



# WINCH HOUSE



**A home away from home for  
Veterans, First Responders &  
Associate Organizations**



## WINCH HOUSE

We are pleased to offer free accommodation for the families of Canadian Forces members, as well as those of fire, ambulance and law enforcement services, and Members of the Royal Canadian Legion (including non-veterans), while the members are receiving care in the Metro Vancouver area. **Winch House** provides a temporary home where families can stay while their loved ones are treated at Lower Mainland health facilities. Hotel costs in Vancouver can be prohibitive with family accommodation challenging to locate, adding stress to an already difficult situation. We're here to help! Winch House is a place of refuge where families can enjoy a degree of normal family life despite the stress of their circumstances.

Winch house is a renovated and furnished 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom disabled-accessible townhouse at 1079 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in the Chelsea Gardens family housing complex in

Vancouver. Located in a quiet, family-oriented residential neighbourhood adjacent to a children's playground, this townhouse is ideal for accommodating our Canadian force members, veterans and First Responders, Legion Members, and their families during their stay in Vancouver.

## FIRST RESPONDERS

Winch House is available to firefighters, police officers and other first responders who may need temporary accommodation in Vancouver during a family crisis. In addition, in conjunction with the B.C. Professional Fire Fighters Association and the Burn Unit at Vancouver General Hospital, families of burn victims, who most certainly need to be close to their loved one, will also be offered a home away from home.



### **YOU CAN HELP US**

Winch house receives no government funding and operates solely through donations. We are therefore appealing to you to make a donation towards "**Winch House**" to help offset the considerable costs involved for the ongoing operational costs. Any donation that assists us in our quest to support the Winch House program will be appreciated. Every contribution makes a difference. We will be happy to publish your name in our Newsletter and publicly acknowledge your donation .



## VETERANS COUNSELLING

Canadian troops served in Afghanistan from 2002 to 2011 with more than 25,000 men and women having completed at least one tour of duty. Over 150 Canadians were killed in this conflict and more than 1,100 were injured. For those returning home, we recognize that returning to civilian life can be full of both physical and psychological challenges and a soldier may very well need counselling or hospitalization.



Psychologists, Doctor Marvin Westwood and Doctor David Kuhl are co-directors of a unique program for veterans at the University of B.C. The **Veterans Transition Program** is made entirely possible since its inception in 1997 through the sponsorship, dedication and annual financial support of the **BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion and its Branches**. Dr. Kuhl says "There's a great need for a local facility like **Winch House**. There are a lot of military personnel returning from Afghanistan with post-traumatic stress disorder," he says. "It's common for military personnel returning from areas of conflict to suffer from symptoms such as anxiety, depression and nightmares, which fall under the diagnosis of occupational stress injuries." **Winch House** provides our young veterans a temporary home where they and their loved ones can receive the care to come *all* the way back home.



## VETERANS OF ALL AGES

Through the Royal Canadian Legion, all Veterans and Legion Members may seek temporary accommodation at Winch House. Many of our older Veterans and Legion Members, living in all areas of British Columbia, may require visits to Lower Mainland health facilities. Hotel costs are prohibitive and could be a financial burden to our seniors. By simply contacting the BC/Yukon Command office, they will be referred to the

Winch House staff for consideration. As an organization founded by veterans over 60 years ago, New Chelsea is proud to manage this extraordinary Program for today's and yesterday's Canadian Forces' men and women. Winch House's unique partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion will guarantee the professional expertise necessary for the mental and physical healing of our ex-service personnel and Legion Members, during their stay at **Winch House**. It is truly a remarkable residence and a credit to the incredible generosity of our donors.



## A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Winch House is a fully equipped townhouse that consists of a master suite with ensuite on the main floor and 3 generous bedrooms upstairs. All rooms have their own lock, TV, small fridge and microwave. There is a fully equipped kitchen, laundry machines, living room with huge flat screen TV and dining room. A children's play area is also located in the basement as well as a playground right outside the door. Pets are not permitted and this is a non-smoking facility.



## RESERVATION INQUIRIES

Referrals for occupancy are provided by service agencies including The Royal Canadian Legion, the B.C. Professional Firefighters Association and Honour House Society. These agencies arrange available accommodation through our tenant placement staff. Direct inquiries to Winch House are **not** considered. Please contact the **BC/Yukon Command Office of The Royal Canadian Legion** at 604.575.8840 or the **British Columbia Professional Firefighters Association** at 604.436.2053



## DON WINCH

“Winch House” is named in memory of **Don Winch**. Don served on the New Chelsea Society's Board of Directors for close to 25 years, and for most of that time, he served in a leadership capacity. From 2005 to 2008 Don served as **President and Chairman of the Board** of New Chelsea Society. During his presidency, the Society opened new buildings, took over buildings from other societies, assumed more responsibilities, and grew and evolved with each passing year. Don volunteered with distinction and dedication most of his life,

and he was highly respected for the wisdom and level of caring and conviction that he brought to not only New Chelsea Society, but to every organization to which he belonged. New Chelsea Society is proud to have created the **Winch House** program in Don's name to carry on his memory and his tremendous legacy of service to others.



New Chelsea Society, that manages the Winch House program, is a registered charity and non-profit housing Society that provides over 1,400 safe, affordable housing units for Veterans, seniors, families and persons with disabilities., in the B.C. Lower Mainland,

The existence of the society is based wholly on the provision of safe, secure, affordable housing in a close-knit community atmosphere of sharing and caring for one another. Our goal is to enhance and promote individual well-being through program developments, team work, and community involvement.

Our Head Office is located at 7501 6th Street, Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

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