



# Rainbow Kitchen Newsletter

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[www.rainbowkitchen.ca](http://www.rainbowkitchen.ca)



**April 2010**

*Rainbow Kitchen becomes a Society. The new name is  
"Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Society"*

I can't help feeling an overwhelming sense of sadness when I think about the final days for the parish of St Saviour's. In the last few days at the end of March before the church was locked up tight, I spent a few minutes alone in the sanctuary. I could feel the presence of all those who had worshipped in the church, the voices speaking together in prayer, the music, the festive occasions, the funerals, baptisms and weddings. It was as though those people and memories were etched in the wooden walls and floors, their presence still lingered in the pews and their souls were kneeling before God on the alter rail. I only attended a couple of services at St Saviours so I'm not sure whether it was just my imagination or whether a worship space like this holds all these things if we only stop to listen and see.

It was this community of faithful individuals that created the idea of Rainbow Kitchen. When I wandered back through the hallway connecting the church to the hall I could hear the bustle of people preparing the meal and the guests gathering in the hall. I was confronted with this new reality that the Rainbow Kitchen was now the centre of people's lives. Something new was being born here, miracles were taking place, relationships were developing, people were sharing their struggles, understanding

their differences.

The last year for Rainbow Kitchen has been extremely difficult for a number of us volunteers. Despite all the difficulties, the volunteer group kept things going and remained true to the vision of providing a meeting place for people in need to come and share a meal. It was from this energy, hope and vision that the Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Society was incorporated on March 26, 2010. As of April 1, the new society is now the governing body for Rainbow Kitchen and responsible for its finances, policies and the oversight of its programs. There is no charge for membership and it is open to anyone who is willing to commit to the vision statement. There are up to 9 directors, two of whom must be active members of an Anglican parish in the diocese of BC. Currently there is an interim board of directors (the members are listed in this newsletter). These directors will remain in place until they can be officially nominated and elected at the General Meeting on June 11, 2010.

There are now job descriptions for all the volunteer positions and a risk assessment has been completed to determine the level of risk to those coming in contact with the volunteer either as a participant or a supervisee. There is still much work to be

done – fundraising, volunteer training and orientation, policy development, administration and record keeping, decision about the long term location, and so on. Although these tasks and some of the problems that lay ahead seem insurmountable, I remember that feeling I had when I was alone in the sanctuary. Rainbow Kitchen was born from St Saviours, a community of faith. God's presence is here among the volunteers, the guests and the donors. . We are a growing interfaith community and because we have chosen to walk the journey of faith together we will be touched by God's presence and the miracles that come with it. That's what Rainbow Kitchen is all about and if we look after it and care for it, Rainbow Kitchen will be here for a long time into the future.

By Garth Walmsley

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# Volunteer Appreciation Night

March 12, 2010

*The Volunteer Appreciation Evening went wonderfully well with approximately 60 attending....*

The fun icebreaker got everyone up, mingling with volunteers from other days. The activity helped to build up an appetite for the dinner prepared and served by the Wednesday Group with Chef de Potage, Elsie Marshall, at the helm. Great music led by guitarists Andrea Monteiro, Garth Walmsley and Bill Draper provided entertainment throughout the evening and was well appreciated by all.

Special THANK YOUS go to Garth Walmsley, our Master of Ceremonies for the evening, Elsie Marshall and her team of kitchen helpers, Enid Brazier for event organization, James Southern for printing and producing the volunteer appreciation certificates and to Walter Adams for countless time spent assisting everyone with the evening's plans in addition to final cleanup with Sharie Westgate.



Blown up documents of the Volunteer Job Descriptions were posted throughout the hall and the draft of the bylaws and policies were available for input as well.

Garth presented a brief update of recent Rainbow Kitchen events including plans for the new society status progress. Volunteer appreciation certificates were presented to those in attendance.

