

Blueridge Bulletin

April 2024



As the photo shows, we had occasional clear skies in March, and we were observed by avian visitors as well. That was a solo eagle, spotted from my backyard. But nesting season is upon us and I doubt it will be flying alone much longer.

And in the same way that eagle has a lot happening in the coming months, so do we. Blueridge is always hopping, or soaring.

Planning for Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2024 continues, the gardeners among us are busy planting, and everyone that can is taking advantage of the warmer weather.

To support everyone's efforts, this issue of the Blueridge Bulletin is once again chock full of news from the community... news we think you can actually use. We hope you enjoy it. Please share it with your friends and neighbours, and ask them to [subscribe](#). Thank you!

Table of Contents

- Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2024
 - Preparing for Early Wildfires
 - Baden Park Construction
 - What Is Bear Management?
 - Council Meeting on Housing in the DNV - April 2, 7pm
 - Community Board?
 - Scholarship Reminder!
 - BCA Foundation Coming!
 - *Blueridge Community News* - Next Submission Deadline is May 3
 - Block Watch
 - NSEM and the BCA on Emergency Preparedness
 - Raised Garden Beds
 - Earth Day 2024
 - Couldn't Read the Latest Newsletter?
 - Welcome to Blueridge!
 - Seymour Heights Elementary April Update
 - Hello from Blueridge Elementary!
 - Windsor Football Program fundraiser!
 - Adopt a Street Needs You
 - Notes from the Sausage Factory
 - In A Nutshell - short items
 - Newsworthy - links to locally relevant news stories you might have missed
 - Important April Dates
 - Project Community - deals for Blueridge Residents
-

- Stay Connected with the BCA
- Subscribe to the *Blueridge Bulletin* - If you haven't already
- Submit an Article to the *Blueridge Bulletin*
- Sponsors - These businesses help support BCA programs

Features



Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2024

Stacie Graham

Planning for Blueridge Good Neighbour Day is well underway, and while we're bringing back many of the traditional activities and events, this year there are some new and exciting initiatives that we want to share with everyone!

1. Blueridge Good Neighbour Day is moving to Saturday!! For many years the event has been held on the second Sunday in June, but due to some scheduling conflicts in the community, we've settled on **Saturday June 15th** for the event this year!
2. Each year the planning team picks a theme to plan around, and you are encouraged to dress up and decorate your bike for the parade. This year's theme is "Fantasy"
3. Please bring your water bottles to the event. We are hoping to have the Water Wagon attend this year so that everyone will be able to refill their water bottles rather than having to buy single use plastic water bottles.
4. We are excited to introduce Blueridge Bucks! These tickets can be purchased when you arrive at the event, and will allow you to pay by

credit card for activities that were previously cash only. Low on cash but you want a hot dog and bag of chips? Or maybe you want to try your luck at the cake walk? Buy some Blueridge Bucks with your credit card, and you'll be able to pay for these and more!

5. As always, we rely on volunteers to help out at the event. Even an hour or two can help make sure the event runs smoothly! For more information about volunteering at the event (or helping on the planning committee), email volunteer@blueridgeca.org.
6. We have added some great information about BGND on the Blueridge Community Association website. To learn more about the event, and how you might be able to help or donate, go to <https://blueridgeca.org/blueridge-good-neighbour-day-2024/> or find the link on [our homepage](#).

We plan to prepare a detailed schedule of the day and it will be posted on the website. So check back closer to the event for more information!

And please email bgnd@blueridgeca.org if you have any questions!

We look forward to seeing everyone there!



**Taking
action early
to prepare
for wildfires**

Preparing for Early Wildfires

The Office Of MLA Susie Chant

The snowpack is a lot lighter this winter, due to both climate change and an El Niño winter. As a result, our province has been preparing for a drier and warmer summer than ever before. This means there will likely be an earlier and stronger wildfire season. Thankfully, we are in good hands, with Minister Bowinn Ma making sure that we are taking all the steps we can to help mitigate the damage to forests, and the risks to communities.

To make sure we have enough wildfire crews, BC Wildfire Services has strengthened and expanded the hiring process. This has led to over double the number of applicants this year to join the crews, and an expansion in the permanent full-time staff by over 50%. This is supported by an increase of \$38 million of government funding to create more year-round wildfire services and better prepare for fires while the weather is still cool and wet. This preparation work includes a record-breaking 9500 hectares of forest this year that has been through fuel management treatment to reduce the risk of fires spreading.

Regarding equipment, we have invested \$56 million this year to upgrade our fleet of firefighting aircraft and diversify the types of craft we have to tackle complex terrains and scenarios. We have established a new equipment depot in Prince George this year as well, which will further support northern firefighting operations. Finally, we have been investing heavily into modern systems that predict and model fires, as well as expanding our real time monitoring tools. This includes using drone technology, night vision, and remote cameras.

The hope is that with the increase in firefighter crews, equipment, and technology, we can reduce both the scale and the scope of the fires our province faces this summer. This will also, hopefully, create a less smoky summer than would be expected. While North Vancouver has not faced any significant threats of fires yet, we must still always be prepared. As part of our work to prepare for fires this season, we are calling on everyone to take steps to make sure they are ready and prepared as well. For residents of the North Shore, this means taking steps like:

- Keeping updated on emergency info and alerts at <https://nsem.ca/> and <https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca/>
- Staying informed about weather alerts
- Creating an online profile if you'll need support during an emergency at <https://ess.gov.bc.ca/>
- Building an emergency kit which includes essentials, such as water, non-perishable food, medication and a first-aid kit

As always, should you have any questions, concerns or are looking for more information, please reach out to my office at Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca or by calling 604-983-9859. Our office will also be stocking up on information pamphlets from Emergency Info BC, and we will be spending as much time as we can distributing them around the community.

