



# Press Release

January 26, 2005

## Friends Helping Friends: Mudslide Fundraiser

The North Shore community is rallying to the aid of Harvey and Colette Dykes and their 9-month-old daughter, Jacintha, who lost their home in the tragic Seymour mudslide. Friends and associates are busily organizing a major fundraiser to help this young family cope with some onerous financial and emotional challenges.

This is being spear-headed by their wide circle of friends, many of whom are players in the North Shore Women's Soccer League, and have played soccer and other sports with Colette for many years.

A fundraiser and silent auction will be held for the Dykes family at The Shore Nightclub, 135 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street, on Saturday, Feb. 5th. The silent auction will run from 7pm to 10 p.m. and offer a range of products and services donated by many generous businesses, organizations and individuals.

All fundraising proceeds and cover charges for an evening at The Shore will go to **The Dykes Trust Fund** that has been established at the North Shore Credit Union [www.NSCU.com](http://www.NSCU.com), Lynn Valley Branch. Those unable to attend the event at The Shore can still make a contribution at any branch of the NS Credit Union.

As widely reported in the media, The Dykes lost their home to the devastating mudslide and, only through a series of small miracles, were they fortunate to survive the mud and debris that filled their home. They were trapped in their bedroom while their nine-month-old baby, Jacintha, was in her crib in the next room. With only a foot of space between the debris, mud and ceiling Harvey and Colette managed to pull down some drywall and see into their baby's room. Relatives staying with the Dykes rescued Jacintha. One of them managed to squeeze an arm through the jammed door and reach into Jacintha's crib to bring her to safety. They then helped get Harvey and Colette out of their bedroom by tearing down a wall.

Their house is a total loss, and their insurance does not cover such 'acts of God'. While there is a promise of financial assistance from government, it is still unlikely to cover many of their legal and recovery costs.

And, the mere thought of rebuilding in that location terrifies Colette.

"It has been phenomenal to watch Harvey's and Colette's families, friends and community come together to support them in their journey to rebuild their lives", says life-long friend, Michelle Beaumont. "The Dykes are overwhelmed by the community's amazing generosity", she adds. "They are grateful to be alive, but are still very traumatized by everything that has happened", says friend, Monica Karlsson, a long-time teammate. "We all want to do everything possible to help them", says Nicole Roy, a teammate and past president of the league. "They are such a wonderful family, and they are so deserving of our support".

Anyone wishing to support this fundraiser will be warmly welcomed at The Shore on the 5<sup>th</sup>. The fundraising event will run from start at 7 – 10 p.m., and tickets can be bought at the door for \$12. These will also cover admission for regular club activities following the silent auction fundraiser.

Additional and updated information will be on The Shore's website, [www.shorenightclub.com](http://www.shorenightclub.com).

Businesses, organizations and individuals wishing to donate auction items or services, but have not yet been contacted by the organizers, can kindly deliver their items to the front reception at John Braithwaite Community Centre at 145 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street, next door to The Shore. "We really appreciate the JBCC's assistance", says Stephanie Pink, "as managing basic logistics can be a big problem for a group of volunteer organizers".

"To avoid credit card fees, the preferred methods of payment for items will be by cheque or cash", says Stephanie, "and accountants from Wolrige Mahon will oversee the accounting procedures".

"We expect the silent auction will feature many amazing items that will make the evening a great success" says Stephanie, "and my brother, Derek, will be providing the appetizers and music for added enjoyment. The Shore is a great venue for anyone wanting to organize a fundraiser to support other worthy causes".

For additional information, please contact

Stephanie Pink

[Info@kelownatake-out.com](mailto:Info@kelownatake-out.com)

Michelle Beaumont

[lorneandmichelle@shaw.ca](mailto:lorneandmichelle@shaw.ca)

Monica Karlsson David Pink

[Monica.Karlsson@grayline.ca](mailto:Monica.Karlsson@grayline.ca)

[exec@gatewaymedia.com](mailto:exec@gatewaymedia.com)