

ATHLETICS4KIDS

SPORT4LIFE GALA 2024

HELPING KIDS PLAY 4
TWENTY-ONE YEARS

SCAN TO
DONATE ONLINE



MAY 4TH, 2024

DELTA HOTELS | GRAND VILLA CASINO

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athletics4kids

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



VALERIE GOSSELIN

Executive Director

I receive many messages from families facing various forms of need. However, one particular message recently captured my attention. It was from a single mother raising two young children who had newly discovered Athletics4Kids (A4K) and had been approved for a martial arts grant for her 6-year-old daughter. She emphasized that without our assistance, her daughter would have been unable to partake in this opportunity, stating, "You are truly a blessing for our family." What resonated most profoundly was her expressed aspiration to reciprocate and help others in similar circumstances.

It's deeply touching to see that those facing the most adverse situations can be the most altruistic people. It underscores the contagious nature of generosity and reinforces our collective commitment to fostering positive change, one step at a time.

Tonight, we are delighted to welcome friends, benefactors, and sports enthusiasts to our 21st Sport4Life Gala. As we gather under the shimmering lights and the spirit of camaraderie, our team would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the entire A4K giving family. Tonight is not just a celebration; it's a tribute to the power of community and the magic of sports in transforming young lives.

In recent times, the world has been tested by economic challenges, global conflicts, and escalating mental health concerns. Now, more than ever, the role of physical activity as a beacon of hope and normalcy for our youth cannot be overstated. A4K, since its inception in 2002, has been front and center in this effort, distributing over \$2.7 million in grant funding and empowering thousands of children to embrace their passion for sports. In 2023 alone, we helped more than two kids every day to say 'yes' to their sporting dreams. Our commitment stands unwavering, but it is your support that turns these dreams into reality.

Our gratitude extends to the dedication of our staff, the Gala Committee, Board of Directors, volunteers, everyone involved in the production and delivery of this event, and each of you present here tonight. Your generosity fuels our mission, and as one of our grantees recently said, "Without you people out there, kids wouldn't have a chance in life."

As we raise our glasses tonight, join us in this celebration, and let's continue to champion the cause that brings us all together – giving every child the chance to play, grow, and thrive through sports.

VALERIE GOSSELIN

Executive Director



TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

All times are approximate



6:00 pm	Cocktail Reception, WestJet & Freshmart Dream Getaway Raffle and Silent Auction open
7:45 pm	Welcome from Rob Fai and dinner served, followed by dessert, coffee & tea
8:30 pm	Greetings from Scott Trotter, A4K Board President Evan Dunfee, Olympic medalist in athletics Video Presentation
8:45 pm	Live Auction with auctioneer Tyler Olsen
9:15 pm	Sanctioned Boxing Matches
10:30 pm	WestJet & Freshmart Dream Getaway Raffle draw Gala concludes Thank you for coming and supporting the kids! Please get home safely and responsibly!
11:30 pm	Silent Auction closes A4K staff member will be in touch with the winners.

DONATIONS



For just \$17 per month/\$200 per year, you can:

- Keep a child in the game.
- Transform a child's life through the power of sport.
- Ensure that every child has the chance to play.

Simply go to www.a4k.ca and click on the "Donate" button in the top right-hand corner or visit any activity table / ask any A4K Volunteer. Thank you for your support!!



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GALA EMCEE

ROB FAI



Rob Fai, a Hall of Fame Sports Broadcaster, is a renowned radio personality in Vancouver currently hosting on 980 CKNW (Global News). Known for his engaging style and in-depth knowledge of current events around British Columbia, Rob's storytelling, and ability to connect to his listeners makes him a trusted voice throughout the province.

Rob worked for 15 seasons with the Vancouver Canadians Baseball Club receiving the coveted Paul Carson Broadcast Award for best Play-by-Play broadcaster in British Columbia, as well as getting inducted into the Vancouver Canadians Hall of Fame in 2015. Rob worked with Major League Baseball as Media Liaison at both the 2009 and 2014 World Baseball Classics and received Baseball Canada's Meritorious Award for his lifetime contributions to the game of baseball, just the second British Columbian to receive the honour.

Rob hosted Rob Fai Nation Radio on TSN 1040 Sports Radio, and has been heard on Sportsnet 650, 640 Toronto, CBC Radio, and got his start on the Vancouver airwaves with News1130 AM as a reporter. He is also considered one of Canada's most respected professional wrestling executives creating the brand Nation Extreme Wrestling, based out of Vancouver.



