

Burnside Gorge Community News

April 2022
www.burnsidegorge.ca

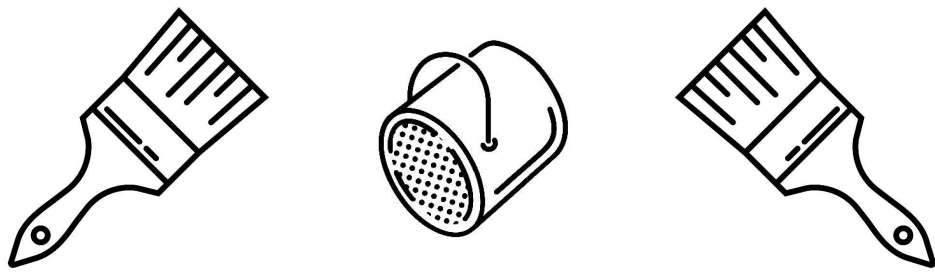
Join the Burnside Gorge Graffiti Fighters team!

Submitted by Elizabeth Cull, BGCA Chair

Are you tired of seeing graffiti tags in your neighbourhood? We certainly are and so are some of your neighbours who've decided to take on the job of removing the tags.

It's not a huge job. The City of Victoria supplies the paint kits, brushes and a safety vest and you – the volunteer – go for a short walk in your neighbourhood and paint over the tags. Take your dogs or your kids. Make it fun – see how many you can wipe out in an hour. If enough people volunteer to look after just their own block, we'll have Burnside Gorge spruced up in no time.

The Burnside Gorge Graffiti Fighters are looking for volunteers to take on a part of their block. If you're interested in improving our neighbourhood, please contact boardchair@burnsidegorge.ca.



Strengthening Communities Pop-up

Pop on down to the Cecelia Ravine Park courtyard on Saturday, April 9. Bring your neighbours. Hear what others have said about building the best possible Burnside Gorge neighbourhood and add your voice and ideas!

We're thrilled to have live performances from Theatre SKAM, delicious eats, and fun community building activities! For more info see the poster below our check out the facebook event at <https://fb.me/e/2e1mCJTq4>

YOU'RE INVITED!

To hear what your neighbours have said about healthy community and building the best possible

Burnside Gorge Neighbourhood

Add your voice and ideas for projects about health, safety and relationship building & sign up for a workshop to participate in funding projects through the Strengthening Communities Grant!

WHAT: Interactive community building activity
Live theatre SKAM performances (12:30 & 1:30 pm)
Free food

WHEN: April 9, from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Cecelia Ravine Park (see map below)



For more information contact engagement@burnsidegorge.ca

greater victoria coalition to end homelessness
hope has found a home

Burnside Gorge

Canada | BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC Housing Meeting for Caledonia & Discovery Development

Come learn more about supportive housing included in the proposed redevelopment at 722, 726 & 732 Discovery Street.

BC Housing and Chard Development Ltd. are proposing to redevelop properties at 710 Caledonia Avenue and 1961 Douglas Street and 722, 726 & 732 Discovery Street. The proposal came before the Burnside Gorge community land use committee (CALUC) meeting on February 7, 2022. Now, BC Housing is hosting an information session focused on the supportive housing element of the proposed redevelopment at 722, 726 & 732 Discovery Street. Due to COVID 19 policies, this session will talk place virtually.

Hosted by a neutral third-party facilitator, this session is an opportunity for neighbours to learn about the proposed supportive housing site, connect directly with the development and operation teams, ask questions, and share feedback.

The details:

- Time: 6:00 pm
- Date: Thursday March 31
- Register at <https://letstalkhousingbc.ca/victoria-1961-douglas>

Register for Free Seedlings!

We are excited to be a host organization for the City of Victoria's Get Growing, Victoria! program again this year. If you are facing barriers to growing your own food and you are interested in receiving free food seedlings this spring at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre, on Saturday, May 21, please register at the link below!

<https://forms.gle/cj4ep5deGaZjMC2n9>

Registration is open until May 15, 2022. Once registered, you will be notified closer to the date as to when you can collect your seedlings. Learn more about Get Growing, Victoria! at

<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/parks/growing-in-the-city/get-growing-victoria.html>



Join the BGCA Team

CURRENT OPENINGS:

- Tillicum Out of School Care Manager (full-time)
- Youth Recreation Programmer (full-time)
- Childcare Leaders (temporary full time, & permanent part-time)
- Supported Childcare Workers (temporary full time, & permanent part-time)

Full job descriptions and application details can be found at:

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



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Published by

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

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

BGCA Board of Directors

Greg Arnold, Treasurer
Elizabeth Cull, Chair
Kirsten Mah, Director
Michelle Peterson, Secretary
Corinne Saad, Director
Avery Stetski, Vice-Chair

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

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

A Message from your Council Liaison



Victoria City Council's committee of the whole has approved a Growing in the City Volunteer Coordinator Grant for the Burnside Gorge Community Association (BGCA) for \$10,000, with another \$1,500 awarded for a complementary Get Growing, Victoria! Service Grant.

Community groups use the funds for gardening development and related activities, and make it easier for residents to use underutilized spaces to garden and grow food in the neighbourhood. The idea is to help increase public spaces for residents to garden, and build capacity of organizations to help plan, design, construct and maintain Growing in the City programs in their neighbourhood, like community gardens, community boulevard gardens, and urban food tree stewardship programs. These grants help promote gardening as a valuable community recreational activity that contributes to health and well-being, positive social interaction, neighbourhood building, food production, environmental education, biodiversity, habitat development and connection to nature.

Get Growing, Victoria! is the City's free food seedling and garden materials program, which supports underserved communities, including people disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The distribution of garden materials is available in select neighbourhoods annually in April, during the seedling distributions throughout the summer, and in October to help winterize residential gardens. The distribution of food seedlings occurs over a three-week period in May-June and again in July, each year.

Since 2020, Get Growing, Victoria! has supplied over 168,000 vegetable and herb seedings and 344 cubic meters of material to Victoria residents. The program is operated in partnership with a variety of community organizations who support the delivery of services associated with Get Growing, Victoria! including hosting neighbourhood distribution days, providing additional gardening materials and support, and providing educational materials helpful for novice gardeners.

Congratulations BGCA and neighbourhood residents for stewarding gardening spaces in Burnside Gorge!

Respectfully submitted

Marianne Alto, Burnside Gorge City Council Liaison

O'Reilly Heirlooms Return to Point Ellice House

Submitted by Christeah Dupont, Assistant Curator, Point Ellice House Museum & Gardens

When the phone at Point Ellice House rings, it is usually someone calling to inquire about our events, hours, or sometimes they call asking for the meat department at Thrifty Foods (which happens to be one digit off from our telephone number). However there is another type of caller, one that many museums encounter. These callers inquire about donating objects, textiles, or even furniture to Point Ellice House with the hope that their item - usually some kind of family heirloom - might join our existing collection of over 12,000 artifacts. We have been offered all sorts of antique and vintage items, from lace doilies to pump organs.

The conversations usually don't last very long - we have to be sure that the potential donation is relevant to the history of either Point Ellice House or one of the families who lived here. To make sure that an object meets our site mandate I usually ask the following questions: What is the provenance (or history) of the item? Does it have a direct connection to Point Ellice House? To the O'Reilly or Wallace families? In nearly all cases, the items have no connection to Point Ellice House and, unfortunately, we have to reject the gracious offers of Grandma's tea towel collection.

Recently, however, there was a donation offer that met the above criteria. The call came from a person who briefly lived with John and Inez O'Reilly at Point Ellice House in the 1960s. At that time, the potential donor was offered two items from the house as wedding gifts: a green demitasse cup and saucer with a beautiful peacock design and a small embroidered bench. The cup and saucer were particularly interesting as they match a set that already exists in the collection, giving further credence to the story. By accepting this cup and saucer into the collection we are rounding out a collection within a collection; the set of cups and saucers on display in the China Pantry always felt one short. I was hesitant to accept the bench into the collection (beautiful piece though it may be) but once I was given measurements and had assured myself that I would be able to find a comfortable space for it in storage, I agreed to accept it into the collection. The bench was likely purchased in the 19th or early 20th century and its departure from Point Ellice House in the 1960s allows us to interpret the history of the house during this time when these O'Reilly family heirlooms were gifted as wedding presents.



