

# *Blueridge Bulletin*

## *April 2025*



*The view from Mt. Seymour in early March 2025.*

*Photo by Mark Brooks.*

April already? Wow! March went by in a flash. But even so, it felt like winter was never going to end, something the lovely photo above reinforces. And yet, given only a few days of warmer temperatures, here we are: April.

April first is noted for certain kinds of humour, and you're invited to hunt for such things in this issue. And there's a lot to search through, to be honest. Whoever said "time is the thing that keeps everything from happening all at once" (Ray Cummings, [apparently](#)) obviously hadn't experienced anything like early 2025.

As your editor, I'd like to draw your attention to a couple of items.

First, if you're a graduating high school student or the parent of one, you've got until the end of the month to get your application in for the BCA's scholarship.

See the **In A Nutshell** section below for more details.

And second, while most people are concerned about the upcoming federal election, please don't forget about local politics as well. The DNV is faced with finding places for over 22,000 new homes of one kind or another by the end of 2040. As residents, we get to help determine where that growth gets allocated and what impacts it has. Again, see the **In A Nutshell** section for more information.

Finally, please consider submitting your photos for the cover image. We're always looking for images from Blueridge. Please send them to [bulletin@blueridgeca.org](mailto:bulletin@blueridgeca.org).

Thank you, and happy spring!

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## Features

# ALL CANDIDATES MEETING

## All Candidates Meeting April 15th

With a federal election approaching, the Blueridge Community Association is once again co-hosting an All Candidates Meeting to give everyone the opportunity to become more informed voters. It will be held at:

[Mount Seymour United Church](#)

**April 15th at 7 pm**

It will also be streamed live on the

[Seymour Community Association YouTube channel](#)

Bring your questions!

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**25th  
Blueridge Good  
Neighbour Day  
2025**



**Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2025**

When: Sunday, May 25, 2025, 11am - 3pm

Where: Blueridge Elementary School

Blueridge Good Neighbour Day is a day to celebrate our community! The event is open to the general public and is a great place to catch up with friends and neighbours. Our theme for 2025 is “silver” as this is the event’s 25th anniversary.

### **Timeline for the Day:**

- **10:45am** - Festivities kick off with a parade that leads from the top of Berkley (at Hyannis Drive), ending at Blueridge Elementary School. Families are encouraged to decorate their bikes, scooters, tricycles, or strollers and be a part of the parade (try to arrive at the parade start by 10:30am).
- **11:00am - Activities begin!**
  - Chess Tournament
  - Food trucks
  - Rides: bouncy castles, slides, train rides
  - Kids’ carnival
  - Community tables – learn about local programs, services and initiatives
  - Cake Walk
  - Silent Auction (cash and credit cards accepted)
- **11:30am - Parade Ends**
  - Land Acknowledgement
- **11:45am - Live Music Begins**
  - We'll have 3 bands throughout the day on the mainstage: Buster Keaton, Little Darylacts and Top City
- **12:00pm - Beer Garden Opens**
  - Located outdoors, with a selection of refreshing beverages
- **1:45pm - 25th Anniversary celebratory cupcakes**
  - Join us for a tasty treat to toast 25 years of Blueridge Good Neighbour Day
- **2:00pm - Mascot Visit**
  - Hang out with Spike from the Vancouver Whitecaps!
- **2:30pm - Pie Eating Contest**
  - A yummy and wild way to end the day (make sure you are hungry!)
- **3:00pm - The End**
  - Another fantastic Blueridge Good Neighbour Day celebration comes to a close

## How to Get Involved:

There are many ways to be a part of Blueridge Good Neighbour Day and support this special celebration of our community. Most activities are free and made possible by our generous sponsors and a silent auction. Proceeds help us cover the costs of the whole event.

- **Volunteer**

- We need volunteers for the day to ensure that the event can run smoothly. Shifts usually run 1-2 hours, and duties include:
  - Set up
  - Take down
  - Kids activities
  - Silent auction
  - Beer Garden
  - Concession
- Please email [volunteer@blueridgeca.org](mailto:volunteer@blueridgeca.org) if you want to volunteer!

- **Sponsor**

- There are two ways that you can support the event as a sponsor:
  1. Sponsor a specific activity, e.g. kids rides/activities (we can supply you with a list of activities) or the music or the recycling.
  2. Sponsor the general event costs such as the rental of the school, signage, or even portable toilets!
- Please email [bgnd@blueridgeca.org](mailto:bgnd@blueridgeca.org) if you are interested in being a sponsor

- **Donate**

- The silent auction is always a very popular part of the event, and it is placed in the centre of the action, providing excellent market exposure for your company. The money raised from the silent auction helps us cover the costs of the event.
- **Calling all bakers!** We're in need of your cakes to support our cake walk.
- Please email [bgnd@blueridgeca.org](mailto:bgnd@blueridgeca.org) to donate

- **Rent**

- Rent a community table and showcase your business to local families. You can request a table, which will provide you with:
  - A 6 x 2 1/2-foot table
  - You can place a banner behind the table or use a promotional tablecloth.
  - (Tables are free for non-profit organizations/groups.)

- o Please email [bgnd@blueridgeca.org](mailto:bgnd@blueridgeca.org) for more information on renting a table

You can find more information here: [blueridgeca.org/blueridge-good-neighbour-day](http://blueridgeca.org/blueridge-good-neighbour-day)

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On April Fools Day, believe nothing, trust no one, just like any other day.

--Unknown

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### **The Blueridge FUNdation Looking for Good Ideas**

Anni Danielson

Have you always wanted to host a community event?! Do you have a fantastic idea for a community activity but don't know where to get funding? Well, we have an exciting development for you!

The Blueridge Community Association proudly announces the Blueridge "FUNdation". We have created it to provide financial assistance for approved non-profit events or activities hosted by Blueridge residents within Blueridge/Seymour Heights. The bottom line is that it must benefit the community.

Successful applicants will receive up to \$250 per approved event or activity per year. The Blueridge FUNdation will distribute a total of \$1000 for assistance from the FUNdation each fiscal year.

Applications will be reviewed by the FUNdation Committee as they are submitted. The cut-off for same-year funding is Sept. 1 each year. For example,

if you wish to host an event in November of a calendar year, you must submit your application by Sept. 1.

Please note: To allow the committee sufficient time to review applications, please submit applications for events to be held in the months January to September at least 4 weeks in advance of the event date.

[Full details](#) and the [application form](#) are available on the [BCA website](#).

It's time to put on your thinking caps! Need some inspiration? For example, you could organize:

- a chess tournament
- scavenger hunt
- a backyard music recital
- a creek clean-up

FUNdation monies can be used for required equipment rentals, prizes, refreshments, etc.

The sky and your imagination are the limits (subject to the FUNdation Committee's approval). The current members of the Blueridge FUNdation Committee are Eric Andersen, Anni Danielson, Lauren Gorgounis, and Ruth Hanson. We look forward to seeing your ideas!



### **Short-term Rentals in the District of North Vancouver**

Jim Hanson, Councillor District of North Vancouver

*Editor's Note: This is a slightly revised version of the article Councillor Hanson wrote for the most recent Blueridge Community News. This version was updated to reflect the most recent Council vote on short-term rental rules.*

The District of North Vancouver Council will be casting its final vote this spring



on the regulatory framework for short-term rentals. To this point, short-term rentals have been prohibited in the District. However, in practice, many homeowners have rented out homes as short-term rentals, with our research indicating that close to 1,000 properties in the District are listed on the internet as short-term rentals.

Provincial legislation passed in late 2023 sought to limit the use of properties as short-term rentals, with the aim of increasing long-term rental stock. Under the provincial legislation, a homeowner may not use their property as a short-term rental unless they are renting out their principal residence and up to one accessory dwelling unit, such as a secondary suite or coach house. A “principal residence” is defined as the place where an individual “lives, makes their home, and conducts their daily affairs.” Some resort communities (Whistler and Tofino as examples) are excluded from this legislation in order to facilitate tourism.

A local government may pass legislation that is more restrictive than the provincial legislation. Therefore, our options in the District are:

1. Maintain a total prohibition on short-term rentals
2. Allow short-term rentals in one’s principal residence but not in otherwise vacant accessory units (secondary suites, coach houses).
3. Allow short-term rentals in one’s principal residence and in accessory units attached to the principal residence.

At a Council Workshop conducted on January 20, 2025, a majority of councillors indicated a preference for modelling our regulatory framework on the provincial legislation and therefore allowing short-term rentals in principal residences and accessory units (option #3 above).

At a regular council meeting on March 3, 2025, a majority of Council voted in support of allowing short-term rentals in a “principal residence” or an attached accessory suite (but not both). This is consistent with the scheme adopted in West Vancouver. The matter is proceeding to a public hearing on April 1, 2025, and will thereafter return to Council for a final vote, likely before the end of April, 2025.

The proposed regulatory scheme will allow the District to collect a three-percent tax on short-term rental revenue (to be earmarked for affordable housing) and will be accompanied by new enforcement tools and increased fines for violators. Owners will be required to have business licenses and register with the District. Properties used for short-term rentals will need to meet certain

safety standards and be available for inspection.

For my part, I believe that the proposed approach strikes a reasonable balance between allowing some short-term and long-term rentals. The demands of the tourist industry for accommodation encourage us to ensure that units are available for short-term rental while the ongoing housing crisis demands that we protect long-term housing stock.

If you have an opinion on how short-term rentals should be regulated in the District, please let your voice be heard by communicating with Council and speaking at the public hearing scheduled for April 1, 2025.

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Humor Break: Internet comment sections vs. Australian lamb. Really.





*Photo by Roland Smith*

## **Salmon, Bears, and the Forest**

Holly Reisner, North Shore Black Bear Society

Since the early 2000s, research has been conducted on the interconnectedness of salmon, bears, and forest ecosystems, with significant contributions from Tom Reimchen of the University of Victoria and John Reynolds of Simon Fraser University. These studies focus on the role of bears, both grizzly and black bears, in the Great Bear Rainforest and Haida Gwaii, where bears feed on salmon during the fall. This period coincides with a biological phenomenon in bears called hyperphagia, where they seek to consume large amounts of food to build fat reserves for hibernation and reproduction. During this time, black bears may eat up to 20,000 calories per day.

Reimchen's research revealed that the relationship between salmon, bears, and forests is not one-sided. The studies centered on the heavy nitrogen isotope N15, which salmon accumulate while growing in the ocean. As they return to spawn, they transfer this isotope into the riparian environments. Once salmon die, their carcasses remain near the streams, contributing nutrients, particularly nitrogen, to the surrounding ecosystems. Nitrogen is often a limiting factor in temperate rainforests, and its introduction via salmon has a measurable impact on plant and tree growth. Certain plants, like salmonberry, false lily of the valley, and stink currants, thrive with the increased nutrients, while others, such as salal and red huckleberry, show less benefit.

Reimchen's studies on Sitka Spruce growth rings demonstrated that trees near salmon-bearing streams grew three times faster than those further away, with nitrogen levels from the salmon contributing up to 50% of the trees' nitrogen. These trees also exhibited wider growth rings and higher levels of N15, especially in areas where bears frequently forage for salmon. Interestingly, bears show selective feeding habits, preferring larger female salmon, and consuming specific parts of the fish, such as the roe, skin, and brains. Bears have been observed fishing strategically, taking fish that meet their preferences and often carrying them away from the stream into the forest to avoid competition with other bears.

This behaviour not only benefits the bears but also helps the forest ecosystem. When bears take their catch into the forest, they spread nutrients further from the streams, with some studies showing significant nitrogen contributions from bear urine and feces, up to 500 meters from the water. In fact, research in Alaska indicated that bear urine and salmon carcasses together contributed 10-25% of the nitrogen required by the forest.

Salmon, in turn, benefit from the trees that provide shade and prevent erosion in the streams, creating a cooler, more stable environment necessary for fry survival. The trees also offer insects and woody debris that support the aquatic food web. While individual salmon may lose their lives to bears during the spawning process, their death indirectly benefits future generations of salmon by ensuring that the habitat they need remains intact.

Overall, this intricate relationship between bears, salmon, and the forest ecosystem highlights the interdependence of species and the critical role that each plays in sustaining the health of the environment.

*Editor's Note: This is an abbreviated version of a longer article. Those wanting more can find the full version on the [BCA website](#).*

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The sun was warm but the wind was chill  
You know how it is with an April day  
When the sun is out and the wind is still  
You're one month on in the middle of May.

-- Robert Frost

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## **Blueridge Bears form New Union**

Jeff Powell

In a surprising development, bears living in and around Blueridge have voted overwhelmingly to form a union. Our local black bears aren't generally known for supportive, communal behaviour. In fact, they tend to be loners, but in this case they came together in pursuit of common goals. The vote was nearly unanimous. There were no votes against unionization and only one abstention by a grumpy bear named Mor'du that no one likes anyway.

The new organization, called BEAR (Bears for Easy Access to Rubbish), held a press conference on Saturday where they claimed negotiating power with the DNV, granted by their ursine membership. While a full list of demands is still under development, a few key items have emerged.

"BEAR demands an end to bear-resistant garbage cans, as they are clearly discriminatory. In addition, we want all household garbage, recycling, and green waste stored outside, year-round. Finally, dogs must be outlawed. No one likes dogs," said union spokesbear, Fozzie.

Whether other bears in the District will also unionize isn't yet clear. When asked about the prospect, Fozzie replied, "We're spreading the word. Our interests definitely align, and who isn't in favour of easy meals? Wakka wakka!"

North Shore Black Bear Society response from Executive Director H Reisner:

"Well, I have to say this has pretty much caught us off-guard. This just doesn't seem to jive with the usual opinions of our good old Blueridge Bears. In fact, B.O.B. (Big ol' Bear) has already shown us that he's happy to be up grazing on grass this spring. Delicious! Nutritious! And readily available without having to worry about pesky carabiner locks! Soon enough the salmon berries will be out, then huckleberries, red alder berries, and on it goes all the way to fall when blackberries and salmon will be available just for the munching."

Reisner continued: "As to the union, we aren't against it per se, but it's not natural. We would expect this more from a species like crows or raccoons. Which makes us wonder. Is it really the bears behind this more trash, anti-dog rhetoric? And who is this Fozzie? We've never met him. And that photo – it just doesn't quite look real. Has anyone checked the local costume rental shop to see if the bear outfit is out? I think about five raccoons could fit in there."

As of press time, DNV staff have yet to respond to these developments.



## Calling all families in North Vancouver!

Join us for an Open House and learn how Scouting can spark adventure, friendship, and skills for life!

### What to Expect:

- Fun activities for kids
- Meet local Scouters and Families
- Learn how you can help bring Scouting to Blueridge

### Choose the day that works best:

**APRIL 3 or APRIL 7**

6-7 PM

Blueridge Elementary School  
(South Undercover Area)

RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/r/B6rEgSFxaq>

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*VOLUNTEER IN  
BLUERIDGE*

### **Blueridge Community Association Board Seeks New Director(s)**

Eric G. Andersen

At our AGM in May, we will need to replace at least one board member, since Ruth Hanson stepped down last year after many years on the board. So we thought we would reach out to the community to encourage anyone who might be interested in joining our board.

