

Blueridge Bulletin

Febrary 2025



Photo by Lesley Brooks.

Ah, February. Will the groundhog see his shadow or not, and will there be six more weeks of winter? To be fair, though, we haven't really had much winter yet. And if the snow continues to hold off, there may be a few more chances for easy hiking on our local trails. But as this is written, snow is predicted to begin on February first.

The lack of rain in January was a surprise. Several of our neighbours reroofed their homes in the dry spell, and it's clear the roofing companies loved the extra business. Our reservoirs weren't as happy with these events, however.

As always, the neighbourhood continues to be busy. School's in session, the gardeners are making their springtime plans, bears are (still!) looking for food, and more. Blueridge may seem quiet from the outside, but it's always humming with activity.

This month, we request your photo submissions for future cover images. Your editor is running out of interesting things in his backyard! Surely some of you have photos that you'd like to share? They can be of local wildlife, our parks, nearby landmarks, or anything else that says "Blueridge!" Please send them to

bulletin@blueridgeca.org so we can share them with the neighbourhood. Photo credit is included, of course.

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Features



Update Concerning North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant (NSWWTP)

Ted Bancroft, BCA Treasurer

Brief Background:

Metro Vancouver decided in 2017 to replace the wastewater treatment plant under the Lions Gate Bridge and further decided in 2019 to upgrade the replacement from secondary to tertiary treatment. The overall replacement budget was established at \$700 million and later increased to \$1.1 billion. The planned completion date was December 2020.

In March 2024, Metro announced a revised budget in the order of \$3.86 billion with no completion date identified, although the hope is that it will be completed by 2030. The current cost estimate is over five times the original budget, and the completion date is approximately ten years late.

The North Shore Neighbourhoods Alliance (NSNA) was formed to represent the communities on the North Shore. Its mandate is to advocate for a complete, independent, and transparent review of the reasons behind the huge cost overrun and delay. The Blueridge Community Association fully supports these efforts and has two representatives on the board of the Alliance.

The North Shore has the most to lose with this project because our ratepayers will be paying an estimated \$590 per year for 30 years to pay for it. Other members of Metro will pay much less and for a shorter period.

Current Situation:

The NSNA is promoting an independent inquiry to be taken under the jurisdiction of the Inspector of Municipalities of the provincial government. Such an inquiry would be public and have the authority to demand witnesses and facts relating to the management and planning of the NSWWTTP project. The inquiry can only take place if ordered by the provincial cabinet as authorized by Section 764 in the Local Government Act. The government so far has declined to do so despite growing pressure from the concerned municipalities and media.

The situation is complicated by continuing lawsuits against the contractor by Metro and against Metro by the contractor.

The NSNA believes that only a public inquiry will result in meaningful changes to the procedures employed by Metro to control and manage projects such as the NSWWTTP and mitigate the potential (likely?) overruns that are so damaging to the costs and effectiveness of future metro infrastructure expenditures.

Other Sources of Information:

You can refer to our Blueridge Community Association website (<http://blueridgeca.org/north-shore-wastewater-plant/>) and that of the North Shore Neighbourhoods Alliance (NSNA.ca) for much more information.

Though February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises.

-- Charmaine J. Forde

Check Out the Neighbour!

A fellow Blueridge resident shared this video of a large, feline visitor back in mid-January. We put it up on our social media so that everyone can be reminded that we share this beautiful place with some amazing creatures, and that some level of care and caution is always a good idea.



North Shore Black Bear Society News

Holly Reisner, North Shore Black Bear Society

Cougar activity:

As noted elsewhere in the Bulletin, we have seen some cougar activity recently in Blueridge and also in the Dollarton area. The Blueridge sighting was very typical in that it happened after dark. Our doorbell and security cameras show us wildlife activity that has always occurred, but of which we were previously unaware.

Cougars are extremely shy of people and are much more nocturnal than our bears are. During the day, they will often shelter in underbrush or up in a tree to rest and avoid humans. From dusk to dawn, they may travel great distances to

find prey. Their primary prey is deer, but they will take smaller animals such as raccoons, rodents, and domestic cats.

Cougar attacks on humans are exceedingly rare. Cougars hunt from the ground and do not jump down from trees onto prey.

Cougar safety means using your voice when out walking, especially at night, to announce your human presence so the cougar can avoid you. Keep small children close and keep dogs on a shorter leash than usual. Turn on backyard lights and walk the perimeter of the yard using your voice to ensure your yard is clear before bringing your dog out with you before bedtime.

