



Burnside Gorge Community News

August 2022
www.burnsidegorge.ca

Save the Date for the Gorge Cleanup

The Gorge Waterway Cleanup returns this fall and we hope to see you there! Mark your calendars:

Saturday, September 24th, 2022

10am – 12pm

at Selkirk Green Park (350 Waterfront Crescent)

Every year, volunteers pitch in to clean up the water and shoreline along the Gorge. This improves the habitat for local wildlife as well as the look of the area for local residents and community members. We invite everyone to participate in this important event and make a difference in our local environment!

Volunteers will clean the shoreline along the Gorge Waterway and a volunteer dive team will retrieve debris from the ocean floor. We have a limited supply of boots and gloves so please bring your own if you are able. This event runs rain or shine so please dress for the weather.



If you are interested in participating in this great event as a volunteer, a participating group or a community sponsor, contact the Burnside Gorge Community Centre at 250-388-5251 or email vanessa@burnsidegorge.ca.

Help Fill BGCA's Food Cupboard

One of the many programs and services BGCA offers for families is our Resource Room where families can access non-perishables as well as toiletries and hygiene supplies.

With the rising cost of food we are seeing an increased number of families needing a little extra support to get by. If you can help, we're looking for the following items to help keep our Resource Room well stocked:

- **Staples** - Flour & sugar, canned fish/meat, canned veggies, soups, peanut butter & jam, pancake mix, oatmeal/cereal/granola, pasta & pasta sides, pasta sauce, instant noodles, mac n' cheese, rice and rice sides, etc
- **Snacks** - Fruit snacks/leather, cookies & crackers, granola/cereal bars, fruit cups, etc
- **For infants** - diapers, baby food, formula

We will also accept grocery cards (\$50 or less) to provide families in need the ability to purchase dairy and other fresh food. Non-perishable donations can be dropped off at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre, 471 Cecelia Road. If you're interested in organizing a food drive with your family, work or faith group, please give us a call at 250-388-5251.



Join the BGCA Team

CURRENT OPENINGS:

- Office & Facilities Assistant (full-time, temporary)
- Youth Recreation Programmer (full-time)
- Housing Outreach Worker (full-time)
- Out of School Care Manager (full-time)
- Childcare Leaders (part-time)
- Supported Childcare Workers (part-time)

Full job descriptions and application details can be found at:

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

About Us

We are a group of (com)passionate, enthusiastic, hardworking people who also know how to have fun. Our teams are deeply committed to serving the children, youth, families and seniors in our community as best as they can and helping and caring for each other as well.

Create Community with the Help of the City of Victoria

Did you know you can apply for a grant from the City to enhance the sense of community and leave a positive legacy in your neighbourhood?

The City will provide matching grants for placemaking projects and community resiliency projects, and for various community activities. All you need to do is provide a combination of volunteer labour, donated services, donated materials and other funds raised to match the City's grant. Full details on what's eligible and how the program works can be found at

<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/neighbourhoods/my-great-neighbourhood-grant-program.html>.

Earlier this spring and tired of COVID lockdowns, three of the residents in the multi-family buildings surrounding Selkirk Green Park decided we needed to host a barbeque to bring people together to get better acquainted with their neighbours. We're a friendly neighbourhood – there's always someone walking a dog that needs a head scratch. We say hello to strangers when we walk by them, but the three of us thought we needed a "block party" in the park to take things up a notch and get to know our neighbours better.

We decided to celebrate the Summer Solstice with a party in the park. We hoped for about 40 people. We hired local Haus Sausages to barbeque the burgers which was a good thing because in the end we had almost 80 show up. The "to do" list seemed daunting at first, but everything came together beautifully in the end with lots of volunteers. Even the weather cooperated for the most part.

So, what's your idea? A block party? A movie night outdoors? A board games night? Or something more serious like a talk on emergency planning?

Perhaps you'd like to enhancement the boulevards on your street or improve a playground, or put up a community art display or mural. There are so many ideas that can be supported through the My Great Neighbourhood Grant – all you need to do is gather a few neighbours and brainstorm what would make your part of Burnside Gorge even better.

