

OCTOBER 1, 2020

FREE - donations accepted

# Carnegie C

NEWSLETTER

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I went to the Mission for one school year in 1973/1974. I had just turned 6 years old. I lived with my grandmother on the Dog Creek reserve. We never had very much money, but somehow my granny managed to buy me a new outfit to go to the Mission school. I remember going to Robinson's store and picking out a shiny orange shirt. It had string laced up in front, and was so bright and exciting – just like I felt to be going to school!

When I got to the Mission, they stripped me, and took away my clothes, including the orange shirt! I never wore it again. I didn't understand why they wouldn't give it back to me, it was mine! The color orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.

I was 13.8 years old and in grade 8 when my son Jeremy was born. Because my grandmother and mother both attended residential school for 10 years each, I never knew what a parent was supposed to be like. With the help of my aunt, Agness Jack, I was able to raise my son and have him know me as his mother.

I went to a treatment centre for healing when I was 27 and have been on this healing journey since then. I finally get it, that the feeling of worthlessness and insignificance, ingrained in me from my first day at the mission, affected the way I lived my life for many years. Even now, when I know nothing could be further than the truth, I still sometimes feel that I don't matter. Even with all the work I've done!

I am honored to be able to tell my story so that others may benefit and understand, and maybe other survivors will feel comfortable enough to share their stories.

Phyllis (Jack) Webstad

## Orange Shirt Day

I am a survivor, I survived, along with three younger siblings, two brothers and my sister. My mother.  
Survived.

My siblings and I also Intergenerational Survivors.

My children: Intergenerational.

As a mother, my fears for my sons, unfounded but real, to go through what I went through. In being so hyper vigilant, so hell-bent on protecting them from pain, I created the other-worldly dynamic I tried to protect them from.

How do we win? How do we win against a To-Indigenous-People Dictatorial Government, hell bent on forever, pushing us backwards, with every step.

How do we win? Against our own negative beliefs about ourselves. Thoughts that don't belong to us, that we carry on our backs, not realizing we have the power to let it go.

We win by:

Letting Go. Forgiving. Working on our Healing

By: Loving Ourselves and our Families, saying the words: "I love you."

By Accepting: Culture, Prayer, Traditions, Love, Education, Teachings.

We win by Walking Tall, Standing Up For What's Right, Using Our Voices, Getting Involved in community

We win, when we Sing Our Songs, Speak Our Language, Dance Hard, Like no one is watching in our beautiful regalia

and we win by speaking in a kind voice with one another, caring, sharing, protecting one another... Stopping the dysfunctional cycle

Orange Shirt Day, is meant to support us supporting each other as Survivors, Thrivers and remembering those gone before us, to let their Spirits know, they are not forgotten. Reminding the government that WE ARE STILL HERE, and so are the little spirits.

We hear your Spirits running and playing laughing in the gentle rain, dancing on the pow wow grounds, long after dark, and we hear your drums beating with our hearts in the longhouses, warming yourself by the fire... and you are the stars sparkling down on us on a cool night... burning in our hearts, forever free

Star Nations

O'siem

Kat Norris, Coast Salish/Nez Perce

Survivor: Kuper Island Residential School



HERE WE COME!

## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival

Wednesday October 28 to Sunday November 8, 2020



l to r. James Pau, Sam McKay, Marr Dorvault, Leslie Nelson, Mike Richter Photo: David Cooper

Get ready for the 17<sup>th</sup> annual DTES Heart of the City Festival featuring twelve days of online and pop-up outdoor events, including music, stories, poetry, ceremony, films, readings, forums, workshops, discussions, art talks, history talks, visual art exhibitions, and more! Due to circumstances of the pandemic, we have reimagined this year's festival to be smaller in scale with programming mostly online and outdoors.

The 2020 Festival theme, *This Gives Us Strength*, resonates today as our community copes with a worldwide pandemic, physical distancing, ongoing displacement, the fentanyl crisis, and the raw realities of bigotry and systemic racism. The Festival is here to ensure that our community and artists are supported during these challenging times.

A highlight this year is **Grounds For Goodness Downtown Eastside**, a week of online story-sharing and art-making with Toronto's Jumblies Theatre & Arts, plus window displays with DTES offerings at InterUrban Gallery and Skawchays Indigenous Art Gallery. People can do harmful things to others but sometimes people help, protect and rescue others from harm. Hidden in history, tales and memory, these stories remind us that social goodness is often difficult but possible. For more info, visit [www.groundsforgoodness.com](http://www.groundsforgoodness.com). To share stories, contact us at - [groundsforgoodness2020@gmail.com](mailto:groundsforgoodness2020@gmail.com)

*More details in the next Carnegie newsletter or visit [www.heartofthecityfestival.com](http://www.heartofthecityfestival.com)*

The DTES Heart of the City Festival is produced by Vancouver Moving Theatre with the Carnegie Community Centre & Association of United Ukrainian Canadians working with a host of community partners.



# The Carnegie Learning Centre

## September 2020 Hours



**Drop in for Tutoring/Support in the Carnegie Theatre with Capilano Instructors – drop in and talk to us one to one, assessments, tutoring, other assistance**

**Instructors onsite at Carnegie Available by phone, appointments, questions, email etc**

Monday 1—3  
with Lucy

Tuesday 1—4  
with Betsy



**Let's get you started!**

Thursday 9 - 12  
with Lucy  
778-288-6648  
lalderso@capilanou.ca

Friday 9—11  
with Betsy  
604-339-2940  
balkenbrack@capilanou.ca



### VPL AT CARNEGIE CENTRE

IS NOW OFFERING LIMITED SERVICE

To encourage you to reading and learning visit the library table and engage with the programs in Carnegie's Theatre, library staff are launching a contest!

**Monday ..... Closed**  
**Tuesday.....12pm—4pm**  
**Wednesday.....12pm—4pm**  
**Thursday.....12pm—4pm**  
**Friday.....12pm—4pm**  
**Saturday.....12pm—4pm**  
**Sunday.....Closed**

**"Want to share a favourite book or film? Drop by the Library at the Carnegie Centre and tell us about your recommendation to enter a contest for a surprise grab bag of stationary!"**