

Camosun Community Association



Annual General Meeting

Thursday, November 27th, 2008

7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Fisher 200, Camosun College

at Landsdowne

Speaker: Paula Steele of City Green Solutions

If driving, remember to bring \$1.25 coin for parking

**Proposed Ambulance Station
Carrick Street** By Sheila Critch



Thanks to the many residents who attended the Sept 17th Community Meeting at Hope Lutheran Church. The meeting included presentations by Shawn Carby, Executive Director, BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) and local residents, and was followed by a question and answer session. The meeting was attended by over 120 residents including Victoria-Hillside MLA Rob Fleming and Saanich Councillor Judy Brownoff. A feedback survey was also circulated and completed by over 100 residents. Concerns expressed included lack of consultation by BCAS, inappropriate location in a wholly residential neighbourhood, loss of valuable greenspace, increased noise and traffic, pedestrian and cyclist safety, property value impact, poor planning and coordination with other agencies including the VIHA. Although there was overwhelming opposition to the BCAS proposal, residents expressed strong support for helping BCAS find a suitable permanent location. (This location was meant to be temporary)

A volunteer Residents' Working Group summarized the meeting and feedback survey. The CCA, North Jubilee Neighbourhood Association and Friends of Bowker Creek Society forwarded a letter summarizing community feedback to BCAS management, with copies to elected representatives.

Since that meeting in September, BCAS has been reviewing the viability of a number of alternate properties brought to their attention, including the merits of the CNIB building at Bay and Richmond for the ambulance station.

If you would like to volunteer or participate with this neighbourhood Working Group, please contact Pat at 250-595-0514 or Graham at 250-592-5229. For updates, see the CCA web site.

Are you interested in a **free** presentation on home energy efficiency? Would you like to find out about the grant programs and resources for homeowners that help pay for upgrades to you home's:

- ✓ Doors
- ✓ Heating
- ✓ Ventilation
- ✓ Windows
- ✓ Insulation
- ✓ Solar hot water heating



We've invited Paula Steele of City Green Solutions, (and Community Energy Manager for the District of Saanich) to our AGM

As the real estate market slows, more people are choosing to stay in their homes and renovate for the future. Through **energy efficiency upgrades**, homeowners can:

- ✓ Lower energy bills
- ✓ Minimize drafts
- ✓ Improve indoor air quality
- ✓ Reduce allergens and pollutants
- ✓ 'Futureproof' against rising fuel costs
- ✓ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced through home operating energy use

Plus, federal, provincial and municipal programs and **grants are available now** to help homeowners improve their home's windows, doors, heating, ventilation, insulation, solar hot water heating and more!

This presentation outlines the current "House as a System" **construction best practices** for home energy efficiency retrofits, explores the most efficient products now available on the market, and outlines the application process for related grant programs. Sponsors:



Together Against Graffiti by Tim Janzen



In an effort to combat the growing problem of graffiti, Together Against Graffiti or “TAGS” as they are otherwise known, the Camosun Community Association is joining forces with the Saanich Police Department’s TAG program.

In its current form, the TAG program deploys high school students into some of the heavily graffitied areas of Saanich. We have been given approval to notch up the program by making it available to our residents in order to “adopt” a street and cover over graffiti as it appears. Ultimately, the goal would be to establish a number of “task forces” around the neighbourhood, to paint over the graffiti as soon as possible, thus discouraging the “taggers”, while re-beautifying our neighbourhood. Saanich will supplied paint and materials through the TAG Program.

If you are interested in this exciting citizen-driven initiative please contact Tim Janzen @ 592-2954 for more details. The more involvement we have from our community, the better our chances will be of eradicating graffiti. Business sponsors also welcome!

Investing in the Future

Found only in small pockets of British Columbia's Vancouver Island, Gulf Islands and in the Fraser River Valley, remaining stands of Garry Oak are home to an incredible diversity of species that aren't found anywhere else. But less than 5% of the original Garry Oak habitat remains.



The Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society (GOMPS) is a Charitable Society that was formally established in 1992 for the purpose of preserving and restoring the rapidly disappearing Garry oak trees, woodlands and meadows, which are diminishing mostly due to development of various kinds in the Capital Regional District.

Their greatest threat remains the loss of habitat. The ecosystem includes many endangered species of plants and animals; currently, officially listed at about 120 species.

GOMPS needs a new President and several Directors to carry on the work of this important society.

Are you the one referred to when Forrest Tucker said, “He loves nature in spite of what it did to him”?

Please reply by email to the Vice President, The Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society, at garryloak@netscape.net

Do You Wish to See the CCA Continue?? by Al Lubkowskif

Last chance folks! The CCA will be closing “shop” as of the end of this year – that is if no additional people come forward to serve on the Executive. The decision to shut down or to continue our grass roots association will be made at our AGM this November 27th held in Camosun College (Fisher 200), Camosun College, starting at 7pm. Be there!

It’s been over ten years that the CCA has been running. You probably remember regularly getting a yellow flyer in your mailbox describing our activities and many of the issues we have tackled on behalf of residents.

The person distributing this flyer is a volunteer, as are the rest of us who meet once a month to discuss how to better our community and then to do what we can to make it happen. This includes activities that range from discussing community issues and their solutions, and making presentations at town hall meetings, to organizing and conducting community picnics and creek clean-ups. We thrive on ideas and initiative, but we need more volunteers to do the things that are needed.

If we go under, we have many successes we can look back on: In the last year alone, for example, you may have noted that the CCA has successfully resisted the sale of Richmond School, and prevented adjacent Bowker Creek property from being developed; critiqued Hospital plans for expansion; and made suggestions for changes to the Official Community Plan. These suggestions included the need for Saanich to legalize/regulate secondary suites. Most recently the CCA has supported residents who are opposed to the use of the Hydro property on Haultain Ave for ambulance dispatch purposes. As a result of this community initiative, a successful outcome to this conflict appears likely.



To shut down our community organization this November would be unfortunate, as residents will be facing a number of major land use challenges in 2009, including the final fate of Richmond School. Ironically, in response from the District of Saanich, we have just agreed to expand our boundaries into the Derby/Cedar Hill area to include another 700 households. This now makes for a total 2400 household within our geographical boundaries. You would think that with all these people, depending on a community association to champion their individual and collective causes, that there wouldn’t be a problem attracting sufficient members to carry on. Wrong!

If you are at all interested in the future of our community, we strongly suggest that you attend our AGM – an event this November that will decide whether we carry on, and if so, what we might tackle in the new year. And if you have some ideas and better still, are able to serve in some capacity, you just might encourage us not to turn off the lights and carry on.

CCA Board of Directors

Sheila Critch, President & Newsletter Editor

Tel: 598-2291

Andrea Gleichauf, Vice-President & Environment

Tel: 598-9837

Secretary, vacant

Brenda Nielsen, Treasurer

David Ross, Royal Jubilee Hospital Liaison

Tel: 920-0703

Tim Janzen, Newsletter Advertising & Membership

Tel: 592-5954

Al Lubkowski, Land Use

Tel: 216-2389

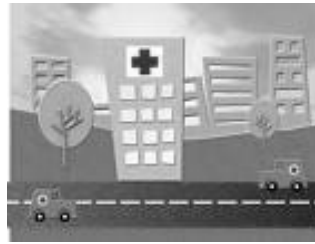
Margaret Anne McLennan, Director at Large

Yves Bajard, SCAN Liaison

Tel: 598-4610

Carol Giskemo, Newsletter Distribution

Tel: 514-4264



RJH Committee Needs You!

by David Ross

The CCA is actively looking for a new RJH Neighbourhood Committee

representative. With a new work schedule, I no longer have time for volunteer activities, and unfortunately the current slate of directors is already too busy with other projects to take this on. The RJH Committee meets on average once a month, generally Tuesday or Wednesday nights; otherwise, all business is done through email.