~ Claudette, Elizabeth, and Wendy



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Published by

The Burnside Gorge Community Association
471 Cecelia Road, Victoria, BC V8T 4T4
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Note: Written contributions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the BGCA or its staff.

BGCA Board of Directors

Greg Arnold, Treasurer
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Kirsten Mah, Director
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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.

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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

Burnside Gorge Graffiti Fighters

-OWN YOUR BLOCK-

The Burnside Gorge Graffiti Fighters are a small team of neighbours working to make Burnside Gorge a better place by removing graffiti from our neighbourhood. We're looking for new recruits! We believe if each person or couple of people adopt a street or block we could maintain the neighbourhood free of graffiti.

Graffiti isn't just ugly: left unaddressed it invites more graffiti till eventually the neighbourhood looks uncared for. People who live in the area feel less happy, comfortable and secure on their streets. The change from simply defaced to dangerous happens as people stop walking and moving in an area and abandon the streets to those who feel they can be destructive with impunity. The solution is for each of us to reclaim our streets.



You may have seen graffiti on the power poles and utility boxes in Burnside Gorge. Rather than looking away, some volunteers have picked up kits from the Burnside Gorge Community Centre to clean up and paint over the unsightly marks in our public areas. There has been a remarkable change on the streets in just a few weeks. One of the positives is that the people doing the graffiti removal are having fun while making the streets look better!

If you would like to become a part of the solution, contact our group at graffitifighters@burnsidegorge.ca and we'll provide you with the kit, a partner to show you what to do and the information to get your block graffiti free. Join our group of enthusiastic neighbours and feel better and better about your neighbourhood in Burnside Gorge.

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 to find out more.

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

FSS is generously funded by:



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 Vanessa Normore 250-388-5251 or email vanessa@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

AUGUST 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

PARK DAYS

Come and join us for fun in the sun. Enjoy a new park or beach each week and meet other families. See the schedule on our website for weekly locations!

<https://burnsidegorge.ca/family-programs/family-centre/>

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---------------|------|
| Mondays | Aug 15 - 29 | 9:30am - 12pm | Free |
|---------|-------------|---------------|------|

RUDD PARK PLAY (AGES 0-5)

Come and join us for free play in Rudd Park.

| | | | |
|----------|------------|---------------|------|
| Tuesdays | Aug 9 - 30 | 9:30am - 12pm | Free |
|----------|------------|---------------|------|

TODDLER ARTS & CRAFTS (AGES 0-5)

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 | Aug 10 - 31 | 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 | Aug 11 - 25 | 5 - 6 pm | By donation |
|-----------|-------------|----------|-------------|

PLAYGROUND TIME

This is an opportunity for young children and their parents to meet and enjoy some outside play in an informal atmosphere with other families

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------|
| Thursdays | Aug 11 - 25 | 5:30 - 7pm | Free |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------|

OPEN PLAY GROUP

Come and meet other parents/caregivers over a cup of coffee. We provide a safe space for conversation and peer support.

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|-------------|------|
| Fridays | Aug 12 - 26 | 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 | Aug 13 - 27 | 1-3pm | Free |
|-----------|-------------|-------|------|



YOUTH PROGRAMS

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. Classes are held in the Banfield Park tennis courts.



Tennis (5-8 yrs)

M July 4 – Sept 26 4pm – 5pm Free
No class Aug 1 & Sept 5

Tennis (9-13 yrs)

M July 4 – Sept 26 5pm – 6pm Free
No class Aug 1 & Sept 5

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. For more information please call the Community Centre, 250-388-5251.

Thursdays 12pm - 2pm \$5 /Lunch

*No lunch on August 4th



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.



Burnside Gorge Community Centre Room Rentals

We have a variety of rooms available to suit your needs, all offering wireless internet, tea & coffee service, and A/V equipment rentals and outstanding natural views! The Community Centre is centrally located on major bus routes and is accessible from the Galloping Goose Trail.