Donations of this kind are rare, but since 2019 we have had others reach out - including Inez O'Reilly's son with a box of her belongings, and a person unconnected with the house who purchased a photo album from a swap meet containing pictures of the house and O'Reilly family. All of these were recently accessioned into our collection and serve as a reminder that there are still items out there connected to PEH - even if they are rare.

There are few other places quite like Point Ellice House - a historic site with a complete collection of household items preserved in their original context. As a result, we very rarely accept donations unless their provenance can be directly traced to the House itself or one of the families who lived there. But sometimes you get a phone call...

If you would like to explore the material culture of Point Ellice House, you can browse the collection here: <https://pointellicehouse.com/search-the-collection-2/>

CENTENNIAL UNITED CHURCH
621 David St.



Now offering in-person and live-streaming services at 10:55 am.
Prelude begins at 10:45 am.

For more info please call 250-384-6424
or visit www.cucvictoria.com

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? Call Travis Chater 250-388-5251 or email 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

APRIL PROGRAMS

Programs do not run on Statutory Holidays and the schedule is subject to change without notice. All programs require registration. Please call 250-388-5251 for the most current info or to register.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

WIGGLES & GIGGLES (AGES 0-5) *VACCINE VERIFICATION REQUIRED

Join us for active play in the Activity Center. Get the wiggles out with this interactive program that includes ride on toys, kids' hockey and basketball, balance beams and lots of fun! The program provides opportunity for movement and free play. Parent participation required. Followed by snack and cool down in the Family Centre.

Mondays 9:30am - 12pm Free

LOVE 2 LEARN (AGES 0-5) *VACCINE VERIFICATION REQUIRED

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 9:30am - 12pm Free

TODDLER ARTS & CRAFTS (AGES 0-5) *VACCINE VERIFICATION REQUIRED

Explore your creative side! Each week features a different craft designed with the toddler/preschooler in mind. Creative activities can be messy, so please ensure children are dressed appropriately. Parent participation is required.

Wednesdays 10am - 12pm Free

COMMUNITY DINNER @ BURNSIDE GRILL

Enjoy a nutritious meal with your family and meet other members of your community. Families need to register for dinner before Wednesday 4pm by calling the front desk at: 250-388-5251. Advise if you are Vegetarian when registering.

Thursdays 5 - 6 pm By donation

PARENT & TOT PLAY TIME

This is an opportunity for young children and their parents to meet and play in an informal atmosphere with other children, toys, and books. Please note that no food is allowed in the Family Centre.

Thursdays 5:30 - 7pm Free



BLUE BUTTERFLIES (ASD PEER SUPPORT & PLAY GROUP)

This peer-led support group for parents and caregivers of children with autism is a safe place to meet other families and share strategies, resources, and support. The Family Centre is a great space for parents and caregivers to get together and have a coffee or cup of tea. The space allows children to navigate and explore in a safe environment. Open to all families and caregivers of children with ASD. Registration required.

Fridays 10am - 12pm Free

DADS GROUP

Hey Dads! Join us Saturdays for some free play, connection, coffee and snacks. We meet in our large play room where kids have access to toys, games, art and the company of other kids. Dads enjoy connecting with other Dads to discuss parenting, to feel supported by other dads and to explore a myriad of ways to engage in spontaneous play, a powerful way to help your children to develop and flourish. We enjoy welcoming new dads and kids into our exciting space! All who identify as dads and their children up to age 8 are invited to join us! Registration is required. Call today to book your spot, 250-388-5251.

