

## Blueridge Good Neighbour Day: May 31, 2026

By Nicole Parfitt



Our 26th Blueridge Good Neighbour Day (BGND) is fast approaching! Our theme for this year's event is Pride of Nations. Inspired by the Olympics and the World Cup soccer season, we're celebrating the cultures and countries that make up our

neighbourhood - everyone welcome! The goal of BGND is to bring our community together by creating a festive, welcoming atmosphere where neighbours can connect, and we want you to be a part of it!

Our dedicated volunteers have been working hard to confirm plans for BGND, which runs from 10:45 a.m. to 3.p.m. and includes traditional activities and some new ones too. Below are highlights, important updates and ways that you can become a part of the day by volunteering, donating, showcasing your art or attending as a community table or makers' market participant.

**For general info about BGND, please see [blueridgeca.org](https://blueridgeca.org).  
For volunteer info please read the following:**

### Parade

We need a new parade marshal/organizer!! Without someone to take on this role we may have to cancel the parade.

The parade is a special way to start the day, as we invite the entire community to come out and be a part of it as we proceed down Berkley to the school! Decorate your bikes, scooters, strollers, or anything with wheels with your flags and country colours and join the parade. The parade will start at 10:45am sharp, so please meet at the corner of Berkley & Hyannis by 10:30am!

**Parade sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/ZW0yg>**

### Event Info

Following the parade, the festivities get underway at Blueridge Elementary School. This is where the fun REALLY begins. We'll have activities for all ages: inflatables, train rides, crafts, a chess tournament, live music, a beer garden, food trucks, community tables, silent auction, an art show and so much more! For

more event information, including times and updates on what's happening this year, check out our website: [blueridgeca.org/blueridge-good-neighbour-day](https://blueridgeca.org/blueridge-good-neighbour-day)

### Volunteers

This event wouldn't be possible without countless volunteers. You can help with setting up for the event, as part of the clean-up crew, or as a volunteer at different activities throughout the day. You can help all day or for just an hour. New this year we are specifically looking for student volunteers! You can count this towards community service hours for school and gain experience in community event planning. Please sign up via the links below:

**Volunteer sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/vmgsM>**

**Student volunteer sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/HnwDo>**

### Silent Auction

The event this year will feature another amazing silent auction. The money raised helps pay for the event and keeps the cost of activities free. We are still looking for auction donations. Want to contribute? Please let us know via the link below:

**Auction Donation sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/ojZxE>**



### Community Tables

We'd love to invite you to host a Community Table. It's a great opportunity to connect with local families, share what you do, and be part of a welcoming, high-energy day that brings neighbours together. We'll provide you with a 6 ft x 2.5 ft table, space for promotional banner/tablecloth and placement in a high-traffic area.

**Community Table sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/K9fr9>**

### Here are new features for this year . . .

#### Makers' Market

A locals-only market featuring makers and artisans in the Blueridge community. Also featuring a Junior Makers' Market for local students Grade 12 and under

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to feature their crafts. The Market is limited to arts, crafts and small wares made by locals. Registrants will be provided with a 6 ft x 2.5 ft table and 2 chairs. The registration fee for Junior Makers (K to Grade 12) is \$10. The fee for Adult Makers is \$30.

**Makers' Market sign up here: <https://shorturl.at/OVTus>**

### Anonymous Art Auction

We'd love to showcase your work in our first BGND Anonymous Art Show! All skill levels are welcome

(beginner, emerging and experienced). We ask that you submit up to three 8 x 8 pieces to be displayed online and at BGND on May 31, 2026. All artworks are to be sold for \$80 on the art auction site and split (\$60 for the artist/ \$20 to help fund BGND). Submit quality photos of your work to ***commoner.art.bc@gmail.com*** by May 22 so we can add them to the auction site giving buyers a preview of your work prior to sale. Drop-off deadline- May 29.