Activity Centre: 1665 sq. ft.
\$65/hr \$234/half day
\$416/full day

Education Centre: 605 sq. ft.
\$55/hr \$198/half day
\$352/full day

Group Room: max 10 guests
\$35/hr \$126/half day
\$224/full day

Board Room: max 10 guests
\$35/hr \$126/half day
\$224/full day

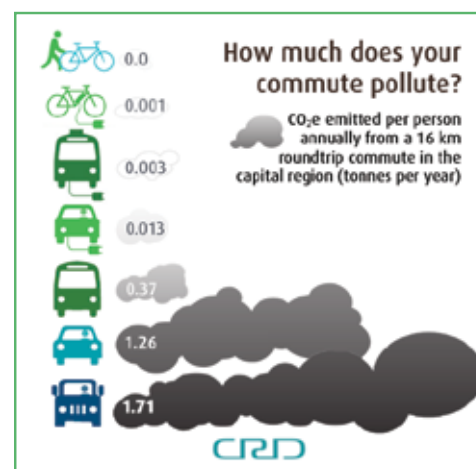
Call today to book or view our spaces, 250.388.5251 or email us at rentals@burnsidegorge.ca.

Charge Your Ride To Fight Climate Change

Submitted by CRD Environmental Services

Did you know transportation accounts for more than half of our community's greenhouse gas emissions?

Transitioning from fossil-fueled vehicles to electric and other low-emission transportation alternatives is essential to reducing our carbon pollution and fighting climate change. BC now leads North America with the highest rate of electric vehicles sold per capita—and you can be part the change.



An increasing number of electric vehicle (EV) and electric bicycle (e-bike) options are now available—and there are lots of reasons why you should switch to electric transportation, including saving money on commutes, reducing carbon pollution, and improving your health and fitness.

This summer our Charge Your Ride ambassadors will be at events in your community to chat to you about the benefits of electrifying your ride.

Here are three simple ways you can learn and explore EVs and e-bikes this summer:

- Attend a free test drive and ride event to test out an EV or an e-bike and get your questions answered by experts
- Complete a quick survey for your chance to WIN a CUBE Town Sport Hybrid ONE 400 e-bike.
- Learn about rebates and resources available to help get you started on electrifying your ride.

Thank you to all residents in the capital region for making positive changes to our community. To find more information about events, rebates and everything there is to know about transitioning to electric vehicles please visit www.crd.bc.ca/charge.

We hope to see you there!

Things to Do

Music on the Lawn

Saturday August 6 2022 | 12pm-4pm

Join us on the Point Ellice House waterfront lawn for an afternoon of food, drinks, and live music! Featuring performances by Rob Fillo, Karly Summers, and Hopeful Hearts.

Schedule:

12:30 - Rob Fillo

1:45 - Karly Summers

3:00 - Hopeful Hearts

Enjoy lunch by Bird & Basket food truck and drinks from Victoria Beer Society's beer truck. Admission is by donation (we suggest \$10), and also includes entrance to the historic house and our brand new feature exhibit: The Animals of Point Ellice House. Check it out!

Any questions? Visit our website PointElliceHouse.com or email Info@PointElliceHouse.com.



The Sticker Challenge

Capital Bike challenges you to explore new places and collect stickers along the way! Discover new places, win prizes and support the local businesses that help make Go By Bike Week happen! Enjoy this scavenger hunt from August 1st-14th, 2022.

