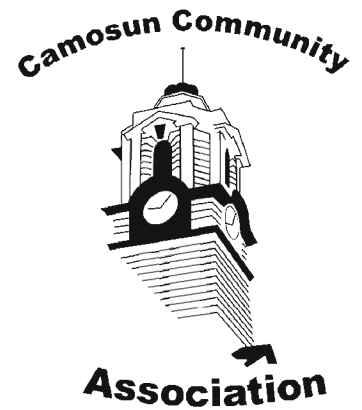


CAMOSUN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2012

WWW.CAMOSUNCOMMUNITYASSOCIATION.COM



The Camosun Community Association is a non-profit society with the mandate to promote, facilitate, support and undertake activities that will enhance the quality of life for residents in the Camosun Community within Saanich.



Family Picnic & Fun Day June 23rd 11am-2pm

Richmond School Playground

Come out and celebrate the start of summer. Enjoy a free BBQ, kids games, music, pendant making and face painting. Thanks to Thrifty Foods & Coast Capital Savings for their generous support in making this event possible for our community.

In This Issue:

- * UVIC CARSA Update
- * Transportation Initiatives at Camosun College
- * Summer Picnic - June 23rd Richmond School
- * Densification of Shelbourne Valley
- * CCA on Facebook & Twitter
- * Land Use Updates
- * Host a Block Watch Party

New Community Notice Board!

Check out our new community notice board at Browning Park! This complements our existing one which is on the side of the baseball building at Allenby Park. The new board has a map of Saanich on the reverse side that shows where our community association fits in relation to Victoria and the rest of Saanich. Watch for notices of community events and the work that your Board is doing on your behalf.



Land Use in the CCA

The CCA is involved in many land use proposals and projects in our neighbourhood to ensure the best interests of our community are being met. We work with a wide range of parties, including individual developers, large institutions, and planners from the Municipality of Saanich. Below is an outline of some recent land use projects in the CCA. If you have any questions/ concerns about land use, or would like to become involved, please contact Caleb Horn at horn.calebj@gmail.com

Royal Jubilee Hospital

The hospital's first Master Campus Plan (MCP) has finished three years of drafting and is headed to the City of Victoria for review and will also be incorporated into Saanich's local area plan. The MCP outlines the guiding principles and design guidelines for any future growth at the Royal Jubilee site. Current activity on the site includes the deconstruction of the South and East blocks, and the second-storey addition to the Cancer Centre. In an effort to reduce traffic on neighbourhood streets during construction, the Richmond School site has been rented out for workers to use as parking. Please contact Caleb Horn if there are concerns about the amount of non-residential parking occurring on neighbourhood streets.

1535 Oak Crest

An application to rezone this property from RS-6 (single-unit) to RD-1 (duplex) has been filed. A public hearing date has not been set but will likely occur in the end of May. At the time of writing, a survey is being undertaken of 62 neighbouring residents and the results of this survey have not yet been finalized. Currently, the community has been supportive of the house's design which will be built to the highest standard of sustainability, but there are concerns regarding the need for a rezoning on this quiet street.



Land Use continued ...

1806 / 1810 Newton

An application has not been filed, but interest in a subdivision of these properties has been expressed. The CCA will be working with the developer and neighbours to ensure any community concerns are met.

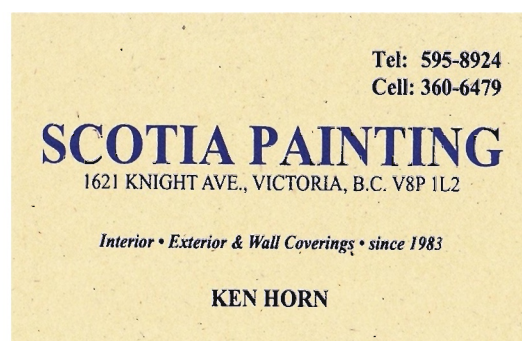
Other Projects

Other projects include the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan, the UVic CARSA project, and the Camosun College Transportation Plan, discussed elsewhere in this newsletter.



CCA Board of Directors

President.....	Michael Crowe.....	michaelc@benefits.bc.ca
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Traffic Safety/Graffiti....	Tim Janzen.....	issuesman@gmail.com
Land Use/Newsletter		
Distribution.....	Caleb Horn.....	horn.calebj@gmail.com
Past President.....	Adam Beech.....	beech316@hotmail.com
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Camosun Students.....	Open	



Transportation Initiatives at Camosun College

In 2009, Camosun College adopted a Transportation and Parking Management (TPM) Plan which addresses a variety of transportation issues identified by the college community to assist in reaching sustainability and smart growth goals. With over 18,000 learners and 900 faculty, staff and administration, how the Camosun community gets to the college is an important issue. Increased urbanization and steady development on the West Shore can make the commute challenging.

