

Meet the 2021 BCPVPA Partnership Award Recipients

"It is a privilege to go into that school setting and see these leadership skills in action recognizing the gift that is given to these students every day to prepare them for anything in life. We look at our relationship with the school as a helping hand to what is already being done. "

*Mary-Jane Holmquist, Legacy
Church of the Nazarene*

2021 Award Recipient

"The close relationships with teachers, counsellors, and other staff have enabled us to provide mental health support for students and their families at a time when it is most needed. We are united in wanting the best for these students and are grateful for the opportunity to offer our services when they need our support."

*Adrienne Carter, Vancouver Island
Counselling Centre for Immigrants
and Refugees*

2021 Award Recipient

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working with École Glenmore Elementary students, teachers, administration, and parents as a volunteer. Being able to bring my passion for STEM education to the school, working in the classrooms, organizing STEM events, and lunchtime coding clubs, has been a tremendous experience."

Sarah Bendall

2021 Award Recipient



For more than two decades, the **BCPVPA Partnership Awards** have been presented in recognition of the immeasurable time, energy, and expertise that local people dedicate to supporting BC students and schools. Nominations are submitted by the BCPVPA's sixty Chapters, and in May 2021, the BCPVPA recognized six groups and individuals who have made a substantial difference over time through projects that benefit their local public schools.



Cam Aitken

Nominated by Greater Victoria Chapter (School District #61)

Cam Aitken has been a long-time supporter of the Esquimalt youth in SD61 through running breakfast programs, coordinating food hampers, and building relationships with the youth. He previously worked for Victoria West Community Association and is now currently working for The Community, under Youth For Christ Victoria, an organization whose aim is to provide practical support and opportunities for safe, fun youth activities for the 1,300 youth in Esquimalt.



Legacy Church of the Nazarene

Nominated by Surrey Chapter (School District #36)

Legacy Church of the Nazarene is a church community in SD 36 that has long been supporting Bridgeview Elementary and the larger community – even amidst COVID-19 – through food banks and hampers, school-wide field trips and events, provision of school supplies, and afterschool activities and tutoring. They have especially made a difference in the close-knit Bridgeview community, which has a unique and isolated local population of families in need.



Nanaimo Foodshare

Nominated by Nanaimo-Ladysmith Chapter (School District #68)

Nanaimo Foodshare has been partnering with Nanaimo-Ladysmith schools through many programs to help increase food literacy, access, and build capacity for student academic success. Since established in 1997, their programs, such as the Good Food Box and Kids Get Cooking, support both students and educators to address hunger in the community, share resources, and build community capacity to provide healthy foods to everyone.



Sarah Bendall

Nominated by Central Okanagan Chapter (School District #23)

As PAC president for the last four years at the École Glenmore Elementary, Sarah has organized many school-wide activities and fundraisers to support the school community. As well, she spearheaded initiatives at the school to improve its safety and accessibility, create outdoor learning spaces, and engage the students in various STEM and coding activities. Sarah is an exemplary PAC President who works alongside the school community to make learning fun, challenging, and above and beyond what is expected.



Story Studio Writing Society

Nominated by Greater Victoria Chapter (School District #61)

Story Studio Writing Society aims to bring literacy and creativity into children's lives by giving them the tools to tell their own stories and words. Each year, they collaborate with 20-30 teachers, mainly in SD61, to deliver workshops and help their students to write over 1500 youth-authored books. In addition, they partner with other school-related community organizations and have created a range of resources for teachers to use in their own classrooms.



Vancouver Island Counselling Centre for Immigrants and Refugees

Nominated by Saanich Chapter (School District #63)

Vancouver Island Counselling Centre for Immigrants and Refugees (VICCIR) was founded in 2015 in response to the growing needs of the immigrant and refugee community in SD 63 and has been an ongoing partner with Saanich schools ever since. VICCIR has helped families and students to work through trauma and create a sense of belonging in their new community, country, and culture through face-to-face and virtual counselling, adolescent male groups, and parenting sessions in a multitude of languages.

Nominations for the 2022 BCPVPA
Partnership Awards open February 2022

Visit bcpvpa.org/about-bcpvpa/bcpvpa-partnership-awards