To learn more and view a map of participating locations visit: <https://capitalbike.ca/>

Plant Sale + 30th Birthday Party

Join the Compost Education Centre for their 11th annual August Plant Sale + 30th Birthday Party on August 6th! Join everyone in Haegert Park from 10 am to 1 pm to find organic seedlings, local veggies, artisan vendors, an e-bike raffle, cake, and more! Also enjoy live music in the shade of the giant Sequoia tree. Entry is by donation. For more information contact: marketing@compost.bc.ca

2022 Tweed Ride

Tweed Ride Victoria is a group bicycle ride - not a race, mind you - winding through various neighbourhoods in fair Victoria. Cyclists dress in traditional attire, such as tweed plus four suits and vintage dresses as part of a worldwide Tweed Ride movement started by cyclists in Britain eager for a slower-paced "metropolitan ride with a bit of style." As no jaunt is complete without refreshment, the Tweed Ride concludes with a splendid tea and picnic. Mark your calendars for August 7th at Willows Beach!

Tickets are \$15 each (children 12 and under are free) and can be purchased through Eventbrite.

August 7th, 2022 at 11:00 (ride to begin at noon)
<https://tweedride.ca/>

Vancouver Island Dragon Boat Festival

On August 12th-14th, we're launching the Vancouver Island Dragon Boat Festival along Victoria's spectacular harbour system. Throughout the weekend, various entertainment, cultural activities, family events, special ceremonies, and dragon boat racing will take place on our Festival site.

<https://victoriadragonboatfestival.com/festival-info/>

Pet-A-Palooza Victoria

The West Coast's largest outdoor pet festival is coming back at a new location this year, Bullen Park! This free and pet friendly festival is the most fun you'll have with your pet all summer. Bring your pet to sample treats, food, accessories, toys and get hooked up with loads of swag! Entertainment will include: yoga with adoptable puppies, Victoria's first ever mud run with your dog, Wiener dog races, photobooths and a puppy stampede. Saturday, August 13th, 10 AM - 4 PM | Sunday, August 14th, 11 AM - 4 PM

Bullen Park - 527 Fraser St, Victoria

<https://www.petapaloozawest.com/>

Grow Your Own Mushrooms Workshop

The Compost Education Centre is offering a workshop teaching the main steps used in cultivating mushrooms at home using low tech methods. The lecture will include basic fungal biology, information on tools needed to grow mushrooms, making liquid culture, grain spawn and preparation of straw for Oyster mushrooms and for King Stropharia. For the hands-on part, students will be making their own straw bag with Oyster Mushroom spawn to bring home. The focus will be to introduce people to the exciting potential of growing mushrooms at home and in the garden and provide them with the necessary information to begin on their fungal adventures. August 27th - 10AM - 12PM - Compost Education Centre, 1216 N Park St - \$35-\$45 per person. <https://compost.bc.ca/>

All Aboard Family Cycling Program:

Are you a parent interested in learning how to ride safely with your kids? Capital Bike is offering a free, multi-faceted program that will provide parents and children with the knowledge and skills to safely incorporate cycling into their family life. Our experienced family cycling instructors will cover topics including traffic skills, gear and equipment, route planning, resources, and group riding tips/tips for carrying kids on your bike.

Wednesday, August 3rd - 7PM-9PM - 2975 Jutland Road, easily accessible off the Galloping Goose Trail. <https://capitalbike.ca>

Cool Aid Models Mixed-Use at 210 Gorge

Submitted by Victoria Cool Aid Society

Cool Aid is now accepting applications for its new development at 210 Gorge Road. This development is based on a mixed-use housing model, which means there are options for a variety of individuals and families along the housing continuum. Rents are dictated by the housing agreements Cool Aid has with various funders.

Mixed-use development - that can accommodate people of different ages, incomes, and physical and social needs - is one of the best ways to create and maintain healthy and inclusive communities.

There is no one solution when it comes to housing. Some people need housing with supports while others need near-market housing. This building offers a range of options including:

- 30 studio units at deep subsidy, 21 of which include supports
- 8 subsidized studio units
- 44 near-market units (below current Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation averages for our area)

For more information or to apply for the near-market units, please complete and submit the application found on the affordable housing page of our website.



1 & 2 Bedroom kitchen



Cool Aid's new mixed-use development at 210 Gorge includes deeply subsidized and supported units, subsidized studio units, and near-market units.

BGCA will be closed on
Monday, Aug 2.



Have a safe & happy long
weekend!