



**October 31, 2016**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Dan's Legacy 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chefs' Charity Dinner Raises \$70,000 for Youth Survivors of Childhood Trauma and Abuse**

**NEW WESTMINSTER, BC** –Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> was an evening of elegance and delightful surprises as 109 guests turned out in support of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chefs' Charity Dinner at the Vancouver Club, and raised \$70,000 for Dan's Legacy. The charity provides therapeutic counselling and life-skills programs for youth survivors of trauma and abuse.

"We're absolutely thrilled," says Barbara Coates, Executive Director of Dan's Legacy. "The funds raised will help us continue our work with at-risk youth in the community, and we thank all of our donors, sponsors and volunteers for their generous support."

Hosted by the ever charming Fred Lee, guests enjoyed a meal, with wine pairings, created by five of Vancouver's top chefs: The Vancouver Club's Executive Chef Sean Cousins presented a creamy hubbard squash velouté with truffle pecorino and shaved alba truffle; Lee Cooper of L'Abattoir followed with a raw Pacific scallop with peppers, chilis and coriander; Chef David Gunawan of Farmer's Apprentice offered mussels and cabbage with fermented gooseberry and pickled green strawberries; the Michelin starred Chef Stefan Hartmann of The Bauhaus Restaurant created grilled veal tenderloin with porcinis, leek and braised veal tortellinis; and Junior Sous Chef/Pastry, Jessica Caparas of the Vancouver Club whipped up the final delectable dish, a mocha hazelnut mille feuille with raspberry gel.

Guests, including the Honourable Stephanie Cadieux, Minister of Children and Family Development, heard from speakers Gordon Greene and Jamie Folsom how the Dan's Legacy counselling programs helped them overcome past struggles with depression and addiction to lead fulfilling and productive lives. But Cathi Naples brought the reality of limited access to help into sharp focus with the story of her son Jacob Hoffman, who, due to severe depression as a victim of sexual abuse, took his life in 2015, a week before his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In response to the need for more beds, and knowing many youth require more counselling support in addition to Dan's Legacy's four-month intensive programs, the charity also unveiled its plans to build a 10-bed Recovery Centre on an organic farm in the Lower Mainland. Clients will opt-in for a one-year term and receive counselling, life and work-skills instruction, and educational programs. Intern architects Kaitlin Wierstra and Andrew Carruthers created the artists' concept, much to the delight and interest of the gala guests.

Dan's Legacy would like to recognize its sponsors Global BC, Miss604 and Trigate Development Corporation. Special thanks to emcee Fred Lee, the Vancouver Club, Nootka Marine Adventures, WestJet, Paul Shipton and Omar Duric, Joan Carlisle-Irving, Dato' Mark



Yeoh, Neville Snook, Private Label Worldwide, Norma Paradis, Chocolate Arts, Purdys Chocolatier and Shoppers Drug Mart.

The Chefs' Charity Dinner has grown significantly since 2015, when 60 guests helped raise \$23,000 for Dan's Legacy. Next year's gala, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chefs' Charity Dinner, is slated for Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Vancouver Club.

For those seeking counselling support, or to donate to Dan's Legacy, please visit [www.danselegacy.com](http://www.danselegacy.com)

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### **About Dan's Legacy**

Dan's Legacy is dedicated to working with youth in the Greater Vancouver area battling depression, anxiety and addiction issues as a result of childhood trauma and abuse. Founded in 2006 in memory of Dan Snook, a promising young man lost to a drug overdose at the age of 19, the charity has helped more than 150 youth overcome their past to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

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