



# Burnside Gorge Community News

October 2020  
www.burnsidegorge.ca

## So Much to Love About Burnside Gorge



By Elizabeth Cull, BGCA Board Member

There are so many bad things going on in the world right now that it's easy to forget all the good things we have. Recently the Burnside Gorge Neighbours group asked its members to share things they love about Burnside Gorge. Here are just a few of the many inspiring comments posted. [All names used with permission.]

I love the trestle and waterfront areas of our community! So nice to be able to walk from home, get a coffee at Selkirk cafe and watch the sunset. And I love the mix of people, professions, backgrounds, experiences that this community has! Always learning new things from the people I meet here.  
*Yvonne*

Swimming in the water when the sun has warmed it up, paddling, saying good morning to people while jogging the Gorge Walkway and my neighbors.  
*-Anonymous*

I really love these signs that one of our neighbours made and put up all around the neighborhood to bring some joy and laughter to everyone in this time of pandemic and uncertainty. *- Michelle*

All the dogs! *Anonymous* And the cats! *-Denise*

The perfect semi quiet street to raise our kids, knowing our neighbours' names and chatting. *- Anonymous*

I love my neighbours! We've lived here for 6 years, and every time I bike down the street and get to greet neighbours by name, it makes me so happy!  
*- Stacey*

There's a sense of community here. I love being so close to the water and to Selkirk. I also love the convenience – I feel like I'm close to everything!  
*- Anonymous*

I love that there are still blackberries in our area. *-Anonymous*

I love my neighbours, everyone is friendly and we all watch out for each other. I also love the Gorge waterway for its beautiful scenery. *- Rachele*

Gorge Park is great, and our neighbourhood is such a central area. I love the many private businesses here like coffeeshops etc. So much!  
*- Anonymous*

I love the being able to take my kids for walks to the fairy door on Mad-dock and the one on Irma. *- Anonymous*

I love that there are so many great breweries within walking distance!  
*-Anonymous*

I love the bus routes that go through here and how convenient they make getting around without a car. *-Constance*

I love how close we are to the Galloping Goose trail. And how very bike-able Victoria is! *-Denise*

I love walks along the Gorge waterway park. The Glo patio is wonderful too!  
*-Anonymous*

I am happy that there are more children in our neighbourhood lately and that people take pride in their homes and yards. *- Betty*

I love Burnside Gorge Community Association. They are the glue that holds us together. *- Anonymous*



BG

## Neighbours Helping Neighbours Helping VicPD Respond to Rising Needs in Burnside Gorge

By Kimberly Kelley, VicPD BlockWatch and Community Programs Coordinator

The Burnside Gorge neighbourhood is responding to the impact that comes with sheltering people who have increased needs for supports for struggles with addiction, mental illness and homelessness. Those who prey on these vulnerable people continue to exploit those at risk and that has significant impact on the surrounding community. Uniform presence can help prevent issues from worsening and that's been part of our response. Our Community Services Division (CSD), including our Community Resource Officers, acted almost immediately to redeploy resources in response to neighborhood complaints and increased calls for service. CSD's response has been augmented by additional uniform presence. Whether it is Patrol officers making Burnside Gorge a patrol priority at the direction of our Operations Council, Strike Force officers mounting a significant undercover property crime investigation, or volunteer, sworn Reserve constables augmenting our foot patrol presence in Burnside Gorge, we at VicPD are doing what we can with the resources we have to respond; the arrests and operations are part of that.

But it's not just uniform presence. The Burnside Gorge community has come together to form new citizen alliances and to stand up for their neighbourhood. We've seen significant increases in enrolment in our VicPD BlockWatch program. That is a clear sign that Burnside Gorge residents care for each other and are stepping up to help their neighbours. VicPD BlockWatch is all about neighbours looking out for neighbours. That means that even when our Patrol officers and Reserves aren't there, more and more Burnside Gorge residents are the eyes and ears of safety; talking with each other and calling us so we can respond to their concerns.

Our Community Resource Officers continue to be connected and part of working directly with the neighbourhood on the longer-term solutions to the concerns we are all seeing. It's these various partnerships that really speak to the spirit of the Burnside Gorge community.

