



Make A Change Canada Announces Student Bursaries for West Kootenay Area Residents

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Proceeds from Charity Hockey Game to Provide Greater Opportunity for Local Residents to Build their Technology Skills Through Online Learning

 NELSON, BC--On January 23, 2020, Make A Change Canada held a [15th anniversary celebration event](#) in its founding city of Nelson, B.C. To celebrate this milestone, the organization brought in the Montreal Canadiens Alumni team and formed their very own all-star team, the Kootenay Patricks, to take the ice in support of Make A Change Canada. The event sold out to a crowd of 1,500 and filled the Nelson and District Community Complex to capacity, for a night to live on in the memories of local residents for years come.

A fundraiser of this magnitude required many hands and months of preparation. With more than 150 volunteers involved, this event was a success from start to finish. Thanks to the incredible level of community support, Make A Change Canada raised over \$50,000 from the event. In total, more than 80 donors, sponsors, and community partners came on board in support of this fundraiser.

“We held this event as our way of giving back to the local communities that gave us our start over 15 years ago,” says Anne-Marie Edgar, Executive Director of Make A Change Canada. “Not only did this hockey game highlight the work of Make A Change Canada, but it is also allowing us to offer a total of six bursaries to residents of the West Kootenays to take our online [Certificate in Applied Web Development and Design program](#).”

This six-month program, delivered entirely online, is differentiated through its uniquely supportive and flexible service model for students in the program. The available bursaries will cover the full cost of tuition to help recipients upgrade their employment skills, be more competitive in the labour market, and improve their chances of finding meaningful employment or launching a new business. Graduates of the program have moved on to successfully establish themselves in a wide range of careers in fields such as administration, marketing, customer service, the arts, and information technology.

Make A Change Canada is a certified educational institution under Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). The organization is focused on serving people from vulnerable populations and all walks of life. This includes individuals living with a disability or chronic health issue, youth, stay-at-home and single parents, older workers, Indigenous Peoples, new Canadians, members of the LGBTQ+ communities, and people living in rural or remote areas.

Whatever the circumstance, the charity’s programs are available online 24 hours a day across Canada and can be accessed from the comfort and convenience of home—wherever that may be. “As long as you have internet access, you have access to positive career change,” Edgar says of the organization that has come to be known as the pioneer in providing online employment, self-employment, and skills training to Canadians facing barriers to employment.

If you reside in the West Kootenays and want to learn more about the bursaries and program eligibility requirements for the online Certificate in Applied Web Development and Design program, please contact Mary Alton, Program Manager, at 1-888-927-7473 Ext. 2 or by mary [at] makeachangecanada.com (email). The program runs twice per year, and the next program start date is July 13, 2020.

More About Make A Change Canada/Faire un Changement Canada

Make A Change Canada, established in 2005, is a registered Canadian charity that provides employment, self-employment, and skills training to Canadians who face barriers to employment. Make A Change Canada is accredited under the [Imagine Canada Standards Program](#) and is one of just over 200 charitable organizations and nonprofits in Canada to have achieved this important designation. Make A Change Canada is exempted from certification under the Private Training Institutions Branch (PTIB), Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and is a certified educational institution under Employment and

Social Development Canada (ESDC). Clients include people living with a disability or chronic health issue, youth, stay-at-home and single parents, older workers, Indigenous Peoples, new Canadians, members of the LGBTQ+ communities, and people living in rural or remote areas. For more information, please visit www.makeachange canada.com.

Highlights of the event can be seen in this documentary video produced by Shaw Spotlight:

Alumnus Creates Look for Kootenay Patricks

The team logo for the Kootenay Patricks jerseys was custom designed by one of our earliest program graduates, Adam Mohl, of Drumheller, Alberta. Read Adam's story [here](#).



Meet the local graduates who have benefitted from our programs:



Event photos courtesy of Tamarack Media can be viewed here:

