

Burnside Gorge COMMUNITY NEWS

Free Financial Series

Come learn and plan with the Family Self-Sufficiency Program as we host free presentations with financial experts this Fall 2026.

As a new school year starts it brings the promise of fresh beginnings and the perfect opportunity to re-commit to building financial stability and achieving your dreams. With the guidance of a dedicated Family Advisor, the Family Self-Sufficiency Program supports you to set meaningful financial and life goals. Fall is a good time to reset, learn, prepare and plan for the upcoming year by falling back, or into, a new routine.

“Squirrels gather and store nuts for the winter. Saving when times are more plentiful can help you prepare for the leaner times.” - Prosper Canada, Soaring With Savings

When summer ends and children go back to school and settle into a routine is a great time to restart and revisit productive habits as well. We can reflect on what has worked well and continue to set new goals and strengthen financial plans with learning and confidence. The FSS Program has supported many families through challenging times with careful budgeting strategies, financial literacy and planning.

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program will be hosting a series of presentations which is open to the whole community. Take charge of your money, join us and learn tools that work for you.

Retirement Planning 101

Presented by: James Clark, CFP

Understanding options and how saving and government programs work together

Wednesday, Sept 16 | 11 AM - 12 PM



Savings & Investing 101

Presented by: VanCity

Learn about registered accounts and ways to establish patterns and build savings

Wednesday, Sept 23 | 6 PM - 8 PM

Credits and Benefits

Presented by: CRA

Join our session and learn about Government Programs, Benefits and Credits

Tuesday, Oct 13 | 10 AM - 12 PM



Come and learn how to make your money work for you.

This is open to everyone and it is FREE!

Limited seating, email or call to reserve your spot today for the series or individual sessions!

Call us at 250-388-5251 or email frontdesk@burnsidegorge.ca

[For more information visit our website \(click here\)](#)

Published by

The Burnside Gorge Community Association
 471 Cecelia Rd., 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
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To Advertise

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

The deadline to purchase ad space is the 20th 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:
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:
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

FAMILY CENTRE EARLY YEARS drop-ins

Programs for parents and their children ages 0-5. Please note that Family Centre programs don't run on statutory holidays. All drop-ins are free and between 9:30 am - 12 pm.

MONDAYS

Mighty Movers

Join us for active play in the Activity Center. It's time to dance, sing, and play. The program provides opportunity for movement and free play. Parent participation required. Followed by snack and cool down in the Family Centre.



TUESDAYS

Crafty Critters

Explore your crafty side! Every week there is a different themed craft to go along with stories and activities. Sessions will be held in the Family Centre.



WEDNESDAYS

Ittsy Bitty's Playtime

Join us for some sensory play and playtime in our BGCA playground when weather permits. Please dress your children appropriately for outdoor play time. Parent participation is required.



FRIDAYS

Cozy Corner Time

Are you ready to get cozy? Fridays are for some warm and cozy activities! Parent participation is required.



THURSDAYS

Community Dinners

Join us for a weekly meals that are offered by donation. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect, share a meal, and build community together.

Everyone is welcome!



**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 8:30 am-5 pm, 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 at 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.

Recreation Programs

Zumba

Date: Wednesdays | September 9 - October 21

Time: 6 - 7 pm

7 classes/\$63 or Drop-in/\$11 - call before 5 pm on the day of class to register and make payment

XL Yoga

Date: Thursdays | August 6- September 24

Time: 7 - 8 pm

7 classes/\$84, Drop-in/\$15 - call before 5 pm on the day of class to register and make payment

Essentrics

Date: Wednesdays & Fridays

Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Drop-in/\$11

DID YOU KNOW?

We Have Essentrics Drop-In Passes?
Skip the line and slide straight into class like a VIP!

Grab a sheet of drop-in passes -10
Essentrics passes for \$110!

There's no discount on the sheet, but it definitely saves everyone time and makes dropping in way more fun (for you and us)!

Gorge Waterway Cleanup

Stay tuned for the 2026 Gorge Waterway Cleanup! We're still working out some details and will update our website as more information becomes available.

[Please check our website for the latest updates.](#)

Thank you for your patience!



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.

We are still working on our September speaker schedule. Please check our website for September speakers. [Click here for the website](#)



United Way BC

Work Experience Opportunities grant

After a successful round of offering work experience opportunities to our community, we again have positions available for individuals who receive income assistance.

*United Way BC Work Experience Grant is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

Eligible Work Experience participants include:

- BCEA clients including:
 - Income Assistance (IA)
 - Disability Assistance (DA)
 - Hardship Assistance (HA) recipients
 - Income assistance through the Person with Persistent Multiple Barriers to Employment (PPMB) benefit
- Indigenous individuals on reserve or within treaty lands receiving or eligible to receive federal assistance.