If you haven't yet joined a VicPD BlockWatch, I really encourage you to do so. It's free, straightforward, connects you with your neighbours and us as your police department and might even save you a bit on your house insurance! For more information on how to join please visit [www.VicPD.ca/BlockWatch](http://www.VicPD.ca/BlockWatch) or contact [Kimberly.kelley@vicpd.ca](mailto:Kimberly.kelley@vicpd.ca).





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The Burnside Gorge Community Association  
471 Cecelia Road, Victoria, BC V8T 4T4  
Phone: 250-388-5251  
Website: [www.burnsidegorge.ca](http://www.burnsidegorge.ca)

Note: Written contributions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the BGCA or its staff.

#### BGCA Board of Directors

Greg Arnold, Director  
Sara Maya Bhandar, Director  
Elizabeth Cull, Vice-Chair  
Kyle Empringham, Director  
Michelle Peterson, Secretary  
Avery Stetski, Chair  
Sarah Wagstaff, Director

#### To Advertise

Establish yourself as a community supporter with an ad in your community newsletter.

The deadline to purchase ad space is the 15th of each month prior to the month of publication. Please contact us for current rates.

#### Contributions

The BGCN welcomes submissions. Submissions are subject to editing as required for clarity and brevity. Please note that submission does not guarantee publication. Contact us for submission guidelines and deadlines.

Editor: Rachel O'Neill

Email: [rachel@burnsidegorge.ca](mailto:rachel@burnsidegorge.ca)

Phone: 250-388-5251



#### About us

Founded in 1991 in response to community need, the Burnside Gorge Community Association provides a continuum of programs and services that strengthen the lives of children, youth and families in Greater Victoria.

Programming includes: a range of childcare programs for ages 3.5 to 11; community and school based youth and family services; housing and asset development supports for youth and families; community recreation and special events for all ages; and a variety of community development initiatives.

As a non-profit organization, we rely on the support of individuals, businesses and partner organizations to continue providing a high level of service to our communities. If you're passionate about the work that we're doing there are a number of ways that you can get involved.

#### Join our team!

Want to join a fun and dynamic team? BGCA is a great place to work. To see current opportunities please see our website at:

<http://www.burnsidegorge.ca/opportunities/employment>

#### Volunteer!

Do you have some time to spare and a passion for community? We're always looking for volunteers to help out. Current opportunities are listed at:

<http://www.burnsidegorge.ca/opportunities/volunteer>

#### Become a member!

Are you interested in being a part of our mission? Become a member and take an active role in shaping our community. For more information contact the BGCA directly at:

[info@burnsidegorge.ca](mailto:info@burnsidegorge.ca)

## Donate to Coats for Kids

The Burnside Gorge Community Centre is currently accepting donations for our annual Coats for Kids program. We are collecting clean, new or gently used winter coats for children ages 5+ and teenaged youth. We would also be grateful for boots, snowsuits, snow pants, mitts and scarves. Please drop your donations off at the Community Centre, 471 Cecelia Rd. For more information, call us at 250-388-5251.



## Gorge Waterway Cleanup 2020

The Burnside Gorge Community Association was happy to be able to organize its annual Gorge Waterway Clean Up this year. On Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>, volunteers and staff all followed a carefully laid out COVID-19 safety plan which ensured social distancing good hygiene. It was nice for all to be outside enjoying some fresh air and non-smoky skies.

An enormous THANK-YOU to all that came out to support the event. The Ecological health and continued preservation of our Gorge Waterway continues to thrive as a result of your selfless efforts!

Thank-you to our generous sponsors and supporters: Ellice Recycle, Victoria Harbour Ferry, Alley Kat Signs, CRD, Lifestyle Markets, the City of Victoria and United Rentals Victoria.



## Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) is currently accepting applications!

### The FSS Program can support you to...

- Start saving with a matched savings program
- Gain more control of your money
- Face your financial fears and move forward
- Begin a debt reduction plan and reduce your debt
- Access supports that will assist you and your family as you move towards a brighter future

### Are You:

- Receiving an eligible housing subsidy?
- Living with at least one dependent child?
- Surviving on a low income?
- Feeling overwhelmed about money?
- Struggling with debt?
- Worried about your finances?

We can help! Call the FSS program today at 250-388-5251  
or visit [www.burnsidegorge.ca](http://www.burnsidegorge.ca) to find out more.

