



Discover Border Country Realty is gearing up for its 20th annual Coats For Kids drive this winter. Pictured from left: Edan Marshall, Willy Triveri (of Grand Forks Hospital Auxiliary), Angela Popoff, Sharon Marshall, and Jennifer Houghton of Discover Border Country Realty with a box of donations. Submitted photo

Coats campaign now underway

KATHLEEN SAYLORS
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A program drive aiming to keep the kids of Grand Forks warm this winter is celebrating 20 years handing out winter wear.

The annual Coats For Kids drive held by Discover Border Country Realty is in its 20th year, collecting hundreds of coats as well as boots, hats, mitts and scarves for kids – adults too, in fact – so no one has to do without this winter.

The coats are distributed well in advance of Christmas to make sure no one is cold even early in the winter, said Discover Border Country owner Sharon Marshall.

“Our whole mission is that we don’t want anyone to be cold,” she said.

Marshall said the drive started out as a way to help, but has evolved into much more.

“It was started as a community service project, and it is interesting because it has evolved. Everyone living here for any length of time is aware that we collect coats and they bring coats to us all year long,” Marshall said.

“The ladies of the hospital auxiliary continue to work with us and help us collect coats, they have been our partners for 20 years, as has the Christian Centre.”

The coats will be distributed from Dec. 1-3 at the Grand Forks Christian Centre (7525 Fourth Street) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Marshall said she wanted to thank the volunteers at the Grand Forks Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store for their help collecting coats and the Christian Centre for their partnership. Coats can be donated at the Discover Border Country office at 347 Market