



I Can Make a Difference by Peter Thompson.

Your support for Hope in Shadows helps many people take steps towards maximizing their potential. Please confirm your sponsorship today!

HOPE IN SHADOWS

Portraits of our Community

Making a difference

Peter Thompson talks about how Hope in Shadows has made a difference in his life, and his family's, through his involvement in the photography contest and selling the calendar.

Peter Thompson arrives at the Broadway and Commercial skytrain station each day to sell the *Hope in Shadows* calendar and *Megaphone* magazine.

He's been working as a street vendor for three years, but 2010 was special because his picture "I Can Make a Difference" won best colour photo and is featured on the cover of the 2011 calendar.

Selling the calendar helps Peter earn much needed income. Like all the vendors, Peter makes \$10 for each calendar he sells. His determination and hard work have a positive impact on his family, especially his sister who is a single-mom and living with leukemia. As much as possible Peter helps his family meet their basic needs. "I help her [sister] out quite a bit," says Peter humbly. "She calls me and I help her all I could."

The Hope in Shadows project has provided Peter with more than just an income. "I've been getting recognition from a lot of people who have been coming up and talking to me," Peter comments modestly. "I've been making new friends and sold one calendar to somebody who's going to send it to Africa." Peter has also been developing his communica-

tion skills, speaking with media and publicly to large groups about Hope in Shadows.

Getting involved with Hope in Shadows was a new beginning for Peter. For 25 years he worked as a carpenter until an accident on the job left his leg broken in five places and changed his life forever. If you go around the city with Peter he proudly points out the different housing complexes he helped build, and he tells you what Hope in Shadows has meant to him and his family.

Peter came across the annual photography contest by chance three years ago. "I was walking down Hastings Street and I seen all these people lined up. I asked what it was for and they [contestants] said it was the camera contest," says Peter. That year he entered the contest and won an honourable mention.

"The next year I didn't win anything," says Peter smiling. In fact, one of Peter's entries - a photo of his nephew dressed in a Spiderman costume - had been a close contender. With more than 3,000 images submitted by 200 Downtown Eastside residents there are regrettably a few outstanding photos that are just shy of getting shortlisted.

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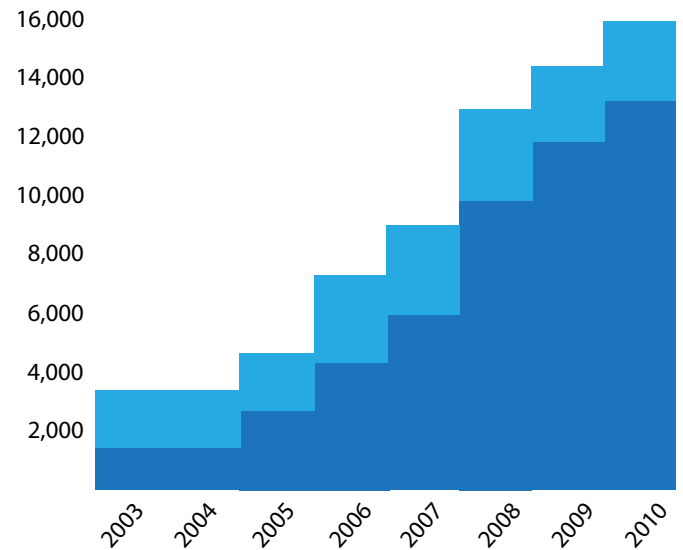
Facts & figures we're proud of!



- 16,000 2011 Hope in Shadows calendars hang on kitchen and office walls.
- More than 5,000 Hope in Shadows books have sold through the street vendor program, making it an unofficial B.C. bestseller.
- Popular images have been turned into Hope in Shadows greeting cards, which are sold year-round by street vendors, increasing the employment benefit of the project.
- The Hope in Shadows calendar is carbon neutral and printed on recycled paper.
- More than 200 people received free training & support to start their own micro-business selling the 2011 Hope in Shadows calendar.

