

Nanaimo Youth's Charity Picnic Lifts People's Spirits



Friday, August 23, 2013- Nanaimo, BC: Kennedy Baker, a Nanaimo star student and budding philanthropist, pulled off her charity picnic last Saturday with great success.

Baker estimates that over 450 individuals facing hunger, homelessness or mental illness were treated to a free lunch as well as community camaraderie at Saturday's event. To create a backyard BBQ atmosphere, Baker also organized live music and a bouncy castle for the kids. "Seeing the smiles on their faces made it all worth it," she says.

Baker's picnic event began as a community improvement project idea, submitted as part of her application to Coastal Community Credit Union's Scholarship Program. Her idea was selected for implementation, and was put into action with some volunteer help from Coastal Community employees, school councilors, as well as



family and friends. "This event would not have been possible without their help," she adds.

"We're really impressed and inspired by what Kennedy has accomplished for the community," shares Joe Cristiano, Chief Community & Marketing Officer at Coastal Community. "This kind of passion and dedication to help build healthier communities is what Coastal Community's Scholarship Program was meant to drive among our youth. Kennedy truly embodies that spirit and really followed through on her project, with great results to show for it. On behalf of everyone at Coastal Community, congratulations and thank you Kennedy!"

Information on Coastal Community's 2014 Scholarship Program will be made available in January, 2014 at cccu.ca.

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