

Provincial Needs Being Met through Soles4Souls Canada

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Destitute men, women and children across our province continue to receive footwear from Soles4Souls Canada, via local not-for-profit organizations located in the communities in which they live. Since the beginning of April, over 2700 pairs of shoes have been distributed to 33 different organizations, including churches, transition homes, outreach societies, food banks, homeless shelters, resource centers, friendship societies and other organizations that respond to the basic needs of individuals throughout British Columbia. As a result, 1423 men, 1029 women and 291 children now have footwear to meet their immediate needs.



The Soles4Souls Canada warehouse in Kelowna, under the management of Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise member Tom Paterson as Social Agency Coordinator and Telus Ambassador Dave Harrison as the warehouse manager, with the assistance of additional Rotary Sunrise members, Telus Ambassadors, and other citizens, have sorted, packed and prepared for shipment over 115 large size boxes which have been shipped to these organizations in 18 communities in British Columbia. Shipments have been made to Prince George, Vancouver, Grand Forks, Squamish, Penticton, Terrace, Maple Ridge, Kaslo, Mission, Vernon, Fort St. John, Quathiaski Cove, Lumby, Duncan, Revelstoke, Burnaby, Kelowna and Surrey to date. Dynamex, a transportation and logistics services company, has partnered with Soles4Souls to provide an unbelievable contribution of delivering this footwear to all of these 33 communities at no cost.

A team of Kelowna Sunrise Rotarians under the leadership of Jim Belshaw and Steve Goddard, including Tom Paterson (Social Agency Coordinator), Ed Kolybaba (Communications Coordinator), Karen Belshaw (Donations/Funding Coordinator), Jim Holberton (Drop Off Collection Coordinator), and Dave Harrison (Warehouse Manager) assist in management and oversight of the program.

The Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise is a proud sponsor of Soles4Souls Canada; and many of its members are actively engaged in supporting the cause and lending a hand whenever there is a need to do so.