

## BCA – 25 YEARS

Written by: Eric Andersen

You will read a separate article by Bruce Bourdon about a special event, that we are working on for the Blueridge Community Association's 25 year anniversary, but since this will be our last newsletter before the actual anniversary date (February 24, 2018), let us all wish the BCA and all its members (which means all of us living in Blueridge/Seymour Heights) a very happy birthday.

Special thanks go out to everyone who has participated in a big or small way to the BCA's development and success over the years. From modest beginnings fighting a road that would connect Hyannis to Lynn Valley (which wasn't built, after all!) to a very well-respected community association that puts on a great community day (Blueridge Good Neighbour Day), that has its own sharing garden and a little free library, that is co-hosting all-candidates meetings before each election, that has its own scholarship, that has its own baby-sitting service, that has a number of committees, that has its own webpage, FB page and Twitter account and much more, we have, indeed, come a long way.

This could not have been done without the volunteer help of countless local residents, both past and current ones.

We can all be very proud of what we have achieved over the past (nearly) 25 years, but it doesn't stop here! We cannot rest on our laurels. We must continue to serve our wonderful community the best we can. We must come up with new ideas that will keep Blueridge/Seymour Heights a great place to live, not just for us, but also for future generations.

Let's toast to a happy birthday, BCA, with hopes of many more residents joining us and helping us achieve new ambitious goals for our community.

## BCA 25TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

Written by: Bruce Bourdon

The BCA turns 25 in 2018. To properly recognize this milestone, the first (annual?) "Dîner en Bleu" celebration has been proposed. The idea is to loosely follow the popular Dîner en Blanc which occurs each year in Vancouver and other "world-class" communities. Since Blueridge is unquestionably world-class, such an event would put us on the map with the likes of Paris, New York and Rome.

A small committee has been formed to flesh out this uniquely "BLUEridge" event.

This is your invitation to join the dynamic committee to help make the Dîner en Bleu a reality. The first committee meeting will be held in late November.

Please consider showing that you are TRUE BLUE and contact us at [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org)

## PACIFIC ANIMAL FOUNDATION

Reg. Charity # 87302 1752 RR0001

### Join us for a . . . DRINK AND APPIES FUNDRAISER !

#### AND OUR FABULOUS SILENT AUCTION

. . . . proceeds will benefit the stray and feral cats in our community !

**Date:** Thursday, Nov. 23rd

**Time:** 6:00pm - 9:00pm

**TICKETS:** \$20. (in advance) or \$25. (at the door)

**Location:** Narrows Pub 1970 Spicer, North Van.

For tickets call . . .  
604-986-8124 or  
[admin@pacificanimal.org](mailto:admin@pacificanimal.org)



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Tuesday, November 14, at 7:00 PM** – Blueridge Community Association Meeting, Canlan (Page 2)

## **Meet Mayor Walton on November 14**

*Written by: Eric Andersen*



Our Mayor, Richard Walton, has very kindly agreed to come out to our next BCA meeting on November 14.

Mayor Walton has done that before, and it really gives our residents a great opportunity to ask him questions about anything concerning the District of North Vancouver (DNV) – both local Blueridge/Seymour Heights issue and questions concerning the entire DNV, or even matters of interest to the entire Lower Mainland. Our Mayor is very candid in his responses (unlike some politicians!) and you will get some interesting and honest responses.

As we are expecting more residents than usual for this meeting we will not have our meeting at the Blueridge Elementary School that day, but instead at Canlan – starting at 7 PM as usual.

So if you have any questions concerning our parks, traffic, mobility pricing, taxes, developments, the Official Community Plan, local police, bylaws, garbage or organics pick-up, rec centres, libraries, very local issues or anything else under the sun about the DNV, this is your chance to come out and ask your questions! This will also be your chance to meet the recipient of our local scholarship 2017, as he will be there that night.

Please join Mayor Walton and hopefully many Blueridge residents on November 14 at 7 PM at Canlan (the Seymour Room upstairs).

## **Global news - emergency preparedness**

*Written by: Carol Donohoe*

We have all seen so many acts of individual heroism this summer on the news – strangers helping strangers in the mass shootings in Las Vegas, neighbours digging people from collapsed buildings in earthquakes, citizens pulling together during the terrible hurricanes in the south.