A black rectangular banner with white text and a white geometric arrow-like graphic on the right side. The text reads "BADEN PARK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE".

BADEN PARK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Baden Park Construction

Are you regularly stuck in traffic around the Baden Park construction on Mt. Seymour Parkway or Lytton Street? Want to know what traffic impacts are expected in the coming week? The BCA website can help! We get weekly updates from the Anthem Properties and publish them on our website. As a rule, each update goes up on the weekend and covers events for the following week.

Visit <http://blueridgeca.org/> and look for "Baden Park Construction Update" to get the latest news.



What Is Bear Management?

Holly Reisner, North Shore Black Bear Society

When engaging with North Shore residents, we commonly have conversations about how bears are managed on the North Shore, and who does this. It is the responsibility of the BC Conservation Officer Service to manage wildlife in our province. At the North Shore Black Bear Society, our role is to support residents with education about co-existing peacefully and responsibly with our bears, coyotes, cougars, bobcats and other wildlife species.

What is "bear management"? This is the concept of taking action when a bear is in a conflict situation with a resident or a community. We know that we can prevent conflicts from occurring and avoid management actions, but we aren't successful 100% of the time. Three terms often come up in our conversations about management, and I will define them properly here: euthanization, killing or shooting, and relocation.

Euthanization means to kill an animal in order to end their suffering. This occasionally happens. For example, last year there were several bears on the North Shore at different times that were either emaciated, injured (probably from a vehicle strike), or in one case that was obviously blind. We are able to keep track of such bears through our amazing community that keeps us informed and sends us photos and videos. In these cases, we may request that a Conservation Officer come to evaluate the bear, and the situation may end with the CO ending the bear's life humanely, to save their suffering. This is the true meaning of the word euthanization. Note that in B.C., a bear must be under one year of age to be permitted to be trapped and taken to one of our three wildlife shelters for veterinary care and rehabilitation.

Bears that do things such as accessing garbage, taking food from outdoor freezers, or wandering inside a home whose doors or windows have been left open and unattended, risk being **killed** or **shot** by Conservation Officers. We are very careful to use those terms, and not "euthanized" to describe this. These deaths are preventable, and this is the primary reason we offer education and support to North Shore residents. Reducing human fear of these beautiful animals and increasing awareness of how to take responsibility for managing our attractants is the most effective tool we have to keep them alive.

As far as **relocation** is concerned, in general, the Conservation Officer Service does not offer this for bears on the North Shore. If they trap a bear, they will most often shoot them. So, again, we have to educate residents to prevent a situation where the bear is going to be trapped and killed.

But it is also true that **relocation** is not a great solution. It is very stressful on the bear to be tranquilized and transported. There have been situations where bears have died in the process. Once released, they find themselves in foreign territory, unsure where the food and water sources may be, and which other bears may be in that area to compete with them. Bears often will travel hundreds of kilometres to return to their home range, as they have an excellent homing sense. If the attractants that got them into trouble in the first place have not been managed, the cycle will continue.

The most important and powerful role of all is that of North Shore residents. We can learn about bears, gain understanding of their true, peaceful natures, keep our unnatural food sources managed, and keep our ground floor doors and windows shut. This has resulted in a vast reduction of bears being killed on the North Shore since 1999 when 39 were killed, to 2023 when 2 sadly and preventably lost their lives.



Council Meeting on Housing in the DNV - April 2, 7pm

Eric Andersen

For those interested in the potential impacts of the new Provincial legislation aimed at increased housing availability, our municipal Council will be discussing just that at a Workshop on April 2nd, 7.00 PM at the DNV Hall, 355 W. Queens Rd.

The staff report to Council in preparation for that workshop can be found at [this link](#) (PDF).

The workshop can also be viewed virtually on Zoom at <https://dnvorg.zoom.us/j/67910218298>.

Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!"

-- Robin Williams



Deep Cove community board.

Community Board?

Eric Andersen

Way back - at the end of the 1990's (!!!) - the District suggested that the various communities within the municipality get community boards if they were interested. At the time the DNV was willing to pay the initial costs.

Unfortunately, although we had some interest in a sign for the area, the BCA did not jump on the offer, primarily because we could not find an ideal place to locate the sign. Around 2001 it fizzled out, partly because we did not follow up with the DNV after that.

Last summer a member of the community suggested that we should get a community board. This has been discussed by the BCA executives and a similar discussion has taken place within some of our local Parent Advisory Councils.

The sign could be used for announcements of events, meetings, activities - even birthdays or weddings.

There is still much work to be done including the matter of funding, material to use, how will it be used and managed and, not at least:

WHERE will it be located, if we get one?

Please [visit our website](#) to suggest where you would like it to be located in our area. We provide a handful of options, but you are free to add an extra one or two, if you prefer. Nothing is carved in stone! Here's what we have so far:

1. Next to the Blueridge Sharing Garden (on Carnation Street across from Seymour Heights Elementary School)
2. At the bottom of Berkley Road near Mount Seymour Parkway
3. At the trail head near Hyannis Drive (west)
4. Near/in front of a local school
5. Your suggestion

Once again, please [visit our website](#) to vote. Thank you!



Scholarship Reminder!

Anni Danielson

Deadline for the Eric Anderson Scholarship is April 30. Get busy and apply. We are looking forward to receiving and reading about all the wonderful services you have provided over the years. Information on how to apply is on [our website](#).