Saturdays 1-3pm Free

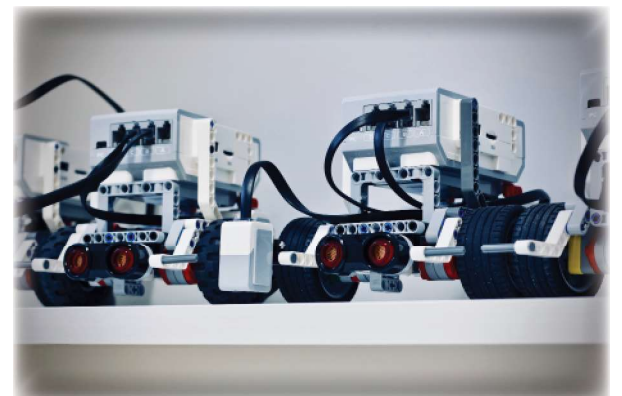
YOUTH PROGRAMS

LEGO ROBOTICS (6-9 YEARS)

LEGO, Beyblades, Smart Cars, Tanks, R2-D2 from STAR WARS, helicopters, Crocodiles, and SO MUCH MORE! In LEGO Robotics they will take their building skills to another level while learning about gears, motors, and sensors. With a teammate you will dive into the basics of engineering using LEGO's Wedo 2.0 Kits and Software. Come and program exciting interactive objects that move, react, and make sounds! No prior coding/programming experience is necessary.

Open to ages 6-9 years. Headed by LittlUniverse.

Fridays Apr 22 - Jun 10 3:30 - 5 PM 8/\$160



KIDS AT TENNIS

The Society for Kids at Tennis (KATS, www.kidsattennis.ca) provides free tennis lessons and equipment to families experiencing financial barriers. Using the “progressive tennis” approach recommended by Tennis Canada, the KATS program uses smaller racquets, smaller courts, lower nets and low compression balls. This approach helps kids to develop confidence in their ability to hit the ball, learn quickly, and most of all, have fun playing the sport! Kids will be introduced to the fundamental skills which form the foundation for future development. In the event of excessive registration, BGCA may prioritize enrolment to families with lower income.

Tennis (5-8 yrs)

M April 4 – June 27 4pm – 5pm 8/Free
No class April 18 & May 23

M July 4 – Sept 26 4pm – 5pm 8/Free
No class Sept 5

Tennis (9-13 yrs)

M April 4 – June 27 5pm – 6pm 8/Free
No class April 18 & May 23

M July 4 – Sept 26 5pm – 6pm 8/Free
No class Sept 5

ADULT PROGRAMS**T’AI CHI**

Focus on your health, your well being, and reduce your stress with the Yang- Style T’ai Chi. Using relaxation as the key principle, T’ai Chi involves gentle, low impact movements that develops grounding, flexibility, and balance. Headed by instructor Lee McLeod, his 25 years of teaching the Cheng Man-Ch’ing short form, will lead the class through 37 movements and follow through gentle corrections and encouragements. Beginners welcome.

Thursdays Apr 7 – May 26 3 - 4:15PM 8/\$64

XL YOGA

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

Thursdays Apr 7 - May 26 7-8PM 8/\$96

**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!

Wednesdays Apr 6– May 25 6 - 7pm 4/\$32

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.

Wednesdays Apr 6– May 25 4:30-5:30 PM 4/\$32

55+ PROGRAMS**SENIORS LUNCH AND 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. To register or for more information please call the Community Centre, 250-388-5251.

Thursdays 12pm - 2pm \$5 /Lunch

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

In addition to our own programs and services we also have the privilege of being able to offer external services and supports here at the Centre.

INCOME ASSISTANCE SUPPORT

Do you have questions about Income Assistance (IA) or Persons with Disability Assistance (PWD) or how to go about opening a file? The Burnside Gorge Community Centre has an Employment & Assistance Worker from the Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction who works on site at the Centre on Thursday afternoons. To book an appointment please call the Community Centre at 250-388-5251.

FREE LEGAL CLINIC

Legal advice is provided free of charge during 15-minute phone appointments on Tuesday afternoons. All legal questions welcome. Please call us to book an appointment, 250-388-5251.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM

As part of the Canadian Revenue Agency’s Community Volunteer Income Tax Program we have volunteers that can assist those with simple tax filing for current and back dated tax years. We can help students, newcomers, persons with low income or older adults. For more info call 250-388-5251.

SPECIAL EVENTS**Selkirk Waterfront Festival - May 28**

Please join us on Sunday, May 28th, for our annual Selkirk Waterfront Festival from 10am – 5pm in Selkirk Green Park.