We have a well-functioning board but would welcome new board members who show interest and passion for Blueridge/Seymour Heights.

It doesn't matter how long you have lived in Blueridge; what's important is that you want to join the board and participate in its work. The more ideas for new initiatives you may bring, the better!

The board meets about 10 times a year (mostly online, but quarterly in person). The time required for each director probably amounts to two hours a month.

Director attributes and duties include:

- Understand and demonstrate a continued commitment to the BCA's mission, activities and projects
- Take interest in the field of community association work and keep up to date with issues and trends that affect the BCA
- Prepare for meetings by reading agendas, minutes, reports, and other documentation required to actively participate
- Attend board meetings regularly and provide as much notice as possible when unable to attend
- Contribute knowledge, skills, and expertise, in a collaborative manner, by participating in board meetings and related activities
- Inquire and seek clarification or more information when required
- Represent the BCA's best interests among stakeholders and the public

If interested in a board position, please let us know via [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org).

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April comes like an idiot, babbling and strewing flowers.

-- Edna St. Vincent Millay

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## **SPAM About the BCA**

Eric G. Andersen

In mid-March, a company or person named Lilith Gray claimed in an email sent



to several people that it can sell the BCA's 'Distribution/Members list'. This is a SPAM message and a complete falsehood. The Blueridge Community Association has never shared (and will never share) its distribution list with any other parties. If you receive such an email, please disregard and delete it, as it might be more than just SPAM. It could be [phishing](#).

Stay safe out there!

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## Starting Seeds in the Spring: A Quick Guide

Emilie Currie

Growing your own plants - whether they be annuals, perennials, or fruits and vegetables - is a great way to add variety to your garden in a cost-effective way. It's also a perfect opportunity to get little ones involved in the garden. Who doesn't love watching a tiny seed grow into a big, beautiful, thriving plant?

Spring is the perfect time to kick off your garden by starting seeds indoors or directly in the soil. To get started, choose high-quality seeds suited for your climate and growing season. **Read the back of seed packets** for specific planting instructions, including when to sow and how deep to plant.

For indoor sowing, use seed trays or small pots with nutrient-rich, well-draining soil. Keep them in a warm spot (65–75°F) with plenty of light—either near a sunny window or under grow lights. Once seedlings sprout, thin them out to prevent overcrowding and encourage healthy growth.

Before transplanting, harden them off by gradually exposing them to outdoor conditions for a week. For direct sowing, wait until the soil is warm and frost-free. Water regularly and watch your spring garden flourish!

## The Great Garden Box Rebuild 2025

Jeff Powell

Just a reminder that the Great Garden Box Rebuild 2025 is happening! If you're a gardener or volunteer working with the Blueridge Sharing Garden, this is your chance to help with the ongoing maintenance the garden needs.

- PART 1: Demolition: Sunday, April 6
- PART 2: Rebuild: Saturday, April 26

Work will start at 9 am on both days, rain or shine, and continue until that day's task is completed.

And once again, many thanks to the District of North Vancouver's Community Sustainability Grant, which helped purchase the materials for this project. This is the third year in a row they have supported the Blueridge Sharing Garden, and the BCA is very grateful, along with all the gardeners and community members who get to live with such a lovely resource in our midst!

Oh, and here's the lumber for the box rebuild. Just in!





## **Moving to Blueridge A Family Affair**

Char and Cris Williamson

We're the Williamson family—Char (that's me), Chris (my husband), Megan (our old dog), and Baby Williamson (arrival ETA: late March 2025, personality still in development, open to name suggestions). We recently moved here full-time and are so excited to call Blueridge home!

Our home on Mowat Place is a bit of a family project. My parents, Natalie and Craig, co-own the house and plan to use it as their summer retirement retreat. When they're not here enjoying the sunshine, they're basking in much warmer weather in Indonesia, where I grew up. It's safe to say they've mastered the art of chasing endless summers.

Chris and I met at the University of B.C. in Vancouver and bonded over a shared love of adventure, which eventually led us to this mountain-biking mecca. While I'm temporarily sidelined from the trails (doctor's orders), we've been channeling our competitive energy into learning squash at the Ron Andrews Community Centre. Chris is a true sports enthusiast, with mountain biking, backcountry skiing, and soccer all on his list of favorites. I'm more the creative type—I love sewing, knitting, cooking, and dreaming up new projects.

After spending the past few years in East Van, we've been relishing the peace and quiet here in Blueridge. The slower pace is a welcome change, and so far, we've yet to experience any truly terrible bridge traffic (check back in with us in a few weeks). We've also been learning new skills that come with suburban life: tending to a backyard, cleaning gutters, and hosting dinner parties now that we finally have the space for them. When we're not playing house or on the trails, you might find us at United Strangers, our new coffee spot. We're already looking forward to joining the parents' mornings on Tuesdays!

We're thrilled to be here and can't wait to meet more of our neighbors. If you see us around—whether we're biking, grabbing coffee, or being walked by Megan—please come say hi. We'd love to connect, share stories, or even challenge you to a squash game!