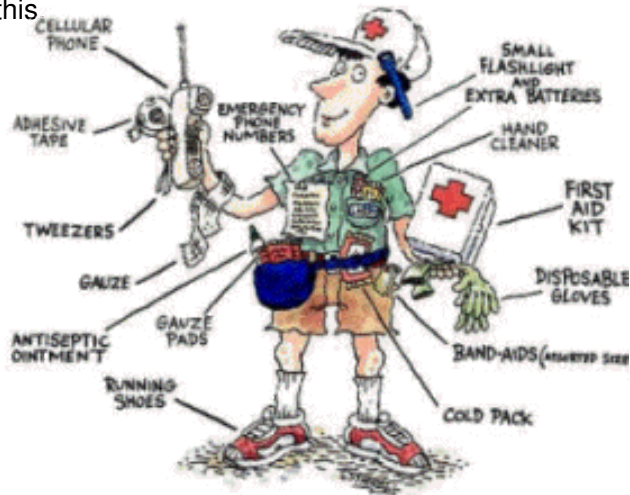
Of course, we hope there will never be any reason for us to have to resort to this in our own community, but deep down, we all know it could happen. I remember (because I have been

around for a long time) when I was an elementary student, we had “nuclear drills” where we hid under the desks. Now THAT’S wishful thinking.

I recently saw on the news that a Dunbar community group has organized an emergency preparedness plan based on a Seattle model. It is very impressive. This is their website - we could be BEEP! <http://dunbar-deep.ca/site/index.php>. They have organized community meeting places where everyone meets in a disaster, they have trained leaders, and established bulletin boards for use when there is no other means of communication. It is a useful and quick means of co-ordinating rescue efforts and ensuring that there is some organization in a situation where chaos exists. They hold drills where the community comes out and participates, and they have a good time as well as get to meet more of their neighbours. There is no downside to anyone in this approach.

I wouldn't be surprised if there is funding for this sort of thing from one level of government or another. I could see from the news article that they have managed to combine fun neighbourhood spirit with a serious matter, and engaged a large part of their community.

This would be a worthwhile endeavour for our community as well. As we already have an active community association, I would suggest we get started with this.



How to contact us:

Web: [www.blueridgeca.org](http://www.blueridgeca.org)

Email: [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org)

Twitter: @BlueridgeCA

Facebook: Blueridge Community Association

## The 2017 Eric Andersen Scholarship Award

Written by: Lesley Brooks

We would like to announce our scholarship winner for 2017 - Jacob Spieker.

Jacob has lived in Blueridge since 2004 and graduated from Windsor Secondary School this summer. He is now attending Capilano University studying Human Kinetics. His future plans include transferring to SFU or UBC to continue his studies in Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy.

Jacob is a very accomplished young man. He worked at Ron Andrews Recreation Centre as an activity leader, has volunteered there as a swim instructor. He has volunteered in the Blueridge area at Good Neighbour Day and for Adopt-a-Street for five years. He volunteered with children in Seymour Bear Cubs program teaching them to ski, participated at Shoreline cleanup in Cates Park and tree planting at Mosquito Creek. In his direct neighbourhood he helps his elderly friends in winter with snow clearing and is involved with neighbourhood block parties. He has volunteered in many capacities with environmental protection and community beautification.

What an impressive resume of volunteer achievements! And on top of all this Jacob is a delightful young man. We all wish him every success in his very promising future.

We have two other previous recipients of the Eric Andersen scholarship, both graduating from Windsor Secondary, in 2015 Courtney Wittred and in 2016 Rose Holmes. Blueridge is very fortunate to have such well accomplished young people living in our neighbourhood.



## CART NEWS: Dollars & Sense

Written by: Barb Rennie

“**What is garbage? Not much!**” as it says in the new guide for recycling, organics and garbage. So many materials can be returned to the recycling drop-off at the transfer station, besides all the stuff that is picked up at the curb. Use some of your old bins to collect your recyclables that need to be taken to the depot. Why put stuff in the landfill if you don't need to?

Here are a few interesting details about the new garbage and organics carts:

- If you **downsize** to the 140L garbage cart, you will **save \$40 per year** on the utilities portion of your annual tax bill – note that it is the **cart size that counts**, not how much garbage you put in it, or how often you put it out.
- Each household is allowed an **additional 240L organics cart** at no charge.
- There is a 4 week mandatory waiting period before you can request additional carts or change cart sizes (single family homes were already given the largest size, 240L, so can only change to the smaller size, 140L). **Zone 4 households exchange period starts Oct.19**; Zone 5 won't be getting their new carts until December.
- The **\$50 admin fee** will be **waived** if you make changes **within one month** of the start of the exchange period (Zone 4, by Nov.19 - possibly even within 2017).
- <http://www.dnv.org/get-different-cart-size> is the link to find the form to request more or change carts
- Remember, you can't put out **any** old carts or bins at all, and any paper bags or bundles of branches must be placed inside the new organics carts. If you've been using multiple bins for yard waste, you might find you need a second organics cart. If you want more than 2 carts, additional ones will increase your annual utilities bill by \$40 each.
- There will be a chance to recycle any old garbage or green cans that you don't wish to keep - we'll get a sticker on our carts when the date is announced, or you can check online for the date (not posted for Zone 4 at time of writing) <http://www.dnv.org/programs-services/new-carts-residents>

So save yourself a few dollars – less garbage makes sense!



## Proposed Multi-Family Residential Project

Written by: Eric Andersen

Although it is not in Blueridge/Seymour Heights, per se, a redevelopment proposal at 904-944 Lytton Street could have some impact on Blueridge/Seymour Heights.

The Seymour Estates, which was built in 1969, has been bought out by Anthem Properties, who intend to completely redevelop the site in question. From the current 114 units, this will nearly triple to 333 units in 15 buildings, varying from 3, 4 to 6 storeys in height. The project will include 43 rental units. There will be 599 parking stalls.

Due to the increase in density this will have to go to a Public Hearing at the DNV Hall before it gets approved.

The developer is hoping to get the approval to start the redevelopment in the spring of 2018, and the combined construction time for the totally 333 units is estimated to be four years (completion in 2022).



## DOES YOUR FURNACE OR GAS FIREPLACE NEED SERVICING?

Written by: Eric Andersen

We're trying to put together a neighbourhood discount where one company comes out to service the whole neighbourhood.

We tried it last year and managed to get about a dozen residents to sign up and one company serviced everyone's furnaces, gas fireplaces and heat pumps. This is exactly the concept that Alberto was describing, when he wrote an article in our newsletter a couple of years ago.

That meant that the company's crews did not have to drive all over the place and the users benefitted from a preferential rate.

We intend to push more for this type of projects in the future.

If you're interested in joining us and have your furnace or gas fireplace serviced, please drop us a line at: [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org)

## Looking for great ideas!

Written by: Eric Andersen

Our finances are not what they used to be... In order to properly celebrate Blueridge Good Neighbour Day's 20th anniversary in June this year we spent quite a bit more money than we usually do.

Our scholarship program is great, but is costing us \$500 every year.

Our Blueridge Sharing Garden is costing us nearly \$1,000 in insurance alone every year.

In short: we know that we will have to do something. Rather than cutting back on our expenses we would prefer to start generating more income.

At a meeting about this topic in September it was agreed NOT to apply membership fees – we want every person in our community to automatically be a member.

It was also decided that – at this point – we did not want to include ads in our newsletter or advertize at our meetings. The newsletter is made by community members for community members and is not printed to advertize for any business, be it local or multi-national! So far so good, but it still does not give us any income.

We are likely to have the occasional fund-raiser, such as a pub night and possibly wine tasting.

We are now looking for YOUR great ideas to bring in some income to cover our costs and at the same time keep us fully independent and not use advertizing in our newsletters and at our events. Please drop us a line with your suggestions at [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org)

The BCA is not a charitable organization, so we are unable to issue deductible tax receipts.

## Industrial Compost Facility Proposed

Written by: Eric Andersen

You may have read in the North Shore News that Anacondo Systems Ltd. In Vancouver has applied to the provincial government to clear 2.6 hectares of Crown's land on Mount Seymour Road to build a compost system intended to process local green waste. This is currently being trucked off the North Shore to other destinations in the Lower Mainland. If you have any comments about this rather... unusual proposal you can comment on the following link:

<http://www.arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/viewpost.jsp?PostID=53866>

## **Changes, changes, changes**

*Written by: Eric Andersen*

The BCA has been very fortunate to have a number of directors on our board for many years. There have been few changes over the last 3-4 years and the directors should take credit for many of things we have been able to develop during the same time, starting with the Blueridge Sharing Garden. However, change can sometimes be good, as any organization needs new blood, new ideas and new vitality. This is exactly what is about to happen for us on the communications side.