This fun-filled multi-cultural family event offers something for everyone. Enjoy exciting activities in the Family FUN Zone, world cuisine in the international food court, and unique arts and crafts in our colourful street market. We have some excellent performances lined up, including:

- Daniel Cook and the Radiators
- Soul shakers
- Kennedy
- Impulse Response
- Lekwungen Traditional Dancers
- Mufaro Marimba

**VENDORS!**

Vendor applications are now being accepted for food service and the artisan craft market. Vendor applications can be found on our website at <https://burnsidegorge.ca/special-events/selkirk-waterfront-festival/> or reach out to Travis at 250-388-5251, or email travis@burnsidegorge.ca for more information.

**VOLUNTEERS!**

Volunteers are needed for many areas of the festival including vendor assistants, café crew, parking crew, stage assistants, children’s fun zone leaders, and set-up and take-down crew. If you are interested in being a volunteer, call Travis 250-388-5251.

We are so excited to be offering this much-loved event and we hope that you will join us.

W Selkirk
Waterfront
Festival

BCEM Students Make Jam at BGCA!

Submitted By Rebekah Cunningham

Anyone lucky enough to find themselves at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre on February 14th would have found themselves greeted by the tantalizing smells of strawberry and blueberry jam wafting up from downstairs. In the kitchen, a team of five students from Royal Roads University were hard at work in the kitchen making jam for the “Venture Challenge” as part of their Bachelor of Commerce In Entrepreneurial Management program. One of the participants, Hilary Dobyms, is an entrepreneur, mother of two and student at Royal Roads. Having been a part of the Burnside Gorge Community Association community for many years, she was thankful for the opportunity to bring their business idea to life in a place close to her heart, for as she said: “if you create a business with things close to the heart that have meaning for you, you will find more success.”



The “Venture Challenge” was set forth by Geoff Archer, a core faculty member for Entrepreneurship at Royal Roads University. The challenge consisted of creating a business plan around a social cause, operating it for 30 days with a maximum budget of \$250.00 and then picking a charity to donate the revenue to. Archer believes in a “learn by doing” philosophy that challenges the students to get out of the classroom and lean into failures.

Hilary’s team was inspired by the issue of food scarcity that is prevalent in Victoria, admiring the great work of the Red Cedar Cafe that provided free and affordable meals to families in need throughout the pandemic. The team was excited about making blueberry & strawberry jam and Hilary suggested they reach out to the BGCA for a collaboration. The BGCA was happy to oblige and the team created a business plan to make Keto/ Diabetic friendly jam, vetted by a healthcare professional, made with monk fruit sweetener and sugar free apple juice rather than sugar. They researched various ways to create an equitable business including: sourcing aesthetically rejected discount



produce from local farms, finding wholesalers selling jars and discovering local avenues for sales opportunities. Due to the extravagant shipping fees associated with online shops, they decided to utilize their networks and sell directly to friends and people in their communities. They sold their jam for \$8.00-\$10.00 per jar and kindly donated \$60.00 to the BGCA.

Making the jam was incredibly fun and despite its finickiness and Hilary had a blast. Having started her own cleaning company three years ago, she is grateful for the sake of her own small business that she is learning valuable lessons at Royal Roads that she can apply as an entrepreneur. The BCAM program has taught her the importance of who you go into business with, how to ask for advice and how important it is to consider impact on the environment and community when operating a business.



Hilary was thankful for the opportunity to collaborate with the BGCA and for the use of the kitchen which provided the team a way to complete their project. The team here at the BGCA was grateful for the donation made by her team and the opportunity to support a community member on their journey. Hilary is passionate about inspiring and mentoring other up and coming entrepreneurs, if you would like to connect with Hilary you can email her at: hilary.dobyms@gmail.com.



Celebrating Biodiversity in the Capital Region - Join the City Nature Challenge this spring!

Submitted by CRD Environmental Services

The capital region lies in one of Canada’s biodiversity hotspots, bursting with an incredible diversity of plants and wildlife. Nestled among our neighbourhoods and workplaces are salmon-bearing streams, Garry oak meadows, vibrant wetlands and dynamic shorelines. In our backyards and local parks we can find pollinating insects, migrating birds, native wildflowers and towering trees. This incredible abundance of life, or biodiversity, supports clean air and water, food security, recreational and cultural opportunities, and is key to the high quality of life we enjoy in the capital region.