## Centennial United CHURCH

**Worship Service 10:55 am**  
Sunday School, Nursery, Senior Choir  
Everyone Welcome!

649 Gorge Rd. East (at David St.)  
Wheelchair ramp on Gorge Rd.

250-384-6424  
[www.cucvictoria.com](http://www.cucvictoria.com)



FSS is generously funded by:





## Burnside Bikes 2020 a Success!



A huge thanks to all who participated in and supported the Burnside Bikes Skills Clinic! The Burnside Bikes event was held on Saturday Aug 29<sup>th</sup> at the Selkirk Green Park. Bike Skills Coordinators from the Bike to Work Society educated kids aged 3-7 on how to safely and properly fit a helmet and coached them through an obstacle course challenging their balance and braking.

It was so great to see families out, staying distant, and helping their kids improve their cycling skills!

Thank-you to the Bike to Work Society for providing the coaching, the props and so much encouragement to our young riders and families! We were so appreciative to have the onsite mechanical support from Cycles West as well. We would like to extend a shout out to our other sponsors that made the event a success: North Park Bike Shop and Red Barn Market.

Happy riding everyone! Don't forget about [Go by Bike](#) happening September 28-October 4th.



## Open VicPD Launched

Submitted by Victoria Police Department

Open VicPD was launched in early September. A one-stop hub for information about the Victoria Police Department, Open VicPD is part of our efforts to be as transparent and accountable as possible. Our interactive VicPD Community Dashboard, alongside our online quarterly reports, publications, and other information, tells the story of how we are working towards our strategic vision of "A Safer Community Together."

The VicPD Community Dashboard is an integral component of the VicPD Strategic Plan 2020; sharing data and other information as measures of our work as the police service for the communities of Victoria and Esquimalt. Through this proactive and interactive sharing of information, it is hoped that citizens can learn more about VicPD and how we currently deliver policing services, while starting conversations about additional opportunities and challenges that deserve greater attention.

### Information Provided Through the VicPD Community Dashboard

Our VicPD Community Dashboard and the Quarterly Reports provide data and analysis at different levels of depth, and over different time periods. Some of this information comes directly from VicPD, while other information, like the Crime Severity Index for Victoria and Esquimalt, is produced by outside agencies like Stats Canada. All of the measures are drawn from our Strategic Plan 2020 and from reports created at the direction of the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board and/or through municipal, provincial and federal data and information sharing agreements. We'll share an introduction to the Quarterly Reports tomorrow.

### The Three Goals

Our VicPD Community Dashboard is organized through the three goals of our Strategic Plan 2020: Support Community Safety, Enhance Public Trust and Achieve Organizational Excellence.

### Five Measurement Categories

There are five subcategories under each of the three goals that provide year-to-year insight into how we are measuring our progress on these goals. These subcategories aren't an exhaustive list of all aspects of how we deliver policing services in Victoria and Esquimalt, but are what we feel to be the best measures of our year-to-year progress. We'll be asking for your feedback on these measures and how we can improve the Community Dashboard and we'll be taking deeper dives into these measures in the weeks ahead.

### Support Community Safety

Supporting community safety is at the core of our work at the Victoria Police Department. Our 2020-2024 Strategic Plan takes a three-point approach to community safety: fighting crime, preventing crime, and contributing to community vibrancy. The measures used are:

- Calls For Service
- Crime Severity Index
- Crime Rates
- Perception of Crime
- VicPD Block Watch

### Enhance Public Trust

Public trust is essential to effective community-based policing. That is why we aim to further enhance the public trust by continuing to engage the public, collaborate with our diverse communities, and maximize transparency. The measures used are:

- Public Satisfaction
- Perception of Accountability
- Public Safety Campaigns
- Documents Released to the Public
- Volunteer & Reserve Constable Hours

### Achieve Organizational Excellence

VicPD is always looking at ways to be better. The 2020-2024 VicPD Strategic Plan aims to achieve organizational excellence by supporting our people, maximizing efficiency and effectiveness, and using technology to support our work. The measures are:

- Case Load Per Officer
- Time Loss
- Deployable Officers
- Public Complaints
- Response Time

### Join Us In Learning More

We'll be walking you through each of the goals and their subsequent measures in detail over the coming weeks. Each week, for the next 15 weeks, we'll look at one of these measures in detail to help you understand what we're measuring, why we're measuring it and how we think it helps you track our progress towards achieving our goals. Join us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and VicPD.ca to join us in a deeper dive into VicPD.