If you encounter a cougar, pick up small children and small dogs and slowly back away from the area. In the very rare case that the cougar is intent upon you, make eye contact, make yourself seem large by raising your arms, and use a deep voice to yell at the cougar (do not scream or run away).

In the Dollarton incident, a cougar ran across the road at about 10 pm, was hit by a car, and ran into bushes. We haven't had any subsequent reports. We are hopeful that they were not too badly injured.

Did you know that injuries from such things as vehicle strikes, which may otherwise not be too serious, can become fatal if the animal has rodenticides in their system? Since some of these poisons work by reducing blood clotting (anticoagulants), predators that have eaten rodents that have taken bait from rodent bait boxes will have these persistent poisons in their system. If they suffer a trauma, the anticoagulants can cause increased internal bleeding that can lead to death. When we put poison out into our ecosystems, we cannot control how it spreads and which animals are affected. Help keep our wildlife safe by choosing pest control companies that use humane methods only, such as exclusion.

Staff Announcements at NSBBS:

With mixed feelings (happy for her and sad for us), we would like to announce that Christine Miller has retired as long-time Executive Director of the North Shore Black Bear Society.

Christine has been a tireless advocate for our local bears since when we were known as the North Shore Black Bear Network. The Network was formed in

1999 when 39 bears were shot on the North Shore alone. Christine and other concerned citizens realized that something needed to change. She worked to raise awareness of the true peaceful nature of black bears and the responsibilities that we fortunate residents of Bear Country have to keep them safe.

She has used her teaching skills to bring knowledge about bears to countless school and community groups, attended public events with our display, and gone door to door in neighbourhoods to bring information about storing bear attractants responsibly.

She has also formed strong relationships between the Society and the three North Shore municipalities, helping them to adopt wildlife attractant bylaws. She has created strong channels of communication between the NSBBS and the BCCOS and RCMP, earning the respect and trust of these organizations for the educational work that we do. This is incredibly important in helping to reduce the number of bears that are unnecessarily killed every year on the North Shore. While we always strive for that number to be reduced to zero, we are proud that it has come down from 39 to 2 for the past two years running.

Christine will be so very missed by our staff and Board of Directors, although she has made it clear that we can count on her mentoring to continue. We know that there are many more projects and community groups that deserve the talents of Christine Miller, and so we wish her the very best with these adventures.

Thank you, Christine, for everything you have done for bears and other wildlife on the North Shore, for the staff, volunteers, and directors of the NSBBS, and for North Shore residents. We are lucky that you live here.

New Executive Director:

Holly Reisner has taken on the role of Executive Director of NSBBS. Holly is a resident of the Seymour area and grew up in Westlynn, with bears in her backyard throughout her life. She has spent the last few years learning as much as possible from Christine and other members of NSBBS and is honoured to continue this important and exciting work.

Program Coordinator:

Many of our readers and their kids will have now met our wonderful Program Coordinator, Kirstin Takashiba. Kirstin, a Lynn Valley resident, has past parks interpretation experience and experience teaching elementary school. She has also volunteered for the Wildlife Rescue Association and for the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. Her enthusiasm for bears and everything else that lives in our ecosystem shines through in her presentations for schools and other community groups and in supporting our residents and volunteers.

Editor's Note: I'd like everyone to know that Holly grossly undersells herself in this article. It's definitely true that Christine Miller's work has been tireless and valuable, and I am certain that Kirstin Takashiba will be a great help to the NSBBS and the North Shore in general, but Holly doesn't give herself enough credit. Consider this: In addition to all her work for the NSBBS, she's been writing articles for the Blueridge Bulletin regularly for nearly two full years! Her dedication to the task of educating North Shore residents simply cannot be overstated. Congratulations on your role, Holly, and many thanks for your work with us. The NSBBS is in great hands!



SUSIE CHANT

NORTH VANCOUVER-
SEYMOUR

BC's Response to Trump's Potential Tariffs

The Office of Susie Chant, MLA for North Vancouver – Seymour

Throughout this delightfully sunny January, I've spoken to a number of people in North Vancouver feeling increasingly uneasy about a dark cloud looming on the horizon: the threat of steep tariffs that the United States is threatening to impose on Canadian imports.

As Premier Eby has pointed out, the hardships that these tariffs threaten to inflict on Canadians would be so severe as to amount to a declaration of economic war.

Canada and the US have a deep and enduring bond, making the current

tensions between our countries particularly dismaying.