Did you know that April is Organ Donor Awareness Month? [Learn more at BC Transplant](#) and consider registering to help save a life!



BCA Foundation Coming!

Anni Danielson

We are very excited. Something new is on the horizon.

We are about to launch a foundation.

No, it's not a corset or base of makeup. It could also mean beginning or endowment.

Maybe you have had ambitions to organize some unique and exciting events, but lacked the funds to do so. Well, this may be your chance. Put your thinking hats on and read all about it in our next *Blueridge Community News* when it appears in your mailbox!



***Blueridge Community News* - Next Submission Deadline is May 3**

If you'd like to submit an article for the next edition of the *Blueridge Community News* - the BCA's paper newsletter, delivered by volunteers to every mailbox in Blueridge - the deadline is May 3, 2024. Submissions and questions should be sent to newsletter@blueridgeca.org.

And look for that edition to appear in your mailbox in the last two weeks of May.



Block Watch

Eric Andersen

Blueridge & Seymour Heights is a safe area. In fact, it is very safe. The crime rate is relatively low (considering we are in the Lower Mainland), and this has been the case for a while. However, this does not mean that we are crime free in our area. I tallied the reported crimes over a five month period ending February 29, 2024, and the following sixteen crimes had been reported:

- 1 B&E residential
- 1 bike theft
- 5 catalytic converter thefts
- 9 thefts from auto

Not very much compared with other parts of the Lower Mainland, but still too many incidents. A number of thefts from autos were reported in March. PLEASE keep your cars locked at all times, even if parked in your very own driveway!

A few times new residents haven't known if their house is in a block that is part of Block Watch. As the sign at the bottom of Berkley Road indicates, more than 80% of the blocks in Blueridge & Seymour Heights are part of Block Watch, so chances are that you are in Block Watch. Your Block Watch Captain should contact new residents when they move to your block, but if that has not been done already, please contact us (info@blueridgeca.org), and we will be happy to connect you with the Captain on your block. If your block is not already in Block Watch, perhaps you should take that initiative by contacting the Block

Watch office!

There are STILL blocks that are not part of Block Watch – we will not name them, but they are there! Yours COULD be one of them! If you never receive email from your Block Watch Captain, that is a rather clear sign that your block is not (yet) part of Block Watch.

It is important to report any crime to the RCMP. If not, how will they know that it happened? 'No call too small' should be everyone's mantra. If crime is not reported, it will never be solved, and the offenders may just continue what they have been doing in our neighbourhood.

This is a good segue to how to effectively report local crime. PLEASE report any crime to the RCMP first and then to your Block Watch Captain. The Captains will inform the block (without mentioning your name or address) and let others in the Block Watch system know, such as your Zone Liaison.

We have noted that many residents have been posting reports about crime on social media, including the 'Blueridge Neighbours' Facebook group, WITHOUT informing the RCMP and Block Watch Captains first. The most effective sequence is to contact the RCMP and next your Block Watch Captain about a crime, and then – if you want to – you can post something on social media.

Remember that social media posts will not result in increased police patrols or an arrest, and Block Watch has a much better chance to accomplish those things with your help.

Are you already a subscriber? If not, please consider subscribing to the Blueridge Bulletin. It's free, and it's only twelve emails a year. The BCA doesn't sell or give away your email address, and we do our very best to make it worth reading. Please [subscribe here](#). Also, you're encouraged to forward the Bulletin to a friend or neighbour who might also find it useful. Thank you!



Photo submitted by Eric Andersen

Eric Andersen reminds us that not all dogs like other dogs. Your off leash pooch might be just fine, but bad things may happen when it encounters a reactive dog. And there are a lot of reactive dogs out there. Please leash your dog!



NSEM and the BCA on Emergency Preparedness

Jeff Powell

Recently, the editor of the *Blueridge Community News* (the BCA's printed newsletter) shared an email from North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM). He suggested it be included in this issue of the *Bulletin*. Even better, every item in that NSEM email is already linked to or has a dedicated page on the BCA website. Here's what NSEM mentioned:

- North Shore Emergency Management - The [NSEM website](#) is designed to be your one-stop shop for information and resources on emergency management on the North Shore. The site provides information on risks, how to prepare for an emergency, what to do during and post-emergency, and more. New features are being added to the site soon, and we encourage you to bookmark the website.
- Alertable (app) - North Shore residents (and visitors) are encouraged to sign up for Alertable, which is used by NSEM to send out alerts for emergencies (e.g., severe weather, natural disasters, industrial hazards, transportation accidents or marine spills), evacuation or shelter-in-place notices, or Amber Alerts. For more information, including answers to common questions and how to sign up for this free service, visit [North Shore Emergency Management](#).
- [North Shore Evacuation Guide](#) (PDF) - The North Shore Evacuation Guide is designed to help you plan and prepare, should you need to leave in the event of an emergency or evacuation. This easy-to-follow guide includes what to do before an emergency, during an emergency, information to include when making plans, and what to include in a grab-and-go bag.

As a reader of the *Bulletin* and a resident of Blueridge or Seymour Heights, you may already know about the BCA website - <https://blueridgeca.org/>. If you visit that site and click on "Resources" in the menu, you'll be taken to a page full of useful information, including everything NSEM mentioned and a whole lot more.

Please bookmark the [BCA website](#) and take a look at it whenever you have a question about anything Blueridge related. We're trying to make it the one stop shop for everything you need in that regard.



Raised Garden Beds

Emilie Currie

It is nearly time for the annual raised bed replacement work party at the Blueridge Sharing Garden. Each spring, usually in April before the gardening season picks up, the volunteers are able to replace several of the raised garden beds. This is thanks to the support of the District of North Vancouver's Sustainability Grants Program.