A key objective to our TPM plan is to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles coming to both campuses by increasing participation in alternatives such as walking, cycling, ridesharing, public transportation and telework. To do so, the Ancillary Services department at the college (which is responsible for the TPM plan) works proactively with stakeholders both on- and off-campus to improve walking and biking paths, advocate for improved bus service and develop on-campus facilities and programs to support users of alternate transportation.

In the area of cycling our newest initiatives include the purchase of bicycle repair stations for both campuses and new secure bike parking at the Lansdowne campus to match the one already in place at Interurban. We are also a proud sponsor of Bike-to-Work Week (BTWW) which has been a successful initiative for the past three years with over 300 cyclists who have cycled almost 15,000kms in total. This event will be held again later this month and then will continue on with a Camosun Bike to Work Network over the summer to encourage and support cyclist to Camosun into the fall. We'll track the mileage of participants and celebrate our success. We will be hosting a BTWW Celebration station at Lansdowne on Wednesday morning May 30 – you are welcome to join us!

Central to the TPM plan is engaging the entire college community in ongoing review and development of new initiatives. We do this through regular and comprehensive surveys (from which we receive an outstanding response rate and much valued opinions) as well as through more frequent informal communication. In addition, internal and external stakeholders are engaged through the Transportation and Parking Implementation Project Committee (TPIP) Steering Committee. The contribution from the Steering Committee on TPM plan oversight, support, advice and collaboration has been successful and productive for the past two years. On the committee are representatives from Camosun College, Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE), BC Transit, District of Saanich, Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition (GVCC), Robbins Parking, and the Camosun Community Association (CCA). We appreciate the participation of Caleb Horn from the CCA on this Camosun College steering committee!

“Camosun College considers sustainable transportation to be an important element of our sustainability efforts. We are proud to be able to report success toward each of the goals in our TPM plan. We are very pleased to have community stakeholders working with us to achieve these goals” acknowledges Kathryn Le Gros, Director, Ancillary Services.

To find out more about Camosun's TPM plan visit: <http://camosun.ca/about/transportation/future.html>

Article submitted by members of Camosun College's Ancillary Services department, led by Kathryn Le Gros. The CCA has been supportive of the college's initiatives in reducing vehicular traffic in our community while improving cycling and transit infrastructure.



Food security

**Lots of talk, scattered action on local food.
Unmeasured results.**

Community gardens, hundred-mile-diet, farmers markets, organics, etc. create a feel-good ambiance among those who can afford to purchase or have time to act.

There is no mass awareness that the Island provides only few percent of our food, that only a few days reserve are available on the Island and that we risk a sudden cut by an earthquake on the Lower Mainland or more permanently by sharp raises in outside supply costs (oil).

Therefore, there is no concerted action toward ensuring that we, locally or regionally, can feed ourselves, if that happens.

Especially, we, urban residents, are largely unaware of the issue and passively get our food at our food store, regardless of its source. We at the Camosun Community Association, are starting a public conversation on the subject. Please join us in organizing.

Yves Bajard. yves@bajard.net



***Ida Chong welcomes
the Camosun Community Association
to Oak Bay–Gordon Head***



Ida Chong
MLA Oak Bay–Gordon Head
Gordon Head Office: 1.250.472.8528
Oak Bay Office: 1.250.598.8398
Email: Ida.Chong.MLA@leg.bc.ca
www.idachongmla.bc.ca

UVic and its surroundings

UVic traditionally planned and constructed facilities at will, practically without consultation with the outside.

This is changing. The Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities was initially designed in-house, with a seven-level parkade overlooking McKenzie Avenue. No consideration for neighbours or traffic changes, sometimes remote.

A building permit request 10 metre higher than acceptable in Saanich was turned down and Uvic sent back to the drawing table and most important to consultation with communities, nearby and remote, like us at Camosun.

After an often confrontational process, supported by a communication consultant, a revised project, two series of open houses, Uvic is back on track. Community support and council approval are likely, with a smaller parkade three storeys and 10 metres lower.

Still imperfect, but much better. Also, community requests for consultation before design apparently are being heard. Comments and resident participation are welcome.