### We Want to Hear From You!

As part of our goals to improve your understanding of how we work and what measures we're using and why, we welcome your feedback. Please email us your questions and suggestions. To learn more visit: <https://vicpd.ca/open-vicpd/community-dashboard/>



## BURNSIDE GORGE COMMUNITY CENTRE RECREATION PROGRAMS

### PROGRAM REGISTRATION

We have an exciting line-up of programs for all ages, from toddlers to seniors. To register for a program call 250-388-5251 or drop by the Centre in person. Pre-registration is required for all programs. The Front Desk hours are 8:30am-5pm, Monday to Friday. We are closed on statutory holidays and weekends, unless noted otherwise.

Payment is required at the time of registration and can be made by cash, cheque, credit card (VISA & MC), Debit or City of Victoria LIFE credits.

### REGISTER EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

Programs may be cancelled or postponed if there are not enough registered participants. Decisions to run or cancel a program are usually made two days prior to the first class.

#### REFUND POLICY:

- For a full refund, request for withdrawal must be received at least 1 day prior to the first class.
- A full refund will be issued if BGCA cancels a program.
- If a participant withdraws after the first class, they will be refunded the pro-rated cost of the program.
- Withdrawing after the second or third class, the participant will be refunded the pro-rated cost of the program minus a \$5 administrative fee.
- No refunds for withdrawals after the lesser of the 4th class or 50% of the course has been completed.

### GET IN TOUCH

Do you have an IDEA for a program that you would like to see offered at Burnside Gorge Community Centre? Are you an instructor interested in running a program with us? Contact Travis Chater, Community Recreation Coordinator, at 250-388-5251 ext 225 or email [travis@burnsidegorge.ca](mailto:travis@burnsidegorge.ca).

### FACILITIES

The Burnside Gorge Community Centre is located just outside downtown Victoria at 471 Cecelia Road, between Burnside Road East and Gorge Road East. Outdoor public facilities include the Cecelia Ravine Park, Sport Court and Bike Skills Park, adjacent to the Centre.

The Community Centre is readily accessible by public transit: buses #8, 11, 21 and 22 routes on Gorge Rd East, Jutland Rd and Burnside Rd East, run parallel or border Cecelia Road. It is also easily accessible by the Galloping Goose Trail, which is adjacent to the Centre.



# Burnside Gorge Activity Guide

## OCTOBER PROGRAMS

All programs held at Burnside Gorge Community Centre, 471 Cecelia Rd, unless otherwise noted. Schedule is subject to change without notice – please call 250-388-5251 for the most current info.

### FAMILY – REGISTERED PROGRAMS

All Family Centre programs have limited spaces available and pre-registration is required. To sign up please call 250-388-5251 or email [theresa@burnsidegorge.ca](mailto:theresa@burnsidegorge.ca). The Community Centre is closed on stat holidays.

#### ACTIVE PLAY (AGES 0-5)

Free play for the little ones, ages 5 and under, and a chance to chat with other moms/dads.  
Mondays 9:30-11:30am.

#### LOVE 2 LEARN (AGES 0-5)

Centred on fun, engaging, play-based learning Love 2 Learn focuses on making early learning activities transferable to the home environment. Weekly sessions will involve a story and share time as well as an activity kit to make and take home. At the end of each session families will set a goal to achieve during the week and explore it during the following group. Sessions will be held in the Family centre.

Tuesdays Oct 13 – Nov 24 9:30-11:30am

#### HEALTHY TOGETHER (VIA ZOOM)

This innovative and unique family education program brings families together to learn to make healthy choices and build healthy relationships. The sessions will involve group discussions to share ideas around choices to support physical and emotional health as well as how to make an easy, healthy meal each week. Participants will receive educational materials as well as the food items needed to make the weekly meal together. Families will also practice setting achievable healthy goals each session to be shared and reflected on the following week.

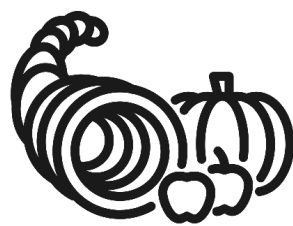
Wednesdays Oct 14 – Nov 25 10-11am

#### FAMILY DINNER

Families need to register for dinner by Tuesday at 4pm by calling the front desk at: 250-388-5251. Thursday between 5 and 5:45pm, pick up dinner to take away for an easy, nutritious weekday meal for your family. Maximum 25 families.