Raised beds offer gardeners a versatile and efficient way to cultivate plants, whether working with limited space, poor soil conditions, or simply seeking greater control over your garden environment. Their benefits include:

Improved Soil Quality: Raised beds allow gardeners to fill them with high quality soil mixtures tailored to the specific needs of their plants. This ensures optimal soil conditions for healthy root development and robust plant growth.

Enhanced Weed Control: Raised beds provide a defined growing space that is easier to manage and weed compared to traditional gardens. By elevating the planting area, raised beds can help minimize weed infiltration and reduce the need for time-consuming weeding.

Accessibility: Raised beds are raised off the ground, making them more accessible for planting, weeding, and harvesting. This is particularly beneficial for gardeners with limited mobility or those who prefer not to bend or kneel

while gardening.

Aesthetic Appeal: Raised beds can add visual interest to the garden landscape, creating defined planting areas and adding dimension to the overall design. They can be built in various shapes, sizes, and materials to suit individual preferences and complement the surrounding environment.

Versatility: Raised beds can be customized to fit virtually any gardening space, including yards, patios, balconies, and rooftops. They are adaptable to different soil conditions, making them suitable for a wide range of plants, from vegetables and herbs to flowers and ornamentals.

Building Process: While I have some experience in the construction of garden beds, I thought I'd leave the step by step to the experts: <https://www.homedepot.com/c/ah/how-to-build-raised-garden-beds/9ba683603be9fa5395fab90b41bb0da>

Building raised beds opens a world of possibilities for gardeners, allowing you to overcome common gardening challenges and create a productive and beautiful garden space. More information to follow about the annual box rebuild at the Blueridge Sharing Garden!

In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.

-- Margaret Atwood



Earth Day 2024

Every April 22 is Earth Day, a chance to help our environment and protect the planet. Between climate change, deforestation, and pollution, there are plenty of worries. But we all have to start somewhere. Simply picking up trash along your street is a good beginning, and if you're near Blueridge Creek, that can always be cleaned up as well. Contacting your elected officials and discussing your concerns is another option. And if you're looking for more choices, here are a few to consider:

- Here's a list of [Earth Day events happening around Metro Vancouver](#).
- The City of North Vancouver is cleaning up at Moody Park this year with an [invasive plant pull event](#).
- Earthday.org has a [PDF of Earth Day activities](#) to consider, from cleanups to marches.

Happy Earth Day!



Photo by Amy Pankratz. "Altered" Blue Ridge Community News by Jip.

Couldn't Read the Latest Newsletter?

Maybe the dog was a bit hard on the mail when it arrived (as seen above), or perhaps someone was a bit "aggressive" with the recycling? Either way, we've got you covered.

Back issues of the *Blueridge Community News* are available online at [the BCA website](#). They go from March 2024 all the way back to June 2004.

To top it off, back issues of the *Blueridge Bulletin* - this very email - are [also available online](#). Those go back to 2013.

So even if you missed something thanks to Fido (or anyone else) we've got you covered. Check the BCA website!



Welcome to Blueridge!

Joe Graham

Editor's Note: This article, republished from the March Blueridge Community News, is the first of series we plan to publish about new neighbours coming to our community. Lesley Brooks, our Blueridge Community Association official greeter, contacted Joe Graham and her family, and the mother of three found time in her hectic schedule to write about her family's move here.

I grew up in Quarn, South Australia, a small town of about 900 people on the edge of the outback about a 3½ hour drive north of Adelaide. In early 2010, I

was at a bar in Melbourne where I met my now husband Connor, watching Canada win the gold medal in men's hockey at the Vancouver Olympics.

Fast forward 14 years, and we now live in Blueridge with our three boys, Austin (Grade 2), Lucas (kindergarten) and PJ, (one year old). We'd been living in a two-bedroom condo in Kitsilano for the past 10 years, but when baby #3 came along, we got serious about upsizing our space. While I was convinced the three boys could share one bedroom, my husband was anxious for more space. We were quite settled in our Kits home, with amazing neighbours in our building, a great school community, and a walkable neighbourhood. We were also quite lucky that we had a large backyard space outside our ground-floor condo, so finding something that was worth moving for was quite the challenge.

We looked broadly - from South Surrey through to the North Shore. While we put offers in across different cities, we ultimately got serious about North Vancouver because our middle son had always loved walking the trails here. We had heard years ago that Blueridge was a great community for families and had kept an eye out, but we were still hoping to stay relatively close to our school in Point Grey.

After having written lots of offers over the years and missing out, we decided this was "the one" to go all in on. The street and the house reminded my husband of the home in Victoria where he grew up, and with the help of our family, we were lucky to have an offer that was accepted.

We moved in at the end of last July, so we had some time to settle in before school started. We've been so blessed with remarkable neighbours. The people we bought our home from organized a street party shortly after we moved in, giving us an opportunity to meet many neighbours. Halloween was extra special with some incredibly decorated houses close to us, so Lucas cannot wait until next Halloween again.

Austin, our eldest, attends Blueridge, and while he was really unhappy to leave his friends at his old school, he loves being able to walk to school with our next-door neighbour, AND also that he doesn't have to wear a uniform. Also great is having so many of his friends living within a few minutes' walk, which has definitely made his transition easier. Our middle son attends St Pius X (at Parkgate), and some of his friends also live close by. It's a bit harder having kids at two different schools, but it's also nice to be part of both communities and meet more people.