But in challenging times, British Columbians come together. We are not powerless. United with each other and our fellow Canadians across the country, we can and will resist and fight back.

At the time I'm writing, President Trump has not yet followed through on his threat to impose these tariffs. Nevertheless, we must be prepared for them to come at any moment. So what does preparedness look like?

Maintaining a strong defence can serve both to protect in the event of an attack and to discourage an attacker from taking offensive action in the first place. But in economic warfare, a strong defence isn't necessarily about building up thick walls – in the present moment, in fact, it involves tearing them down. Our province is working closely with the federal government and the other provinces to break down barriers to interprovincial trade and to diversify our international trading partners so that the health of our economy is less dependent on trade with the United States.

Our government's approach to economic defence also includes protecting the essential public services we all rely on, in good times and bad, by continuing to invest in health care, education, housing, and transportation. The premier has also directed his cabinet to carry out a government-wide efficiency review to ensure that each and every dollar of public funds goes as far as it possibly can towards delivering services that people need.

We also protect ourselves from economic attack by promoting economic growth. To that end, we're working to attract major projects in the mining and energy sectors and investing in infrastructure improvements and faster permitting to unlock the full economic potential of our province.

In addition to these defensive measures, we also need to show that we are ready and willing to retaliate against economic attacks in kind. Our government strongly supports the federal proposal to enact targeted retaliatory tariffs in the event that President Trump follows through on his ill-conceived threats.

That, in a nutshell, is how we intend to proceed. With teamwork, perseverance, and unshakeable resolve, we will get through this together, and we will be stronger for it.

If you have any questions or thoughts to share about this or any other provincial issue, please don't hesitate to reach out.



Blueridge Elementary

BPAC Update – January 2025

Cheryl Sauve

The Blueridge elementary school community had a wonderful December packed with activities and celebration. With many hands helping to make it happen, the primary students put on an in-school production of *The Nutcracker*, which was a resounding success. In other music news, the intermediate choir got to perform at the Shipyards and Lynn Valley Mall. In January the primary choir started up, and the band and strings students are working hard on their material for the February NVSD Band and Strings Festival performances!

On the last week of school before the winter break, the grade 7s planned a Winterfest celebration for the rest of the school with craft making and then sales that created a fundraiser for BC Cancer Foundation.

Thanks from North Shore Family Services for the donations of gifts and winter clothing that were collected at Blueridge during December to help our neighbours.

School closed for 2024 with the annual Frosty's Family Fundraising Breakfast put on by the BPAC in the school gym. There were smiles and pancakes all around! Thanks to all in the Blueridge Community who brought your trees for the BPAC tree chip up at the school on January 1.

2025 has brought enough winter weather to run the Mt. Seymour ski & snowboard days in January for grades 6 & 7. Afterward they are tired with pink cheeks and smiles.

A player from the North Vancouver Wolfpack Junior A hockey team came to Blueridge to meet with students, and on January 25 the team hosted a community building and fundraising event where 50% of ticket sales from that home game came back to the BPAC. Go Wolfpack!

Coming up on February 2, there is a Blueridge family movie afternoon (Dogman) at Park Royal. It's such a popular event it was sold out weeks in advance!

Tripleball (a [modified version of volleyball](#)) season has started at Blueridge for grades 6 & 7. The teams will compete after school against other schools in the area. Thanks to the staff and parent volunteers for coaching!

Blueridge is hosting a School Plan Open House event in the Blueridge gym on February 27 from 2:30–3:30 pm. The gym will be open to view student work and provide input on one of the three inquiry questions for the 2025 year.

Stay warm out there, Blueridge! For any students who might be chilly, don't forget to check the lost and found at school for a myriad of hoodies, jackets, and hats that might be missing!



**SEYMOUR
HEIGHTS**
ELEMENTARY

**Seymour Heights
Elementary**

North Vancouver School District

Seymour Heights Elementary Update

Erin Bulycz, SHPAC Chair

2025 is off to a cold and beautiful start! Our school planning committee (including students, parents, school staff, and admin) met in early January to discuss our school goals in social and emotional learning, honouring diversity, and meaningful assessments. We will continue the conversation and measurable action throughout the school year and into next year. In mid-January our grade 6 and 7 students started practicing with their volleyball teams, and field hockey workshops have now begun. The grade 6 students also spent four days and three nights at Cheakamus.

