

Founded in 1971, The Lookout Emergency Aid Society operates within 34 buildings across eleven Metro Vancouver communities.

Lookout reaches nearly 2,500 people every day and houses over 1,200 people each night in shelters, transitional, supportive and affordable housing.

Lookout



AT LARGE

Newsletter January-February 2017

Toque Tuesday Turns 20!

February 7 - [Raising the Roof's Toque Tuesday](#) campaign is celebrating 20 years working to help end homelessness in Canada!

HELP END HOMELESSNESS!



As a partner with Raising the Roof, Lookout is selling some sweet swag to

raise awareness and money about issues surrounding homelessness. 50% of Toque Tuesday sales goes directly to Lookout, which means your purchase of a toque or a funky ball cap is a direct and visible way to help those in need.

- All black toque \$10 each
- Ball cap \$20 each
- Black toque with red stripe \$10 each

Buy or sell Toque Tuesday gear, or organize toque sales for your office, church or school - contact Mary Campbell at developmentcoord@lookoutsociety.ca or call 604-255-0340 ext 104.

Volunteers please email Janice Lovick at volunteer@lookoutsociety.ca.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) to see the latest news from Lookout.

Overdose Prevention Site



Powell Street Getaway Opens Overdose Prevention Site

Embedded Care

December 15, 2016 - Following the recent provincial announcement to allow overdose prevention sites, and to support those most in need, Lookout decided to open this type of service in the heart of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

"We have been in the front lines of the overdose crisis for years," says Shayne Williams, Lookout's Executive Director. "We had 399 overdose

incidents at our sites in 2016. We knew it was time to take the next step. By offering an overdose prevention service within the Powell Street Getaway, we are working to save lives and reduce risks for vulnerable people in our community."

Staffing and Operations

The Getaway is open daily from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM, while the embedded overdose prevention site is open from 12:00 PM until 8:00 PM each day.

The overdose prevention site is staffed by one of our experienced front line workers and a registered nurse, both trained in naloxone interventions and first aid.

Extreme Weather Response Shelters

Lookout operates 5 extreme weather response (EWR) shelters during the winter season. These emergency shelters open only when the outside conditions are severe enough to present a substantial threat to people who are living on the streets. This provides additional overnight shelter space during especially cold, wet, or windy weather. People living on the streets experience multiple challenges from being outdoors for extended periods of time, especially during this recent cold snap.

EWR shelters save lives by providing warmth and security for people who might otherwise not access shelter or social services. People in need can interact with staff who can help connect them to other social and community support services.

The public can help Lookout by donating warm blankets, socks, prepackaged food, underwear, winter jackets or [cash](#). We operate EWR shelters with the help of our partners at [Greater Vancouver Shelter Strategy](#) and [BC Housing](#).

Do you or someone you know need shelter? Go to the [BC Housing Interactive Shelter Map](#) to locate services which are currently open.



Picture of our **Extreme Weather Response Shelter in Burnaby**, located inside Westminster Bible Chapel. Above is a small food and hot beverage station and some sleeping mats and blankets - providing a warm place to sleep during extreme cold or severe weather.

Makeovers & Self Esteem

Lookout's Positive Haven Drop In (located in Surrey) held a Makeover and Beauty Day last month.

Much of what Lookout does is beautifully simple: it can be as essential as giving someone a chance to feel beautiful, safe, fed and warm. Part of helping people help themselves includes building self-esteem and sharing moments of fun and self-care.

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who gave their time to make this event a great success. Lindsey and Liya, from local salon Red Carpet Studio, lead the makeover party during our Other Women's Lives (OWL) support group. OWL is a peer-lead group for women to support each other through various challenges: exit from sex trade work, recovering from financial hardship, or coping with concurrent disorders such as HIV, Hepatitis C infections, mental health or substance use.

OWL, funded by MAC Cosmetics HIV Program, is just one of the 74 programs we operate from the North Shore all the way to Abbotsford.



Pictured here are some of our volunteers and friends giving and receiving makeovers and haircuts at Positive Haven Drop In.

THANK YOU to the many volunteers, donors, community partners, staff and friends of Lookout who helped us through the Christmas season.

With your support we were able to:

- Give 2,000 gifts to our guests and residents
- Share an additional 434 individually wrapped wish list presents through our friends at [Homeless Partners](#)
- Welcome 143 Christmas volunteers who helped us bring this all together!

We received countless donations of time, money and goods from many individuals, groups and organizations.

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