Join nature lovers across Greater Victoria in celebrating local species and ecosystems by participating in the 2022 City Nature Challenge. Over a four day period, April 29 through May 2, photograph and document local biodiversity in the capital region using the free iNaturalist Canada website or app, and help to build a record of the nature that surrounds us. More than 400 cities around the world will be participating in the City Nature Challenge this year, as a global celebration of biodiversity in and around urban areas.

Participating in the Greater Victoria’s City Nature Challenge is easy:

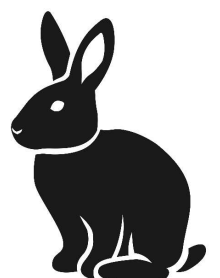
- Find nature in your backyard, neighbourhood, favourite park or beach. Observations of plants, animals, fungi, insects, tracks or even scat are all welcome!
- Ideally, photograph your observation from different angles and capture different features. Use a digital camera or smart phone.
- Upload your observation to the iNaturalist app or website.
- Identify your finding to the highest level that you can.
- Interact with iNaturalist community members online to confirm the identification of your observation.

iNaturalist is a free app that is designed for use by nature newcomers as well as more seasoned naturalists. By uploading photos of local biodiversity to iNaturalist between April 29 and May 2 you will join a large community of local nature lovers who are helping to inventory and celebrate the capital region’s amazing flora and fauna. Observing and learning about the natural world that surrounds us can boost mental health and wellbeing, and is a key step in conserving nature for future generations.

Visit www.crd.bc.ca/biodiversity for more information on biodiversity in the capital region, including details about local City Nature Challenge events and iNaturalist resources to help get you started.



The Community Centre will be closed on April 15 & 18. We wish everyone a very Hoppy Easter!



Learn, See, Play, Do

Gorge Park Farmers Market

Esquimalt Farmers Market is excited to launch a second farmers market location at Gorge Park Esquimalt for the 2022 season. They'll be set up on the field right by the new community pavilion building and parking lot. Waterfront market? Don't mind if we do!

Mondays - 4:30PM - 7:30PM - 1070 Tillicum Road
<https://www.esquimaltmarket.com/>

Planet Earth Poetry - Live Readings at Russell Books

Russell Books is thrilled to welcome Planet Earth Poetry back for in-person poetry events! Doors open at 7pm, event starts at 7:30pm and sign up for the open mic is between 7:00-7:20. Masks are encouraged but no longer required, proof of vaccination will still be required until April 8th. In person events are also livestreamed at the link below. **please note, livestream begins at approx. 8:00-8:15pm with featured readings**

Fridays, April 1, 8 & 22. 7PM, Free. Russell Books, 747 Fort Street
<http://planetearthpoetry.com/>

Singing for the Stage: Spring has Sprung Concert

Join director Kinza Tyrrell for a spring concert featuring UVic School of Music students in MUS 335 (Singing for the Stage). Attend in person or tune in online. As per BC Public Health orders, proof of vaccination will be required.

Saturday, April 2, 2:30-4PM at the Phillip T. Young Recital Hall. By donation
<https://finearts.uvic.ca/music/calendar/events/singing-for-stage-2apr22/>

Neighbour Hub Design

Neighbour Hubs create vibrant, public spaces that foster community connections for neighbourhoods in Victoria. They can include features like seating, public art and emergency supplies, as well as offering a space to meet neighbours and building support networks in the community.

Join a free facilitated online design workshop with the City on Wednesday, April 6, 12:00 - 1:30 PM. Gather insights and ideas for the creation of three design templates for future Neighbour Hubs. Explore how placemaking can build community resilience. Learn what Neighbour Hubs are and how they can benefit City of Victoria neighbourhoods. Design ideas for the use and aesthetic of three, unique Neighbour Hubs

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/neighbour-hub-design-input-session-tickets-300896969937>

Maritime Masterclasses: Build Your Own Wood Ship Model in 8 Easy Steps (Peter Visser)

This class is targeted to those who may have wanted to build a wood ship model but thought it beyond their abilities. This presentation will cover the broad topics and basic requirements to building your very own masterpiece! The instructor, Peter Visser, is a retired mariner of 40 years and a long-time builder of wood ship models from kits.

