

Blueridge Bulletin

December 2025



It's that time of year once again. Time to untangle the holiday lights and figure out why they aren't working!

More importantly, it's time to take a walk in the evening and see all the lights up around the neighbourhood! They started appearing right after Halloween (Well, except for those I mentioned last month... the ones that have been up all year!) and they just keep coming.

A big thank you to everyone who puts up a display. They make things much more festive!

Anyway, please enjoy our holiday edition of the Blueridge Bulletin. If it inspires you, please consider submitting something for the January issue. Maybe a photo for the cover, or an article, or even a terrible pun for the Nutshell section. Whatever it may be, your input helps keep the Bulletin interesting for everyone! Submissions can be sent to bulletin@blueridgeca.org.

Happy Holidays!

Table of Contents

- Blueridge Cares – 2025
- What Are We Prepared to Pay for Weekly Garbage Pickup?
- Blueridge Christmas Train Rolls Again
- Cozy Connections Night Still A Work In Progress
- Seymour Heights Year-End Update
- BPAC Update - December 2025
- Did You Know...
- Your Blueridge Community Association is Working for You!
- Twin Bridges Recognition
- How to Make Holiday Greenery Pots from Foraged Branches
- Parkgate Society Winter Lights - December 5th
- Anonymous Art Show
- Holes In The Stumps
- Video Break: WTR2R (What the Reel-to-Reel)?
- Notes from the Sausage Factory
- A Night on the Town
- In A Nutshell - short items
- Newsworthy - links to locally relevant news stories you might have missed
- Monthly Calendar
- Top 10 Links from the November Blueridge Bulletin
- Project Community - deals for Blueridge Residents

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

Features



Blueridge Cares – 2025

Carolann Fraenkel

Blueridge Cares is a neighbourhood program that has been helping Blueridge families who may need a little extra help at the holidays or during a difficult time.

If you are a family in our neighbourhood who needs help this holiday season please fill out [this form on our website](#), or you can request a phone call from one of our elves by contacting us at blueridgecares@blueridgeca.org.

But please get in touch soon - **by December 5th** - as we need time to make things happen!

And for those who are willing, we need your help to make this possible.

Helping doesn't have to involve money... This year we're also offering help in the way of a visit from a neighbour. Could you offer a couple hours to sit and have a cup of tea or coffee with someone who might be lonely or need information about this great place we live?

If you can purchase and wrap a gift, would like to make a monetary donation, or can help by visiting with a neighbour or delivering gifts, please fill out [this form](#) on the Blueridge website or email blueridgecares@blueridgeca.org. **But we need to hear from you by December 15th so we can coordinate everything.**

You can learn more about the program on the [BCA website](#).

Thanks and Happy Holidays from your Blueridge Cares Team!



What Are We Prepared to Pay for Weekly Garbage Pickup?

Jim Hanson, Councillor, District of North Vancouver

At a recent workshop of the North Vancouver District Council, staff presented a number of cost saving ideas to reduce utility rates. Included in the proposal was a change to biweekly garbage collection. At the moment, the District remains one of only two local governments in the Metro Vancouver region to provide weekly garbage collection.

The proposal put forward by staff would continue weekly collection of organics and recycling but shift garbage to a biweekly schedule. The reduction in service is estimated to save in the range of \$500,000 per year, which equates to approximately \$20 per average District household per year. Reducing garbage collection to a biweekly schedule would have the additional benefits of reducing GHG emissions and increasing the rate of organics diversion.

This discussion sits within a broader debate as to where and how we can find savings for District taxpayers in order to keep our tax increases in line with inflation.

What do you think? Shall we reduce garbage pickup to every second week in order to save \$20 per year? Please let your thoughts be known. It is your money, and it is your service.

Editor's Note: You can register your opinion by sending an email to council@dnv.org.

Of all the months of the year there is not a month one half so welcome to the young, or so full of happy associations, as the last month of the year.

-- Charles Dickens



Blueridge Christmas Train Rolls Again

Brian Gardiner

The popular Blueridge Christmas Train, now in its 15th year, will roll again in my front yard.

The train, located at Berkley and Whitman, is a popular Christmas display.

I'm a train fan, so combining Christmas and trains is always fun, and doing a little something in Blueridge to add to the Christmas festivities helps bring some joy to the neighbourhood.

The train size is called "G Scale," for "Garden Scale," and can run in all kinds of weather. The train's engines get power from the rails. I usually have two trains running — a short one, and a longer freight train — and there are buildings and seasonal features.

This year there might be some modest changes, and I may start running the train a little earlier in the month, although a final date has not been set yet. Typically, the train runs from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. When a schedule is ready, it will be posted on the [Community Association's website](#) and in the [Blueridge Neighbours Facebook group](#). Thanks to both, and to the Blueridge Bulletin for helping me get the word out. The crew does take a break every now and then, so please check those places first if you're making a special trip.

Come by the station and hop on the Blueridge Christmas Train! All aboard!



Cozy Connections Night Still A Work In Progress

For a couple of months we've been discussing Cozy Connections Night, a chance to bring neighbours together once a month for socializing and community building. We've gathered suggestions, but there is still time to submit your ideas as well. What would make it work? What would cause you to attend? Do you need food? Something for the kids to do while you're there? Are there better or worse evenings?

We want to hear from you! Please submit your responses to info@blueridgeca.org.

Let's make Cozy Connections Night a highlight of the new year!