Thursdays 5-6pm

### FAMILY – SPECIAL EVENTS



#### THANKSGIVING DINNER

This year Thanksgiving Dinner will be available for take-out only with pre-registration. Dinner will consist of roast turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, veggies and cranberry/gravy. There is a suggested donation of \$5. The deadline to register is Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Please call front desk 250-388-5251 to register. Maximum 125 families.

Thursday October 8 Pickup 5-5:45pm

### ADULT – HEALTH & WELLNESS

#### XL YOGA

For those living in large bodies taught by a person living in a large body. The benefits of yoga – increased balance, flexibility, stamina, and relaxation are wonderful for everybody. We'll make the poses work for our everyone using modifications and props (bolsters, blankets, and straps). Our classes are fun and light-hearted. *Instructor Jill Moran*

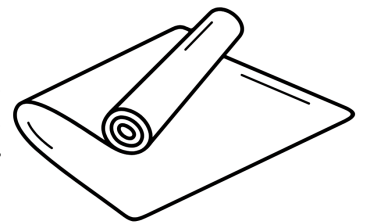
Due to Covid 19, props will not be available at the Community Centre. Please bring your own yoga mat, blocks, a strap (belt, scarf, bathrobe tie) and a blanket. If you do not or cannot get these items, email the instructor [jillxyoga@gmail.com](mailto:jillxyoga@gmail.com) and she can loan you what you need for the class series.

Th	Sept 24 - October 29	7-8:00 pm	6/\$72
Th	Nov 29 - Dec 10	7-8:00 pm	6/\$72

#### ZUMBA

Join us for one of the fastest growing Latin dance-inspired fitness crazes across the world! People of all ages are falling in love with its infectious music, easy-to-follow dance moves and body-sculpting benefits. Come dance to the rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Mambo and other Latin beats. This is a fitness class you will not want to miss! *Instructor Ximena Londono*

W	Sept 16 – Dec 9	6-7:00 pm	12/\$96
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**ZUMBA GOLD AND YOGA**

Always wanted to Zumba but thought it might be too much for you? This class combines gentle Zumba Gold dance and fitness moves with yoga stretches, breathing exercises and deep relaxation. It is ideal for beginners, active older adults and other participants who may need program modifications. *Instructor Ximena Londono*

W Sept 16 – Dec 9 9:30-10:30:00 am 12/\$96

**50+****STRENGTH, CONDITIONING & BALANCE FOR 60+**

The first step is the most important! This well rounded program will focus on activities to improve strength, balance, mobility and cardiovascular fitness. A certified BCRPA instructor will use light weights, resistance bands, fitness props and a fun selection of agility games to improve overall fitness.

Have fun, make new friends and feel good about yourself. All levels of ability welcome. *Instructor Janice Arnot*

We will be taking the following precautions to ensure each participants' health and safety.

- No shared equipment will be used. Participants are asked to bring their own weights and bands. The instructor has these for sale at a substantially discounted price. Please phone Travis 250-388-5251 to inquire about purchasing.
- No drop in registration. Class size has been reduced to ensure all participants can have ample space to stay at least two metres from one another.
- The space will be sanitized in between each class and new chairs used for each class.

Tu Sept 15 – Nov 3 9-10:00 am 8/\$64  
10:15-11:15 am 8/\$64

**SENIORS LUNCH 'N LEARN**

Socialize with other seniors in the community while enjoying a delicious and nutritious homemade meal. This program features a mix of guest speakers, social activities and theme activities during the holiday seasons. Due to COVID-19 seating is limited and registration is required. Please call 250.388.5251 to register or for more information.

Th Sep 24 – Mar 26 12-1 p.m. Lunch Drop-In /\$4  
1-2 p.m. Presentation

**Presentations for October:**

October 8 Dr. Gavin Hanke Zoologist  
October 15 Sarah Potts Victoria Councillor  
October 22 Dr. Phil Newton (Pianist)  
October 29 Covid-19 and the Economic Outlook

**SONGS OF OUR GENERATION**

Sing, clap and tap along as we explore songs by some of our favourite artists (1950's, 60's, 70's), and the stories behind their lives. Taught by Victoria Conservatory of Music Singer/Songwriter Coleen Eccleston.

