



# Blueridge Community News

Editor: Sonia McLeod

## An Old Fashioned Day at the Fair

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Blueridge Good Neighbour Day  
June 10, 2012 – 10am-2pm

Kids muster with their bikes at the top of Berkley at 9:45 on June 10<sup>th</sup> for a parade down to Blueridge Elementary School with local dignitaries, The District of North Vancouver Fire Department and more.

**Don't forget to dress "old fashioned" and decorate your bicycle.**

Once at the school you will enjoy the **Tim Hortons Community Cruiser**, live music and fun activities for the whole family.

**Take a look at some of what we have planned!**



Cake Walk  
"Gold Panning" with Yukon Dan  
Laughing Stock Pony Rides

Fish Pond

Kids Crafts

Face Painting

"Old Fashioned" Cotton Candy

Silent Auction

Partyworks Inflatables Bouncy Castles

Concession

Hot Dog Stand

Greek Gyros (back by popular demand)

Many Community Tables with Crafts and Education

Highrise Lonesome Bluegrass Band

.....and much more to come

**Do you own a  
"vintage" car?**

Would you like to  
show it off in the  
parade?

If so, please email  
[blueridgeca@gmail.ca](mailto:blueridgeca@gmail.ca)

We would love you  
to take part in the  
Parade.

Blueridge Good Neighbour Day is planned and brought to you by a group of neighbours, the support of silent auction items and a grant from the Arts office of the District and City of North Vancouver. Volunteers are welcome. Email [blueridgeca@gmail.ca](mailto:blueridgeca@gmail.ca) if you would like to take part in planning or helping at the event.



## BLOCK WATCH UPDATE

Written by: Eric Andersen

We last provided Block Watch statistics in our May 2011 newsletter.

Below are listed the eight reported b & e's (including attempts) which have taken place since that time through the end of February:

04/07 3400 Mount Seymour Parkway  
 04/26 900 Berkley Road  
 05/01 900 Berkley Road (attempt)  
 05/29 3600 Mount Seymour Parkway (attempt)  
 08/29 1100 Carnaby Place (attempt)  
 09/22 900 Berkley Road (shed)  
 11/29 2400 Hayseed Close  
 12/30 1100 Lytton Place

This may not appear as a lot of crime activity, but it is more or less in line with our average numbers in the course of a year and no doubt that the eight parties reporting these b & e's would have preferred not to report any crime activity in or near their homes.

It is hugely important to remember that 'no call is too small', so PLEASE report any crime activity, even if you think that it may be not be a priority for the RCMP. This is the only way that the RCMP and the rest of the community will know what has been happening. Your next call should be to your Block Watch Captain who will notify the other participants on your block - WITHOUT divulging your name and address – about what happened.

As the large sign at the bottom of Berkley indicates there is a very high percentage of Blueridge and Seymour Heights residents in the Block Watch program. Only a few of our streets are not part of Block Watch. In fact, we can proudly and truly say that we have the highest Block Watch participation on the entire North Shore.

If you are new to Blueridge/Seymour Heights and not part of Block Watch yet, meaning that you do not receive regular updates from your Block Captain, please contact Jayne Brownlow at the Block Watch office (604 985 0800) or your area coordinator for Seymour North, Eric Andersen (604 929 6849).

You will be assisted in setting up the program on your block, or we will make sure that you get connected to your Captain. The weather is supposed to get better soon (at least we can hope so) and the warmer months are excellent for arranging a Block Watch party. Don't forget that you can get barricades from the District of North Vancouver to block your street during such a party (assuming here that it is not a major road or on a bus route in our area). This is an excellent way to meet any new neighbours and be in touch with everyone on your street. Some blocks have had a yearly Block Watch party for over 20 years and they get better and better every year!

It is very important to stress that Block Watch can and will only work if we are all vigilant and report all crime activity (big or small), share information and help each other out. It is another word for 'building a community'.

### *Water purification plant tour for the Blueridge Community Association* **May 18 at 1 PM**

Written by: Olga Smakhtina

I have arranged a tour of the water purification plant for the Blueridge Community Association. It had to be during working hours, so I have agreed to the time and day suggested, i.e. May 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Please keep in mind that they can't take more than 20 people at the same time, but I don't see why we can't do it again, if there is interest.

I was asked to provide the list of participants at least a few days in advance for security reasons. My contact at the plant also informed me that they may not have enough parking space, so it will be better if we all park at the Rice Lake public parking, meet there and come together as a group. Sturdy closed-toed footwear is required. If interested in the visit of the plant please contact me latest by May 15 either by e-mail ([o.smakhtina@gmail.com](mailto:o.smakhtina@gmail.com)) or by phone (604 980 8055).

Hope to see many Blueridge residents on May 18!

## **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PARKWAY / KEITH ROAD / HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE**

Written by: David Harvey

The approval of the Seylynn housing development, at the corner of Fern Street and Mountain Highway, has brought new focus to discussions between the District and the Ministry of Highways regarding upgrading of the Parkway/Keith Road interchange with Highway 1.

Although the Ministry does not appear to have much concern about current traffic build-up between the Ironworkers Bridge and the Mountain Highway exit, preliminary plans have been developed to improve traffic flow by increasing the distances between access points on and off the Highway. The Ministry's recommendations include the construction of a new fly-over to directly connect Seymour Parkway with Keith Road. They also suggest a new interchange to line up with Brooksbank Avenue, the elimination of the exit from the Highway directly to Mountain Highway and the elimination of the separate access to Highway 1 from Dollarton Highway.

The District faces two problems. One is how and when to deal with serious deterioration of the existing Keith Road Bridge over Lynn Creek and the second is how to deal with traffic flow in developing the Lower Lynn and Maplewood Centres, including safe access for foot traffic, bicycles and improved transit.