**SEYMOUR
HEIGHTS**
ELEMENTARY

Seymour Heights Elementary

North Vancouver School District

Seymour Heights Year-End Update

Vesta Emmett

Things have been busy over at Seymour Heights as we move through fall and into the end of the year. We had a wonderful Remembrance Day celebration where we highlighted women who served and the evolution of roles that women have played within the Canadian military over the years.

We are very excited that the new playground space has begun construction, and this will hopefully be ready to go for the start of 2026. Seymour Heights was awarded a grant from the Ministry for Education and Childcare to create a new accessible play space that will support our school, students and the community for years to come. This grant, along with support from the North Vancouver School District, the District of North Vancouver, and Seymour Heights PAC fundraising, allowed the project to move forward. Please note that fencing is installed in our upper play area for safety and security of the site.

Seymour Heights is gearing up for the holidays, and we couldn't be more excited!!

We are collecting new and gently used items for our upcoming Winter Market on December 10th, where students can shop for their families. If you or someone in the community has items to donate to this event, please reach out to shfundraisingteam@gmail.com, and we would be happy to come by and collect.

Additionally, we are holding photos with Santa on December 11th from 3-6 pm, where families are able to take these very memorable keepsakes of their children with Santa. Last but not least is our annual Camp Read on the last day before the winter break with hot chocolate for all students while they cozy up with books in their pjs.

Happy holidays from everyone at Seymour Heights!



Blueridge Elementary

BPAC Update - December 2025

Nicole Parfitt

November was a busy and memorable month at Blueridge as students, staff, and families came together for sports, learning, and community events.

November Recap

Our Grade 7 basketball team wrapped up an exciting season, showing great teamwork and spirit throughout their games. The school also gathered for a thoughtful and moving Remembrance Day Assembly, with students participating respectfully in honouring Canada's veterans. Thank you as well to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair. It was a huge success and helped bring even more great books into our classrooms and library.

Looking Ahead

December is shaping up to be full of fun and generosity!

- **Family Movie Event – December 5**

Our Zootopia 2 movie event is officially sold out! We're looking forward to a cozy, popcorn-filled Pro D day with Blueridge families.

- **Holiday Donation Drive – Until December 19**

Our annual donation drive for the Family Services of the North Shore Christmas Bureau is underway. We're collecting:

- New, unwrapped toys
- Gift cards (grocery or teen-focused are especially appreciated)
- New or gently used outerwear (jackets, raincoats, toques, gloves)

Please drop items in the labelled bins at the school entrance between

8:30 am and 3:00 pm.

Note that toiletries are not being collected this year, as Division 2 is supporting this need through Project Backpack.

- **Frosty's Family Fundraising Breakfast – December 19**

On the last day before winter break we will be inviting all students and their families to join us for a festive breakfast in the school gym! Final Christmas Bureau donations will also be accepted at this event. All proceeds support families in our community.

- **Winter Break**

Schools close from **December 20 to January 4**. Classes resume on **January 5**. Please watch for kids out and about in the neighbourhood during the break.

- **Annual Tree Chip – January 1, 10 am - 3 pm**

Start the new year fresh by bringing your Christmas tree to be chipped in the Blueridge school parking lot. A great way to recycle and support the school!

Our next BPAC meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 29**. Everyone is welcome.

Wishing all Blueridge families a warm and joyful holiday season!

To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold.

-- Aristotle

Aristotle didn't have the Internet.

-- Your Editor



Did You Know...

At a recent DNV Council meeting discussing utility rates, it was pointed out that

60% of the garbage disposed of in the District shouldn't be there! The three most common garbage-related errors are:

- **Food waste** - This is NOT garbage! It goes into the green cart with your other organics. Freeze smelly stuff in newspaper or paper towels and put it in the cart just before pickup to avoid bear issues. This was the single biggest issue found in two studies of garbage in the District.
- **Recycling** - Many items thrown away can instead be recycled in the blue bin. You can learn more about what the DNV collects [on their website](#).
- **Odd items** - These aren't handled as regular garbage and should instead be dealt with in other ways. Tires and electronics are examples. Many items, including electronics, are collected for free at the [North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre](#) at [30 Riverside Drive](#). Tires are recycled, but not for free. They need to be taken into the transfer station and are weighed as part of your garbage and charged as such.

Bonus fact:

- If you have only one green cart and need another, you can get it from the DNV for no additional cost. If you need more than two green carts, additional ones are available for \$51.80 per cart per year. See [this form](#) for more information on changing your carts.



Your Blueridge Community Association is Working for You!

Mahnaz Fardghassemi

The Blueridge Community Association (BCA) Board meets monthly to discuss and manage the many ongoing projects and activities that benefit our neighbourhood. As a dedicated group of volunteers who care deeply about the place we call home, we cover a lot of ground—from community events to local initiatives. If you're curious about what we've been up to, you can find a