M Sept 28- Nov 16 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm 8/FREE

**ART THERAPY**

Visual art is a powerful and effective way to communicate. Through drawing, painting and sculptures, art therapy alleviates stress levels, helps build self-confidence, and helps provide an understanding of our thoughts and values. For this course, no talent is required, all we need is motivation to work on our difficulties and emotions while being accompanied by a professional who will guide us in this process. We will express ourselves in ways other than words. Taking an experimental approach focused on the senses and using visual art for therapeutic purposes.

Saturdays Oct 10th – Nov 28 10am – 12:00 pm 8/\$70

**RENTALS****FACILITY RENTALS**

The BGCA is slowly reopening for Facility Rentals. Rentals are taken on a case by case basis and all approved rentals will be required to have a safety plan in place.

For meetings, conferences, parties and family gatherings, we have a wide variety of rooms available to suit your needs. We offer wireless internet, tea & coffee service, and A/V equipment rentals, all at affordable prices. Nestled in Cecelia Ravine, our rooms also offer outstanding natural views and are accessible from the Galloping Goose Trail.

For more information or availability please call the Community Centre at 250-388-5251 or email [rentals@burnsidegorge.ca](mailto:rentals@burnsidegorge.ca).

**WORKSHOPS****HERBAL PLANT WALK**

Would you like to feel safe and confident eating local, wild plants? Do you want to gather wild edibles and medicinals without needing to become a botany expert? Join herbalist, Garliq, for a walk through Cecelia Ravine to learn about some powerful local herbal medicines. From this 90 minute walk you'll learn to identify 8-12 local wild foods and medicine plants.

Sunday, October 25, 10am-11:30am. To register call 250-388-5251, sliding scale of \$5-\$20.

About Garliq: <https://www.livingmedicineproject.com/about>

*We acknowledge this event is held on the unceded land of the Lekwungen speaking peoples.*

**Reducing Waste: Top 5 Tips**

Submitted by CRD Environmental Services

October 19-25 is Waste Reduction Week!



When it comes to managing the region's waste we all have an important part to play. With over 400,000 residents living in the capital region and a garbage disposal rate of 380kg per person per year, it is estimated that Hartland Landfill – our region's only landfill – will be full in about 25 years. The Capital Regional District (CRD) is working to extend the life of Hartland Landfill and we need your help. The simplest way to extend the life of the landfill is by reducing the amount of garbage that each of us throws away.

Whether it's at home, school, work or on the go, we all make choices that contribute to the amount of waste we create. Pausing to consider where our waste comes from can allow us to make choices that create less waste.

Here are our top five waste reduction tips:

1. **Think before you buy.** The top tip for reducing waste is to reduce the amount of stuff we buy in the first place. Before making a purchase, ask yourself: "Do I need it?", "Can I buy it used?", "Is it built to last?" and "Could this item be rented or borrowed from a friend?"
2. **Steer clear of single-use items.** Carry a reusable mug and water bottle, bring reusable bags for grocery shopping, pack a lunch in reusable containers, etc.
3. **Reduce food waste.** Make a meal plan and buy only what you know you will use. The average Canadian household wastes 140kg of food per year, that adds up to roughly \$1,100 per year!
4. **Feed the land, not the landfill.** When you do have food waste, make sure you're putting it in the right place. Despite being banned from the landfill, organic waste makes up the largest portion of what ends up in the landfill. By composting, or participating in green bin programs, you reduce the amount waste going to the landfill and help create a valuable resource.
5. **Reduce, reuse, and then recycle.** Have an item that you no longer want? See if you can donate it. If it's broken, see if it can be repaired by attending a local [Repair Café](#). If it cannot be donated or repaired, find out if it can be recycled. From textiles to electronics there are many recycling options available in our region. Visit [www.myrecyclopedia.ca](http://www.myrecyclopedia.ca) to find out more.

Join the conversation. Follow us on Facebook [@CapitalRegionalDistrict](#) for more waste reduction tips and the chance to win a prize during Waste Reduction Week - October 19-25.