We closed the month with parent workshops to learn about online safety and lice science, and students engaged in Lunar New Year learning and celebrations. Classes are now starting projects that will be displayed in February for Black History Month, including our intermediate students partnering with Blueridge to attend a presentation on anti-Black anti-racism. Amazing collaboration!

In February our PAC is hosting a family movie night fundraiser, a [West Coast Seeds](#) fundraiser, and our Parents Night Out raffle (look for our promotions on the BCA Facebook page or email our [PAC](#)). In addition, we've pivoted our fundraising efforts from new initiatives to using PAC funds to support growing financial need in our community (voted, passed unanimously). Our goals of inclusion prioritize student engagement and participation wherever we can support them.

Why does February feel like one big Tuesday?

-- Todd Stocker

**Blueridge
Sharing
Garden**



Blueridge Sharing Garden Update

Cris Fraenkel

If you hadn't noticed, it's cold and grey out - hardly the season to be thinking of gardening. However, we all need to start thinking ahead, and for the [Blueridge Sharing Garden](#) that means a fun couple of weekends rebuilding another four garden boxes. (Not so sure about the fun part.) The first two weekend work parties in the spring will be spent demolishing and then rebuilding another four boxes. Gardeners, keep an eye on your emails so we can figure out which weekends work best for everyone.

The District of North Vancouver has awarded the garden another Community Sustainability Grant to purchase the materials for the box rebuild. This is the

third year running they have supported our garden. We are very grateful for their support, as otherwise the garden would not be able to rebuild the boxes. This year they are also supporting the rebuild of the little free library at the garden, so watch for a new (hopefully dry) spot to pick up a new-to-you book.

If you are interested in renting a garden box in the Blueridge Sharing Garden or would like to volunteer to help maintain the garden, please email us at: garden@blueridgeca.org.

Are you a subscriber?

If this email arrived in your inbox directly, you are. Thank you! But if someone shared it with you, now is your chance to subscribe directly to the Blueridge Bulletin and keep up to date on all the neighbourhood happenings! It's just one email a month, but it's a good one! To subscribe, please fill out [this simple form](#), and the next issue will arrive in your inbox early on the morning of March first.

And of course, if you can share this issue with a Blueridge friend or neighbour, that would be very much appreciated!



Everything Old is New Again

Jennifer Brun

This is reprinted from the November 2023 issue of the Blueridge Community News, the BCA's printed newsletter. We asked Jennifer to write about growing up in Blueridge. She has returned to the community to raise her own family here.

I recall mornings spent playing in our family room, waiting for the first bell of the day to ring out before donning my backpack and running out the back door with my brothers. Living on the edge of the forest at the back of Blueridge Elementary certainly had its perks. Not only could I enjoy my mornings at a leisurely pace, but I also returned home for lunch each day. My grandmother came over once a week and brought with her freshly baked white bread, honey ham from the deli shaved that morning, and three doughnuts – one chocolate long john for me, one plain honey glazed for my older brother, and one jelly-filled for my younger brother. It was the same every time, and when we walked through the door for lunch on the day that Nana was there, the kitchen smelled of bread, doughnuts, and spray starch from her carefully pressing each of my father's shirt collars and cuffs.

Growing up in the Blueridge community in the 80s and 90s was special. As a younger sibling, I was so excited to be able to start at Blueridge Elementary my kindergarten year. I already knew the school and many of the teachers. I was welcomed by the most incredible kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Silverwood, and I cherished the time I spent with her. I still recall the layout of her classroom, the rice table that I loved so much, happy circle times, and being so proud that I was able to attend school. In grade one I was fortunate enough to be placed in Ms. Sedola's class. I adored her stirrup tights, blouses, and belts, and her fun and energetic teaching style. I always worked diligently on the enjoyable tasks she assigned. When Mrs. Denny started at Blueridge as our new music teacher, it was unanimous we had struck it lucky. Mrs. Denny was so passionate about music and the arts, it was contagious. She put countless hours of her own time outside of school hours into our exceptional music program. Suddenly we were having our holiday concerts at Centennial Theatre, and I felt like a real star! And of course there was Mr. Stewart, the most kindhearted librarian, who always wore a collared shirt and buttoned cardigan. He taught us how to properly research topics and write coherent essays with paragraphs. I have wonderful memories and could go on and on, naming each teacher and administrator who inspired me to be my best - sending me on the

trajectory that has landed me where I am today. The point, however, is that it is no surprise decades later my husband and I decided to return to Blueridge to raise our family here.

