

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR RETURNS TO SQUAMISH ON FEBRUARY 28, 2026

One night. One walk. A stronger, more connected community

Squamish, January 6, 2026 – For the third year in a row, Squamish Helping Hands (SHH) is inviting the community to team up for the Coldest Night of the Year event on February 28, 2026. All are welcome at this family-friendly, bridge-building fundraising walk to support people experiencing hunger, hurt, and homelessness in Squamish.

In 2025, Squamish Helping Hands walked with 2,102 community supporters who created 55 teams on and off-site to raise an astonishing \$101,368. The organization was joined by seven schools, the Squamish Rotary Club, and 28 local companies who contributed \$22,600 in sponsorships to help keep the community safe and healthy for all.

As part of a national event, the Squamish Coldest Night of the Year will take place alongside walks in 225 cities, towns, and communities across Canada, all occurring on the same night. Walking together on the cold, wet, dark downtown streets is a chance for every person to experience what it's like to be unhoused during the most difficult time of the year.

“Coldest Night of the Year is our largest annual fundraiser,” said SHH executive director, Lori Pyne. “The funds raised support connected care that meets people where they are, spanning health, housing, and social supports. Join us in solidarity for Squamish’s wellbeing. Walk. Donate. Volunteer—or do all three!”

All funds will go towards caring for people in need in our community. Every dollar donated will mean individuals and families who use the services of Squamish Helping Hands and the Squamish Food Bank will receive basic amenities and resources to stabilize and prepare for the next stage of their lives.

The Squamish walk will begin at Junction Park, 37950 Cleveland Ave and end at Howe Sound Inn and Brewing for a light meal provided by the incredible food service team at Squamish Helping Hands. Participants can choose between a two-kilometre or five-kilometre route, warm up with toasty drinks and snacks at rest stops along the way, and celebrate their efforts together with a cozy dinner.

Everyone who raises over \$150 (or \$75 for youth) will be given an iconic Coldest Night of the Year toque.

In 2024, Squamish Helping Hands raised an impressive \$83,096 – four times the national average for a first-year location and already in 2025, talented and committed walkers and sponsors have made Squamish 19th out of 225 locations for dollars raised! This year, they are looking for 75 Team Captains to steer the ship and help raise more than \$100,000.

Squamish Helping Hands is celebrating its twentieth anniversary in 2026. With the recent merger between the Squamish Food Bank and Squamish Helping Hands, the fundraiser is an incredibly important time to collect donations at a time of year when giving drops to historical lows and honour two decades of dedicated work to helping people in need in the Sea to Sky region.

For further information, contact:

Amber Cowie, Director of Fund Development and Partnership

37871 3rd Ave, Squamish, BC, V8B 1B8

604.364-3576

acowie@shhs.ca

<https://cnoy.org/location/squamish>