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## Scenes from last year's Good Neighbour Day



## Neighbours Helping Neighbours: An Extra Hand for Our Community

*By Mahnaz Fardghassemi*

The heart of Blueridge has always been our sense of connection. We know that sometimes life throws a curveball — whether it's a sudden injury, a recovery period, or a season where physical tasks become difficult to manage.

The Neighbours Helping Neighbours (NHN) program is built on the philosophy of simple, community-based kindness. This initiative is specifically designed to provide a helping hand to neighbours who are facing genuine challenges or mobility issues.

It isn't about general convenience or everyday errands; it's about stepping in when a resident truly needs support with a task they can no longer handle on their own. By connecting those in need with fellow residents who are ready to help, we ensure that no one in our neighbourhood has to struggle through a difficult time in isolation. It's about neighbours looking out for neighbours to keep our community strong.

**Please Note:** NHN is a volunteer-led initiative with a focus on simple assistance. As such, the program is limited in its scope, responsibility, and availability. It is intended for neighbourly help and does not provide professional, medical, or specialized support services. If you are facing a challenge or know a neighbour who could use a hand, please reach out: <https://blueridgeca.org/neighbours-helping-neighbours/>

Let's continue to make BCA a place where we truly care for one another.

# Welcome New Neighbours!

By Sahba Bayat & Arshiya Hassanzadeh

*Hello neighbours!*

We're Sahba and Arshiya, and we recently moved into the neighbourhood. We're both passionate travelers and love trying new things, whether that's exploring a new place, picking up a new hobby, or just keeping life a little interesting.

On the work side, Sahba works in Organizational Psychology within the healthcare sector, focusing on how to improve workplace effectiveness through Organizational Change Management. Arshiya owns a construction company called Aroco Construction, specializing in commercial construction, including schools, hospitals, and business facilities.

We chose this neighbourhood because we were hoping to find a strong sense of community and a family-oriented feel. Since moving in, we've really enjoyed how friendly and genuine people are. At the same time, there's a real sense of peace and tranquility that we've come to appreciate, something that can be hard to find. It's been easy to feel at home here, and we're glad we made the move. We also love that the neighbourhood has so much to offer right at our doorstep. The access to biking and hiking trails is amazing, and we're especially excited for summer so we can get out and fully explore everything this area has to offer.

If you see us out for a walk, on the trails, or just around the neighbourhood, please don't be shy, just come say hi! We're always up for a friendly chat, meeting new faces, and getting to know the community better. Bonus points if you have a great local recommendation to share!



*Sahba Bayat & Arshiya Hassanzadeh*

## The Power of Good Ideas

By Eric Andersen, BCA Chair



*Eric Andersen*

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, according to Oscar Wilde. And, it might be said, Blueridge Community Association (BCA) has imitated many a good idea over the years.

We have never been afraid to copy what others have done successfully, and, similarly, we have influenced others beyond Blueridge.

This hard-copy newsletter you are reading is just one of several initiatives BCA has continued for 30 years. Initially, the newsletter's purpose was to rally the community to fight development of the forest area called Cove and Mountain Forest, north of and adjacent to Blueridge.

Hard for some of you to believe, but many years ago, most communication had to be done on the phone or via hard copy. Volunteers were enlisted to distribute the newsletter, and this tradition has continued ever since.

So why do we continue to use paper instead of relying on electronic communication? The answer is that only about half of Blueridge residents have signed up to receive our monthly e-newsletter, The Blueridge Bulletin, which you can get by clicking on our website: [blueridgeca.org](http://blueridgeca.org). If we were to drop the hard-copy newsletter, we would lose communication with many of our fellow residents.

Then in 1998 came Blueridge Good Neighbour Day. It was spearheaded by X-Files actor, the late and local Don S. Williams (First Elder) who copied Deep Cove Daze, an event that no longer exists. Over the years, we have also had excellent communication with the organizers of Lynn Valley Days. We are proud that our event, BGND, has continued to run for 26 years.