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Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them, the rest of us could not succeed.

-- Mark Twain

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## **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.

### **Feb 24, 2025: Regular Council Meeting**

This was a full council meeting with a lot of items on the agenda. Most are not mentioned here as they don't directly relate to Blueridge.

Previously debated changes to the Amenity Cost Charges (ACCs) and Coach House Bylaws were passed. These items will impact Blueridge over time, but not particularly directly.

There was discussion about public input on the draft financial plan. Several speakers expressed concern about ongoing 5.5% tax hikes being unsustainable in the future, particularly when combined with the much larger cost increases coming that are associated with the North Shore Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The big item of the evening was discussion about public input on the update to the Official Community Plan. A presentation discussed 3 scenarios for how provincially required housing growth over the next 20 years will be distributed over the District. Councillors discussed various concerns about these issues with staff, helping them refine the presentation as they go forward with public engagement. The intent is to get the public's input on these issues so that bylaws may be developed that reflect the desires of DNV residents. In the end, Council accepted the report and staff were authorized to prepare for the next steps in getting public feedback.

### **Mar 3, 2025: Regular Council Meeting**

This meeting focused on just three items. First, there was a delegation from the Rotary Club of Lionsgate - North Vancouver. They discussed their charitable works and their ongoing need for more volunteers, among other things.

Then a report about the public comment period on the draft financial plan was presented and received. Councillors made some comments, but mostly this was about hearing from staff what the general feedback on the draft financial plan was. It turns out that the majority of comments about the plan revolved

around the delayed implementation of artificial turf fields in various schools.

The last item on the agenda was Short-Term Rental (STR) rules. There were two options before the council. Option 1 allowed residents to get a business license for up to 2 accessory dwelling units (ADUs) that meet the requirements, while option 2 allowed a business license for only one ADU that could be rented out as an STR. There was some discussion, but option 2 was preferred by a strong majority of the councillors. In the end, the necessary bylaws were given their first reading with a 6-1 majority. Only Councillor Mah supported option 1. Two of the required bylaws now move on to a public hearing and a public input period, respectively.

### **Mar 10, 2025: Council Workshop**

This workshop was entirely about the budget, with a relatively short staff presentation about it, and the Mayor and Council discussing issues and asking questions of staff members present. I won't detail every position stated by each council member but instead summarize what I think were the key takeaways from the meeting as a whole.

First, these are extraordinary times, with a lot of uncertainty as a result of the US-imposed tariffs. But those only add to the fiscal constraints the District faces thanks to the escalating costs for just about everything the District needs to purchase. Councillors were supportive of the 5.5% tax increase this year, but when staff suggested that increases of that size will be needed in future years, they all balked. No one was supportive of such large, ongoing tax increases, particularly in light of the burden we're all going to bear from the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant, over which the DNV Council has no control.

Various councillors raised issues of emergency preparedness, climate change, wanting more budget detail, the need for a line-by-line budget analysis, the downloading of expenses from the Provincial and Federal governments onto local governments, and others. But by far the most discussed individual items were the construction of additional artificial turf fields (ATFs) and the extension of the Spirit Trail.

On ATFs, there was a lot of frustration over the fact that additional fields have been promised to DNV residents in the past and are not yet built. There are various reasons for delays, including the fields themselves not being ready for construction, other organizations delaying things, COVID, and cost increases on all forms of construction. Council clearly wants to follow through on past

commitments, but the fiscal reality of spending millions of dollars on capital projects in the face of tariffs and extremely high construction bids is a problem.

The eastern extension of the Spirit Trail presents similar issues. There is deep concern about the cost of the bridge over McCartney Creek, as well as the route of the extension. In addition, the fact that the trail doesn't even get to Deep Cove - the original intent of the project - is another concern for all involved.

It was very clear that all councillors and the mayor were very concerned about the balance between spending to meet commitments and keeping tax increases to the bare minimum now and in the future. The choices to achieve that balance will be difficult at best.

In the end, they voted to allow staff to prepare bylaws for the budget with a 5.5% tax increase and to have staff look for ways to fund at least one more ATF in the coming years without increasing the deficit.

### **Mar 17, 2025: Regular Council Meeting**

Only 3 items on the agenda were of particular interest to Blueridge residents, and 2 of them were withdrawn at the start of the meeting. The withdrawn items concerned rezoning and a development permit for a large development in the Maplewood area. No reason for the withdrawal was given, but it was stated that these items will come back before council at some future meeting.

The only other item of significance for most Blueridge residents was the 2025 Financial Plan approval bylaw. This bylaw sets the District's property tax increase for 2025 at 5.5% and establishes a budget for the year, as well as expected budget outlays in 2026-2029. Mayor Little moved the staff's recommendation but added an amendment directing staff to review options for at least one more gravel field conversion in the planned period without increasing the budget. There was extensive discussion once again about the budget. None of the councillors is happy with a 5.5% tax increase, but all recognize the need. That said, none appear willing to support an increase of that size in coming years, which is what staff is currently anticipating. As a result, the 2026 budget may be even more of a challenge.