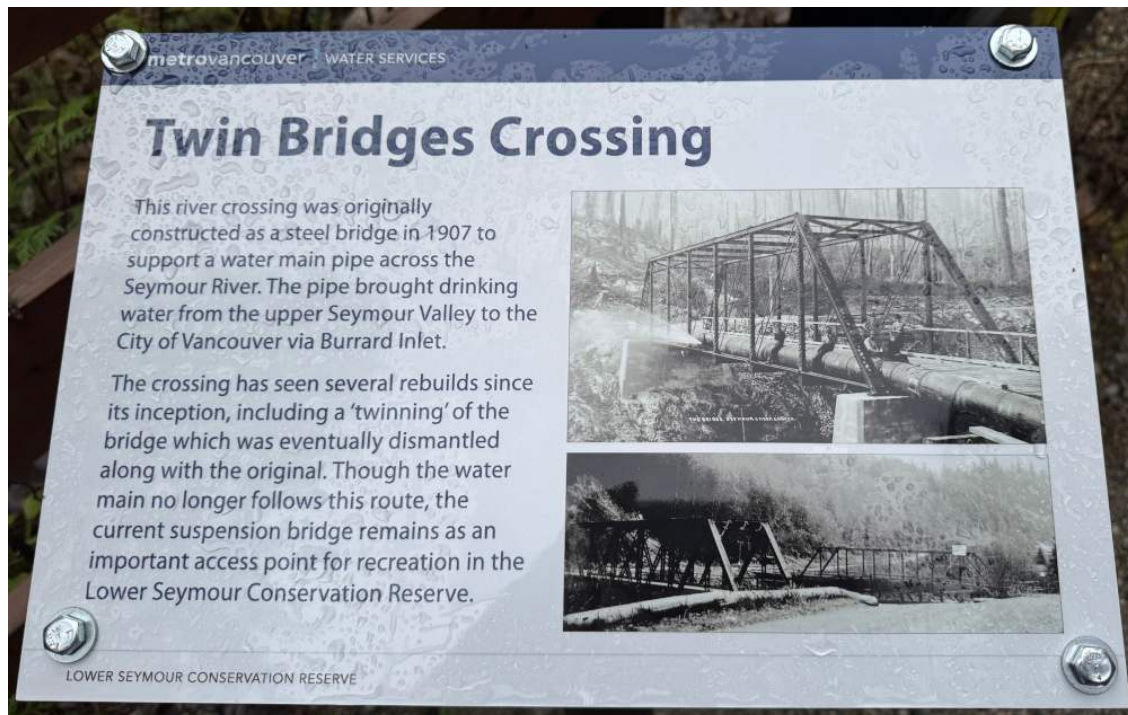
summary of these discussions and actions in our monthly meeting minutes, which are posted on [the BCA website](#). We encourage everyone to take a look to see the variety of work we're involved in! Furthermore, we always welcome your feedback, new ideas, or interest in helping out. If you'd like to get involved in any of our activities or just share your thoughts, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Blueridge Community Association.

Email us: info@blueridgeca.org

Our website: blueridgeca.org

Reach out to us on social media:

- Facebook [@blueridgecommunity](#)
- Instagram [@blueridge_community](#)



Twin Bridges Recognition

Brian Gardiner

After a couple of years of my persistent e-mails, Metro Vancouver has established a plaque to recognize the history of "Twin Bridges" over the Seymour River, as discussed in my article in the [September issue of the Blueridge Bulletin](#).

I had argued that the bridge site was an important part of our local history and

should be recognized.

The modest plaque is at the east end of the bridge. There is another plaque describing the 2014 slide just downstream a bit from the bridge.

My thanks to Metro Vancouver and the support from everyone who felt the same way!



How to Make Holiday Greenery Pots from Foraged Branches

Emilie Currie

Bring the holiday spirit indoors with a living, fragrant arrangement using foraged greenery. Here's a simple, sustainable approach:

1. **Choose Your Greenery:** Pine, cedar, fir, holly, or juniper work beautifully. Only collect from private land with permission or follow public land guidelines. Look for fallen branches or clippings rather than cutting living plants.
2. **Prepare Your Pot:** Fill a sturdy pot with soil or a floral foam base. This gives your branches support and helps them last longer.
3. **Trim & Arrange:** Cut branches to varying lengths. Stick them into the soil or foam, starting with a fuller base and building height and texture as you go. Mix different types of greenery for visual interest.
4. **Add Accents:** Pinecones, cinnamon sticks, dried oranges, or berries add festive touches and texture. You can even add string lights!
5. **Care Tips:** Keep your arrangement in a cool spot and mist lightly to maintain freshness. Remove any wilted or dried branches to keep it looking vibrant.

This method creates a long-lasting, eco-friendly centerpiece that smells amazing and brings a natural touch to your holiday décor.



Parkgate Society Winter Lights - December 5th

The annual Winter Lights event hosted by Parkgate Society happens on Friday, December 5th, from 5 to 7:30 pm. There will be live musical performances, arts & crafts for sale, activities for the kids, and an affordable warm meal. Santa will also pay a visit! More information is available on the [Parkgate Society website](#).

This event is a fundraiser for their programs. You can help in advance by sponsoring one or more snowflakes, which will be personalized and hung in the walkway between Parkgate Community Centre and the Parkgate Library for the month of December. To contribute online, [click this link](#), or you can visit Parkgate Community Centre reception to pay by cash or cheque.

The **Blueridge Community Association (BCA)** is excited to be part of the Park Gate Snowflake Initiative again this year! We contributed towards five snowflakes, and we encourage everyone visiting Park Gate to try and spot all

five. Let us know if you find them and where they are!

Happy holidays!



NORTH VAN ARTS **ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**

NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 14, 2025

Anonymous Art Show

North Van Arts

The Anonymous Art Show is our annual fundraiser. Visit the [CityScape Community Artspace](#), open Wednesday through Saturday, 11am - 5pm, to see and purchase the works. Or you can [view and purchase them online](#). The artworks go fast! All 8" x 8" artworks sell for \$120, and the magic of the show is that the artists remain anonymous until their work is purchased.

There are over 600 pieces in the show!