Years ago, we raised money through a weekly farmers' market that we helped set up in the neighbourhood. When the BCA hosted its first brainstorming workshop in November, 2013, we discussed what to do with the money raised. A small committee established a scholarship, and in 2015 the first recipient received \$500. Last year we decided to increase the amount to \$750, and

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this year, with a generous recurring donation from a local resident, we now give recipients \$1,000.

In 1992, the loosely formed group of people gave themselves a name—the Blueridge Community Association—bringing together the neighbourhoods of Blueridge and Seymour Heights. Again, via the hard copy newsletter, we asked readers how we could best celebrate the 25 years anniversary. The best response we received was to do a local Dîner en Blanc, a long-table outdoor dinner which had originated in Paris in 1988 and is now held in many cities. We were happy to copy the concept but with a slight twist: we became Dîner en Bleu. Now after a break, partly due to Covid, we are pleased to resurrect the event for 2026.

Despite the pain of COVID, some good came of it. Again, imitating what others have successfully done throughout Metro Vancouver, we collected donations and gifts for the staff at our local hospital, Lions Gate Hospital. That was a huge success and touched the hearts of the amazing staff. The effort was followed by similar campaigns honouring the RCMP and other First Responders.

After the pandemic, donating took a different form: we decided to target Blueridge families

needing help at Christmas. In recent years, the BCA has assisted 4-5 local families. As a ‘spin-off’ of this activity, we have launched a new program which we call Neighbours Helping Neighbours. We have had many volunteers sign up, although not many people have indicated need... at least not yet.

Our latest ‘copy-cat act’ is Cozy Night, a regular gathering that our friends in Pemberton Heights stage at their local watering hole. With help from Canlan Sports, Blueridge neighbours now meet every THIRD TUESDAY of the month. It has been good fun so far, and over the summer we will decide whether this casual gathering should continue monthly or perhaps less frequently. This is a wonderful way to meet newcomers to Blueridge or other neighbours you’ve never met.

As you can tell, we’re not afraid of putting a special Blueridge spin on somebody else’s good idea. Why reinvent the wheel? Likewise, our activities have been noticed by others. This year alone we have made two presentations to other organizations about our work.

Whether we be influencers or followers, I have to agree with Oscar Wilde: imitation is indeed the sincerest form of flattery.

## Some Welcome Advice About Bedtime

*By Fariba Leilaby*

*Fariba has a Bachelor of Psychology and more than 25 years of experience working with children. This is the first of a series of short, informal tips on negotiating the daunting (but rewarding) job of raising children.*

Hello neighbours! I have felt lucky to call this place my home since 2007. Lately, I’ve noticed many young parents moving to and settling in our community, and I’d love to share some practical parenting tips. I don’t claim to be an expert, but over more than two decades I’ve learned a lot of things that may help make life a little easier for younger parents.

Getting kids to bed can be challenging, but being consistent really helps. My kids are adults now, but years ago, our family had a Farsi phrase for bedtime: “Mesmak, jujou, lala.” Translated into English, “Mesmak” means toothbrush, “Jujou” is the cartoon character Tweety Bird featured on the tube of popular toothpaste by the same name, and “lala” in Farsi means “sleeping.”

As soon as I said these three words, my kids were ready to go to bed. They were actually excited! If I wasn’t home for bedtime and my husband was supposed to put them to bed, they were very sad because he didn’t have the same fun routine.

For children under eight years old, I recommend aiming for a 7:30 pm bedtime. Here is a 30-minute routine that can make bedtime smoother.

Help them brush their teeth, then move to story time. Let your child pick a book (or you choose one if they’re very young). Spend about 15 minutes reading to them while lying next to them in their bed or beside their bed. The final step is the most important one: Tuck them in and give them a kiss goodnight. It’s a good way to end their day with warmth and reassurance.

If you approach bedtime as a fun, shared moment instead of as a chore, your child will settle in more easily—and be fast asleep by 8:00 pm.