Concerns other than gravel field conversions covered a wide variety of issues, including the vastly increasing costs of construction, tariffs, general uncertainty in the economy, translink funding, the North Shore Wastewater Treatment

Plant, and many other items. In the end, this passed unanimously.

Note, however, that even if staff can find a way to fund another gravel to artificial turf conversion in the 5-year period covered by this bylaw, it was stated that the earliest it can begin is 2027.

**Mar 31, 2025: Council Workshop** - this will be written up in the May issue of the Bulletin due to time constraints.

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Those wanting more information should 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: [Angela Verbrugge](#), a masterful jazz singer, lyricist, and composer, commanding a prodigious body of original music that combines the sensibilities of bebop, vintage movie musicals, and the Great American Songbook. Verbrugge has emerged as one of Western



Canada's busiest performers.

Openers: Ally Jedrzejek joined by Will John on guitar, and [The Lawless Firm](#)

- April 11, 2025
- \$20 each, cash only, at the door - includes delicious baked goodies, dark roast decaf coffee, teas and cold lemon water (Youth: \$5 / children & musicians: free)
- Doors open at 7 pm
- Opener: 7:30 - 8:30
- Refreshment break: 8:30
- Feature: 9 - 10

[Deep Cove Stage Society](#) presents:

**One for the Pot** - A highly successful evening's entertainment, this hilarious farce revolves around a young man, Hickory Wood, who has to prove he is the only child of a former business associate of a rich mill owner in order to receive £10,000. Unfortunately, his efforts are thwarted and complicated by the arrival of the other claimants, creating some first-class and uproariously funny situations.

- April 3rd to April 11th, 2025 (Th, Fri, Sat @ 7:30 pm)
- Matinees April 6th and 12th, 2025 (@ 2:00 pm)
- In the Shaw Theatre in downtown Deep Cove.
- Tickets and more information are available at the link above.

[First Impressions Theatre](#) presents:

**Songs for a New World** - This contemporary song cycle weaves characters and history together, illuminating the timelessness of self-discovery. "It's about one moment. It's about hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back."

- May 1-2, 7-10, 14-17 at 7:30 pm
- Matinee May 3 at 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!](#)

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### In A Nutshell

- **Man injured in bizarre Peek-A-Boo accident.** He's in ICU.
- **Hey Blueridge Dog People!** Would you be interested in a Dog Party in our neighbourhood? With some fun activities and treats for your pups? No cost, just a park social get-together either this spring or fall. If you'd like to attend or maybe help, email [renniefamily@telus.net](mailto:renniefamily@telus.net).
- **What's the body temperature of a Tauntaun?** Luke warm.
- **The BCA's Annual General Meeting (AGM):** Save the date! This annual meeting will be held on May 20th at 7 pm at [Canlan Sports](#). DNV Mayor Mike Little will be our guest speaker. This is a great time to hear from the mayor about what is happening in the District. Bring your questions!
- **The Pillsbury Doughboy** is my roll model.
- **BCA Scholarship Applications:** Open until April 30. Submit your application before that date! More information available on [the BCA website](#).
- **Did you hear about the claustrophobic astronaut?** He needed some space.
- **Elections Jobs Available:** Do you have a teenager that needs a part-time job? Or maybe you have some time and want to learn more about democracy in action? Either way, there are part-time jobs available for the coming election. To learn about the kind of jobs, hours, and training, go to Elections Canada for information: <https://www.elections.ca/jobs>. Apply soon, as the election is coming up quickly!
- **What is the best thing about living in Switzerland?** Well, the flag is a big plus.

- **DNV Housing Growth:** Thanks to last year's Provincial Housing Legislation, the District is required to update its Official Community Plan (OCP) to accommodate over 22,000 new homes of various kinds by 2041. That's a lot of growth, and there are many questions about how and where to handle that much new housing. It could be focused in our various town centres, where the infrastructure (water, sewer, and power) will handle it more easily; it could be spread out over the entire district; or it may be a combination of both approaches. The District has started the process of gathering the input from residents on this topic, and you can participate. There are information sessions scheduled throughout April. Visit the DNV's [Official Community Plan Update 2025 page](#) for more information
  - **I broke my finger last week.** On the other hand, I'm okay.
  - **Water Conservation:** While there are no water conservation rules in place at this time, it's important to know that starting on May 1, we'll enter Stage 1 Water Conservation Rules as usual. Those rules apply to all of Metro Vancouver from May 1 to October 15 and possibly later depending on rainfall and water use. While they are in place, lawn watering is limited to just once a week in order to conserve water for more important things. Next month we'll include information about which day you can water and share links to other water conservation information. And if you're ever curious, the current water restrictions are always listed on the [BCA website's homepage](#).
  - **Underwear bandit caught!** Admits brief crime spree.
  - **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.
  - **If you cannot master the guitar, don't fret.**
-



## Newsworthy

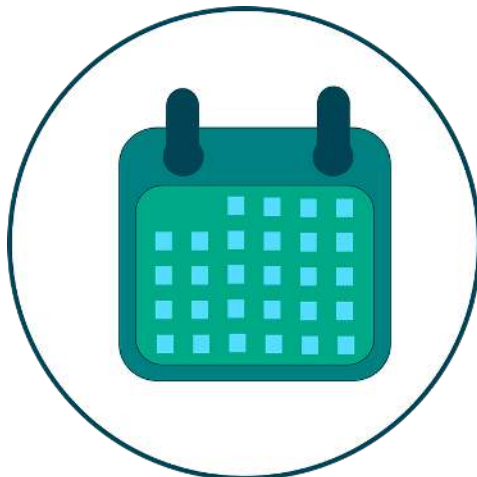
News articles and other items that Blueridge residents might find interesting or useful.