Global News Morning

with Jason Pires, Sonia Sunger, Katelin Owsianski & Mark Madryga
Weekdays 5 to 9

Globalnews.ca

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GALA MENU



Created by Chef Raphael Cho and his Culinary Executive Team at the Delta Hotels Burnaby

ROUND ONE

Pickled Beet Salad (V)

Frisee Lettuce, Watercress, Candied Pecans and White Balsamic Dressing.

ROUND TWO

Braised Short Rib

Brown Butter Pomme Puree, Cippolini, Roasted Carrots & Broccolini

ROUND THREE

Vegan Chocolate Cake (GF & DF)

**Vegetarian option available if previously requested*

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enterprise

THE BELMONT
Foundation

Francis Family
Foundation

CHAMPIONS



LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

Automotive Data Solutions Inc.	Orbis Investments
CSN Collision Centre	Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
Capilano Builders	Pacific Capital Properties Corporation
CDN Global (BC) Ltd.	Port Moody Foundation
City of North Vancouver	Prince George Community Foundation
Clara of Smart Shades	Ross Forman Personal Real Estate Corporation
Cobra Venture Corporation	Russound
DB Perks Group of Companies	SCP
Diamond Foundation	Scotiabank
District of North Vancouver	Simpford Foundation
District of West Vancouver	Sonos
GMR Foundation	Sony
Gulf Pacific Group	Surrey Fire Fighters' Charitable Society
John Hardie Mitchell Family Foundation	The Great Canadian Landscaping Company Ltd.
Knapton Agencies	The Hamber Foundation
Methanex Corporation	The Karen Magnussen Foundation
North Okanagan Community Foundation	The Stollery Charitable Foundation
North Shore News	Universal Remote Control (URC)
North Shore Sports Medicine	West Vancouver Community Foundation
North Vancouver Minor Hockey Association	
OK Tire	

3-NIGHT, 2-DAY GUIDED FISHING TRIP FOR 4 ON WORLD FAMOUS PITT RIVER

Value: \$10,000

Get ready to reel in the adventure of a lifetime! Dive into fishing season with an exclusive opportunity to experience the thrill of angling at Pitt River Lodge. Treat yourself to a 3-night stay at this fabulous fishing haven, complete with 2 days of guided excursions for 4 anglers. Set against the stunning backdrop of British Columbia's wilderness, Pitt River Lodge promises unforgettable moments on the water, where every cast brings you one step closer to landing the catch of your dreams. Bid now and secure your spot for an angling escapade that's bound to make waves!

Donated by: The Calder Fund

Restrictions: Trip date to be taken by October 31st, 2024

HOLLYBURN EXECUTIVE CHEF DINNER FOR 8

Value: Priceless

Indulge in a culinary masterpiece crafted by Chef Paul Benallick, Executive Chef at Hollyburn Country Club. Treat yourself and your friends to an unforgettable evening with a private dinner experience for up to 8 guests, expertly prepared in the comfort of your own home. From exquisite appetizers to decadent desserts, Chef Benallick will curate a personalized menu that tantalizes the taste buds and leaves a lasting impression. Bid now to savor an extraordinary dining experience that promises to delight and dazzle every palate!

Donated by: Hollyburn Country Club

ABBOTSFORD CANUCKS SUITE FOR 14

Value: \$2,000

Experience the thrill of hockey in style with exclusive access to the Abbotsford Canucks suite for 14 guests, plus two parking passes for added convenience. Immerse yourself in the excitement of the game from the comfort of this luxurious suite, complete with premium amenities and unbeatable views of the action. Whether you're entertaining clients, celebrating a special occasion, or simply enjoying a night out with friends and family, this package offers an unforgettable way to cheer on the Abbotsford Canucks in VIP fashion. Bid now and secure your spot for an unparalleled hockey experience!

Donated by: Abbotsford Canucks

Restrictions: The certificate must be presented by the winner in order to redeem tickets. Expires if not redeemed by December 31st, 2024.

LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

3-NIGHT STAY AT SUN PEAKS

Value: \$1,500

This stunning weekend getaway package will be one to remember! Enjoy a beautiful 3-night stay at a fabulous Echo Landing 2-bedroom, 2-full bath end unit located in the east village with a hot tub on a private covered deck surrounded by beautiful mountain views. Echo Landing is one of the newest property developments in Sun Peaks.

