



SALE OF CAREN MCSHERRY'S MASSIVE COOKBOOK COLLECTION RAISES FUNDS FOR SAVE OUR STREETS
Gourmet Warehouse owner's donation will help SOS support BC small businesses facing retail theft issues

VANCOUVER, B.C. (June 10, 2025) – After 30+ years assembling an amazing personal library of rare and collectible cookbooks, Gourmet Warehouse owner Caren McSherry has sold her beloved books and donated the entire proceeds to Save Our Streets (SOS), the province-wide organization dedicated to supporting small businesses like hers address the public safety and retail theft issues that affect their customers, their employees and their bottom line.

McSherry's collection of cookbooks featured hundreds of rare and collectible titles covering every type of local and international cuisine and cooking technique, and many of the books had been signed by their celebrity authors. The sale of the cookbooks raised \$3,500, and yesterday, McSherry presented SOS Co-founder Jess Ketchum with a cheque for that amount at her East Vancouver location.



"Assembling this collection was a labour of love," says McSherry. "As is the case for many small business owners across B.C., running my business is also a labour of love, but after 25 years of owning and operating our store here on East Hastings, the street disorder and theft has gotten so out of hand that I felt I had to do something drastic to try and make a difference. By making a donation to SOS, I'm supporting an organization whose work is focused not just on public safety, but on ensuring that the more vulnerable among us have better access to the treatment and support services they need."

Another example of McSherry's commitment to making a difference in her community is the fundraiser she held in her store May 26th, which saw 11 of Vancouver's most famous chefs combine their cooking talents for a dinner that raised \$20,000 for the victims of the Lapu Lapu festival tragedy.

As a founding member of Save Our Streets, and a retailer whose Downtown Eastside location has been regularly targeted by shoplifters over the years, McSherry has been a vocal supporter of SOS and its ongoing work to support new approaches, greater collaboration and informed decision-making when it comes to addressing decades-old issues such as homelessness, street disorder, addiction and mental illness.

"On behalf of SOS and all our members, I want to thank Caren for her generous donation," says Jess Ketchum. "Too many retailers across B.C. are being targeted on a daily basis, which seriously affects their customers and employees. While we have made some progress raising awareness of these important issues with government, the public and media, more needs to be done to spur meaningful action from all levels of government. Given that our work is funded solely through the support of our members, it's contributions like these, from people like Caren that want to make a difference, that is helping SOS address public safety and retail theft issues in communities across B.C."

About Save Our Streets

Save Our Streets is a coalition of 120-plus community and business organizations representing every corner of British Columbia. SOS members are committed to seeing governments bring order and public safety back to communities across British Columbia. Concerned citizen groups, and B.C. businesses interested in joining or supporting SOS are invited to submit online at SaveOurStreets.ca or contact info@saveourstreets.ca. For more information about SOS and the Forum, or to receive Save Our Streets news releases and the *Street Scene* newsletter, please visit SaveOurStreets.ca.

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