Yves Bajard yves@bajard.net



Enjoying the 2011 Summer Picnic at Browning Park

**See you on June 23rd at Richmond School
for the 2012 CCA Summer Picnic !!**

Block Watch

Host a Neighbourhood Block Party!

Did you know that people who feel part of a community live longer and happier lives?

Hosting a social block party is a great way to get to know the community around you. Meeting your neighbours and engaging with your community is also a fundamental building block of creating trust and a sense of safety in your neighbourhood, not only for you but for your children and young people.

In today's fast-paced economy and front-garage society, we sometimes forget how important our block is in grounding us and the children living there. Building relationships is building community – and what better way than a block party? It's where fun, laughter, games and food help us to produce long-lasting benefits for our own families, and for those around us. As adults, we all share in this responsibility, as it truly takes "a village to raise a child."

Let's start with something fun, by taking the lead in organizing this great day. A block party really is very simple to organize. Here's how to get started:

- Survey the neighbourhood to select the date for the party.
- Use a large driveway or backyard to avoid closing off the street – or plan to obtain the necessary permits and insurance from the Saanich Municipal Hall to close off the street.
- Ask other neighbours about what they would like to see at the event and what they are able to contribute (e.g., set-up/take down, lawn chairs or picnic blankets, potluck/barbeque coordination, face painting, musical performances, street hockey, workshop presentations – the sky's the limit!).

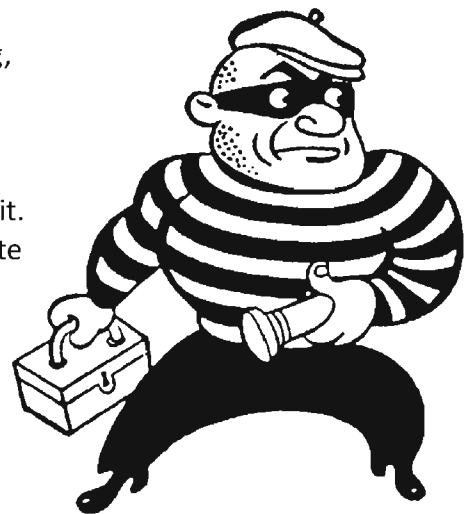
Instant block party!

Help build a healthier and safer community!

The Camosun Community Association has teamed up with Saanich Block Watch, a free neighbour-helping neighbour program that provides training, education and communication aimed at building safer communities and reducing the opportunity for property offences. Residents of Saanich are encouraged to look out for each other's safety and property. Suspect something suspicious? Talk it with your neighbours, and if in doubt report it. Residents can become a member of Saanich Block Watch to gain immediate notifications to current crime statistics in their area and receive crime prevention tips to better protect their homes.

Phone numbers to call and report suspicious activity:
The Saanich Police Block Watch Office
250-475-4365 or blockwatch@saanichpolice.ca

Follow Saanich Block Watch on Twitter: twitter.com/#!/SaanichBlkWatch



Saanich Parks Urban Forestry Initiative

Saanich has adopted an Urban Forest Strategy which includes the goal of an increased number of "boulevard" trees. These trees are planted in the municipality right-of-way adjacent to private properties. Saanich can provide and plant trees with the commitment from the homeowners to maintain the trees during the summer months. In order to take advantage of this opportunity, a coordinator from each community association is needed. This coordinator would be trained by Saanich Parks to assess potential locations for boulevard trees, and would be the community's contact person for tree requests. We are looking for someone with an interest in urban forests to volunteer as the CCA's community coordinator. If interested, please contact Caleb Horn at horn.calebj@gmail.com

Monthly Meeting Just Across The Border

Yes your CCA Board meets monthly in Victoria! Thanks to the good work of past Boards we are a signatory to a good neighbour agreement with the Royal Jubilee Hospital (RJH). Based on this agreement we signed an agreement for the "free" use of professional community meeting space. The space is on the main floor of the Patient Care Centre (PCC) in Room S150. We meet on the second Thursday of most months, from 7 to 9 PM. All CCA residents are welcome to attend! If you are driving we invite you to park in Saanich, at the RJH parkade, and walk across the road to our meeting in Victoria.



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)

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Saanich Community Association Network

The Saanich Community Association Network (SCAN) is a non-incorporated organization that provides a forum for the exchange of information and flexible cooperation between community groups in Saanich. It has been operating since the late 1990s.