Saturday, April 9th - 2PM - \$15.00 + tax
<https://mmbc.bc.ca/events/maritime-masterclasses-build-your-own-ship-model>

Easter Holiday Art Class!

Join our easter eggsperts for an Easter holiday themed art class!! During the class Andrea will be teaching kids how to draw some eggcellent portraits while sketching and coloring some of their favorite elements of Easter!! The class is perfect for kids between the ages 5-10. Please consider registering by donation. All donations received will go towards keeping our class sustainable and accessible to all.

Monday, April 11, 4 - 5PM - Online Event - Registration Required
<https://wedidit.ca/workshops-events/>

Earth Day Festival

Enjoy a variety of free family activities in the Saanich Hall parking lot including Live Bands, Eco-Friendly Interactive displays, Food Carts, Cycling Obstacle Course and Skills Challenge, bouncy castles, and more! The event will showcase the expansion of the Saanich cycling network and investment in active transportation, raise awareness of our natural assets and highlight green initiatives outlined in the Saanich Climate Action Plan.

Saturday, April 23, 11AM - 3PM - Saanich Municipal Hall - Free
<https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/news-events/events-list/saanich-community-events/earth-day-festival.html>

Join the City Nature Challenge

Nature lovers across the capital region are invited to join in the international City Nature Challenge (CNC) this year, April 29 - May 2. CNC participants use the nature-tracking website/app iNaturalist to record observations of wild plants and animals. Any iNaturalist observation made within the region during the CNC will count towards the challenge. Citizen science data collected through iNaturalist helps scientists and local governments to better understand and protect our region's biodiversity

To register or for more info see <https://citynaturechallenge.org/>

Growing in the City

Develop your green thumb this spring with the City of Victoria's new Growing in the City programs! Learn how to grow your own food, compost like an expert, invite pollinators into your yard, care for fruit trees, and cook with seasonal vegetables! There are multiple dates to choose from, running through the spring into the summer.

To learn more or to register please see
<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/recreation.html>

SUPPLY Pop-up Craft Store

Do you love crafting? Making art? What about crafting and making art with free, recycled supplies!? The North Park Neighbourhood Association has paired up with SUPPLY Victoria to bring a little FREE craft store to the Vancouver Street Plaza (on Vancouver Street between Caledonia & Green)!

The SUPPLY Pop-Up free craft store has been open since February, and will be open ever Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 2-6pm until the end of May! The selection of free art and craft supplies is constantly changing, so be sure to stop by often!

Shop SUPPLY's Pop-Up for free, used art supplies diverted from the landfill for community reuse every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 2pm-6pm! Learn more at <https://npna.ca/vancouver-street-plaza/>

Go By Bike Week 2022

Get ready for the best and biggest Go By Bike Week yet! Spring Go By Bike Week is back in-person for the first time since 2019! With over \$20,000 worth of prizes, you won't want to miss it! If you have registered before, simply log back into your account. Registration is open NOW at <https://gobybikebc.ca/> May 30th - June 5th

Khalsa Day

Join the Gurdwara Singh Sabha at 470 Cecelia Road for a Khalsa Day Celebration on Sunday, May 1, 9AM - 3PM. Enjoy games, free food, & community celebration! <https://www.facebook.com/SinghSabhaYYJ/>

GURDWARA SINGH SABHA VICTORIA

KHALSA DAY CELEBRATION

VICTORIA BC | SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022 | 9AM-3PM

Join us in celebrating the festival of Vaisakhi featuring:

- Dhadi Darbar
- Gatka
- Kids' Games
- Free Food
- Various Stalls

Welcoming All

Location: Gurdwara Singh Sabha | 470 Cecelia Road

For More Info: 250.216.6362 250.475.2280 250.588.7715
250.514.5315 250.216.8993

[facebook.com/SinghSabhaYYJ](https://www.facebook.com/SinghSabhaYYJ) #KhalsaDayCelebrationYYJ

Do you have an upcoming event or activity? Send submissions to info@burnsidegorge.ca or call us at 250-388-5251!