Current issues that top the Committee agenda are 1) The construction of the new Patient Care Center 2) Changes to Parking/Landscaping, and 3) The creation of a Master Campus Plan.

Please, especially if you live near the hospital, consider volunteering for this very important position! With the upcoming Master Campus Plan being developed for the RJH site this is your opportunity for major input on how this will take shape. Where on site should the future development take place? Do you want to continue having towers built on the edge of the campus or should they be contained in the middle? Should there be a future height restriction? These and many thoughts have come forward during the PCC re-zoning, but need your support. For a most recent update on the committee's activities and to volunteer, please see the CCA web site for our contact information: www.camosuncommunityassociation.com



Celebrate Richmond School and Bowker Creek Celebration (Annual Picnic June 2008) by Sheila Critch



We had a fantastic celebration back in June at our Annual Picnic. Estimates of attendance were as high as 500 people. We had salmon burgers, hamburgers, hotdogs, and cake.

Sixty kite kits were given away. Kids had fun flying their kites. 200 people signed the Bowker Creek Pledge. People danced to the Marimba band, and marched in the parade to the BC Hydro fields to see the Ghost Salmon Run (paper salmon lanterns) and participated in RiverSong singing with Carolyn Knight. Seaquaria brought an aquarium with sea creatures to hold. There was salmon-on-sticks craft-making; storytelling by Gerald Harris; Quadra Elementary School Choir with Principal, Maureen Weston and choir conductor; guest speakers, Cheryl Bryce from the Songhees Nation, and federal MP, Denise Savoie; the Great Pushmower Challenge; and more. Thanks to everyone who made the Annual Picnic a great success! (photos on left by S. Critch)

To contact us:

write to: c/o 3205 Wordsworth Street
Victoria, B.C, V8P 4B7 or

Email through our web site:

www.camosuncommunityassociation.com
just click on contacts and select a director's name

Four Seasons Boutique Nurseries - The New Kid on Our Block!

The CCA welcomes a fine new business to our community. Owner/Manager Sylvia Schneider has transformed the interior of the former grocery at the corner of Shelbourne and McRae into a restful oasis featuring high quality gift accessories for the home, and outside the store she has brought in an outstanding assortment of pots, decorative plants and young trees.

Sylvia, who grew up amidst the strawberry fields of Prince Edward Island, specializes in high quality floral arrangements for birthdays, weddings, and graduation, as well as custom Christmas center pieces for your table. As small patio gardens become popular, Sylvia is keen to give design advice and supply decorative containers and plants.

Sylvia says, "I'm it, so my work is always my best and my prices are lower because I'm not in a pricey mall or down town." A friendly welcome awaits you at the Four Seasons Boutique Nurseries, and while there you can enjoy a cup of freshly brewed coffee while you speak to Sylvia. She listens!

Advertising Cost

Cost of advertising is \$30 for a business card size. This newsletter is published two to three times per year and is distributed to approximately 1700 households. For questions, or to place an advertisement, please call Tim Janzen @ 592-2954. Revenue from advertising is used to defray the cost of producing the newsletter.

Membership Fees

For those whose memberships have expired, dues will be collected at the upcoming public meeting (see front page for details). All funds raised by the CCA are re-directed into our community and cover: administration, newsletter, flyer publication, and web site costs.

Serving Our Community



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Victoria - Hillside



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VICKI SANDERS

Saanich Councillor

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead (1901 - 1978)

(250) 592-0865

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MEMBER

3250 Richmond Road
Victoria, BC V8P 4P1

Dr. Carol Giskemo, BSc. DC

Chiropractor

ALIGN YOUR SPINE

Phone: (250) 514-4264
cgiskemo@hotmail.com

Camosun Community Association Membership or Renewal \$10.00 per year

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

Email _____ I will help deliver newsletters ? yes ? no

I am interested in _____

Send to: Camosun Community Association, 1954 Neil Street, Victoria BC V8R 3C9

(Cheques payable to Camosun Community Association)

Your personal information is kept confidential and is not redistributed.