- [DNV Advice on Managing Extra Yard Waste](#) – note that paper greenwaste bags will not be collected
- [TransLink Fares to Rise 4% Starting July 1](#)
- [Elections Canada is Hiring](#) – need a part-time job for yourself or your teenager?
- [Translink Explains How Their Funding Works](#) – a short video
- [DNV Property Tax Increase: 5.5%](#) – but no one on Council thinks this rate is supportable in the long term and future increases must be lower
- [Short-Term Rental \(STR, think AirBnB\) Rules Public Hearing & Meeting](#) – Meeting is April 1, 2025, 7pm, at [DNV Municipal Hall](#). [More Information](#).
- [BC Inflation Up in February](#) – and the tariffs may make things worse
- [Hydro Rates to Rise in 2025 and 2026](#)
- [Coffee Shop Coming to Phibbs Exchange](#) – but still [no washrooms](#)
- [552 Residential Units and Commercial Space up for Adoption in Maplewood](#) – Council vote on Monday evening, March 17th; This was withdrawn just before the council meeting and will return later
- [DNV Response to Canada/US Tariffs](#)
- [Metro Vancouver Wants Input on Their 2026 Budget](#)
- [Windsor Wolves Win Provincial AAA Basketball Banner](#)
- [Lillooet Rd Affordable Housing Project Gets Public Information Meeting](#)
- [Gardener's Spring Checklist](#)
- [Apps Help Us Buy Canadian](#)
- [DNV to Regulate Short-Term Rentals](#)
- [RCMP Arrest Distaught Person with a Weapon in Blueridge](#) – Tuesday morning, March 4th.

- [New BC Budget has no Funding to Avoid Translink Fiscal Cliff](#)
- [DNV Beginning Update of Official Community Plan \(OCP\)](#) – public engagement opportunities coming
- **Metro Vancouver and the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant**
  - [NSWWTP Auditors Announced](#) – [Metro Van statement](#)
  - [Metro Vancouver to Undergo Governance Review](#) – [Metro Van statement](#)

### **This Month In Cheese**

- [Cheese Quiz](#) - Can you identify all 21 kinds? Your editor only got 15/21, so it's not that simple!
- [8 Healthiest Cheeses to Add to Your Diet](#)
- [Cheese is a Microbiome Booster](#)
- [Is Armstrong Cheese 100% Canadian?](#) - looks like the answer is "yes"
- The [Great Canadian Cheese Show 2025](#) - being held at Kingston's Fort Henry. It's a long way to go, but I could make it a vacation!
- [What Makes Stinky Cheese Stinky?](#)
- [Tariffs and the Impact on Cheese Supply in Canada](#)
- [Spanish Cheese Fritters](#) (video)
- [French TV News Segment on Cheese](#) - what angle do you cut Brie at? Or Camembert?
- [Gloucestershire Cheese Rolling 2025](#)
- [Cheese Prices Slip in Late March](#) - your editor had no idea there was a publication called *Dairy Herd Management*
- [Trade War Impacts on US Cheese Championship](#)



### **Important April Dates**

- April is [Autism Acceptance Month](#)
- Apr 1: Chemtrade emergency siren test, 10 am
- Apr 1: DNV Public hearing on Short-Term Rental bylaws, 7pm, [DNV District Hall](#)
- Apr 1 - 30: BCA Scholarship applications are accepted: [More information](#)
- Apr 4: [Day of \(No\) Silence](#)
- Apr 6: [Tartan Day](#)
- Apr 6: Blueridge Sharing Garden box rebuild day 1
- Apr 7: Windsor PAC meeting, 7:30pm, library
- Apr 7: Regular DNV Council meeting, 7pm, [DNV District Hall](#)
- Apr 9: [Vimy Ridge Day](#)
- Apr 9: [International Day of Pink](#)
- Apr 10: Seymour Heights PAC meeting, 7pm, staff room
- Apr 10: Meet DNV Mayor Mike Little, 6 – 7 pm, [Parkgate Community Centre](#)'s Senior Lounge
- Apr 14: Special DNV Council meeting, 6pm, [DNV District Hall](#)
- Apr 14: DNV Council workshop, 6:30pm, [DNV District Hall](#)
- Apr 14: [Vaisakhi](#)
- Apr 15: Meet DNV Mayor Mike Little, 4 – 5 pm, DNV Public Library, [Capilano branch](#)
- Apr 15: All Candidates Meeting, 7 pm, [Mount Seymour United Church](#), and [streamed online live](#)
- Apr 18: Good Friday - all schools closed
- Apr 20: Easter Sunday
- Apr 21: Easter Monday - all schools closed
- Apr 22: [Earth Day](#)
- Apr 23: Meet DNV Mayor Mike Little, 11 am – noon, DNV Public Library, [Lynn Valley Branch](#)
- Apr 24: Windsor Parent Teacher Interviews, early dismissal, 1pm
- Apr 24: Blueridge PAC meeting, 6 pm, library
- Apr 25: Windsor Parent Teacher Interviews, early dismissal, 1pm
- Apr 26: Blueridge Sharing Garden box rebuild day 2
- Apr 28: Regular DNV Council meeting, 7 pm, [DNV District Hall](#)
- Apr 28: [National Day of Mourning](#)
- Apr 30: Seymour Heights staff collaboration day, early dismissal, 2 pm
- Apr 30: Windsor staff collaboration day, late start, 9:50 am
- Apr 30: BC [stops requiring snow-rated tires](#) on most roads; the requirement will return on October 31st