## Blueridge Briefs—What’s Happening

### Come share the soccer

Christine and Joe here! Join us at our United Strangers for the excitement of the FIFA World Cup play in our shop in June and July! We’ll be streaming all matches during our regular hours (7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) We’d love for you to come by, cheer on your teams, and soak up the energy together. If you’re looking for a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere—away from the crowds and noise of bigger venues—this is your spot. Come hang out, connect, and be part of the fun!



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### Scholarship Gets a Boost!

The Blueridge Scholarship just got a little larger, thanks to Blueridge resident Cathi Wetsch, who has pledged \$250 to the \$750 a year scholarship for students going on to post-secondary education. “I chose to support the scholarship because, through my work in childcare, I’ve had the privilege of watching young children grow into youth and young adults within our community. It feels meaningful to give back and support opportunities that help them continue to thrive and reach their potential. Others should consider contributing because even a small act of giving can have a lasting impact.” For more info, contact [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org)

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### So You Want to be the Editor of the Blueridge Newsletter?

Win unfettered power, prestige and boundless riches!

See a job description on our website at [blueridgeca.org](http://blueridgeca.org). Deadline for applying is Sept. 1. You can also contact Michael Bernard at 604-506-5742 or email [michaelwrbernard@gmail.com](mailto:michaelwrbernard@gmail.com)

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### Remember Drive-ins!

#### McCartney Park. Sunday, Aug. 23. Movie starts at 8 p.m.

We’re excited to announce that we’re bringing back the classic outdoor movie night to our community! But this will be a picnic-style outdoor movie. A fun evening for all ages. Kids can play while parents relax and connect.

Bring your own blanket, chairs, and food. We’ll also have a concession stand with snacks and popcorn available. This is a FREE event, and everyone is welcome! We’re also looking for sponsors. If you’d like your ad featured on the big screen, we’d love to hear from you. Volunteers are also needed to help make this event a success. Please join us for a fun night under the stars!

## Statistics Canada now hiring for Census 2026 jobs in North Vancouver

**Have a student at home looking for summer work?**

**Or maybe you’d like to earn some extra dollars for that much needed vacation?**

Census Canada 2026 is now hiring for summer jobs that pay \$25.87 an hour and 60 cents a kilometre for car use. The job is straight-forward: distribute Census Canada surveys door-to-door and later collect them. The surveys ask residents everything from the languages they speak to how many jobs they hold. The (anonymous) data is used by all government levels to plan services, among other things.

Applicants must be 19 or older, Canadian citizens or permanent residents, and be available to work flexible hours, including days, evenings and weekends between May and July. Successful applicants will work 20 to 40 hours a week and are paid weekly.

Apply now at [census.gc.ca/jobs](http://census.gc.ca/jobs) or call 1-833-830-3106 for assistance in applying.



## Dîner en Bleu is Back!

*By The Dîner en Bleu Committee*

**A**fter a seven-year hiatus, we are thrilled to announce the DÎNER EN BLEU is coming back to Blueridge on Saturday, June 20 at 6 p.m..

Don't miss this opportunity to join neighbourhood friends in a SECRET location in Blueridge-Seymour Heights. It is an outdoor event held on long tables. Ticket purchasers will learn by email on the morning of June 20 where the dinner is being held.

Only 120 tickets will be sold - this event sells out very quickly so be ready to jump when tickets go on sale May 20th.

Dîner en Bleu is fashioned after an event called Dîner en Blanc that started in Paris in the 1980s where participants were invited to a secret location for dining. They were urged to wear white so they could recognize each other. After Paris, the dinner went viral to become a global event. Dîner en Bleu sports a different colour, for obvious reasons.

You can get your tickets on and after Monday, May 20, by emailing [info@blueridgeca.org](mailto:info@blueridgeca.org) E-transfers please (details will be provided). Cheques (made out to the Blueridge Community Association) are also accepted. A limit of four tickets per purchase! Ticket price: \$30. 19 + years only. No refunds and Blueridge residents only please.

You bring your own food and beverages. Tables, chairs, dinnerware, glassware and dessert are all provided. Alcohol is permitted. Please drink responsibly. No pets please.

