

All the news from the neighbourhoods of Blueridge and Seymour Heights in the DNV

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It's Summertime! Schools out, kids are everywhere, and vacation time is in full swing. Please take your time and watch out for kids, tourists, and dogs walking around our streets! There's only a few items to mention for July, so let's get started!



From July - August 2019, crews will be replacing an aging culvert underneath Carnation Street between Berkley Road and Emerson Way according to the DNV.

The existing wooden culvert is being replaced by a new concrete culvert that increases capacity for storms and helps reduce flood risk. The new culvert also features fish baffles, which assist fish in their upstream journey and provide an area to rest and seek protection from predators.

More information on the DNV website [here](#)



Solar panels, anyone?

Have you ever considered solar panels for your house? Have you considered connecting your home to cleaner and more sustainable energy? Have you ever thought of generating 100% of your annual electricity consumption? How many years will it take to pay back? What will be the BC Hydro savings over the system's lifetime? What will be the costs?

If you ever thought along those lines, you will have a chance to have your questions answered.

Come and join us on Thursday, July 4, at 7 PM. All you have to do is let us know that

you are interested at: info@blueridgeca.org

As part of our 'Project Community' we have joined forces with former Blueridge resident, Jennifer Johnson, who is the founder of Solar Connect Company. She will be in Blueridge on July 4 to answer any and all questions about getting solar panels on your house. Connect your home to cleaner and more sustainable energy. Even if you are not expecting to have this done right away, it will no doubt help you in determining whether solar panels are the way to go for your house. Looking forward to meeting other Blueridge residents interested in solar panels on their homes!

RAPID TRANSIT TO THE NORTH SHORE

By Jim Hanson - DNV Counsellor

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Like you, I have been repeatedly stuck in North Shore traffic for over an hour to get from Lonsdale to my home in Blueridge. While I sit and inch along polluting the atmosphere my sense of frustration percolates along with others sharing the experience. We have the same number of roads on and off the North Shore since the 1960s.

Some hope comes with the Interchange project currently under construction at Highway #1 and Mountain Highway. Practically speaking Highway #1 is a road which is the responsibility of the Provincial Government, which has a Federal interest (Trans Canada Highway) and runs through the three municipalities of the North Shore, and the Squamish Nation.

The combined population of the three municipalities has more than doubled since the 1960's (88,000 in 1961 to to 181,000 in 2016). The number of vehicles on the road include this increase in population (and expanded vehicle ownership per family), a multiplying cohort of

persons who work but do not live here, ferry traffic from the island and through traffic from Squamish and Whistler. The ferries alone often disgorge hundreds of cars into our most crowded roadway at peak busy hours.

Many believe the only genuine long-term solution to this transportation crisis lies in rapid transit to the North Shore. Local MLA Jane Thornthwaite has called for a Skytrain crossing at the Iron Workers and then connecting east and west from Seymour to Dundarave. Another idea floated involves Skytrain crossings at both the Iron Workers and Lions Gate, to create a North Shore Skytrain circle. The challenge with these Skytrain options lies in their cost, likely to exceed several billion dollars if the cost-per-kilometre of the Canada Line is used as a comparison.

More recently, a detailed academic analysis of a cheaper, light rail alternative, has been put forward by Simon Fraser University Geography Professor Stephan Nieweler. He has studied a model that would put light rail to the North Shore crossing at the Iron Workers and then connecting the North Shore from Seymour to Dundarave. Such rapid transit could connect to the existing Seabus/Skytrain network and could be fed by an integrated system of neighbourhood buses. Nieweler puts the cost estimate of this proposal in the range of \$600 million to \$1.1 billion. I support Professor Nieweler. I support the light rail rapid transit model.

The recent Integrated North Shore Transportation Planning Project (“INSTPP”) report called for more study of potential rapid transit to the North Shore. That body favoured a crossing nearer to Lonsdale arguing that development remains too “dispersed” to support a rapid transit crossing at the Iron Workers.

In the months and years to come, we will hear more discussion of this topic, with Translink, our North Shore MLAs, MP, political candidates, and other stakeholders putting forward options and advocating for various rapid transit solutions.

For my part, I will be a consistent voice for real action on rapid transit to and across the North Shore. I look forward to attending the opening ribbon-cutting of the new North Shore light rail rapid transit system. I favour the model advanced by transportation expert Nieweler, as that proposal appears to be more achievable financially and the route put forward would provide significant transportation, economic, social and environmental benefits for Seymour and for the entire North Shore.

It would certainly be better for the air.



We are excited to share that our BCA Facebook page has finally been joined by Twitter and Instagram! Give us a like, thumbs up, swipe up, heart, smiley, whatever! Tag us, follow us, find us at [blueridge_community](https://www.instagram.com/blueridge_community) on Instagram, [@BlueridgeCA](https://twitter.com/BlueridgeCA) on twitter, and Blueridge Community Association on Facebook! Of course, please check for updates on our web page as well <https://blueridgeca.org/>

Take the Survey!

1. *What do you value most about where you live?*
2. *What are your transportation priorities?*
3. *What are your ideas for the future of transportation?*

How can Transport 2050 make life better for you and future generations?

Visit transport2050.ca #transport 2050

You can also submit bold and creative ideas for the future of transportation. Join the conversation!

Phase 1 engagement runs to September 2019.



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