



SCH'EYK HOUSING SOCIETY

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Dear Congregants of Knox United Church,

On behalf of Sch'eyk (pronounced *shy-ack*) Housing Society, formerly First United Church Social Housing Society, we are honoured and grateful to share our appreciation and the impact of your generous support of our Market program since inception in 2020. We didn't expect to operate beyond the pandemic but the rise in the cost of living has dictated that our tenants are still in need.

Our Market program is held every Tuesday, except social assistance week, and is provided free of charge to the tenants of Bill Hennessy Place and Jennie Pentland Place. Organized and run by staff and volunteers, the program is our most impactful that we operate currently. Most of our tenants are on some form of income assistance and your donations contribute to their food security when they're funding cannot meet their daily expenses and supports maintaining their tenancy by not having to choose between paying rent or eating. The Market provides a dignified opportunity for our tenants to help themselves and has improved community engagement with and between tenants, especially those who were wary of engaging socially after the pandemic.

What makes your donations so valuable to us is their availability at peak times where food is the vehicle of celebration and joy. The donations during Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas complement and elevate our regular donations from the Greater Vancouver Foodbank.

Our Market program directly supports 35-50 (30-42%) current households each month within our DTES buildings. Participants in the Market hit all age groups but are well represented by single seniors and single-parent households.

At this time, please accept our well overdue thanks for your unwavering and continued support. We are delighted you are still with us and look forward to developing more engagement with you so you can see the joy that you bring to our tenants.

Mayleen Ahoy
Executive Director Sch' Eyk Housing Society