Luxurious gourmet kitchen, heated tile floors and gas fireplace, enhance this suite. Only a 10-minute walk to the village. Plus, elevate your adventure with a 1-day biking lift ticket for two, allowing you to explore Sun Peaks' stunning trails and vistas.

Donated by: Michelle Forman

Restrictions: Sleeps 5, 2 bedroom unit, available between May 15 and September 30, 2024. Based on availability. Check in at 4pm and Check out 10am. No pets, smoking, nor events allowed in the rental suite.

LANGARA LODGE FISHING ADVENTURE FOR 2

Value: \$12,000

Embark on the angler's adventure of a lifetime with an exclusive 4- or 5-day trip for two to Langara Fishing Lodge. Your package includes return air travel from Vancouver to Haida Gwaii, where a scenic helicopter flight awaits to transport you to the lodge. Indulge in luxurious accommodations and gourmet meals, complete with complimentary alcohol to enhance your dining experience.

Prepare for unparalleled fishing expeditions aboard your private 19' boat, equipped with all necessary fishing gear and marine clothing. Navigate the rich fishing grounds teeming with salmon and halibut, as you cast your line in pursuit of the catch of a lifetime.

At Langara Fishing Lodge, conservation is paramount, ensuring every catch is handled with the utmost care and respect for the environment. Bid now for this ultimate angler's dream package, promising memories to last a lifetime.

Donated by: Langara Fishing Lodge

Restrictions: Trip dates are subject to availability at the time of booking. Please book in May, June, or September during the 2024 or 2025 season. Guided fishing is not included, but is available as an option.

LIVE AUCTION ITEMS



CANUCKS ALUMNI EXPERIENCE FOR 4

Value: Priceless

Step into the world of hockey royalty with this exclusive offering: four (4) tickets to the coveted Vancouver Canucks Alumni Suite for the thrilling 2024/2025 NHL hockey season at Rogers Arena. Elevate your game-day experience as you and your guests enjoy unparalleled views of the action from the comfort of this luxurious suite, rubbing elbows with Canucks alumni and fellow fans alike. But the excitement doesn't end there—indulge in a delectable dinner in the Press Area, adding an extra layer of prestige to your evening. Please note that games against the original 6 teams are excluded from this package, and parking is not provided. Bid now and seize the opportunity to create unforgettable memories at the heart of Canucks Nation!

Donated by: Vancouver Canucks Alumni Association

Restrictions: Games excluded are the original 6 team games.

EXCLUSIVE DNV FIRE FIGHTERS DINNER EXPERIENCE FOR 8

Value: Priceless

Prepare for an extraordinary evening as we invite you to join us for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to dine with the brave and heroic firefighters of the District of North Vancouver Fire Department! This exclusive dinner experience for 8 people promises an unforgettable gathering in the comfort of your home, where our firefighters will personally prepare and serve a luxurious 3-course meal paired with expertly selected wines. Your package includes both delectable food and wine, ensuring a memorable dining experience for all attendees. During the evening, you and your guests will have the unique chance to sit down with these real-life heroes, hear their inspiring stories, and gain insight into their invaluable work in keeping our community safe. Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to connect with the courageous firefighters of the District of North Vancouver Fire Department while supporting a great cause. Mark your calendars and reserve your spot now for a night to remember!

Donated by: District of North Vancouver Firefighters

Restrictions: This gift can be redeemed until May 2025. The location of the event must provide adequate cooking appliances and be in the municipalities of North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Vancouver, or Burnaby.

LIVE AUCTION ITEMS



BEACHCOMBER 590 HYBRID4 HOT TUB (WITH ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE)

Value: \$16,000

Step into a realm of luxury and tranquility with the Beachcomber 590 Hybrid4 Hot Tub. Designed to elevate your relaxation experience, this premium hot tub boasts seven spacious seats and up to 128 flexjets, ensuring every moment is a celebration of comfort and rejuvenation. Sink into pure bliss as powerful hydrotherapy jets work their magic, soothing tired muscles and melting away the stresses of the day in your backyard oasis. Plus, with the enhancement package, you can customize your experience with adjustable lighting options and advanced water care systems, ensuring your hot tub is always primed for your next luxurious soak. Bid now and treat yourself to the epitome of relaxation and luxury with the Beachcomber 590 Hybrid4 Hot Tub. Because you deserve nothing but the best when it comes to your well-deserved moments of rest and rejuvenation.