Garth briefly outlined the history of the Rainbow Kitchen, describing the move from the kitchen being open one day per week serving soup and sandwiches to 40 people to its present ministry being open Monday to Friday serving a full course noon meal to an average of 120 guests or approximately 600 meals a week. by Enid Brazier

**Victoria Rainbow Kitchen**

**Special Meeting**

**June 11, 2010 at 6:30 pm**

**1st Fundraiser**

**A Barn Dance**

**May 15, 2010 at the  
Rainbow Kitchen Hall**

**Tickets \$12.50 ea**



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## Board News

*The Members of the Rainbow Kitchen Society interim board are as follows:*

Nicole Gauvin, St. Georges Anglican Church; Bill Holenchuk guest; Amin Kassam, Ismali Community; Reverend Anne Knudsen-Thomas, secular; Garth Walmsley, St. George's Anglican Church; Sharie Westgate, St Saviours and Julie Wright.



## Bouquets of Thanks!

Anne Knudsen-Thomas Thank you for your wonderful gift of research and implementation!

Thank you to St. Matthias Anglican Church for preparing one meal per month for the Monday Group

Thank you to the Ismali Community who prepare meals whenever needed

Thank you to Thrifty Foods who donate bread twice monthly and provide a roll of bread bags per month

Thank you to Country Grocer Esquimalt who provide generous amounts of bread products and desserts daily

Thank you to Spuds for daily produce and to Mustard Seed for their contributions.

## Logo competition!

*We need our own Logo*

Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Society

Prize for the selected logo: Gift certificate for two for dinner at the Laurel Point Inn or Paul's Motor Inn.

## Reminders

Have you completed the Volunteer Information sheet yet?

If not please do it now.

## Meals Served in March...

Average 120 1st servings/day  
The most meals served was 174 meals on one particular Wednesday!!!



## Up coming Events

### Mark your Calendar

May 6, 2010 – combined Leadership Team and Board Meeting

**The Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Society's first Fund Raiser for 2010:**

A barn dance

May 15, 2010 at the Rainbow Kitchen Hall

7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$12.50 ea

First **General Meeting** of the Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Society – election of directors -- **June 11, 2010** at 6:30pm in the Rainbow Kitchen Hall.

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This newsletter was put together by Diana Perez, Enid Brazier, Garth Walmsley and Nicole Gauvin. We welcome your ideas, submissions or joining us as part of the team or helping in any capacity. Please email me at: [ngauvin@shaw.ca](mailto:ngauvin@shaw.ca). Thank you. Nicole Gauvin

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Visit our website:

[www.rainbowkitchen.ca](http://www.rainbowkitchen.ca)

## Leadership Team

The Victoria Rainbow Kitchen Leadership Team members are as follows:

Walter Adams, Enid Brazier, Nicole Gauvin, Jack Gutherine, Ken Humble, Diana Kozinuk, Elsie Marshall, James Southern, Garth Walmsley, Sharie Westgate, Peter Wu.

The Leadership Team meets on a regular basis, supporting the daily operation of the Rainbow Kitchen.

### *In the Office...*

Walter Adams works in the office daily, overseeing operations, picking up bread supplies, organizing other bread runs, receiving produce donations and organizing the pantry.

Sharie Westgate and Diana Kozinuk have organized the paper administration of the office including criminal record checks, and registration of volunteers. Petty cash is received by Sharie; recorded, and receipts are distributed to the donors. Letters of appreciation are also mailed from the office.



### *Gardening at the Rainbow Kitchen*

Garden helpers are encouraged to participate! The garden at the back of the kitchen requires consistent maintenance.

One member of the community has volunteered to weed the garden if the garden is planned and planted for her.

People are encouraged to donate a planted row of produce for the Rainbow Kitchen.

### *Volunteers are requested in several capacities*

Please speak with the office team if you are interested in any of the following:

Van or truck driver to assist with food supply deliveries

Dishwashers

Cooking, assisting with meal plans, prep cook



## *Rainbow Kitchen Help Wanted*

Volunteer Position Opportunities:

- ✓ **Co-ordinator of Volunteers** – see job description
- ✓ **Newsletter team**...help with writing, editing, photography, artwork, distribution
- ✓ **Media liaison** – see Information Coordinator job description
- ✓ **Garden Team Leader** – speak to Walter Adams or Sharie Westgate