The biggest thing we've had to get used to is the bears! I thought I would be taking PJ for lots of walks through the forest but now am paranoid about running into a bear. My husband teases me that I'm fine with all sorts of deadly snakes and spiders that I grew up with—but give me a red back spider or a tiger snake over a black bear any day! Overall, we feel very fortunate to have a nice home, with good people all around. We are so pleased we chose Blueridge!



**SEYMOUR
HEIGHTS**
ELEMENTARY

**Seymour Heights
Elementary**

North Vancouver School District

Seymour Heights Elementary April Update

Erin Bulycz, SHPAC Chair

We hope that you all had a restful spring break whether it was filled with slothy days at home, enjoying a beach somewhere or simply less scheduled evenings. In 2010, when I was teaching in Burnaby, I remember our one-week spring break switching to two weeks. I don't think either option can appease [everyone](#), but we sincerely hope that you enjoyed your break in routine.

Our next school events include our annual Heights Night fundraiser and our FIRST annual multicultural community dinner. Even though neither of these events will be happening in April, this next month will be busy with creating committees and planning!

We are continuing to incorporate Konstella, a streamlined communication app for our families (if you are a Seymour Heights family who has yet to register: use this [link!](#)). In the past, we have struggled to reach our entire community to let them know about discussions and decisions, events, and other opportunities to participate. We hear that this is a common issue for most PACs! In fact, I overheard a suggestion last night that perhaps the answer is for PACs to return to paper newsletters. We're truly hoping that Konstella is our answer to an inclusive Seymour Heights community!

As for our larger community, we have started working with Blueridge and

Windsor PACs, as well as our own BCA to plan for community signage. Not only are we hoping to install a fun project together, this is an even greater opportunity to create community between schools! We have also been working with district safety teams to help drivers on Carnation be more mindful of their speed and we are always looking for caring community members to help us support safe driving between 8:40 and 9am and/or 2:55 - 3:15pm each weekday. Do you have time to stylize with fancy neon yellow and wave to school zone traffic for 20 minutes? Please connect with Safety Sarah at sarahmanvell@gmail.com. We appreciate all who have come out to stand with us so far!

How are we doing? Is the Bulletin useful? Is it missing something? Tell us! Send your thoughts to bulletin@blueridgeca.org. Thank you!



Blueridge Elementary

Hello from Blueridge Elementary!

Rachel Harper, BPAC Chair

It's Spring! With the warmer weather comes the return of Popcorn Mondays. Thank you to our parent volunteers who pop hundreds of bags of popcorn for our students at lunchtime.

April brings learning opportunities in business, athletics, environmental studies, and the arts!

This month, division 1 and 2 will host a 'market day' as part of the Business of Our Own Program. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to tackle the challenges and rewards of entrepreneurship.

On Sunday, April 14th, the BPAC presents a 'Family Movie Matinee!' We will be

watching 'Kung Fu Panda 4' at the Park Royal Theatres. We're also excited to host a visit from Dufflebag Theatre.

In physical education, all students will participate in the tennis program from April 15th to the 26th.

In the realm of environmental education and community stewardship, Blueridge and the BPAC will host the 'Street to Sea Plastics Program and Community Clean Up'. Students will learn about their impact on the world they live in, and their responsibilities as members of our beautiful community.

Looking forward to summer BBQs and gardening? This month we're bringing back our Neufeld Farms and Growing Smiles Plant fundraisers. If you're interested in these programs, please email bpacblueridge@gmail.com.

Bring on the sunshine!

In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.

-- Mark Twain

WINDSOR FOOTBALL PROGRAM

MANURE FUNDRAISER

April 19 & 20



\$10 / 30LB bag
Pick up @ Windsor
Local delivery available
Order Now!
[https://forms.gle/WZ3
Nn4q7u9QGj4Nh9](https://forms.gle/WZ3Nn4q7u9QGj4Nh9)

contact: windsorfootball44@gmail.com

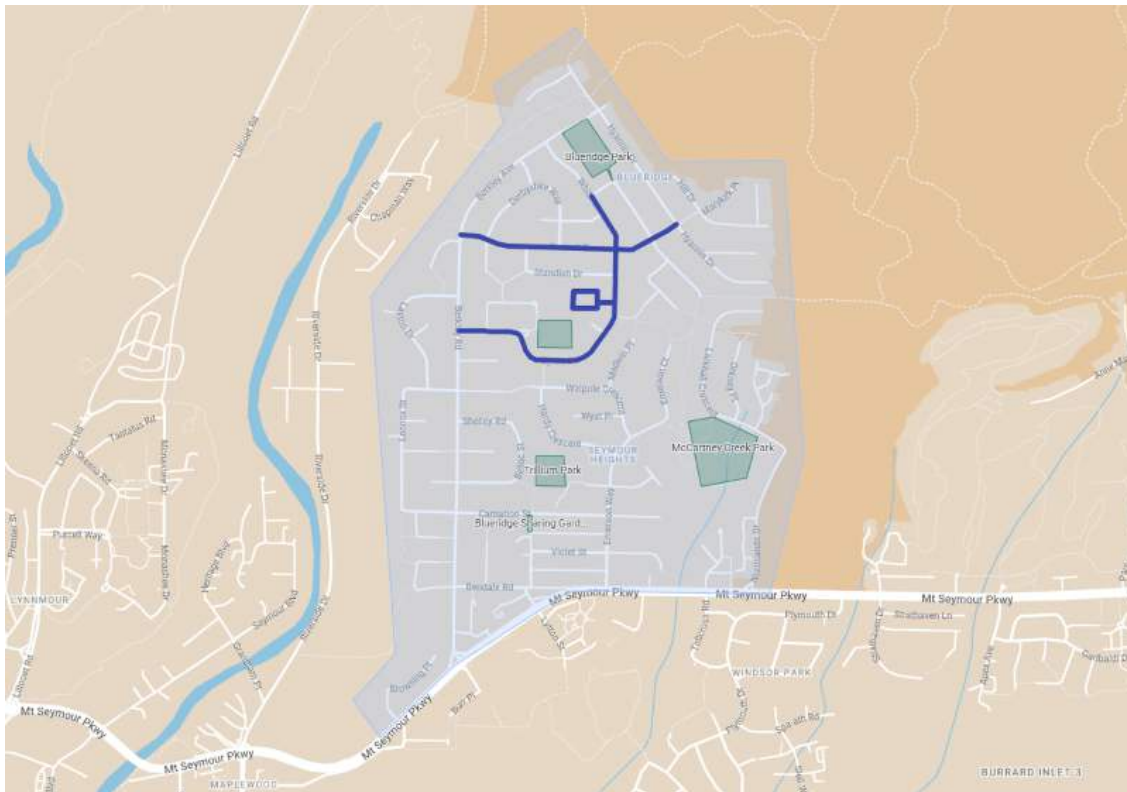
Windsor Football Program fundraiser!

