

Volunteer Appreciation

As 2010 draws to a close and a new year dawns, we are once again reminded of how fortunate Craigdarroch Castle is to have the support of such an incredible group of individuals that act as our volunteers. For many of you reading this, you are already aware of the importance that volunteers play in providing a wonderful visitor experience to those who visit Craigdarroch Castle but may not know what other volunteers do behind the scenes.

However, to those who do not already know this, allow me to elaborate. Craigdarroch Castle is a unique historic building of great importance to the history of Victoria and British Columbia but also acts as a very important place for visitors to learn about social and architectural history. We have a variety of volunteers who play very important roles acting as docents, cashiers and helping in the store. We also have volunteers who have done historical research, fund-raising, sit on committees and act as Board Members.

We would like to say it more, but each year we reward these dedicated volunteers with a variety of celebrations to thank them. In the last year, Craigdarroch Castle hosted a summer barbecue and a fully catered luncheon which means that more than once each year they don't even have to bring their own food! The Christmas Potluck is a time when staff thank the volunteers and share their various cultures and traditions through food. This year we sampled food from Korea, China and Norway. Volunteers who attended had a lot of fun meeting others they may not have known because of different shifts, playing games and being rewarded with a variety of gifts generously donated by many local businesses.

As a token of this year's appreciation, we gave individual recognition in a collective setting as a thank you to those who have meant so much to us in the last year. On behalf of the Board and staff of Craigdarroch Castle, I want to thank all the volunteers for helping us make 2010 an amazing year. For those who have left us in the last year, we want to send a special thank you for your contributions and we hope that you take with you fond memories of the time you spent with us. We have another exciting year planned with all kinds of new opportunities for volunteers and because there are plenty of new volunteer projects, so don't be a stranger.

If you would like to volunteer or know of someone who would benefit by volunteering, please have them call John Hughes at 250.592.5323 ext 22 or jhughes@thecastle.ca

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS FOR THEIR DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Plain Jane Boutique, Pink Sugar Cupcakery, Rheinland Bakery, Shepherd Books, Special Teas, Russell Books, Sizzling Tandoor, Victoria Bead Town Designs, Legends Comic Book Store, Old Vic Fish and Chips, Munro's Books, Hallmark, BC Jade, Soda Shoppe/Sam's Deli, Royal BC Museum, Imax, Prince of Whales, Ric's Seafood Grille, Nautical Nellies, Tooks on Cook, Days Inn