Our Communications Director, Angela Duso, and our Web Architect, Alberto Trujillo González, are both leaving our board – both because of increased workload in their ‘real’ worklife. I would like to thank them both profusely for having been outstanding members of our community. They have both served on the board for a handful of years and have been totally instrumental in taking our communication with our members (all residents of Blueridge/Seymour Heights) to a new level. We now have a detailed website, a FaceBook page, a Twitter account and the monthly Blueridge Bulletin – all electronically. If you do not receive the Blueridge Bulletin already, you can easily subscribe to it - just click on ‘Newsletter sign up’ on the right on our website, [www.blueridgeca.org](http://www.blueridgeca.org) – or you can e-mail us at: [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org) if you have any questions. You can rest assured that our e-mail list will NEVER be shared with any other groups or organizations.

In addition we have the hard-copy newsletter which is put together by our editor, Sonia McLeod. A huge thank-you to Angela and Alberto for all their contribution over the years to the BCA!

## **WE ARE NOW LOOKING ACTIVELY AT FILLING BOTH POSITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR AND WEB ARCHITECT.**

### FOR THE COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR (THIS WAS PREPARED BY ANGELA DUSO):

**Who:** you live in Blueridge and want to give back to the community. You have an interest in Communications and would like to develop your Communications career and gain leadership skills. You are a self-starter who is able to work independently and entrepreneurially; you enjoy creating and implementing new initiatives

**When:** It's flexible, work around your schedule

**Where:** Virtual – you can do this volunteer job wherever there is wifi

**Requires:** Computer and internet access. Ideally the candidate will have experience using Facebook, Twitter, WordPress, Gmail, and MailChimp. Training will be provided.

#### **Responsibilities:**

-post events and news items to the Blueridge Community Association website ([www.blueridgeca.org](http://www.blueridgeca.org)) using WordPress

-post events, news items, photos to our Social Media pages ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)).

- send out regular [Blueridge Bulletins](#) (e-newsletters) using MailChimp to our 400+ subscribers (currently they are sent out 10 times/year)

- monitor the Blueridge Community Association email address – [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org).

For more information on this fun volunteer opportunity, please contact [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org)

*Changes, changes, changes....cont'd*

**THE WEB ARCHITECT'S QUICK JOB DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS**  
**(THIS WAS PREPARED BY ALBERTO TRUJILLO GONZÁLEZ):**

**Below are a few technical details a potential candidate will need to know:**

-The website is fully built on Wordpress.

-Our current hosting provider uses CPanel, which is the most common software out there to deal with websites.

-The only fully custom piece in our website is the Babysitter directory. This is built by the Contact Form 7 plugin. Alberto will be more than happy to give an introduction to the potential candidate

-There is not much custom code that needs to be known, any person with real knowledge in the field will find out that the environment is, in fact, quite easy, as Alberto had automatized as much as he could.

-So there you have it, if you have a bit of website experience and you feel that you could work with the above tools and you feel that you would like to help out the BCA, we would love to hear from you! In that case please contact us at: [info@blueridge.ca](mailto:info@blueridge.ca) and let us know. Alberto may wish to have a chat with you to make sure that you fully understand all that is needed.

-The time involved (that question always comes up!) is likely to vary depending on what kind of 'hiccups' we encounter, particularly with the website. We had some security issues and hosting issues in the past, which Alberto managed to fix, and since then everything has been working without any problems.

- Alberto has very kindly agreed to stay on until a new Web Architect has been found, but we sincerely hope that this will not take too long.

- Again, thanks a million to Angela and Alberto for all their work – and we look forward to soon welcoming a new Communications Directors and a new Web Architect!

**RECIPE CORNER!**

*Written by: Sonia McLeod*

**Bocconcini & Tomatoes...Blueridge Style!**

Enjoy your next autumn dinner with a light, lovely, and tasty salad.

This is a favorite in our family. I love to purchase heirloom tomatoes for the beautiful colors! This salad is sure to impress anyone!

**Salad:**

375 GR Bocconcini (or Burrata is also just as lovely!)  
 500 GR Fresh Tomatoes  
 50 GR Sun-dried tomatoes  
 50 ML Chopped Basil  
 30 GR Toasted Pine nuts (optional)

**Dressing:**

2 TBL Red wine Vinegar  
 ¼ tsp Black pepper  
 1 Clove garlic , minced  
 Salt  
 ½ cup Extra Virgin Olive Oil

**Directions:**

Slice tomatoes and bocconcini into approx. ½" slices. Arrange attractively on a plate, layering tomato, bocconcini, tomato...etc. Sprinkle thinly sliced sun-dried tomatoes, basil, and pine nuts on top. Pour dressing over this and let sit 30 minutes. Serves 4-6... Enjoy!!