If you don't need to improve your garden or lawn there an option to straight up donate. Both Senior and Junior teams desperately need new uniforms!

To order or donate: <https://forms.gle/WZ3Nn4q7u9QGj4Nh9>

Questions: windsorfootball44@gmail.com

GO WOLVES!!!



Adopt a Street Needs You

Jeff Powell

See that map above? Every year the DNV goes through all those who have adopted a street to reconfirm who's still volunteering, and only the streets and trails marked in blue remain adopted as of March 2024.

Adopting a street means you sign up with the District to collect litter along your adopted section of street at least once a month. It's a chance to get some exercise, meet your neighbours, and keep our community a little bit cleaner.

The work is easy and can include the family. The District provides tools, safety vests, and even has insurance. It's definitely worth doing, and it helps everyone.

If you want more information on how to adopt your street, please visit the [DNV's website](#) or the [BCA website's Adopt a Street page](#).

Editor's Notes:

1. *Many thanks to the DNV for supplying the data about which streets are adopted in Blueridge. For the moment, they have offered to send updated*

- data to the BCA webmaster when adopted streets change, and we will keep the map up to date on the BCA website.*
- 2. If you have adopted a street that is not shown on the map above, please contact the DNV's main email address - infoweb@dnv.org - and ask to be put in touch with the Adopt a Street program coordinator. They can update the program data as needed and get you listed as an active volunteer once again.*
 - 3. Finally, I am one of those who has adopted a street here in Blueridge. Each time I am out I collect 2-4 pounds of trash. If you can spare even an hour or two a month, it will make a great difference in how your street looks. Please consider joining me!*



Notes from the Sausage Factory

Jeff Powell

These are highlights from DNV council meetings, intended to help Blueridge residents keep up with local government happenings that may impact our neighbourhood. Not every item before the council is mentioned.

March 4, 2023:

This meeting was very lightly attended and it's probable council thought it would be short, but it turned out to be fairly long and tempers flared at times. Public comment consisted of only two people attending remotely. Both were concerned that the short term rentals bylaw to be voted on this evening was not ready.

A delegation from Hollyburn Community Services Society made a presentation and presented a report about what the Society has accomplished in the past year. DNV and HCSS have worked together for some time, and this report is apparently an annual event. HCSS provides a wide range of services to everyone from at risk teenagers to homeless seniors. Councillors asked questions about the scope and nature of their services after the presentation, and the delegation was accepted unanimously.

Next came the big issue: short term rental (STR) regulations.

History: In April 2023, DNV began the process of discussing new STR regulations. Bylaws were introduced in July, and on October 10 there was a public hearing about them. However, on October 26, 2023 the Province's Short-term Rental Accommodations Act received Royal Assent. At that time, the district pulled the proposed bylaws from consideration to review and adjust them to bring them in line with the Provincial rules. Tonight's meeting was to be the first reading of the new rules.

There was a presentation from staff about the new rules, highlighting the changes from the previous version, and how the DNV's proposal is more strict than the Province's in one way. Then discussion began and it was immediately clear that not everyone was convinced that the rules as presented were adequately explained or desirable. Many councillors expressed concern that they lacked the information needed to make an informed vote, and that the impacts of the rules (particularly as they differed from the Provincial rules) weren't clear.

The key difference between the proposed bylaws and the Provincial law is fairly straightforward: the DNV's rules would require that every unit being rented out as an STR must have a full time occupant. Example: An owner might rent out their home while they are away, but they could not use a vacant basement suite (or carriage house, etc.) as a full time STR. To use that suite as an STR, it would have to have a full time occupant and could only be used as an STR when the full time occupant is not present. The overall goal is to push owners of properties that could be used as STRs towards making them long term rentals instead. The existing Provincial rules differ in that they allow a vacant basement suite (or similar unit) to be rented out as an STR.

There was much discussion about the impact of that rule difference. There

were questions about how many STRs there are in the District, how many would fall under that rule, what the impact on hotels would be, and so on. Only Councillor Pope seemed certain that the rule as presented by District staff was the right one. All others were either unsure or against it. In the end the rules were sent back to staff to be revised to bring them into line with the Provincial law, along with requests for additional information of various kinds. The final vote was 6 - 1 with Councillor Pope voting against sending the bylaws back to staff.

[NSN Summary](#) of this meeting.

