

# Burnside Gorge Community News

September 2022  
www.burnsidegorge.ca

## Save the Date for the 2022 Gorge Waterway 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](mailto:vanessa@burnsidegorge.ca).

We would also like to send a huge shout-out to Ellice Recycle and Victoria Harbour Ferries for their support of this year's event!



## Join the BGCA Team

### CURRENT OPENINGS:

- Family Services Worker (temporary, 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.

## Expanding Affordable Housing in Burnside Gorge at Chown Place

*Submitted by Corinne Saad, Executive Director for Gorge View Society*

Chown Place is home to 120 seniors in Burnside Gorge. The affordable housing complex is run by the Gorge View Society (GVS), a non-profit affordable housing provider.

Construction is under way on a new 4 storey building in the middle of Chown Place, which will offer another 49 seniors and 9 families new homes next spring. When the City of Victoria approved this project, GVS was asked to develop a Master Plan for the long-term re-development of the entire Chown Place. The goal is to add more homes for seniors and families in phases over the next 20 to 30 years.



The Master Plan that's been finalized shows 313 homes in 4 apartment buildings and 3 separate rows of townhouses to be built in six phases. The mix of residents will be 80% seniors and 20% families. A key aspect of the design is to retain the same amount of green space that currently exists and increase the number of community gardens.

### Chown Place residents:

- GVS will ensure that residents affected at each stage of re-development will be taken care of and they will have first right of refusal on units in a new building.
- At each stage of development, the landscaping and outdoor gathering places will enhance the look and feel of Chown Place.
- The Master Plan also contains a new community building for both residents and neighbours.
- There will be parking developed under the apartment buildings.

### Chown Place neighbours:

- The larger buildings by Harriet and Balfour are stepped down towards the neighbours to minimize impact and shadowing.
- The Balfour playlot will stay, with an improved path connecting into a broader pedestrian avenue going through Chown Place.
- GVS is committing to welcoming neighbours with improved public paths going north/south and east/west through Chown Place – and to improving the Garry Oak meadow on the south side.

What comes next? City Council approved the Master Plan with its rezoning and Official Community Plan amendment at public hearing last month. That process still needs to be finalized. And it will be several years before you see any changes at Chown Place. Future development is dependent on GVS securing government funding. The Master Plan provides a road map to move forward with to address the pressing need for more affordable housing, giving clarity to the community about future plans.



**BGCA will be closed Monday, Sept 5.**  
**Have a safe & happy long weekend!**



# Burnside Gorge Community News

September 2022

*Published by*  
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, 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](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)

# 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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

FALL 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)

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. The first hour is active play followed by snack and cool down in the Family Centre.

Mondays	Sept 19 & 26	9:30am - 12pm	Free
---------	--------------	---------------	------

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	Sept 13 - 27	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	Sept 14 - 28	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	Sept 15 - 29	5 - 6 pm	By donation
-----------	--------------	----------	-------------

PARENT & TOT PLAY TIME

This is an opportunity for young children and their parents to meet and play in a in informal atmosphere with other children, toys, and books.

Thursdays	Sept 15 - 29	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	Sept 16 & 23	10am - 12pm	Free
---------	--------------	-------------	------

YOUTH RECREATION

KIDS AT TENNIS

The Society for Kids at Tennis (KATS, [www.kidsattennis.ca](http://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 Sept 5
---	------------------	-----------	------	-----------------

Tennis (9-13 yrs)

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





STEM KIDS

LEGO ROBOTICS - BEGINNER LEVEL (5-8 YRS)

Description: LEGO Beyblades, the Batmobile, Tanks, the X-Wing from STAR WARS, helicopters, Crocodiles, and SO MUCH MORE! In Beginner LEGO Robotics participants will take their building skills to another level while learning about gears, motors, and sensors. With a teammate they 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. Participants should at least have some experience with Lego.