**Save the date:**

- May 20: Blueridge Community Association Annual General Meeting (AGM). 7 pm at [Canlan Sports](#). DNV Mayor Mike Little will be our guest speaker. Bring your questions!
- May 25: [Blueridge Good Neighbour Day](#)

**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 March *Blueridge Bulletin***

1. US Tariff Impact Survey (now closed) - 19 clicks
2. [Cougar visits Berkley Avenue home](#) - clicks
3. [Unexploded Ordnance Removal page on the BCA website](#) - 11 clicks
4. [Why You May Not Have Received an Earthquake Alert](#) - 10 clicks
5. [Deep Cove Coffee House concert page](#) - 9 clicks
6. Blueridge Elementary Spirit Wear shop link (now expired) - 8 clicks
7. [Don't Wrap Your Cheese in Plastic Wrap](#) - 7 clicks
8. [The Blueridge Sitter and Tutor Directory](#) - 6 clicks
9. [Building Andy's Range: The history of the Blair Rifle Range](#) by Donna Sacuta - 4 clicks
10. [DNV Seeks Public Input on Housing Density Locations](#) - 4 clicks

Overall, 52 out of 111 different links were clicked on at least once each, and there were 166 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](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org). Thank you!

A green-bordered graphic with rounded corners. On the left is a circular logo of a bear in overalls holding a hammer and paintbrush. To the right, the text "Blueridge Residents Discount" is in bold black font, underlined. Below this, the offer details are listed: "20% Off All Painting Jobs!" and "Plus Receive \$100 For Referrals!". The business name "Nathan Blake Professional Painting" is in bold, followed by 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 leafy branch. The date range "Discount offer from February 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025" is at the very bottom.

**Blueridge Residents Discount**

20% Off All Painting Jobs!  
Plus Receive \$100 For Referrals!

**Nathan Blake Professional Painting**  
@northshorepainter  
778-986-9300  
[nathanblakebc@gmail.com](mailto:nathanblakebc@gmail.com)



Discount offer from February 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025





## Blueridge Residents Discount

20% off all sharpening jobs over \$100

### Cove Blades

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

All pricing and drop-off procedures can be found at [www.coveblades.com](http://www.coveblades.com)



Kitchen knives  
Scissors  
and more...

Discount offer from March 1 - May 31, 2025



## Blueridge Residents Discount

20% Discount Off Interior & Exterior Detail Packages

### SoapnShine

778-989-5895  
boston@soapnshine.ca  
www.soapnshine.ca



SoapnShine Mobile Detailing is offering Blueridge Community residents an exclusive 20% discount on all interior & exterior detailing packages—for any vehicle size! Our professional mobile detailing service brings top-quality cleaning and care right to your doorstep.

Enjoy a spotless, showroom-quality clean while saving big. Don't miss out—book your appointment on our website today using:  
PROMO CODE: "Blueridge"

Discount offer from March 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025



## Blueridge Residents Discount

20% off all exterior home cleaning services

### Filth Fighters

604-341-7498

[www.filthfighters.ca](http://www.filthfighters.ca)

[contact@filthfighters.ca](mailto:contact@filthfighters.ca)

Services Include:

Pressure Washing

Window Cleaning

Gutter Cleaning

Soft Washing



As a locally owned and operated company, we're no stranger to Blueridge...we've been serving the neighborhood for years, completing countless projects, and earning the trust of homeowners who value quality, reliability, and professionalism!  
With our expert team and professional-grade tools, we guarantee a deep, thorough clean that protects and visually enhances your home.

**Please call the Filth Fighters to claim your Blueridge discount**

Discount offer from April 1 - April 30, 2025

### 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](mailto: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 2025 edition is April 26, 2025.

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

Questions? Send us an email at [bulletin@blueridgeca.org](mailto: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](mailto: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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# Check Out My 1st Quarter 2025 Blueridge Housing Update Video

[Click Here](#)

Dave Maquignaz - REALTOR®  
604-512-5459



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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PERSONAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION  
**604-985-1111**

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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!

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

Three 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](mailto:specialtimesoosc@gmail.com)

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



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