Available positions

- Thrift Store Assistant
- Custodian Assistant
- Food Security and Program Support
- Out of School Care Leader Assistant

[Click here for job descriptions and more information](#)



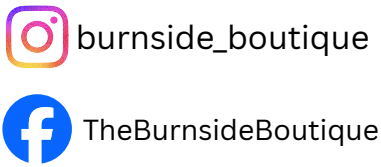
Your friendly
neighbourhood thrift
store!



Stop in and see what’s new! We have great sales this month!

September 2 - 5: 20% off all linen items
September 9 - 13: But 1, Get 1 Free! All summer clothes (pants, shorts, swimsuits and much more...)

Just a friendly reminder that we’re currently accepting only Fall donations. Thanks so much — we can’t wait to welcome you in!



CHILDCARE SPACES AVAILABLE

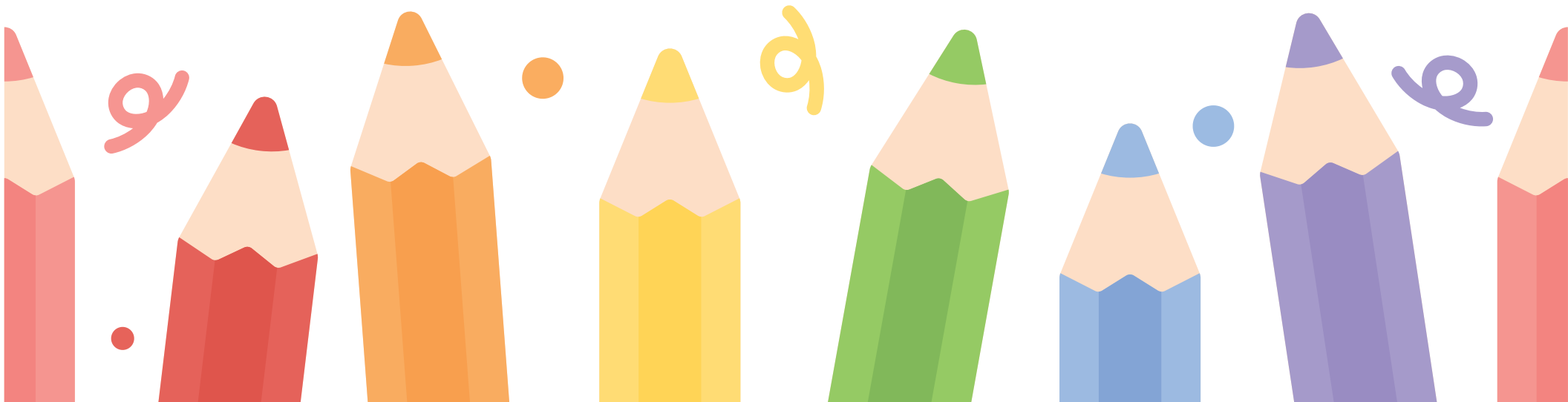
We still have some spots available at our daycare programs (ages 3-5). Full-day programs are available at Tillicum Childcare Centre and at Cecelia Childcare Centre for children from 0 to 5 years of age.

Our child-centred programs are responsive to the needs of each child and family, and we strive to provide engaging, supportive environments that encourage your children to explore, create, and learn through play each day. Large outdoor play areas provide lots of space for big, active play and healthy physical growth and development. Occasional out-trips or visitors to the classroom may be part of the program, introducing the children to interesting places and experiences.



If you’re interested, our waitlist is available online.

[Click here to access our waitlist forms.](#)



FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS) IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Start where you are.
Use what you have.
Do what you can.
-Arthur Ashe

DO YOU...

- Worry about finances
- Feel overwhelmed about money
- Have concerns about debt
- Struggle to live in your current income

ARE YOU:

- Living with at least one dependent child?
- Living on a low to moderate income?
- Receiving a housing subsidy?

THE FSS PROGRAM CAN SUPPORT YOU TO...

- Face your financial fears and move forward
- Take control of your money
- Start Saving
- Begin a plan to lower debt
- Access resources & supports

- Face your financial fears and move forward
- Access supports as you move towards a brighter future

TO APPLY, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

250 388-5251
OR ONLINE AT
burnsidegorge.ca

Bike Share has arrived in Victoria!

A new bike-share system has arrived in Victoria, and many bikes are now available throughout the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood!

For more information, including designated parking zones,

[check out the City of Victoria's website.](#)



Put Joy in Every Stitch!

Join us for some specialty Bernina Events
October 2nd & 3rd. Embroidery, Free Motion
Quilting & More! Sign up on our website below.

- Bernina Dealer • Machine repair • Classes •
- Supplies & Notions •

2950 #400 Douglas St. Victoria, BC
(778) 433-6253 • thegreenthimble.ca

New coffee shop in the neighbourhood!



Have you visited the new coffee shop in the neighbourhood?

Crow's Coffee is now open at Cool Aid Society's 210 Gorge location! Stop by and check out this new neighbourhood gem for a delicious cup of coffee and some tasty treats.