Upon returning to Blueridge just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we received a warm welcome from our neighbours and were quickly introduced to Eric Godot Andersen and the tremendous work of the Blueridge Community Association that he spearheads. Blueridge Cares and Blueridge Good Neighbour Day are two perfect examples of volunteer-led initiatives that further enhance our community, setting it apart from all others.

When our eldest child started in kindergarten at Blueridge Elementary last year, I was both hopeful and curious. Hopeful that my children would experience safe, happy, and formative years at elementary school like I did, and curious to see whether Blueridge had somehow managed to retain its *je ne sais quoi* that makes it so special. I can truly say my hope was well-placed and my curiosity was quickly satiated. Under the strong and steady leadership of Brigette Gerandol, principal, and Courtney Johnstone, vice principal, Blueridge has incredibly dedicated staff members who are united in their resolve to foster a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for the personal and social development of our children. I feel the same fondness toward the administration, teachers, music teacher, librarian, and other allied professionals serving Blueridge today as I do toward those from my childhood so many years ago. Further, the Blueridge Parent Advisory Council (BPAC) led by the current chair, Amanda Guest, is incredibly active. BPAC hosts near-daily events for our children to enjoy, as well as numerous fundraising opportunities throughout each year, further enriching the Blueridge Elementary experience. I am grateful for the staff and volunteers that make Blueridge so exceptional.

In short, Blueridge is a unique and special place. We are all so fortunate to call it home.

A Brief Diversion

These days we all need a break from the news. Here's Benedict Cumberbatch reading a famous letter sent to the Empress Hotel in Victoria.



February is the shortest month, so if you're having a miserable month, try to schedule it for February.

-- Lemony Snicket



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.

Jan 20, 2025 Council Workshop:

This meeting was a chance for Council and DNV staff to discuss points on three topics: Amenity Cost Charges, Short-Term Rental Regulations, and Long-Term Rental Regulations. No votes were taken, as is typical in a workshop.

Amenity Cost Charges (ACCs) are a new tool introduced by the Province to allow local government a way to pay for new amenities needed as a result of development that leads to population or employment growth. Libraries, parks, and a series of other items fall into this category of amenities. Previously, these had been paid for by Development Cost Charges (DCCs) but those are only triggered by rezoning applications. With the changes introduced by Bill 44, where zoning will be declared in advance, zoning changes will be less common, so ACCs are triggered by building permit or subdivision applications. Every municipality in BC is in the process of passing an ACC bylaw to allow them to collect fees to support new amenities, since DCCs will no longer be useful once Bill 44 takes full effect. The new process is simpler and generally contains less negotiation, with a simple fee structure based on number of units, type of use, and/or building area.

These fees largely won't impact Blueridge, as they mostly affect new construction, with the largest impact on big projects. But there will be fees for adding new dwellings (like a carriage house). Staff is still working out the final details to be presented to council, but there is urgency about this effort, as once DCCs go away, there is no ability to charge developers for amenities without a new bylaw in place.

Discussion ranged over a number of topics, including specific cases in which ACCs might be waived and how, what the collected fees could be used for, and what flexibility the District has lost as a result of this change. Overall, it appeared Council will support this bylaw when it comes to a regular meeting, but some have reservations.

The next topic was Short-Term Rental (STR) regulations. These are rules for those listing accommodations on Airbnb and similar sites. A bylaw came before council last year, just as the Province introduced their own rules. The District sent their bylaw back to staff for reassessment in light of the Provincial rules, and at this point there are no rules governing STRs in the District. The Province has announced a registry and will require those listing such accommodations to get a business license from their municipality, which puts some urgency on

getting these rules adopted and the processes into place.

Overall, it looks like Council will support allowing these things to happen with restrictions and will likely follow the Provincial rules fairly closely, rather than putting much stronger rules in place. Based on stated positions at the meeting, it seems that under the coming bylaw it will be possible to rent out a secondary suite or coach house as an STR, even if there is no long-term renter in the space. There will be discussion of limiting STRs to one per parcel, however, which is slightly more restrictive than the Province's rules.

Finally, there was discussion around Long-Term Rental Regulations, but these didn't get a lot of support from Council. Their concerns related mostly to landlords who don't properly maintain their properties and what tools any new regulations might make available to assist with that problem, and they seemed less interested in regulating someone renting out a basement suite as an LTR. It was pointed out, however, that both the City of North Vancouver and West Vancouver both require LTRs to have a business license, while the DNV does not. Staff was asked to reconsider these ideas in light of the concerns raised.