[Anonymous Art Show details](#)

New! Alongside the anonymous artworks this year, we have invited 6 of the best-known and most sought-after artists on the North Shore for the **"Not So"**

Anonymous Auction. Each of the featured 16" x 16" works has been custom-created for this online auction by an acclaimed local artist, making them truly one of a kind and a collector's item. You can view the auction artwork in person at CityScape Gallery on Wednesday and Thursday, December 3 & 4, and start bidding online.

Artists: Lorn Curry, Sarah Dufresne, Louise Nicholson, Kim Rosin, Roman Rozumnyj, and Jeff Wilson

Auction closes Thursday, December 4 at 9pm.

[The "Not So" Anonymous Auction details](#)

Anonymous Art Show and The "Not So" Anonymous Auction Important Dates

- **December 4 at 9pm:** The "Not So" Anonymous Auction closes
- **December 14:** Anonymous Art Show sales end

[Learn More](#)

Are you enjoying this issue of the Blueridge Bulletin? If so, and if you haven't already, why not subscribe? You'll get each issue delivered to your inbox every month, ready to read without having to hunt it down or have someone share it with you. It's totally free, we don't share your information with anyone, and it helps us communicate more effectively with the entire neighbourhood. Please consider it. Click on [this link](#) to make it happen.

And if you are a subscriber, please feel free to share this issue with a friend or neighbour!

Thank you!



Men on Spring Boards, 1905 - MONOVA #2770a

Men on spring boards in large tree. McNair's Lynn Valley Logging Camp.

Holes In The Stumps

Mike McCardell, Longtime Vancouver TV journalist and Burnaby resident

His name was Jack. Many of them were Jack. Or Joe. They worked together but did not see each other, and it was too hard to talk, so they really worked alone.

The sun was rising and Jack and Joe went into the woods, picked out their next tree, a giant cedar, and drove their double-headed axes into the bark about shoulder height.

They cut a slice almost a foot deep in the wood, then drove an iron brace into the hole and jammed a board into it. Then they climbed on the board.

The boards, they called them spring boards, stuck out about three feet and were about ten inches wide. Just big enough to hold a pair of boots. Now stand still while swinging your axe.

Their trees, all the trees, were about five hundred years old. But the forest was different now. No birds, no bears, just the sound of chopping.

Halfway through the day they climbed down and ate dried salmon and bread they had brought and drank beer they had filled in a canvas bag. They drank about a quart each.

Then they climbed back up.

Sometimes they had two levels of boards so they could cut higher. The sawmills did not want the rotting insides of the trees.

In the afternoon they used a saw that was eight feet long, pulling it back and forth while standing on the boards. Just before sunset the tree started to crack.

That was when they jumped. But the ground was covered with branches. It was easy to twist a leg while the tree was falling, and if you were still there, well, there was a job opening the next day.

Others came to saw the giant into pieces, and oxen pulled them out to a trail where they would slide down to the water.

And the next day Jack and Joe cut down another one. That tree was on what would become Whitman Avenue. Or Derbyshire, or possibly your street. The skid road that it slid down became Berkley.

Below them, down the hill, the trees were all gone, clear-cut. Powder monkeys put dynamite under the stumps and blew them up. The tops of trees shattered by others falling on them were set on fire. The air was not clean.

Trees had been coming down around here for ten years. It was now 1905, and they were told this job was coming to an end. People were going to live here. More than 20,000 ancient giants had been cut. Most of them floated to the sawmill at Moodyville. That is where the grain elevators are now on the Low Level Road.

And if you go into the woods, or around Blueridge Park, or maybe your own front yard, you may see a stump with small vestiges of holes in it. Those were probably, at least possibly, cut by Jack, or maybe Joe.

Video Break: WTR2R (What the Reel-to-Reel)?

Here's an interesting take on music from the Japanese group, [Open Reel Ensemble](#). Enjoy!



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.

Nov 3, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

There were only three items on the agenda at this meeting. The Council reviewed some proposed changes to the Development Application Process and granted them first reading while also sending them to a workshop so they could understand them in more depth. These items are an early portion of the Development Application Process Review (DAPR) that intends to simplify and streamline the development process where possible. Next, Council discussed the Housing Target Report that has to be given to the province. The District isn't going to make the housing unit target for 2025. The goal was 1021 units for the year ending in September 2025, and only 832 were completed. However, the DNV is still on target to complete the five year goal, with over 3000 units currently in the development pipeline. Finally, Councillor Mah brought forth a motion asking staff to report back on options to create a comprehensive strategy for seniors in the DNV. It passed unanimously.

November 10 Council Workshop:

This meeting was an early check-in on the budgeting process. Staff were essentially confirming that Council still wants to maintain no more than a 3.5% tax increase for the 2026 budget. That is something of a challenge, as current budget drivers would lead to a 7.5% tax increase and an even larger utility rate increase (the latter is not under the control of the DNV). In order to maintain only a 3.5% tax increase in total, with 2% going to support services and 1.5% going to reduce the infrastructure deficit, they need to reduce the expected budget by \$5 million. A list of areas where funds might be saved was provided, but it's so vague that there is no way of interpreting it at this point. One option that was mentioned was reducing garbage collection to every other week, which has implications for human/bear interactions. Another option was to not dispatch the fire department to some calls where lives aren't in danger. Neither of these is definitely going to happen, but they give a sense of the kinds of things being looked at to reduce spending.

There's a lot more to come on the 2026 budget, with multiple meetings and workshops happening between now and March, when the final budget will be approved. The DNV has [a page about the budget process](#) on their website. You can create an account on that site and follow the page to be notified when things change, if you want to track it closely. Of course, we'll also document it here in future issues.