Fridays	Sept 9 - Nov 4	3:30 - 5:00 PM	6/\$75
	<i>*no classes Sept 23, 30 &amp; Oct 21</i>		

MINECRAFT MODDING - BEGINNER LEVEL (7-9 YRS)

An OP Sword? Well then we need OP Armor as well! Wait, why have all the entities stopped moving? Quick Attack! Oh no! We've summoned too many Ender Dragons! And SO MUCH MORE! Participants will transform the way they experience the game by learning how to mod by creating different custom objects. Using blockly coding they will program and test each mod they create thus adding a new level of gameplay to their Minecraft experience. Participants should already have some experience with the world of Minecraft. No prior coding/programming experience is necessary.

Fridays	Nov 18 - Dec 16	3:30 - 5:00 PM	4/\$60
	<i>*no class Dec 2</i>		



ADULT HEALTH & WELLNESS

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.

Thursday	Oct 13	3 - 4 PM	1/\$8 (Trial Class)
Thursday	Oct 20	3 - 4 PM	1/\$8 (Trial Class)
Thursdays	Oct 27 - Dec 15	3 - 4 PM	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 everyone using modifications and props (bolsters, blankets, and straps). Our classes are fun and light-hearted.

Instructor Jill Moran

Thursday	Sept 15	7 - 8 PM	Free Trial
Thursday	Sept 22 - Nov 10	7 - 8 PM	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	Sept 7 - Oct 25	6 - 7 PM	8/\$64
------------	-----------------	----------	--------

ZUMBA GOLD & 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	Sept 7 - Oct 25	4:45 - 5:45 PM	8/\$64
------------	-----------------	----------------	--------

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
-----------	------------	------------



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.



FACILITY RENTALS

### 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.	Education Centre: 605 sq. ft.
\$65/hr    \$234/half day	\$55/hr    \$198/half day
\$416/full day	\$352/full day
Group Room: max 10 guests	Board Room: max 10 guests
\$35/hr    \$126/half day	\$35/hr    \$126/half day
\$224/full day	\$224/full day

Call today to book or view our spaces, 250.388.5251 or email us at [rentals@burnsidegorge.ca](mailto:rentals@burnsidegorge.ca).



# Take Action Now to Get Ahead of the Rain

Submitted by CRD Environmental Services

The Insurance Bureau of Canada reported that last November’s floods were the most costly severe weather event in BC’s history. Record-breaking rainfalls caused rivers and streams to overflow, affecting roads, triggering landslides and resulting in many people losing their homes.

With the rainy season about to return, we have a few storms ahead in the capital region—and taking action now to manage rainwater at home can help prevent floods and pollution of our waterways.

What actions can we take?

- **Replace impervious surfaces with grass, gravel, cobblestone or other permeable pavement options when possible.** Using porous paving alternatives in spaces like your driveway will help absorb rainwater, reducing runoff volumes and preventing pollutants like dirt and oil residue from entering our waterways.
- **Manage rainwater with rain gardens and green rooftops.** Rain gardens and green roofs are designed to hold and soak in rainwater runoff temporarily. They effectively remove sediments and chemicals in rainwater and can be adapted to highly urbanized areas. They also support living plants by replicating natural pollutant removal mechanisms from forested ecosystems.
- **Collect and store rainwater for future use.** With a harvesting system, rainwater can be treated and purified for outdoor irrigation and domestic purposes such as flushing. Rainwater harvesting can help supplement municipal water demand, recharge our groundwater and reduce the volume of water that enters our stormwater system.

Want to learn more about preventing stormwater pollution? Visit [www.crd.bc.ca/livegreen](http://www.crd.bc.ca/livegreen).



# 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.



1 & 2 Bedroom kitchen

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.



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

FOR MAYOR:

MarianneALTO

EXPERIENCE. BALANCE. PROGRESS.

Authorized by Financial Agent for Marianne Alto: 236-969-1909

A city for EVERYONE:

✓ Housing

✓ City Services

✓ Well Being

✓ Climate Action

✓ Economy

✓ Reconciliation

899 Fort St | 250-383-6239 | @TeamAltoMayor | AltoMayor.ca



