

Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser to support Cloverdale Community Kitchen

Annual event raises funds to help out the homeless community

Malin Jordan
Cloverdale Reporter

The Coldest Night of the Year fundraising event returns Feb. 20.

Hosted by the Cloverdale Community Kitchen (CCK), the annual fundraiser is a family-friendly event that helps support the less fortunate, while at the same time raises awareness about homelessness in the Cloverdale community.

Courtney van den Boogaard, director of communications for CCK, said in a press release they are asking “residents to bundle up and raise cold, hard cash for the Coldest Night of the Year 2021.”

The nationwide event sees

thousands of people take part in more than 100 communities across Canada.

Van den Boogaard said CCK will be hosting a hybrid-style walk this year.

“Cloverdale will be hosting a blended event with both a COVID-safe, outdoor-only event (if limits of assembly allow) and a virtual option where people can walk from home.”

She said so far the Community Kitchen has had an overwhelming amount of responses from people who want to participate. Average donations for this year’s walk are also up compared to last year at the same time.

“By walking together



Members of the community participate in the 7th annual Coldest Night of the Year event Feb. 22, 2020. This year’s event will have a virtual aspect to it because of COVID, says organizer Courtenay van den Boogaard. (Photo Submitted: Amanda Grewall)

in the chill of the night (whether physically or in spirit), participants will better understand the experience of being on the streets during a cold Canadian winter, while raising funds to aid the work of

the Cloverdale Community Kitchen in providing much-needed support to members of our community,” van den Boogaard explained.

She said the in-person Cloverdale walk—depend-

ing on what public health regulations will look like by the third week of February—will begin and end at the Community Kitchen. Walkers will be able to register, turn in results of their fundraising efforts,

and return at the end of the evening to celebrate their achievements.

“The entire event will be outdoors with physical distancing and other safety measures in place,” she explained. “Participants will walk a 2 kilometre or 5 kilometre route, and will warm up with toasty drinks at rest stops along the way.”

There will also be virtual participants who may walk in their own neighbourhoods or elsewhere. Anyone who raises more than \$150 (\$75 for more than a special CNOY toque prior to the event.

“This is Cloverdale Community Kitchen’s eighth year taking part in the Coldest Night of the Year, and (we’re) aiming to raise \$100,000 for work with the homeless,” noted van den Boogaard.

She added that are still hoping to attract more sponsors. Sponsors who’ve

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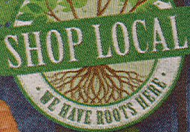
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