Nov 12 Public Hearing about OCP Updates:

This meeting provided a chance for the public to comment on a set of proposed OCP [Official Community Plan] updates that received their first reading at the

October 20th regular meeting of Council. Most of the comments provided were in support of one or the other of two options (A or B), as discussed in that earlier meeting. However, there was also quite a bit of obvious confusion. At their October 20th meeting, Council voted to approve option B by a 4-3 vote. (You can read our summary of that meeting in the [November 2025 issue of the Bulletin](#).) This public hearing was legally required because the OCP is being updated. However, it's important to understand that because the land use designations and density rules in option B are already part of the DNV's bylaws, no updates to those rules were presented. (Essentially, it is already legal for every single family lot in the DNV to have a home, suite, and coach house, assuming those units meet the various codes and bylaws regarding, setbacks, height limits, floor space limits, and so on.) There are other changes to the OCP, mandated by Bills 44, 46, and 47, that were the core of this update.

Since this was a public hearing, certain legal rules applied, and the purpose was solely to let Council receive input from the public, not for Council to answer questions. When the public input was finished, the meeting adjourned.

As a side note, prior to the October 20th meeting of Council, staff had recommended option A, and in fact the printed documentation accompanying that meeting still reflected that recommendation. However, at the meeting itself, the staff recommendation was verbally changed to option B as a result of activities around Bill 25 in the provincial legislature. When contacted, Dan Milburn, the General Manager of Planning, Properties, and Permits for the DNV, explained the reason for the recommendation change as follows:

Based on our preliminary assessment, neither option A or B will satisfy Bill 25 and its proposed requirement for SSMUH [Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing] throughout the District, with certain exceptions. This means that should Bill 25 be approved, a subsequent OCP amendment before mid-next year will be required either way. Considering the proposed Bill 25 requirements, and given that both options A and B will satisfy the Bill 44 requirements for:

- adding the provincially defined 20-year housing need into the OCP (22,369 units of capacity from 2021 to 2041), and
- continuing to focus 70-90% of new residential growth in the current key growth centres,

We believe it makes the most sense to maintain the status quo for now (i.e., option B, which is the current OCP policy) and adapt to Bill 25 if it is

approved.

Mr. Milburn's comments have been lightly edited for clarity.

November 17 Council Workshop:

This workshop covered data for Council about how the DNV will be setting utility rates next year. The key items include:

- Rates from Metro Vancouver continue to rise but aren't settled yet, as they have been working to reduce their own budget.
- The DNV will apply some reserve funding to offset some of the Metro Vancouver rate increase caused by the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Staff and Council are considering reducing garbage collection to every other week. This would conservatively save \$425,000 per year in fuel and reduced wear and tear on equipment. Greenwaste and recycling would continue to be picked up weekly. The DNV is one of only two cities in Metro Vancouver still collecting garbage weekly.
- Wet weather pricing for stormwater runoff getting into the sanitary sewer system will steadily increase the fees paid by the DNV to Metro Vancouver for liquid waste management. The District is looking into various ways to find and correct I&I (Inflow and Infiltration) that leads to this problem (and expense). Fixes may also reduce flooding issues for District residents.
- Universal water metering is also under consideration, though it's a somewhat divisive topic. An upcoming bylaw change will require all newly built homes and homes with large renovations to install water meters, but there is no plan at this time to require installation of water meters on all homes. That said, they will probably be required eventually.
- Expect the 2026 utility rates to be brought to Council at the December 1 meeting for approval.

November 17 Regular Council Meeting:

This meeting started with a presentation from the Canadian Mental Health Association's Community Led Crisis Response Program, followed by two other items. In the first, a set of Community Heritage Grants were approved. These are small grants that help people or organizations maintain their heritage properties. Second, staff presented proposed rules for handling parking issues at short-term rental sites that don't have enough parking according to the existing rules. Under the rules proposed, most sites applying for the new required license would be approved, potentially after an engineering review of

the parking site(s) available, but a few will be denied if parking isn't available. All denials will have the right of appeal to the Council. These rules passed unanimously after discussion.

November 24 Council Workshop:

This meeting focused on two topics related to transportation: an update on the Traffic Calming Program and a review of on-street parking in Deep Cove. The latter isn't really related to Blueridge, so suffice it to say that the residents of Deep Cove are sick of dealing with traffic nightmares. DNV staff continue to suggest relatively subtle changes to the parking rules there, but in the end it will probably have to become paid parking at some point to properly manage the issue.

The Traffic Calming Program is one way the District works to resolve traffic issues. Through a form on the [program web page](#), complaints and concerns about traffic issues are logged. Each year the street with the most complaints is selected to have up to \$200,000 used to resolve the issues it faces. DNV staff work closely with residents to discuss options and select those that will help most. In the first year (2023), the street selected was Upper Delbrook Avenue. That effort didn't pay off, however. Delbrook is an arterial road and has substantial issues. \$200K isn't nearly enough to address them all. But changes were made, and the District learned a lot from the effort. In 2024 Kilmer Road was selected, and staff feel that was a very successful effort. This year, having reviewed the last two years, staff have decided that arterial roads (and collector roads that have transit operating on them) will no longer be eligible for the Traffic Calming Program, as the budget simply won't allow for the needed changes.

Interestingly, in 2025 the most comments and complaints (by a large margin) were about Berkley Road.