Jan 27, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

This meeting went the full distance, starting at 7 pm and ending at 10 pm. Public input covered a range of items, and there was a delegation from Family Services of the North Shore, whose report was accepted unanimously. Several things were passed on a consent agenda, including:

- Requiring new construction to have support for EV charging.
- Zoning changes and a development permit for 1504-1520 Rupert St.
- A budget for social service core funding grants.

The single biggest item discussed was the 2025-2029 Capital Plan. This was a contentious item, particularly because the plan as stated defers the completion of the Spirit Trail. But there is a significant budget shortfall, largely caused by large increases in construction costs. (A single short bridge over McCartney Creek as part of the Spirit Trail came back from bidding with a cost of \$7 million, for example.) In order to keep the tax increase down to 5.5%, some projects must be deferred, and the District will also borrow additional funds. Even then, things aren't certain. Last year's atmospheric river caused extensive damage and expense, and it is expected that climate change will cause additional issues in coming years.

There was a push by some councillors to hold off approving the Capital Plan

until a review of the Spirit Trail project occurs in about two weeks. The counterargument was that the plan is a living document and that there are multiple chances to review and amend it each year, including this fall, and that the major deferrals all happen in the outer years of the plan. In the end, the vote was 4-3 to approve the plan as presented, with Councillors Pope, Back, and Hanson opposed.

Next, a heritage designation was unanimously approved for the Cross Residence on Harold Road, and a text change to a zoning bylaw was approved to allow a project on Mountain Highway to switch from strata to rental units. This passed 5-2 with Councillors Muri and Forbes opposed.

Finally, a few bylaw changes intended to streamline and simplify some aspects of building a coach house were discussed. These were largely procedural, allowing staff to take a larger role in the approval process and avoiding sending things to Council as often. Additional changes to the coach house bylaws will be coming later, and those will address things like the FSR (Floor Space Ratio) and similar items. No one on the Council seems to think coach houses will provide a large number of new units in the DNV's housing stock in the future, but they recognize that they will offer certain families a way to stay together more easily. These changes passed 6-1 with Councillor Muri opposed over concerns about notification of surrounding properties when a coach house that meets the zoning rules is to be built.

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Those wanting more information can attend council meetings in person or online, read the meeting minutes, 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://www.dnv.org/government-administration/meeting-agendas-and-minutes>.



A Night on the Town

Looking for a local night out? Here are some options:

[Deep Cove Coffee House](#) presents:

Feature: Bill Coon Trio

Openers: The Forget-me-Notes with Bill Piggott / Presley Murillo (Cap U)

- February 21, 2025
- \$20 each, cash only, at the door
- Doors open at 7 pm
- Opener: 7:30 - 8:30
- Refreshment break: 8:30
- Feature: 9 - 10

[First Impressions Theatre](#) presents:

Pump Boys and Dinettes - The "Pump Boys" sell high-octane on Highway 57 in Grand Ole Opry country, and the "Dinettes," Prudie and Rhett Cupp, run the Double Cupp Diner next door. Together they fashion an evening of country western songs that received unanimous raves on and off Broadway. With heartbreak and hilarity, they perform on guitars, piano, bass, and, yes, kitchen utensils.

- Feb 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 at 7:30 pm
- March 5, 6, 7 at 7:30 pm
- Feb 22, Mar 1, and Mar 8 @ 2 pm
- In the Shaw Theatre in downtown Deep Cove.

- Tickets and more information are available at the link above.

Are there other local events that should go on this list next month? [Let us know!](#)



In A Nutshell

- **Did you hear about the new corduroy pillowcases?** They're really making headlines.
 - **Bears:** While cougars are stealing the spotlight this month, it's important to remember that if there is food available, including your garbage and green waste bins, there will be bears. Please help keep them wild by securing your garbage. See the [garbage and recycling page](#) on the BCA website for rules and tips on how to do that.
 - **A photon checks into a hotel.** The front desk asks if it has any luggage. It replies, "No, I'm travelling light."
 - **Water Conservation:** It's early to worry about water just yet, but January was exceptionally dry. Hopefully, things change and our wet weather returns, refilling our reservoirs, but if not, water conservation will be even more critical starting this spring. Just a thought.
 - **If you see an Apple Store get robbed,** are you an iWitness?
 - **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.
 - **What do you say to a llama that loves picnicking?** Alpaca lunch.
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Newsworthy

