribute to this once-in-a-generation project.

With sincere gratitude,

Mike Leland

Campaign Director

The Salvation Army, BC Division



## Officially Launched

The official launch of the Nine Stories of Hope campaign took place at Telus Gardens on Feb 17, 2020. The venue was gifted to us by our wonderful partners at Telus and it was kicked off with their generous donation of \$99,999.00, which cleverly coincided with the theme of Nine. Chief Communications Officer of Telus Jill Schnarr did a wonderful job hosting over 150 people on the evening. The event was attended by a who's who of the City of Vancouver, including his honour the Mayor, Kennedy Stewart who spoke about the importance of this project to the city and the people. The highlight of the evening was a heartfelt speech by a former client, turned employee Christina Petrina who captured the audience with her true-life story of reclamation and redemption through The Salvation Army's women's program.



## Family Support is Key

The key to success of any campaign is good leadership. At The Salvation Army, we are blessed to have a group of community leaders working side-by-side with our campaign staff to achieve our goal of \$20 million. Several members of our Greater Vancouver Advisory Board have stepped into key campaign roles, while others have made significant financial contributions to the campaign. In fact, we are proud to say that 100 percent of our board has committed financially to this campaign. Board Chair, Mr. Bob McFarlane was on hand recently at a local campaign fundraising event to present a cheque from the Greater Vancouver Advisory Board in the amount of \$2,370,000. The generous and thoughtful participation of our members is significant to our efforts, and we are grateful to have this committed group of community leaders leading by example.

Vist [ninstoriesofhope.org/our-team](https://ninstoriesofhope.org/our-team) to meet the team behind the campaign.



## Temporary New Home

We hit a significant milestone in the project this past August as we opened our temporary shelter for clients. The shelter at 108 East Hastings will shelter 333 clients and staff during construction and remain open until our new facility is complete. There was a significant amount of support from several partner groups, including BC Housing, which allowed this to happen. The opening itself was low-key and attended by a few key members of the working committee, city council and our board. We are grateful for everyone's support, and it is our plan (and hope) that the facility will remain open after construction and continue to serve the Downtown Eastside for years to come.

Pictured here (left to right): Verna Benson, Shelters Case Worker Vancouver Harbour Light, Lt. Colonel Ann Braund, Div. Director for Women's Ministries, Lt. Colonel Jamie Braund, Divisional Commander, Jim Coggles, Executive Director Vancouver Harbour Light, Sarah Kirby-Yung, City of Vancouver Councillor, Brian Dust, Architect AIBC, MRAIC, CHES Principal



## Women's Addiction - Closing the Gap

One of the unique features of our new facility will be our women's addiction program. Women struggling with addiction are often underserved which is a very real issue in society. The reality is there is a huge gap that exists in terms of treatment availability. In our new building we have dedicated 22 full time beds for women who need assistance with addiction. They will reside in a secure, women's-only area of the building where they will be offered the treatment and care they need and deserve.

Outfitted with quiet spaces, outdoor gardens, playrooms for their visiting children, and women-centric programming dedicated to helping them overcome their addiction. The program was given a huge boost early in the campaign by a generous and thoughtful gift made by the Diane Harwood Memorial Trust. Foundation trustees and good friends of Vancouver Harbour Light, Larry Van Hatten and Grace Moore presented a cheque for \$1 million to name the addiction program, which is now the Diane Harwood Addiction Treatment Program. We want to thank Larry and Grace for this transformational gift and we are proud to honour Diane's legacy for years to come.

For more information watch the video on the Women's Treatment Program here: [ninstoriesofhope.org/videos](https://ninstoriesofhope.org/videos)

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Your single act of generosity can change a life and help transform this community.

Email us for more information: [info@ninstoriesofhope.org](mailto:info@ninstoriesofhope.org)