DNV staff emphasize that they are not ignoring the issues on Berkley Road. They say that data collection about the road is already happening, and that they intend to make improvements to Berkley in the next year or two via other DNV road improvement programs.

The roads ineligible for the Traffic Calming Program also include all of Sechelt Drive, Carnation Street between Berkley and Emerson, and Emerson Way between the Parkway and Carnation. Those are collector roads that also have transit routes operating on them. Safety improvements to those roads have to

come from other District programs.

For future reference, the Traffic Calming Program is being renamed the Neighbourhood Street Improvement Program, because the term "traffic calming" is widely associated with speed humps, but the program actually deals with many options for reducing speeds, not just speed humps.

Finally, speed humps turn out to be very controversial among residents, so any street wanting them as part of the program will need to get 66% of the people affected to sign a petition saying so.

November 25 Council Workshop:

This workshop concentrated on the Development Application Permit Review (DAPR) which was discussed in the Nov 3 meeting (see above). Once again this was more complicated than Council expected, and the outcome isn't entirely clear. Staff provided a presentation, but it wasn't easy to understand, and Council had many questions. The proposed changes allow staff more flexibility in managing and approving certain Development Application Permit Requests. And most of these changes apply to commercial or industrial development permits. Largely, this review hasn't yet gotten to the things that will simplify residential development permits.

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>.

Christmas Day will always be just as long as we have we.

-- Dr. Seuss



A Night on the Town

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

[Deep Cove Coffee House](#) presents:

Feature: **Joelle Lush** is a Vancouver-based song stylist originally from Newfoundland, whose warm, soulful voice bridges the worlds of jazz, gospel, soul, and R&B. With roots nurtured in the church and refined through jazz studies, she is an up-and-coming talent in the Vancouver music scene, bringing depth, elegance, and heartfelt authenticity to every performance. For this performance, she's joined by Dave Sikula on guitar and David Caballero on bass, blending jazz, soul, and beloved holiday classics to embrace the season with warmth, joy, and celebration.

Two Openers: **Kamile Kapel, John Lyon and Mary Sparks,**

- December 19
- Mount Seymour United Church, [1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver](#)
- \$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 pm
- Refreshment break: 8:30 pm
- Feature: 9 pm

[Deep Cove Stage Society](#) presents:

It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play - based on the classic Christmas holiday movie with a clever twist thrown in: the story is staged as a live radio broadcast. Actors portray dozens of characters, and sound effects are done by Foley artists. It's a Wonderful Life is about the life of George Bailey, a generous and well-meaning man who has become too downcast and tired to continue living. It will take help from a lovable angel to show George what life would be like if he wasn't born for George to have a change of heart and understand the true spirit of the holidays.

- December 17 - 28, at various times, matinee shows available
- In the [Shaw Theatre](#) in downtown Deep Cove.
- Tickets and more information are available at the link above.

[Presentation House Theatre](#) presents:

Movie Singalong: Mary Poppins - Step in time with PHT's Movie Singalong! Join us for a practically perfect screening of Mary Poppins, the 1964 classic Disney musical starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. Set in Edwardian London, follow along as the titular magical nanny leads the Banks children through fantastical adventures with her friend, Bert, a cockney jack-of-all-trades. Featuring unforgettable tunes such as "A Spoonful of Sugar", "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious", "Let's Go Fly a Kite", and more!

- December 13, 2 and 7 pm

Bright: A Holiday Singalong Concert - Gather around for a festive singalong of holiday favourites! Bring your family, friends, and loved ones all together for an unforgettable time of music and merriment. We'll bring the song lyrics, you bring your voices, and together we'll make some holiday cheer. A casual and warm embrace of the songs of the season.

- Friday, Dec 19, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, Dec 20, 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM
- Sunday, Dec 21, 2:00 PM

General information:

- Sliding scale ticket pricing
 - In the Presentation House Theatre, [333 Chesterfield Ave, North Vancouver](#)
 - Tickets and more information are available at the link above.
-

Editor's Note: This column collects information about local shows that Blueridge residents might want to attend. Are there other local events that should go on this list next month? [Let us know!](#)



In A Nutshell

- **Scientists recently combined DNA of a cheetah with the DNA of a crab.** Things went sideways real fast.
- **Have you visited the BCA website?** It's full of useful information:
 - **Want to know what traffic on the Parkway will be like due to construction at the Baden Park project?** Visit [the homepage](#) and scroll down to [Baden Park Construction](#) to get the details for the current week.
 - **Wondering about news related to Blueridge?** Visit [the homepage](#) and scroll down to [News We're Following](#) where you will find news stories that matter. Updated daily!
 - **Wondering about upcoming events?** Visit [the homepage](#) and have a scroll. And also visit the [Events page](#).
 - **Need a local sitter?** Visit [the homepage](#) and click on [Sitter and Tutor Directory](#).
 - **Wondering what local businesses there are this holiday season?** Visit [the homepage](#) and click on the [Local Business Directory](#).
 - **Are you seeing the theme?** Everything starts with visiting [the homepage](#). And this short list is only the beginning. There's a LOT out there. Please take a moment and have a look!
- **What are the strongest days of the week?** Saturday and Sunday. Every other day is a weekday.
- **The Bears Are Not Yet Asleep:** As long as they can find food, they stay awake, and our garbage cans are easy picking. Please keep them locked up to keep bears out of trouble!