Street vendor sales growth

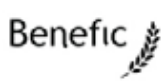
Calendars sold



- Vendor sales: vendors earn \$10 from every calendar sold
- Other sales: including retail, online and events

Thank you 2010 community builders and friends!

Champion Community Builders



Community Builders

Artrageous Framing, Barrick, Festival Cinemas, FujiFilm, Hemlock Printers, Indigo, Incognito, London Drugs, Out to Lunch Catering, Pendulum Gallery, Rocket Repro, Subeez Restaurant.

Community Friends

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Media Partners



3 great reasons to support Hope in Shadows

1 Foster pride and confidence

The annual Hope in Shadows photography contest for Downtown Eastside residents showcases local talent, gives residents a sense of pride in their community and builds confidence in participants and contest winners. 200 participants receive free recyclable cameras and have three days to capture images that show their community as they see it. Hundreds more Downtown Eastside residents take part in the community vote to determine the contest winners. An exciting community event, Hope in Shadows is now in its ninth year.



“I have grown close to the history, character, people and sense of community here in the Downtown Eastside, but after all it is my home!”

Hannah Walker | 2006 contest winner

2 Help people help themselves

Winning photographs feature in the annual calendar which is sold through our vendor program. Established to create accessible employment opportunities for people living in poverty, the vendor program has become one of our greatest successes. The model is simple: people interested in the program attend a training session where we provide a complementary calendar to get them started. Vendors buy subsequent calendars for \$10 each and sell them for \$20. In 2010, 216 low-income people took part in the vendor program and collectively earned more than \$132,000.



“It motivates me to get out into society and do something that I’m proud of.”

Catherine | Street vendor



Broken Heart by Colin Beiers, 2010.

By showing the humanity, spirit and hope of a community that is often known only for its struggles, the Hope in Shadows exhibition is an educational tool that builds understanding and empathy.

3 Send a positive message

In addition to being featured in an annual calendar, the winning photos form an exhibition that is hung in galleries throughout the province. By showing the humanity, spirit and hope of a community that is often known only for its struggles, the exhibition is an educational tool that builds understanding and empathy. Moreover, Hope in Shadows attracts positive coverage about the Downtown Eastside community from major print and broadcast media.

Making a difference, *continued*

Rarely discouraged, Peter entered the contest again. He had an idea for another portrait of his nephew who was less certain about entering. “He says, ‘but I didn’t win last year uncle,’” recounts Peter. “I said to him ‘imagine having your picture hanging on all those living room and kitchen walls.’” Still unconvinced his nephew went outside to play but returned shortly and said, “I’m ready to have my picture taken uncle.”

Using materials from the dollar store, they made the sign that reads “I can make a difference.” Peter attached it to his cane and his nephew held it up in front of a colourful mural painted by the residents of Kearney Gardens. Seven-year-old Ariez and his entire family are proud that this picture was chosen best colour photo.

Peter says he wanted the general public, and especially young people, to think about how they can make a difference. For Peter making a difference is about giving people a chance, like how Hope in Shadows has given him a chance to do something meaningful.

It’s the end of the day and Peter prepares to leave his vending spot at the Skytrain station. He’s become a familiar face there, chatting with the commuters and joking around with the other people who work in the area. He says he leaves the station around 8 p.m. when his friend, the hot dog vendor,



Peter Thompson with a calendar buyer at Commercial and East Broadway.

packs up for the day. At that time, Peter goes home to a family who is happy to tell him that he has made a difference.

YOU can make a difference: support Hope in Shadows

Since 2003 Hope in Shadows has been making a difference in the lives of people facing poverty and marginalization.

This unique community project is made possible by our many community partners whose generous financial contributions help cover project costs. Your financial commitment will give hundreds of low-income people opportunities to gain confidence, new skills and employment. We value your support and encourage you to confirm your sponsorship of the 2012 calendar today!

Please call Paul or Carolyn at 604 255 9701 today.

www.hopeinshadows.com