



THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

At Vancouver College, we pride ourselves in building Men for our Times - men with compassion, integrity, knowledge, and faith. Your generous donations provide our students with a “whole” education to help them reach their full potential. Students, like Tyler Berretta (VC'20) who volunteers with Bumpin' Bakery, a non-profit founded in 2013 by Vancouver College students, have the opportunity to serve those marginalized by injustice and poverty including residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Tyler heard about Bumpin' by word of mouth through a close friend at school when he was in grade nine. Curiosity urged him to grasp this opportunity to work with Bumpin' so he could form a deeper connection with a familiar neighbourhood, the Downtown Eastside, where his grandmother once lived. Tyler's distinct memories of this area as a child led to the conclusion that the Downtown Eastside is a “rough” area; he remembers feeling a suffocating lack of hope.



Tyler was intimidated by the environment when he first started volunteering. He shyly shared sandwiches and snacks until he gradually grew more comfortable and familiar with his surroundings, which led to engaging in conversations with residents. The more conversations he initiated, the more the high wall of misconceptions surrounding the Downtown Eastside crumbled, soon disappearing altogether for Tyler.

Attending Bumpin' on a regular basis has allowed Tyler to form relationships, not just with residents, but with fellow volunteers as well. He believes that Bumpin' has turned into a program that doesn't exist just for the benefit of Downtown Eastside residents, but also to spread awareness regarding misconception on our city's growing homeless population.

Through integration within the Downtown Eastside community and strong, impressionable interactions with individual residents, Tyler's perspective and that of many other volunteers,

have changed and their once overarching, negative stereotype of the residents has been completely disproven.

For Tyler, the weekly experience has also taught him to be grateful for everything he has, for what the people in his life have given him, and for the many opportunities he has received.



Click [here](#) to read Tyler's full profile from the Bumpin Bakery webpage.