

Lord Tweedsmuir, Salish Secondary sending competing teams to Coldest Night of the Year High schoolers go head-to-head in fundraising challenge

Samantha Anderson
Cloverdale Reporter

Cloverdale high schools are preparing to do battle for a good cause.

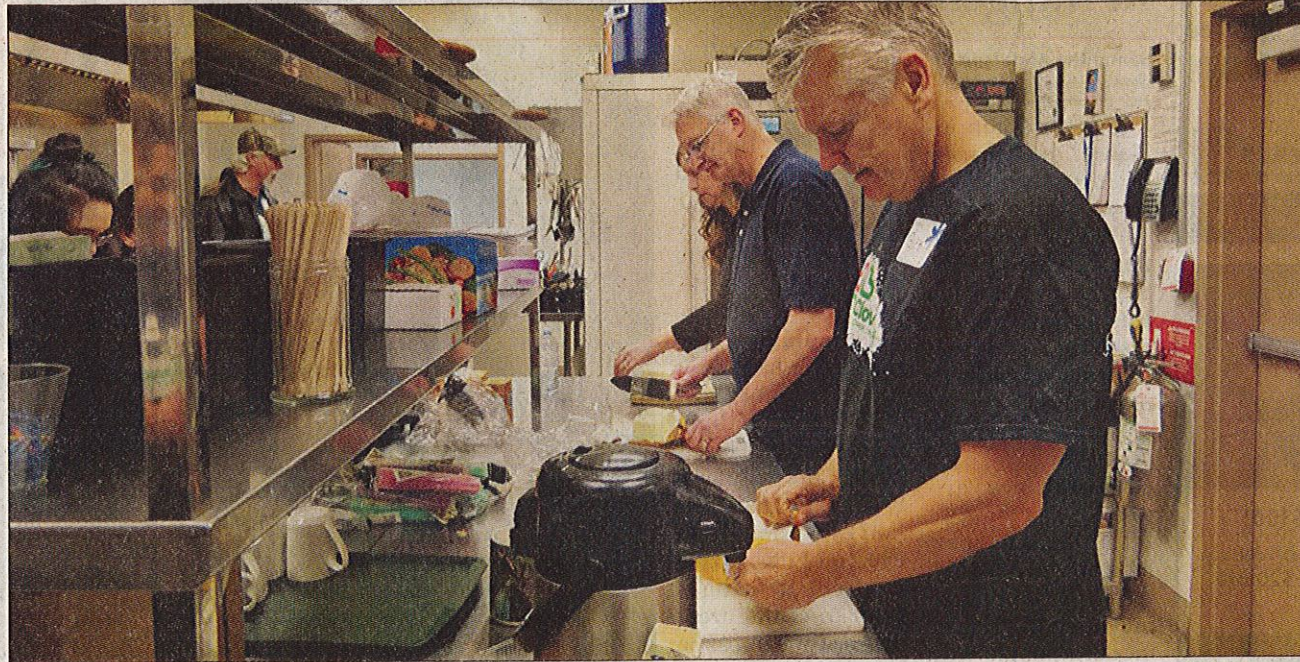
To support the Cloverdale Community Kitchen's upcoming Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser, Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary and Salish Secondary have both organized teams of walkers for the event.

Bragging rights, and pizza, are on the line.

Tweedsmuir students have walked in the fundraiser for years, but not necessarily as a school team. This year, a group will be fundraising to challenge the team from the newest school in Cloverdale, Salish Secondary.

The high school challenge comes just a week after Clayton businesswoman Jen Temple threw down a gauntlet in the business community, challenging local business owners and employees to come out and fundraise, with the opportunity of winning prizes.

According to Cloverdale Community Kitchen director



DEBBIE PREUSS / CNOY.ORG

Cloverdale's Coldest Night of the Year raises funds for the Cloverdale Community Kitchen, which provides about 12,000 meals a year to those in need in the local community. Here, volunteers prepare a chili meal for the 2018 Coldest Night of the Year walkers and volunteers in the community kitchen.

Matthew Campbell, Cloverdale high schools have been "so awesome in terms of their support of the hamper program at Christmas time."

This latest challenge was born

of local youth's desire to help out year-round.

"Around Christmas time, they ask how they can help out during the year," he said.

The Coldest Night of the Year

fundraiser, he said, was a great way to do that, as the funds raised for the walk support the efforts of the Cloverdale Community Kitchen and its programs, including the Clo-

verdale Christmas Hamper, throughout the year.

This year's fundraising goal is the biggest yet, at \$75,000, and it will go towards feeding hundreds of people in the com-

munity. The kitchen serves an estimated 12,000 hot, nutritious meals to those in need in the Cloverdale area a year.

Campbell said the kitchen is "really, really excited about how well the fundraising is going this year." As of Monday morning (Feb. 18), just over \$52,000 of the \$75,000 goal had been raised.

Even so, he said he's hoping the community will come out for the "last minute push that everybody gave last year."

The high school challenge is a friendly competition that Campbell hopes could become an annual event. To incentivize the students, co-ordinators have secured local sponsors who will provide a pizza lunch for every student that participates as part of their high school team.

As of Monday morning, Salish Secondary had 15 registered walkers, with a total of \$425 raised. Information for Lord Tweedsmuir was not yet available.

For more information on the walk, to sign up or donate, visit cnoy.org/location/surreycloverdale.