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Scientist-in-Residence Program Receives \$20,000 Cheque to Support Student Programming

Board & Committees, Community, Schools & Students

On Friday, May 3, students in Grades 4 and 5 at Queen Mary Elementary School were experimenting with methods to clean water samples containing suspended particulate material. The week before, the classes had taken a field trip to Stanley Park where they got a first-hand look at the diversity of marine organisms in the intertidal zone. Scientist Kathy Heise and partner teachers Charmaine Ho and Michael Atkinson brought science alive for their students who had a unique opportunity to learn about the ocean environment and how to protect it. The eight lessons (both in the classroom and outside it) were all about scientific hands-on learning driven by the innovative Scientist in Residence Program.



Founded in 2004, the program has delivered a wide-range of science-based programming to thousands of students in elementary schools around the district. Scientists partner with teachers, who then develop and deliver hands-on lessons, which hook children on science.



Friday's experiments were capped off with a special presentation attended by Queen Mary Principal Kathy O'Sullivan, VSB Superintendent Steve Cardwell and Managing Director Paige Axelrod. All three were in the classroom for a cheque presentation by Royal Bank Branch Manger Robert Morehouse of \$20,000 to help the program continue to grow.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have a wonderful partner like RBC Foundation supporting the Scientist in Residence Program year after year," said Axelrod. "RBC Foundation's generous support continues to help children discover their world through hands-on science."