Ticket price covers costs of the event with any surplus applied to the Blueridge Community Association's \$1000 scholarships for local Grade 12 students - [https://blueridgeca.org/scholarship/Dress in BLUE](https://blueridgeca.org/scholarship/Dress%20in%20BLUE) (West Coast casual), but please dress in blue for the spirit of the event. Bring something to wear in case it gets cool or wet.

### The program:

- 6 PM: arrival and mingling
- 7 PM: dinner seating with a quick speech and thank you to sponsors
- 9 PM: dessert
- 10 PM: wrap up and tear down. It will have been a very long day for the small committee that put the event together. Any support you can provide with the tear down would be greatly appreciated!



**Tune Up Special  
Gas Appliance Services  
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**Pacific Coast Heating Services**  
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[www.pacificcoastheating.com](http://www.pacificcoastheating.com)  
[info@pacificcoastheating.com](mailto:info@pacificcoastheating.com)

Tune Up Promotion ~ GST Free for Seniors (on servicing only) Furnace, Boiler, Fireplace, Water Heaters (Standard or Tankless) \$129 Each Fortis Maintenance Rebate Up to \$150 (Furnace, Boiler, Fireplace & Tankless only)

Heat Pump or Air Conditioners \$179  
Inquire with us on repairs or free installation estimate Service Repair & Install all makes and models

**Discount offer from May 1 to May 31, 2026**

**15% 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)

Spring cleaning is here! The Filth Fighters are offering Blueridge residents an exclusive 15% off all exterior home cleaning services.

Our schedule fills up fast, so don't wait! Call us today to schedule your free consultation & quote. Be sure to mention this offer when reaching out.

**Discount offer from May 1st to June 30th, 2026**

**Blueridge Residents:  
Receive 15% Discount Off  
Interior & Exterior Detail Packages**



**SoapnShine**  
778-989-5895  
[boston@soapnshine.ca](mailto:boston@soapnshine.ca)  
[www.soapnshine.ca](http://www.soapnshine.ca)

Receive 15% off SoapnShine's Light or Full Interior & Exterior Detailing packages when booking online. This offer applies to any size vehicle, from sedans and coupes to SUVs and pickup trucks.

Use promo code Blueridge15 when booking online.  
<https://book.soapnshine.ca>

Discount applies only to SoapnShine Light Interior & Exterior Detailing packages and Full Interior & Exterior Detailing packages. Subject to appointment availability within SoapnShine service areas.

**Discount offer from May 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026**

# BLUERIDGE GARDEN CONCERTS CONTINUE

Don & Roxie Giles are pleased to announce their seventh season of concerts in their Garden at 1969 Arroyo Court this summer. This year features four events; all involving the best in professional musicians. \$45 per concert or a Season Pass of \$160. A limit of 60 tickets per concert! Tickets go on sale June 1. Concert dates (all on Saturdays) are July 11, July 25, Aug. 8 and Sept. 5.

Bring your own summer snack and drink. Chairs, tables, glassware provided. A great way to once again enjoy our fabulous community! For more details,

you can view the concert programs as of June 1 in the Blueridge Bulletin or contact [roxiemusic2017@gmail.com](mailto:roxiemusic2017@gmail.com).



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## Important Dates


- May 12:** BCA's AGM, Canlan Sports, 7:15 PM
- May 19:** Cozy Night - Canlan Sports at 7.00 PM
- May 20:** First day to buy Dîner en Bleu tickets - on-line
- May 31:** Blueridge Good Neighbour Day  
Blueridge Elementary School 11 AM
- June 16:** Cozy Night - Canlan Sports at 7.00 PM
- June 20:** Dîner en Bleu - Secret location at 6.00 PM
- June-July:** FIFA Game Watching. United Strangers  
7:30 AM to 4:30 PM



## PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH!!

The BCA is on these social media sites, follow your favourite.

 Facebook: Blueridge Community Association

 Instagram: Blueridge\_\_Community

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

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