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

- [2025-2029 DNV Capital Plan Approved](#) – includes 5.5% tax increase
- [Proposed Bus Route Changes May Affect 214 Bus Route](#)
- [DNV to Simplify Coach House Rules](#)
- [Squamish Nation Land Use Plans Include Development Along Mount Seymour Parkway](#)
- [US Tariffs Would Raise Cost of Electricity](#)
- [Tips for Beginning Gardeners](#)
- [Concerts at Capilano University](#) – late January and early February
- [Boat Burns and Sinks in Near Deep Cove](#)
- [Replace Your Lawn](#) – to reduce fire risk, increase diversity, and even provide fruits & veggies
- [New Taproom and Restaurant in North Vancouver](#)
- [North Shore History – Shacks at Roche Point](#) – in what has become Whey-ah-Wichen/Cates Park
- [Could Metro Vancouver See Fires Like Los Angeles?](#) – spoiler alert: yes, and we need to be prepared
- [Theft from Vehicle in Maplewood](#) – while this isn't Blueridge, it's close by and a good reminder to lock your vehicles (and/or remove your valuables from them)
- [Conflict Over Mountain Bike Trails Coming to a Head](#)
- [North Shore Property Assessments Barely Budgeted in 2024](#)
- [Second Tesla Supercharger Opens in North Vancouver](#)
- **Metro Vancouver and the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant**
 - [Wastewater Plant On Track But Final Cost Still Uncertain](#)

- [Vancouver Mayor Boycotting Metro Vancouver Meetings Over “Broken” Governance](#)
- [DNV Councillor Calls Media Tour of Wastewater Plant “Spin”](#)
- [DNV Councillor Lisa Muri Thinks the Media is Wrong about Metro Vancouver Spending](#)
- [Metro Vancouver Chair Says “Affordability is my key priority”](#)
- **Environment**
 - [Road Salt is Killing Salmon Eggs](#)
 - [Unknown Substance Contaminates Creek](#) – never dispose of paint in storm drains!

Last Month In Cheese

- [The Cheese Man](#) - This is your (somewhat) local cheese shop on [W 3rd St behind the Walmart](#). If you've never been, you should go. And no, this isn't an ad. We just like the shop!
 - [January 20th was National Cheese Lovers Day in the USA](#) - We hope you celebrated! But fear not if you missed it. World Cheese Day is March 27th, and National Cheese Day is June 4th. There are other festive chances to enjoy some cheesy comestibles!
 - [Low-Fat Cheese No Better for You Than Full-Fat Cheese](#)
 - [AI No Longer Suggesting Gluing Cheese to Pizza](#)
 - [Beer Cheese Soup](#)
 - [We've Been Cutting Cheese All Wrong](#)
 - [Could Camembert Cheese Hold the Key to Better Memory?](#)
 - [Golden Retriever Requires Cheese Topper on Breakfast](#)
 - [For Fresh Cheese, Ditch the Plastic Wrap](#)
 - [Eating Cheese Correlates With Reduced Risk of Sleep Apnea!](#)
 - [BC Hikers Find Suitcases Full of Meat And Cheese](#) and [Clues to the Identity of the Owners Emerge](#)
-



Important February Dates

- **February:** [National Inclusive Education Month](#)
- **February:** [Black History Month](#)
- **Feb 2:** Groundhog Day
- **Feb 3:** Windsor Secondary PAC meeting, 7:30 pm, Library
- **Feb 3:** DNV Council [regular meeting](#), 7 pm
- **Feb 6:** Blueridge Elementary early dismissal, 2 pm
- **Feb 10:** BC speculation tax letters [mailed out](#) to North Vancouver; we have until [March 31 to file our declaration](#) once those letters arrive
- **Feb 10:** DNV Council [workshop](#), 7 pm
- **Feb 11:** [International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#)
- **Feb 11:** Blueridge Elementary early dismissal, 2 pm
- **Feb 11:** DNV Council [special meeting](#), 5 pm
- **Feb 13:** Blueridge Elementary early dismissal, 2 pm
- **Feb 14:** Valentine's Day
- **Feb 14:** All district schools closed - Professional Development Day
- **Feb 15:** [National Flag of Canada Day](#)
- **Feb 17:** All district schools closed - [BC Family Day](#)
- **Feb 19:** DNV Community Services Advisory Committee [meeting](#), 7 pm
- **Feb 20:** Seymour Heights Elementary PAC meeting, 7 - 8:30 pm, Staff Room
- **Feb 24:** Windsor Secondary Spring Coaches and sponsors athletics meeting, 6 pm, Foods Room (218)
- **Feb 24:** Windsor Secondary Spring parent and student athletics meeting, 7 pm, MP Room
- **Feb 24:** DNV Council [regular meeting](#), 7 pm
- **Feb 26:** Seymour Heights Elementary early dismissal, 2 pm
- **Feb 26:** Windsor Secondary late start - 9:50 am
- **Feb 26:** DNV Community Heritage Advisory Committee [meeting](#), 7 pm