For more waste reduction tips visit: [www.crd.bc.ca/reduce](http://www.crd.bc.ca/reduce)

# How to Vote in the Provincial Election on Oct 24

## REGISTER TO VOTE

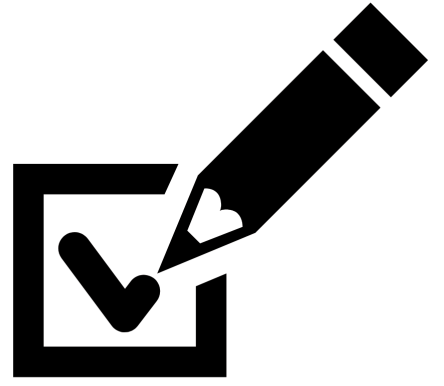
To register to vote in British Columbia, you must be:

- 18 or older by General Voting Day,
- a Canadian citizen, and
- a B.C. resident for the past six months as of General Voting Day.

Voter registration for the provincial election is now closed online and by phone, but you can still register or update your information when you vote in person or by mail. You may need to provide photocopies of acceptable ID if voting by mail.

To vote by mail, [request a vote-by-mail package](#). If you are not registered to vote or your voter information is out of date, your vote-by-mail package will include instructions on how to register or update your information. You will need to provide photocopies of valid identification.

**Completed vote-by-mail packages must be received by Elections BC before 8 p.m. (Pacific time) on Saturday, October 24.**

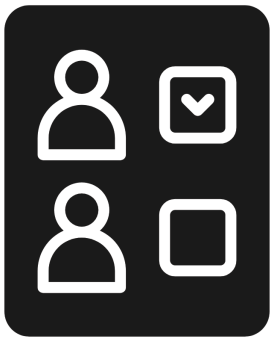


## WHERE TO VOTE

What should you bring if you vote in person?

- Valid ID that shows your name and home address.
- Your Where to Vote card. Look for it in the mail from Elections BC before advance voting starts. Bringing it with you to the voting place will make voting faster and easier.
- Your own pen or pencil to mark your ballot, if you wish.
- A mask to wear in the voting place, if you wish. We encourage voters to wear a mask when they vote to protect others. You will not be asked to remove your mask to vote. Learn more about voting safely and COVID-19.

Check out <https://wheretovote.elections.bc.ca/> for the voting place nearest you and the dates it will be open.



## VOTE IN ADVANCE

**Thursday, October 15 to Wednesday, October 21 | 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (local time)**

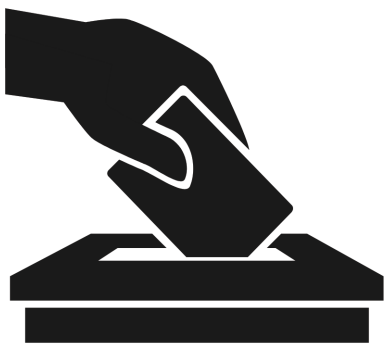
You don't need a special reason to vote at advance voting – it's an option for all voters. Note that some advance voting places may not be open on every advance voting day. Advance voting places and the dates they are open are being confirmed and will be posted here when available.

## VOTE ON GENERAL VOTING DAY

**Saturday, October 24 | 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Pacific time)**

Voters have an assigned voting place on General Voting Day. Normally it is faster to vote at your assigned voting place, but you can vote at another voting place if it is more convenient to you.

General Voting Day voting places and the dates they are open are being confirmed and will be posted here when available. Note that the voting places open on advance voting days and General Voting Day may be different.



## VOTE AT A DISTRICT ELECTORAL OFFICE

As soon as possible after the writs are issued until 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on Saturday, October 24

You can vote at any district electoral office in the province from as soon as offices open until 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on October 24. Offices will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. They will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during advance voting.

Offices will be open as soon as possible. See the full list of district electoral offices (PDF). Please note the status column to see if the office is open yet. Office contact information will be added as soon as possible.

## HOW TO VOTE BY MAIL

All voters can vote by mail: you don't need a special reason. Voting by mail is a great option for voters who are not comfortable voting in person because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Contact Elections BC to request a vote-by-mail package as soon as possible. Your package will be mailed to you. You can ask for one by:

Requesting a vote-by-mail package online  
Calling Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683

Request a vote-by-mail package by October 17. After this date, voters will not be able to request a vote-by-mail package online or through our Contact Centre. If a voter is unable to vote in person, they will still be able to request a vote-by-mail package from a district electoral office, which they can complete and drop off at any voting place, district electoral office or a participating Service BC office.

<https://eregister.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca/ovr/welcome.aspx#>



**For more information please see <https://elections.bc.ca/>**