Financing costs for the proposed highway and road improvements will be significant. Therefore, with both the Government and the District pleading poverty, no fast action can be expected. Plans should be considered to be long range, with implementation being put into effect in stages. Blueridge Community Association has been asked, together with other neighbouring residential groups, to provide public input into the development of these plans to improve traffic flow to, from and across the Highway. Meetings between the Ministry and the District, with this public representation, are scheduled to start this spring. Having been nominated as the BCA representative at these meetings, I will endeavour to keep residents posted on developments and I will look for comments as plans start to crystallize into specific recommendations. Comments and requests from Blueridge residents should be channeled through the BCA, so that we can develop consensual input at the Interchange Planning Meetings.

## **Pitch-In Canada Week – please come and join us!**

Written by: Eric Andersen

All of you walking in our neighbourhood have no doubt noted the amount of trash that is to be found everywhere, but particularly near our two schools, Blueridge Park and near the trail entrances. Rather than complaining about this in a curmudgeon fashion, we felt that action speaks louder than words. Your community association has joined forces with probably the best two groups around, i.e. 'Little Pickers' and the Boy Scouts. We have registered with Pitch-In Canada ([www.pitch-in.ca](http://www.pitch-in.ca)) and will have the following clean-up locations and times as our part of Pitch-In Canada Week:

Seymour Heights School meeting in parking lot  
Saturday, 04/28 at 10 AM – organizers: Little Pickers

Trail entrances meeting at the trail entrance at the very end of Hyannis West  
Saturday, 04/28 at 10 AM – organizers: BCA

Blueridge Park meeting near baseball diamond  
Saturday, 04/28 at 2 PM – organizers: Boy Scouts

We truly hope that you will come out and spend an hour or two to help clean up our neighbourhood. We can go on forever about the reasons why we find so much litter everywhere, but instead we urge you all to DO something about it.

A big thank-you goes out to all the volunteers, young and old, who are willing to pitch in that day! Please come and join these three groups! We can use all the help we can get.

## **Blueridge Slide Park**

Written by: Alf Cockle

The Slide Park has cleared the legal and engineering wrangling and is in the process of the pre-dedication phase of the park. The District of North Vancouver Council has tentatively approved the dedication of the Park to be called "Eliza Kuttner Park" in memoriam of Elizabeth Kuttner who was deceased in the Jan 2005 slide. There is a proposal of a Tot Park near the base of the slide area. A Public Hearing on dedicating not just the area around the bench where the Kuttner home once stood but the six other surrounding lots too as the new "Eliza Kuttner Park". If the park dedication is successful the Park could be open to the public as early as this summer.

## NEW NORTH SHORE GREEN CAN PROGRAM

Written by: Jenn Meilleur and Amanda Vantol

### North Shore Recycling Program

The North Shore Recycling Program is excited to announce that North Shore residents may include food scraps with their yard trimmings for curbside recycling beginning the first week of May 2012. The North Shore Yard Trimmings Program is expanding to accept both food scraps and food soiled paper in the City of North Vancouver, District of North Vancouver and District of West Vancouver. The new program is called the Green Can Program and is available to all residences eligible for curbside garbage and yard trimmings collection.

“The Green Can Program is easy to use,” says Jenn Meilleur, Coordinator of the Program. “Just collect all of your food scraps, including fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, bones and plate scrapings, in a kitchen container of your choice throughout the week. You can also include food-soiled papers, such as paper towels, napkins and pizza boxes. Empty your kitchen container into your green can as needed and place your green can curbside on the morning of your collection day.”

Backyard composting is the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to recycle fruit and vegetable scraps and yard trimmings. Use your green can for items which are difficult to safely compost such as cooked plate scrapings, meat and dairy.

We all know that the North Shore is natural bear habitat. Although residents will simply be putting food scraps into the green can instead of the garbage can, we can minimize human-bear conflict by managing our garbage, green can and other bear attractants responsibly.

“It’s perfect timing for this sort of collection program”, says Allen Lynch, Manager of the North Shore Recycling Program, “as food scraps will soon be banned from the landfill by Metro Vancouver.” Program information will be delivered to homes in April.

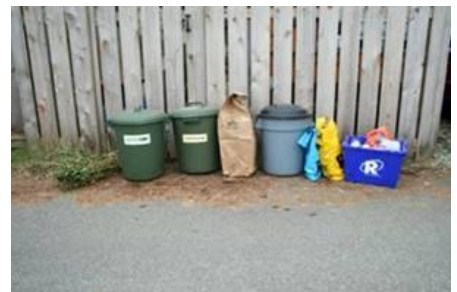
Learn more about the Green Can Program by visiting us at Blueridge Good Neighbour Day at the Blueridge Elementary School on Sunday June 10, between 10:30 a.m. (after the parade in Blueridge) and 2:00 p.m.. For information visit [greencan.northshorerecycling.ca](http://greencan.northshorerecycling.ca).



Just collect all of your food scraps, including fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, bones and plate scrapings, in a kitchen container of your choice throughout the week. You can also include food-soiled papers, such as paper towels, napkins and pizza boxes.



Empty your kitchen container into your Green Can as needed.



Place your Green Can curbside on the morning of your collection day.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Pitch-In Canada Week** – neighbourhood clean-up on Saturday, 04/28, at 10 AM and 2 PM

**BCA's Annual General Meeting** – Tuesday, 05/08, at 7 PM

**Water Purification Plant Tour** – Friday, 05/18 at 1 PM

**Blueridge Neighbour Day** – Sunday, 06/10, at 10 AM

**BCA's (NEW!!!) e-mail:** [blueridgeca@gmail.com](mailto:blueridgeca@gmail.com)

**BCA's website:** <http://members.shaw.ca/blueridgeca/>