- **Feb 27:** Blueridge Elementary PAC meeting, 6 pm, Library
- **Feb 28:** [Pink Shirt Day](#)

Save the Date

- **March 17-28:** Spring Break

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 weekdays 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](#).



Top 10 Links from the January *Blueridge Bulletin*

1. [Taika Waititi reads a letter about a speeding ticket](#) - 61 clicks
2. [NSEM Emergency Preparedness Presentation](#) - 14 clicks
3. [Schneider Electric whole home surge suppressor](#) - 10 clicks
4. [The BCA Website](#) - 9 clicks
5. [Christmas Market article from North Shore News](#) - 9 clicks
6. [New Winter Tire Rating and Symbol](#) - 9 clicks
7. [North Shore Water Treatment Plant article from North Shore Daily Post](#) - 8 clicks
8. [Utility rate increase for DNV taxpayers article](#) - 7 clicks
9. [Windsor Wolves take provincial football title](#) - 6 clicks
10. [Pass now required to visit Mt. Seymour Park](#) - 6 clicks

Overall, 59 out of 87 different links were clicked on at least once each, and there were 260 clicks total.

Thanks for being wonderful readers!



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!

A green-bordered advertisement with rounded corners. On the left is a circular logo of a brown bear in blue overalls holding a beer and a hammer. To the right, the text reads: "Blueridge Residents Discount" in bold black font, followed by a horizontal line. Below the line, it says "20% Off All Painting Jobs!" and "Plus Receive \$100 For Referrals!". The business name "Nathan Blake Professional Painting" is listed, along with its social media handle "@northshorepainter", phone number "778-986-9300", and email address "nathanblakebc@gmail.com". At the bottom center is a black and white icon of a paintbrush with a plant sprout growing from its bristles. The text "Discount offer from February 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025" is at the very bottom.

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 March 2025 edition is February 24, 2025.

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

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

Sponsors



Advertise in the *Bulletin*!

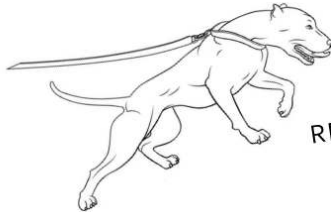
\$30 per month, or \$250 for 12 consecutive issues. This revenue is used to defray some of our costs (such as signage, website, etc.). If you or your company are interested in advertising in the *Blueridge Bulletin*, please contact us at: info@blueridgeca.org

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



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Working for *You*
in North Vancouver-Seymour

Our office can assist you with
provincial issues and concerns
Reach out to us anytime!

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Susie.Chant.MLA@leg.bc.ca
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20 years of licensed childcare in Blueridge area
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We definitely have fun and we also do homework with kids

Contact Fariba by phone (604) 812-4449 or email

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You can also [find us on Facebook](#)



Host Families Needed in North Vancouver

MLI HOMESTAY is seeking young and active, enthusiastic and caring families to host international students arriving for the current school year to study in North Vancouver.

Requirements

- Provide a nurturing and supportive home environment
- Offer a private bedroom, meals and inclusion in family activities

Benefits

- Monthly compensation for hosting
- Opportunity to make a positive impact in a young person's life

Interested? Please contact us to learn more

Argyle, Carson, Handworth, Seycove & Windsor Secondary

Contact Mozghan

604-441-0056 or mzolfi@mlihomestay.com

Sutherland Secondary

Contact Candice

780-619-7552 or cwichers@mlihomestay.com

Host Families Needed in North Vancouver for High School International Students. 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. 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



Dave Maquignaz - REALTOR®

604-512-5459

www.maQrealty.ca/blueridge



Hey there Blueridge homeowners!

Keely Smith, award-winning interior designer here. Space is everything. My passion is creating beautiful spaces for homeowners. Recently, I was awarded the prestigious "Best of Houzz" award for interior design for 2024.

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.

=> [Click here to learn more](#)
Tel. 604-262-2310



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