March 11, 2024:

This workshop was postponed to March 18, 2024 due to an attempted ransomware attack. (See Newsworthy section for more details.)

March 18, 2024:

This workshop covered two issues: parking changes coming to Deep Cove and the 30 KPH speed limit in Edgemont Village. Nothing was voted on or approved. Instead, this was a workshop to get presentations from DNV staff and refine the direction they are taking. While interesting and even occasionally contentious, nothing here directly affected Blueridge.

March 25, 2024:

No meeting. Spring Break.

- - -

Those wanting more information can attend council meetings in person or online, or watch the recording of a meeting after the fact. You can comment about issues before the council via email or by attending a meeting. Information about all these options is available at <https://app.dnv.org/councilsearchnew/>.



In A Nutshell

- **What do you call a hammer bought on April 1?** An April tool.
 - **Bears** - Yes, we have them here in Blueridge. They may live in the woods but they will come and eat your garbage... because it's easy. So wash those recyclables, lock up the bins, and keep the really smelly stuff in the freezer until garbage day. More details and tips [here](#), and see Holly Reisner's [introduction to bears for new residents](#).
 - **Did you hear about the guy who switched the labels on the pumps at the gas station?** It was an April fuels joke.
 - **Water Conservation** - It's still raining, and the reservoirs are still full, but that won't last. Stage 1 water conservation will start on May 1 at the latest this year. Get ready for reduced lawn watering, particularly given the low snowpack. See the Newsworthy section for all kinds of articles about our water situation, and the current water restrictions are always listed on the [BCA website's homepage](#).
 - **I don't always joke on April Fools Day.** Ha! Who am I kidding. Of course I do.
 - **Fire Danger** - Again, it's still raining, but as it gets warmer the danger of wildfire will increase. The [BCA website's homepage](#) also has the current fire danger level and links to more information.
 - **Believe nothing and trust no one on April Fools Day.** In other words, treat it like any other day.
 - **Your Item Here** - Do you have a short item for next month's *Blueridge Bulletin*? If so, see the *Submit an Article* section below for details on how to send it in. Yes, really! The *Bulletin* only works if people send in news items!
 - **Why do eggs like April Fools' Day?** They love practical yolks.
-



Newsworthy

News articles and other items that Blueridge residents might find interesting or useful.

- Low Snowpack: Risks to Fire, Drought and Electricity Production
 - [Drought Risk Up, Flood Risk Down](#) - due to low snowpack over province
 - [Metro Vancouver Snowpack Still at only 39% of Normal](#) - as of March 9
 - [Active Spring Wildfire Season Coming to BC](#)
 - [Insurance Bureau Urges BC Residents to Get Homes Ready for Wildfire Season](#)
 - [BC Warns of Prolonged Wildfire Season](#)
 - [Prepare Now for Drought and Wildfire Season](#) - NSN editorial
 - [Fire Bans In Parts of BC Already](#) - they began on March 28
 - [Low Snowpack May Impact Power Generation in BC](#)
 - Stories about the fire risk in BC this year keep coming; many were omitted due to space constraints
- Housing
 - [Cities Discuss Difficulties Implementing New Provincial Housing Rules](#)
 - [166 Affordable Homes Coming to Old Lillooet Road](#)
- North Shore Wastewater Plant Costs Announced
 - Preliminary budget shows average north shore home to pay \$725 per year for 30 years to pay off the new plant; subject to change if additional funding is acquired
 - [Vancouver Sun](#) summary
 - [North Shore News](#) summary
 - [DNV Councillor Pope Calls For Audit](#)

- There were many additional stories about this issue as well, also omitted to save space
 - Other Stories
 - [EV Charging Rates Changing at BC Hydro's Public Chargers](#)
 - [DNV Hit By Ransomware Attack](#) - minimal disruption caused so far
 - [North Shore Rescue Seeking New Recruits](#)
 - [Mr. Can Clean In The News](#) - helping the bears by keeping bins clean
 - [Putting Bins Out Early Can Net a Big Fine](#) - \$100 for first offence, \$500 for repeats
-



Important April Dates

- **April 1, 2024** - Easter (observed). Schools closed. Last day of spring break.
- **April 9, 2024** - BCA meeting with two guest speakers: Mike Mayers from Metro-Vancouver discussing the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve; Holly Reisner, North Shore Black Bear Society. 7 pm - Blueridge Elementary School, in the library.
- **April 14, 2024** - BPAC family movie matinee, 2pm at Park Royal Cinemas. Kung Fu Panda 4. This is a fundraiser for BPAC. Students and their families welcome!
- **April 16, 2024** - Meet MLA Susie Chant. 10-11am at Parkgate Library in the fireplace lounge. Or 7-8 pm at Lynn Valley library in the fireplace lounge. Bring your questions.
- **April 19, 2024** - Windsor Secondary professional day - no students.
- **April 22, 2024** - Earth Day - [more information](#).
- **April 24, 2024** - Seymour Heights Elementary ends school early - 2 pm.

- **April 24, 2024** - Windsor Secondary staff collaboration day - late start - 9:50 am.
- **April 25, 2024** - BPAC meeting, 7 pm, in the Blueridge Elementary school library. Parents and children welcome. Others need to email bpacblueridge@gmail.com to attend as a guest.
- **April 25, 2024** - Meet DNV Mayor Mike Little at Parkgate Community Centre in the seniors' lounge. 4:30 - 5:30pm. Drop in and bring your questions.
- **April 30, 2024** - Last day to submit a [BCA Scholarship application](#).
- **April 30, 2024** - Snow rated tires no longer required by the Province.