Dimensions: 89 x 89 x 38" / 226 x 226 x 97cm

Donated by: *Beachcomber Hot Tubs*

Restrictions: *Does not include shipping or installation*

MORGAN RIELLY SIGNED JERSEY

Value: Priceless

Elevate your hockey memorabilia collection with an iconic piece of Toronto Maple Leafs history: a Morgan Rielly jersey. This authentic jersey, adorned with Rielly's name and number, is a symbol of passion, skill, and dedication to the game. Whether you're a die-hard Leafs fan or a collector of sports memorabilia, this jersey is sure to become a prized possession in your collection. Bid now to own a piece of hockey greatness and proudly display your support for one of the Leafs' most beloved players.

Donated by: *Morgan Rielly*

TONIGHT'S
SPECIAL
AUCTION
FEATURE

GETTING KIDS IN THE GAME!

Value: Priceless

A special opportunity for all our guests to help BC's children get into the game! Please give generously - this auction item is eligible for a tax receipt.



BOUTS – FIGHT CARD

NO IN AND OUT PRIVILEGES DURING BOUTS. PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

FIGHT CARD • 2024 A4K BOXING NIGHT

RED CORNER

BLUE CORNER

Bout #1) 135lbs Lightweights

Jacob Libanao *DCS Boxing* VS. Daniel McLean *Matrix Boxing*

Bout #2) Junior 132lbs Lightweights

Gavin Walker *Abbotsford Boxing* VS. Vincenzo Rematore *Queensborough Boxing*

Bout #3) 135lbs Lightweights

Caleb Masih *Matrix Boxing* VS. Brian Oyen *Queensborough Boxing*

Bout #4) MAIN EVENT 147lbs Welterweights

Alex Lee *DCS Boxing* VS. Basha Hakim *Mendoza Boxing*

**Subject to change*

BOXING RING ANNOUNCER: Rob Fai

REFEREE & JUDGES: Lynn Brewster, Jeff Laljee

Magda Laljee, Clarke MacLellan, Christian Peters

Wendy Roy, Ian Weir, Stephanie Weir, Dennis Wolfe

DOCTOR: Dr. Rondeau

RECORDER: Lynn Brewster

GLOVERS: Matt Leger, Dave Robinson, Akbar Qurban, Sebastian Silva

Law prohibits us from serving alcohol while bouts are in progress.

We are happy to serve you between boxing matches. No flash photography.

Please turn off your cell phone ringers during matches.

SILENT AUCTION DONORS

SAVE THE DATES



- | | |
|---|--|
| Arts Club Theatre Company | Marble Slab |
| Athletics for Kids | Merveille |
| B Fit Health and Wellness | Metrotown |
| Bard on the Beach | NBM Group |
| BC Ballet | Noble Crane |
| BC Lions | Paul Harmon |
| Boardroom | PNE |
| Brown's Socialhouse - Social Experience | Rick Bronson's House of Comedy |
| Capilano Mall | Sandman Hotel |
| Capilano Suspension Bridge | Seymour Salmonid Society |
| Comwell Systems Group | Shannon Lake Golf Course |
| Cypress Athletics | Summerland Golf Course |
| DB Perks | Sun Peaks |
| Easy Allied Health | The Keg Steakhouse |
| Everything Wine | Theatre Under the Stars |
| Firehall Art Center | Vancouver Art Gallery |
| Fresh Mart | Vancouver Canadians Baseball |
| Grizzli Winery | Vancouver Canucks Sports & Entertainment |
| Grouse Mountain | Venue Kings |
| Gulf Pacific Group | Westcoast Monograms |
| Herband Naturals | White Spot |
| Joy Hair Salon | Whitecaps |
| Kelowna Skating Club | Yip Fitness |
| Knapton Agencies/John Knapton | Yyoga |
| Let's Room | |
| Lindt Chocolate | |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF ATHLETICS4KIDS.

Please save the date for these upcoming annual events.