- **Why do teenage girls travel in odd-numbered groups?** Because they just can't even.
- **Water Conservation and Fire Danger:** This is the time of year when fire danger is low and there are no water conservation rules in place. But practicing conservation year-round is still a good idea, as is care with anything flammable.
- **Did you hear about the Mexican magician who told his audience he would disappear on the count of three?** He wrapped his cape around himself and counted. "Uno... Dos..." and then disappeared without a Tres.
- **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.
- **A good steak pun** is a Rare Medium Well Done.

The puns will continue. Your editor encourages you to submit your wordplay for inclusion. Send them to bulletin@blueridgeca.org. And yes, we already have some community members making submissions. Thank you, and keep 'em coming!



Newsworthy

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

- [North Shore residents to pay higher 'wet weather pricing' for sewage](#)
- [Canada introduces new colour-coded weather alert system](#)
- [Eve Lazarus: The history of North Vancouver's Maplewoods Flats is fascinating](#) – a look at some nearby local history

- [New road condition sensors enhance winter safety across the District](#)
- [Development at Riverside Drive & Mt. Seymour Parkway](#) – initially submitted to the DNV in May 2019, there is now a Public Information Meeting available
- [Christmas Bureau brightens up holidays for North Shore families in need](#)
- [Shipyards Christmas Market is coming back, now with beloved Bavarian-style pork](#)
- [District of North Vancouver plans budget cuts to lower taxes](#)
- [Stinky aqua season: Metro Vancouverites report mouldy, musty-tasting tap water](#) – have you noted any odor to the water?
- [Meet the newest member of Maplewood's farm family](#)
- [Digital emergency supports](#) – from the DNV, these are things you can use to keep informed and get help in an emergency
- [Pet owners panic over looming loss of North Vancouver's only all-hours animal hospital](#)
- [2025 Fall Community Report is now available from the DNV](#) ndash; it will be in your mailbox soon
- [Winter festivities return to The Shipyards](#)
- [Evacuating Blueridge in an emergency](#) – NSEM has a page discussing how the various areas of the North Shore would evacuate. Nearly everyone in Blueridge and Seymour Heights is in zone 7.D.
- [Green dye testing for sewer and stormwater systems](#) – the DNV has a major problem with stormwater getting into the sewer system, and that is causing the sewer bill from Metro Vancouver to go up; it's best for everyone if any places where this happens are found and fixed
- [How you can prepare for heavy rain](#) – from the DNV, includes a short video and links to useful resources
- **Housing**
 - [Les Leyne: Crackdown on 'excessive' off-street parking requirements raises alarms](#) – this is about Bill 25
 - [City of North Vancouver opens the door to thousands of multiplex homes](#)
 - [B.C.'s multiplex rollout hits speed bumps as cities diverge](#)
 - [West Vancouver falls short on provincial two-year housing target](#)
 - [North Vancouver District meets 81% of 2-year housing target](#)
- **Halloween Fireworks**
 - [Letter: It's time to ban Halloween fireworks for good](#)
 - [Video shows suspects setting North Vancouver house on fire on Halloween](#)

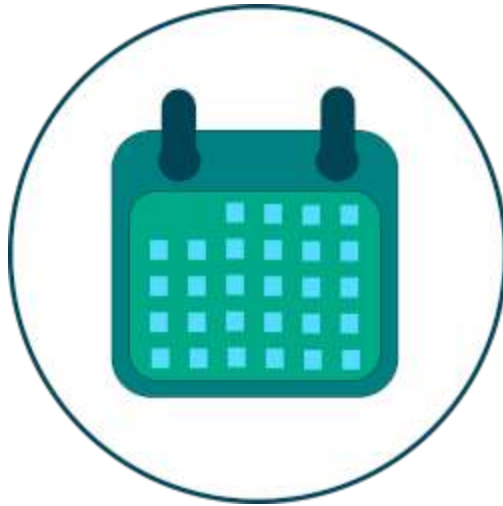
- [North Van RCMP seeks suspects in Halloween night arson](#) – this was started by a firework deliberately thrown into a home in the 4000 block of Dollar Road, not too far from Blueridge
- [Fireworks, fights and arson kept North Van RCMP busy on Halloween](#)
- [Four-in-10 District of North Vancouver Halloween fireworks permits bought outside the municipality](#) (in 2024)
- **Metro Vancouver**
 - [Regional councillors call for better governance over Metro Vancouver utility](#)
 - [Metro Vancouver Board Approves 2026 Budget](#)
 - CityNews: [Metro Vancouver announces property tax increase for 2026](#)
 - CTV News: [Metro Vancouver passes pared-down budget following criticism](#)
 - Vancouver Sun: [Metro Vancouver fees to hit \\$897 per home next year](#)

This Month In Cheese

- [Cheese & Chips](#) (no, not that kind!)
- [We Tested 5 Celebrity Mac and Cheese Recipes—This Is the One We'll Make Again and Again](#)
- [Eating cheese once a week may lower dementia risk, study suggests](#)
- [The enslaved man who popularised mac and cheese](#)
- [Husky does cheese pull](#) (TikTok)
- [Cocktails Have Entered Their Cheese Era](#)
- [The 2025 World Cheese Awards](#) (video)
- [Heady odors and sensory overload as 5,200 cheeses compete for the World Cheese Awards](#)
- [A Swiss Gruyere was crowned the 2025 World Cheese Champion](#)
- [Island cheesemaker wins gold, only Western producer recognized at World Cheese Awards](#)

You can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things: a rainy day, lost luggage and tangled Christmas tree lights.

