

City mayor helps deliver world hunger message

The theme of World Food Day on Monday was United Against Hunger.

by Troy Landreville

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Langley City Mayor Peter Fassbender was among those spotlighting world hunger Monday at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Several groups worked together to present the local event for World Food Day, a day created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

From the morning to the mid-afternoon, activities and information were offered from a cornucopia of experts and organizations.

United Against Hunger, which took place in the university auditorium, was free to attend.

Fassbender, who has been on World Vision Canada's board of directors since 2007, spoke about how broad and far-reaching are the issues of hunger and malnutrition.

He said as many as 16,000 children die each day, either directly or indirectly, from hunger and malnutrition.

"One reason I'm on the board is to do what I can to make a difference in people's lives," Fassbender said.

Fassbender said speaking to an audience, whatever its size, about world hunger is a good place to start.

"It's good to pass the word around to people so they can understand the depth of the issue," Fassbender told the **Langley Advance**, following his presentation. "Here, our issue is we don't have enough transit. In Africa, they don't have enough food. Living and breathing is their issue."

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Peter Fassbender

Monday's itinerary opened with an address followed by a presentation about Cibo, the Langley-created food supplement created for the world's starving children by the Food For Famine Society non-profit group.

There were also presentations on Kwantlen's Institute for Sustainable Horticulture, HOPE International Development Agency, Terrasphere Systems, and Langley Food First.

Langley Food First is the local food security committee made up of various community groups.

The theme, United Against Hunger, was chosen to recognize the efforts made to fight world hunger at national, regional, and international levels.

"Uniting against hunger becomes real when state and civil society organizations and the private sector work in partnership at all levels to defeat hunger, extreme poverty and malnutrition," according to World Food Day Canada.



Speaking on behalf of World Vision Canada, Langley City Mayor Peter Fassbender spoke inside the Kwantlen Polytechnic University auditorium during United Against Hunger, a World Food Day event.

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