June 7th (tentative) - 3rd Annual A4K Volleyball tournament

July 29th - 10th Annual A4K Charity Golf Invitational

August 17th - 6th Annual Battle of the Brews
In partnership with the Surrey Fire Fighters Charitable Society

August 28th - Craig Knapton Community Spirit Awards

September 20th - 13th Annual Salmon Fishing Derby
In partnership with the District of North Vancouver Fire Fighters Charitable Society

November 4th to December 31st - A4K Double the Scoreboard Matching Campaign

Donations may also be made to Athletics for Kids Financial Assistance (B.C.) Society at www.a4k.ca

Neptune TERMINALS

Neptune Terminals is a proud long-term supporter of A4K



We recognize the invaluable lessons that sport provides for young people. As a waterfront business, we particularly believe that swimming is a life skill that should be available to everyone. Over the years we have been pleased to contribute to A4K through direct sponsorships and donations, and contributions to third-party fundraising events.

www.neptuneterminals.com

ABOUT athletics4kids



OUR MISSION

To ensure all BC kids can participate in organized sports by supporting families in need with financial assistance.

OUR GOAL

A4K's overarching goal is to be there to assist any BC child in their dream of playing amateur sports. We want all kids to have the opportunity to play.

OUR HISTORY

Athletics for Kids Financial Assistance (B.C.) Society, also known as A4K, was the brainchild of four like-minded businessmen, including current A4K Board Past-President Craig Knapton. The charity was federally registered and established in 2002. Since then, A4K continues to grow and thrive every year as a grassroots organization, and through its history has provided over 13,500 grants to BC children and youth so they can get active in sporting activities.

THE NEED

1 in 7 children in British Columbia live in poverty. With the cost of living skyrocketing, those living on and below the poverty line have become even more vulnerable.

For children living in poverty, the opportunity to play sports is often out of reach for their family financially. One third of children across Canada are not able to participate in sports because of financial barriers (CIBC Study, 2014). When basic needs like food, rent and heat are pitted against rising costs of registration fees and sports equipment, parents are forced to say no to their kid's dreams to play sports.

*"Do I feed my children or do I put them in swimming?
As a parent these kinds of decisions are so stressful and uncomfortable. A lot of parents might give up. But when your kids are exceptional at something, you don't want to give up."*

- ANITA

Mother of two A4K grant recipients

HOW WE CAN HELP

As a privately funded charity, we are able to get dollars into the hands of those who need it most, quickly and effectively. We help families bear the expense of having their children participate in organized sports because we believe that all kids should have the chance to play.

The support of A4K is available province-wide for children and youth ages 5 to 18 who are currently enrolled in school. Through our Sport4Life Grant Program, we work discreetly with families facing financial challenges to ensure that their children have the chance to play. We focus on serving communities where child poverty rates are high, and access to sport is low. Basic registration fees are paid for over 55 different kinds of sports, up to an annual maximum of \$450 per child, which is higher than other sport funding charities. What truly sets Athletics4Kids apart is our commitment to kids for the long-haul by continuing to fund them for multiple sports seasons a year, and multiple years in a row.

SPECIAL THANKS

GALA EMCEE & BOXING RING ANNOUNCER

Rob Fai

LIVE AUCTIONEER

Tyler Olsen

ANTHEM SINGER

Kennedy Mckenzie

A4K BOARD PRESIDENT

Scott Trotter

GALA COMMITTEE

Craig Knapton, *Chair*

Keith Calder

Ryan Russell

Valerie Gosselin

Ross Forman

Anna O'Shea

Tyler Tseng

GALA VOLUNTEERS

Amy Tran

Antonina Bereznaia

Ashley Forman

Brennan Katsube

Brittany Woo

Clelia Iglesias

Eliska Fialova

Golrokh Aboutalebishakoor

Hellen Xu

Illya Berezhnii

Isabella Lopes Accioly

Jackie Dew

Kyle Sidhu

Lin Ding

Merveille Grepony

Michael Prayitno

Nadiia Nychyporenko

Nataliia Piatkovska

Oleksandr Stasiuk

Olena Honcharuk

Rosemary Alberts

Sadia Munia

Sanjana Sinde

Sarah Fuson

Svitlana Lystopadova

Winsome Cheung

Yevgeniya Razenkova

Yevheniia Nevidomska

Yevheniia Zahadaieva

Yuliia Kalendo

THANK YOU FOR MAKING
A DIFFERENCE IN
OUR COMMUNITY!



www.a4k.ca | #Sport4LifeGala

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