-- Maya Angelou



Monthly Calendar

Important December Dates:

- **Dec 1:** Regular DNV Council meeting, [DNV Municipal hall](#), 7 pm
- **Dec 2:** Regular DNV Council workshop, [DNV Municipal hall](#), 5 pm
- **Dec 2:** Public Meeting: DNV Council seeks input on proposed expansion of Jasmine's Childcare, at Swineburn Ave & Berkley Rd
- **Dec 3:** [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)
- **Dec 4:** Blueridge Elementary Grade 6 Parent meeting: Cheakamus, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Rm 159
- **Dec 5:** Last day to request help via [Blueridge Cares](#)
- **Dec 5:** Curriculum implementation day. No classes at Blueridge, Seymour Heights, and Windsor.
- **Dec 5:** [Winter Lights at Parkgate](#) (Instagram), 5 - 7:30 pm
- **Dec 6:** [National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women](#)
- **Dec 8:** Windsor PAC meeting, library, 7:30 - 8:30 pm
- **Dec 8:** Regular DNV Council meeting, [DNV Municipal hall](#), (time TBA)
- **Dec 8:** Regular DNV Council workshop, [DNV Municipal hall](#), (time TBA)
- **Dec 9:** Meet DNV Mayor Mike Little, [Lynn Valley library](#), 1 - 2 pm
- **Dec 10:** Seymour Heights Winter Market
- **Dec 10:** Holiday Jazz Night @ Windsor, Windsor Multipurpose Room, Band room, Choir room, Drama room, 7 - 9:30 pm
- **Dec 11:** [Anniversary of the Statute of Westminster](#)
- **Dec 12:** Windsor Holiday Choir Concert, Multipurpose Rm, 7:30 - 10 pm
- **Dec 14 - Dec 22:** [Hanukkah](#)
- **Dec 15:** Last day to donate or volunteer with [Blueridge Cares](#)
- **Dec 15 - 18:** Windsor December Musical Theatre, Theatre, 7:30 - 9:30 pm (the show runs on 4 nights)

- **Dec 17:** Elementary Band & Strings Concert at Windsor Secondary, 7 - 8:30 pm, Windsor large gym, band room
- **Dec 17:** Meet DNV Mayor Mike Little, [Capilano library](#), 11 - noon
- **Dec 19:** Windsor early dismissal, 1 pm
- **Dec 20:** Winter break begins - school is out until Jan 5th
- **Dec 21:** [Winter Solstice](#)
- **Dec 25:** [Christmas Day](#)
- **Dec 26:** [Boxing Day](#)
- **Dec 26 - Jan 1:** [Kwanzaa](#)
- **Jan 1:** Blueridge tree chip up, Blueridge Elementary parking lot, 10 am - 3 pm

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 November Blueridge Bulletin

1. [The Town Hall](#)
2. DNV survey on People, Dogs, and Parks (now closed)
3. Neufeld farms fundraiser for Seymour Heights Elementary (now closed)
4. Sun-Oka farm apples fundraiser for Seymour Heights Elementary (now closed)
5. [What happens if disaster strikes the North Shore? NSEM lays out new evacuation plans](#)
6. [North Van District giving away \(and planting\) free trees](#)
7. [UXO \(unexploded ordnance\) clearance map](#)

8. [Prada and Pyrex on the shelf at North Vancouver's new Highlands Thrift Store](#)
9. [Blueridge Cares Help Request form](#)
10. The [Blueridge Community Association homepage](#)

Overall, 43 out of 112 different links were clicked on at least once each, and there were 168 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!

The following businesses are generously offering **discounted services** for a specific time frame noted on their offer, to Blueridge residents. This is a community benefit and **not an endorsement** by the Blueridge Community Association. We strongly advise all residents to conduct their own due diligence, research, and review of any partner business before purchasing services. The Blueridge Community Association **assumes no responsibility** for the quality of service or any issues that may arise from using a discount partner.



Blueridge Residents Discount

15% off Mobile and Drop-off Sharpening
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



Kitchen knives
Scissors
and more...

Discount offer from November 1st - December 20th, 2025



Blueridge Residents Discount

15% Off Christmas Lights Install & Takedown

Filth Fighters

604-341-7498

www.filthfighters.ca

contact@filthfighters.ca

Other Services:
Pressure Washing
Window Cleaning
Gutter Cleaning
Soft Washing



FILTH FIGHTERS
Premium Home Care

Save 15% on our posted install & takedown rates for
our stunning custom Christmas light displays

Rooflines: With discount - \$3.4/ft

Trees, Bushes, Pillars: With discount - \$25.5/String

These rates include two visits: Install & Takedown

Commercial grade product purchase
not eligible for this discount.

Discount offer from December 1st to December 20th, 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

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 January 2026 edition is December 27, 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!



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

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

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays

Dave Maquignaz - REALTOR®
604-512-5459
www.maQrealty.ca/blueridge




Hosts for High School International Students Needed in North Vancouver.

Hosting an International student provides an incredible experience for families to explore new cultures, learn about global issues and travel the world without leaving the comforts of your home. Students will be studying in North Vancouver this coming school year!

Would you consider being a host? We are welcoming students for short and longer term studies.

To learn more, please contact Carol at MLI Homestay at 604-376-6954 or visit www.mlihomestay.com/hosts



VIRANI
REAL ESTATE ADVISORS

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



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

**SUSIE
CHANT**
MLA - NORTH VANCOUVER SEYMOUR



Copyright © 2025 Blueridge Community Association. All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because you opted to receive the monthly *Blueridge Bulletin*.
www.blueridgeca.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).