**At the BCA's Annual General Meeting on May 23, 2017, the current Chair, Eric Godot Andersen pointed out the following highlights for the BCA for 2016-2017:**

FIRST OF ALL: A HUGE 'THANK YOU' TO EVERYONE WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED HIS/HER TIME TO THE BCA. Although it may sound totally like a cliché, it is a fact that the BCA could not operate without all YOUR assistance, directors, volunteers and meeting participants.

1/ our scholarship was handed out to a Blueridge youth for the third time

2/ we decided to have our finances audited by local residents for the first time, in view of the amount in the bank (exceeding \$15,000 at the end of the fiscal year, February 28) and found a couple of volunteers

3/ our partnership was continued with UBC, although on a smaller scale

4/ the BCA has started working with the District of North Vancouver to explore ways to help owners with BC Hydro transformer boxes on their property with 'Decorative Wrap Installation', should they be interested

5/ a well-attended All Candidates Meeting was co-sponsored with other local associations prior to the provincial election in May, 2017

6/ BCA meetings continued to be held every second month (September, November, January, March and May).

7/ we had a couple of guest speakers – David Cook, local biologist (November) and Tom Walker, North Shore Safety Council (March)

8/ three newsletters (May 2016 (8 pages), Nov 2016 (8 pages) and March 2017 (4 pages)) were prepared in 2016-2017 which reached every household in Blueridge/Seymour Heights (thanks strictly to volunteers!). Another newsletter is scheduled to be distributed during the second half of May 2017.

9/ the BCA hosted a very successful 19th Blueridge Good Neighbour Day on June 5, 2016, at the Blueridge Elementary School. A committee is working hard on the 20th BGND.

10/ the BCA general account as at February 28 (end of the fiscal year) had a negative balance - but we have money earmarked as seed-money for Blueridge Good Neighbour Day and a bit of money left over from the Farmers' Market and a small amount for the Blueridge Sharing Garden.

11/ the BCA has a regularly updated website: [www.blueridgeca.org](http://www.blueridgeca.org) and Facebook page as well as our main e-mail address: [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org). We have about 430 e-mail recipients in Blueridge/Seymour Heights (gone up from 275 last year).

We have a Twitter account located @BlueridgeCA (if people want to "follow" us). Different hashtags associated with our other account are: #BGND2017 and #SharingGarden  
In 2016/2017 we have encountered lots of problems with our website and had to change service provider for that reason.

12/ the BCA has notified its members of numerous meetings and events of potential interest to them. This is done through our Communication Officer's 'Blueridge Bulletin' which goes out monthly.

13/ the BCA has representatives on the Community Advisory Panel, Canlan Ice-Sports Committee, the Highway Interchange working group, the Seymour Local Plan Monitoring Committee, the Neighbourhood Advisory Committee and North Vancouver Community Associations Network (NVCAN).

14/ the BCA has a traffic committee (ad hoc), a Blueridge Good Neighbour Day committee, a trails committee (hosting walks in the neighbourhood), a Blueridge Sharing Garden committee, a scholarship committee (ad hoc), a Good Neighbour Greeting committee, a nominating committee and a Community Lands Task Force (ad hoc). Most committee chairs will make a brief presentation at the AGM.

15/ the BCA has met with the Superintendent for the North Vancouver School District 44 about the future of Blueridge Elementary School

16/ the BCA has its own brochure and biz cards with social media information  
17/ the BCA continues to offer a baby sitting service

18/ the BCA continued to assist local Syrian families in Blueridge

19/ the BCA had another highly successful 'meet and greet' your neighbours aimed primarily at new Blueridge/Seymour Heights residents (in January) with special invited guests from local agencies and organizations

# THANK YOU, GENEROUS SPONSORS AND DONORS!!

We would like to thank all our generous sponsors and donors who enabled us to have another great Blueridge Good Neighbour Day in early June.

Special efforts had been made because it was Blueridge Good Neighbour Day's 20th anniversary, but we couldn't have done this without all the great support from so many local merchants and companies and even local families. The BCA would like to urge everyone to support the local merchants that are listed below. This local event could not happen without their generous support, but let's not forget all the volunteers who helped on the Blueridge Good Neighbour Day Planning Committee and the many who helped out on the day of the event.

Thanks to all of you – everyone of you helped make Blueridge Good Neighbour Day a fantastic day for our community.

## Silent Auction Donors

## Sponsors

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Jumpstart Fitness	Time Out Source For Sports	
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