



Year End Report

July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013



Impact ● **56 Schools** ● **Over 800 students** ●
● **Tens of thousands of reading hours**

This year, the support of our donors made it possible for ONE TO ONE volunteer tutors to spend tens of thousands of hours reading with children. The impact of the program and our dedicated volunteers cannot be underestimated. Research shows that a child's reading level at the end of Grade Three is a more accurate predictor of school success than any other variable – including family income, educational attainment of parents, ethnic or cultural identity or home language.

In Grade One, children learn to read; by Grade Four, children read to learn. Our program helps children who are identified by the classroom and/or resource teacher as needing a boost in their reading skills. Time spent with a ONE TO ONE volunteer tutor supports children, helps them to develop literacy skills and, in the process, fosters a love of reading which will in turn help them to become lifelong learners.

86% of students said they are “better readers” because of ONE TO ONE.

Through one-to-one tutoring, we help children develop literacy skills for life.

2012-2013 Program Highlights

- Currently in 56 schools in the Vancouver and North Vancouver School Districts.
- Welcomed 4 new schools this year.
- Completed the Power of ONE TO ONE video. Students, teachers and tutors talk about the impact of ONE TO ONE. The video, funded by SVP Vancouver, can be accessed on our website at www.one-to-one.ca.
- Initiated a multi-year plan to improve ONE TO ONE reading materials at schools. This 4 year plan initially targets readers in Grades 1-3. In September 2013, six schools will each receive over 100 new books. These books are part of a leveled system in which students can work through the series sequentially. By the end of the plan, all schools needing updated reading materials will have received them.
- Undertook a full program evaluation in Spring 2013. Online surveys were sent to all volunteers, school coordinators and classroom teachers. Students at 16 randomly selected schools completed written surveys. The results will be published and available on our website in the Fall/Winter 2013.
- In March, ONE TO ONE received a donation of 200 books from First Book Canada. The books will be given directly to children in our program.

“What these volunteers do for our at risk students is nothing short of amazing. These students need individualized attention, skills reinforced and confidence improved.

The volunteer tutors are able to achieve this over the course of time they work with the students, as they develop a relationship with the student that is calm and positive.”

Classroom Teacher
2013



What teachers have to say:

- *Two of my students were reading at a kindergarten level in September. They are both now exceeding expectations and are reading at a Grade Three level. These two students have gained confidence and have a positive attitude towards learning which has transferred into all areas of learning.*
- *For one of my students who does not have a father, the 1-1 reading time with another male is very important to him.*
- *The students are eager to read with their volunteer. They feel special. Their literacy skills benefit and we see improvement in their learning globally.*
- *What a difference it makes to have these wonderful volunteers come into the room. The students' eyes light up and, as they often have multiple academic struggles, they feel a sense that they've escaped some overwhelming challenge to go have fun reading! The sessions are a real highlight in their week.*
- *The program has made a significant difference to several readers in my classroom. The one-to-one attention from such kind and positive adults alone has made an impact on the self confidence levels of several students in my class, and the reading coaching/support has been a significant part of helping several students in my class see themselves as readers.*





What students have to say:

- *I'm getting really good about sounding out words.*
- *I like all of my time with my tutor. Before I could only read 5 long sentences and now I can read 2 whole pages!*
- *I started to read words I didn't know before.*
- *Thank you for all of your support. I thought I would never like reading.*
- *I read way more words. I love ONE TO ONE! It's really fun!*

Partnerships

ONE TO ONE collaborates with the Vancouver and North Vancouver School Districts and public libraries, as well as with other dedicated programming partners. ONE TO ONE is affiliated with sister programs in Surrey and the Okanagan. This collaborative approach allows us to continue to effectively help children develop literacy skills for life.



Community Building

Through our volunteers, we engage the community with our schools and by doing so we strengthen our communities and schools, support seniors and create important connections between our schools and neighbourhoods. This year we trained 100 new individuals as literacy tutors. These individuals not only volunteer their time with our program, but also take the skills they have learned and share them with the wider community: their children, grandchildren and other people they come in contact with. Our program creates coalitions of care by connecting volunteers to the schools and children in their neighbourhoods.

What volunteers have to say:

- *Working with the kids is utter joy for me. Helping them gain confidence in their ability to read, to express themselves, and to work through difficulties is very rewarding. When we can giggle together at mistakes I know we're making progress.*
- *I am very happy to be part of the ONE TO ONE program. One of the ways in which I have benefited from my participation in the program is the joyousness that I feel when a student works to self-correct a word that is challenging to them or when they can retell one point that they have just read in a paragraph. I also have developed a greater sense of community - it is wonderful to run into the students out in the neighbourhood with their parents as I am running errands!*
- *It has provided a focus for me in retirement. The kids are always interesting.*
- *I feel that I am making a contribution to the students' education and am a positive influence in their lives. This gives me joy.*

What volunteers have to say:

- *I was walking past a local park in July and one of the girls I had tutored that year came running across the park with her younger sister. She wanted to give me a hug and introduce me to her sister.*
- *One boy in Grade 3 said to me a few weeks ago, as he arrived at my table, that he loved reading with me!*
- *The day I was a few minutes late arriving and my young student was waiting at the door to the tutoring roompatiently waiting for me ...so he could read to me. He had been struggling for several months, trying so hard and was finally experiencing a break through eureka time. That achievement and confidence is sooo exciting...and so rewarding for all. That is why I love ONE TO ONE.*

After reading with a ONE TO ONE tutor for a year a parent wrote about their child:

...for the first time ever, [our daughter's] report card indicates that she is reading at grade level. What a relief it was for us to see that. In fact, lately I've had to return to her room and turn out the light a second time again as she's got her nose in a book! Now that is true progress!





Funding

At ONE TO ONE we rely on donations from the Government of BC, foundations, corporations and individuals to operate our program. Support from our donors allows ONE TO ONE the opportunity to inspire in children self-confidence and a passion for reading and learning which will carry them forward to a successful life.

The 2013 Spelling Bee Challenge, our major fundraising event since its launch in 2006, raised \$23,000. All monies go directly towards supporting children.

Thank you to our Silver Sponsor Desjardins Financial Security and to all the corporate teams and individuals who supported our Spelling Bee.

- SVP Vancouver
- Province of British Columbia
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- First Book Canada
- Ancan Marketing

...and the many individuals who donated to the program!

Thank you from all of us at
ONE TO ONE Literacy Society

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