Save the Date - Important Dates in Coming Months

- **May 14, 2024** - BCA Annual General Meeting - Guest speaker: Mayor Mike Little; 7 pm - Canlan Sports, 2411 Mount Seymour Parkway
- **June 15, 2024** - Blueridge Good Neighbour Day; 11 am – 3 pm Blueridge Elementary School

Notes:

- Our local schools - even the two elementary schools, Blueridge and Seymour Heights - have differing schedules and do not always have the same short days or days off. If in doubt, check the official calendar for your specific school.
- Blueridge Elementary ends school at 2 pm on Wednesdays while the rest of the week days end at 3 pm. This is not the case for Seymour Heights Elementary.
- If you're looking for these dates later, they are all on the [BCA Events Calendar](#).



Everybody loves saving money! Project Community helps Blueridge residents by finding discounts on products and services and passing them on to you. Here are this month's offers!

If you use one of the companies offered through Project Community please give us your feedback. Send us an email at info@blueridgeca.org. Thank you!



Blueridge Residents Discount

20% off Knife and Tool Sharpening

Cove Blades

www.coveblades.com
604-210-8180 (Erik)
erik@coveblades.com



Kitchen knives
Scissors
Garden Sheers
and more...

Discount offer from March 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024



Blueridge Residents Discount

25% off first 4 subscription visits or 10% off one-time cleaning

Mr. Can Clean

604-308-9040

booking@mrcanclean.ca

www.mrcanclean.ca



We clean residential garbage, organics, and recycling bins and donate \$1 from each can cleaned to the North Shore Black Bear Society.

25% OFF First Four Visits - when you sign up for a subscription before April 1st: Enter Blueridge Community Association as your referral at checkout.

10% Discount - all subscription, one-time, or commercial services

CHECKOUT CODE: BCA10

Discount offer from February 10, 2024 to April 30, 2024



Blueridge Residents Discount

First time clients - 15% off all detailing services

SoapnShine

778-989-5895

boston@soapnshine.ca

www.soapnshine.ca



Welcome Spring! Is your car looking a little dirty? We are proud to offer all Blueridge residences 15% off all detailing services for the months of March & April. We are fully mobile so we can come to your home or office depending on what's convenient for you. To book please go to soapnshine.ca and click Book Now and enter promo code "blueridge15" to receive your discount.

Note: Discount is only valid for interior & exterior details only. Ceramic coatings & paint correction is not included.

Discount offer from March 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024

Stay Connected

There are many ways to keep up with the neighbourhood and the BCA.

We're on: [Instagram](#) & [Facebook](#)

Our Website: <http://blueridgeca.org/>

[Blueridge Neighbours Facebook Group](#)

[Blueridge Breakout Network Facebook Group](#)

Got questions? Send us an email: info@blueridgeca.org

Subscribe to the *Blueridge Bulletin*

The *Blueridge Bulletin* is emailed to subscribers once a month. If that's how you got this edition, you're already a subscriber. But if you got this copy from the BCA website or were forwarded it by a friend or neighbour, you can [subscribe](#) to get it sent directly to your inbox every month.

Thank you, and we'll see you next time!

Submit an Article to the *Blueridge Bulletin*

Do you have something for the *Bulletin*? We welcome articles, photos, short items, and even bad jokes from the community!

We have [publication guidelines](#) that we recommend you review.

The submission deadline for the May 2024 edition is April 26, 2024.

Submission deadlines for later editions can be found [here](#).

Questions? Send us an email at bulletin@blueridgeca.org.

Sponsors



Advertise in the *Bulletin*!
\$30 per month, or \$250 for 12 consecutive issues. This revenue is used to defray some of our costs (such as signage, website, etc). If you or your company are interested in advertising in the *Blueridge Bulletin*, please contact us at: info@blueridgeca.org

These ads all contain links. Give 'em a click if they are interesting!
These people and organizations support the *Blueridge Bulletin*. Thank you!



Host an International Student in North Vancouver

Hosts are
compensated
- tax free!

Do you have a spare room?

MLI HOMESTAY is seeking young and active, enthusiastic and caring families to host international students arriving for the current school year to study at Windsor or Seycove Secondary Schools.

To learn more, please contact Mozhgan
Email: mzolfi@mlihomestay.com
Phone: 604-441-0056

www.mlihomestay.com



Hosting an International student provides an incredible experience for families to explore new cultures, learn about global issues and travel the world without leaving the comforts of your home. Students will be studying in North Vancouver at Seycove and Windsor Secondary Schools. We are welcoming students for short and longer term studies. To learn more, please contact MLI Homestay at 1-855-946-4701 or visit www.mlihomestay.com

Check Out My 1st Quarter 2024
Blueridge Market Update Video

Click Here

Dave Maquignaz - REALTOR®
604-512-5459



Hey there Blueridge homeowners!

We're an elite interior design and decorating firm serving North Vancouver.
We too reside in Blueridge and have for years.

We help homeowners transform spaces into their dream homes.

Talk to us to see how we can help. We offer a complimentary, no-obligation in-home consultation where we can thoroughly discuss your interior design project.

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Our office can assist you with
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Reach out to us anytime!

217-1233 Lynn Valley Rd
Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca
604-983-9859



20 years of licensed childcare in Blueridge area
We are licensed for before and after school care since 2007
Open 7am until 6pm
3 Locations:

1. My home daycare
2. Blueridge school
3. Jaycee House location (Capilano University)

We are open during school break and pro-d days
Our fee includes drop off, pick up, snack and field trip on pro-d days
We definitely have fun and we also do homework with kids
Contact Fariba by phone (604) 812-4449 or email

specialtimesoosc@gmail.com

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