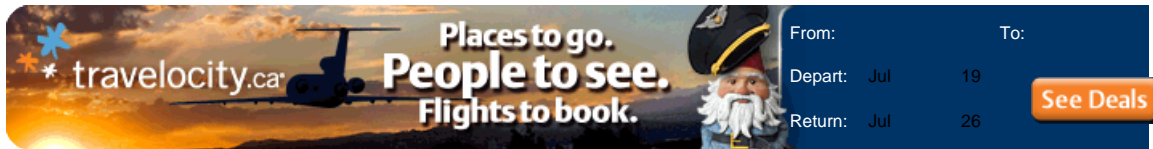




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## Charity-run thrift stores free of HST

### Shoppers catch a break on donated products

BY DAVID KARP, TIMES COLONIST JUNE 26, 2010

Customers of thrift stores operated by charities will get a break when the HST takes effect on

July 1.

Although the tax rate on adult used clothing sold by businesses is jumping to 12 per cent from five per cent on Canada Day, the tax will be eliminated on any used or donated products sold by a charity.

That's a drop from the five per cent tax charged on used adult clothing and the seven per cent tax charged on most non-clothing items sold in thrift stores.



"Everything at all our stores will be 100 per cent HST-free," said Glenys Cavers, director of thrift shops for Beacon Community Services. "It is going to be a huge benefit to our customers, especially those who are on limited incomes. On furniture, that's going to be seven dollars on a \$100 purchase that they are saving."

Cavers' charity operates seven thrift shops in Greater Victoria, which raise money for several community programs. She said the HST exemption for charities' thrift stores is a good news story.


"I realize [the HST] is not a popular thing, but I'm trying to be optimistic and look on the positive side of things," Cavers said.

dkarp@tc.canwest.com


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