This past year has seen considerable changes in the individuals attending SCAN on behalf of their community groups. A change of Chair in December 2011 also led to new perspectives and to potential changes in the role of SCAN.

In light of these developments the Board of the Camosun Community Association (CCA) felt it appropriate to reaffirm the role and purpose of SCAN. Specifically we were concerned that SCAN may assume, or be perceived to have, authority that it does not possess. On April 30th we wrote to the Mayor and Council, with a cc to the SCAN Chair. Our comments included the following:

SCAN has no authority to speak for the CCA and no one, especially Saanich staff, should assume that by communicating with SCAN that they are communicating with the CCA. We are an independent registered society whose executive are elected by our residents. Our role is to connect with our residents and to represent their interests to Saanich Council and staff.

Our recommendation is that SCAN continue to be a networking organization. It should bring in guest speakers, discuss topics of interest to all, and have meetings that are relevant and useful. It should not be a lobby group nor have a political agenda. It especially should not speak for individual associations or make decisions on behalf of any association.

You are welcome to attend SCAN's meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. They take place in Saanich Council Chambers.

Yves Bajard, CCA SCAN Representative
(yves@bajard.net)

Densification of the Shelbourne Valley

In 2010, Saanich asked its citizens through a public survey what they wanted for the future in the Shelbourne Valley. The three top issues identified were:

1. traffic is too fast & unmanaged
2. bike lanes are urgently needed
3. a sense of community is missing

The Shelbourne Valley Stakeholder Committee was formed. A traffic & urban design consultant was hired to work with Saanich staff on a balanced transportation model for the valley. According to the Terms of Reference, Saanich staff along with the consultants were to work on a balanced transportation model. Over 60 % of traffic originates outside of the valley.

In February 2012, two options were presented to the committee. Both are variations of the status quo with 4 lanes for cars:

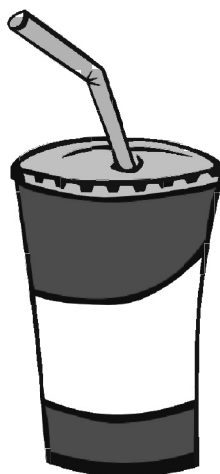
1. The interim option provides 1.5 m (5 feet) for a bike lane & 1.5 m for the side walk in the right of way (row) on either side of Shelbourne St. This option would mean a faster bicycle, would not be able to pass somebody slower. And because it is on the row, the cyclist would have to be cautious at every drive way. At roads that enter shelbourne cars sit in the row waiting to turn left or right, again an impediment for bicycles. Two people with buggies or walkers would not be able to get past each other on a 1.5m wide sidewalk.

2. The ultimate option shows an expanded row for bike lanes & sidewalks. The expanded row would be acquired through rezoning when densification happens. In 20 – 30 years there may be better cycling & pedestrian infrastructure in the Shelbourne Valley.

Many committee members were disappointed that a third option “the road diet” was not to be included at the public open house to be held later this year by Saanich. Road diets, when implemented, provide safety for bicyclists & pedestrians and reduce speeding. The urban design consultants report will address densification from Feltham to North Dairy. This report has not been presented to the stakeholder committee, but will be included in the public open houses.

Andrea Gleichauf, freewind@shaw.ca

FREE HOT DOG & DRINK COUPON



CCA Family Picnic & Fun Day

Saturday June 23

11am-2pm

Richmond School Playground

Music + Games + BBQ + Art Projects

* one hot dog and drink per person for all residents within CCA boundary

Newsletter Distribution

Newsletter distribution is carried out by a dedicated group of volunteers including 10 neighbourhood managers and numerous delivery people. Newsletter delivery takes place no more than twice a year and involves distributing a small bundle of newsletters in your neighbourhood. We are currently short in a number of areas and would love to hear from people who may have an hour to spare twice a year and volunteer as a carrier. If interested in any level of newsletter delivery, please contact Caleb Horn at horn.calebj@gmail.com

Advertising in this Newsletter

Cost of advertising is \$30 for a business card size ad. This newsletter is published two times per year and is distributed to approximately 2,000 households. For questions, or to place an advertisement, please contact Lorne Neil at 250-216-2755 or lorneneil@gmail.com. Revenue from advertising is used to defray the costs of producing the newsletter.



CCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email Address: _____

I would like to volunteer with:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Picnic | <input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic & Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Bowker Creek Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Send your payment and completed form to:

3030 Dean Ave. Victoria, BC V8R 4Y9

Cheques payable to: Camosun Community Association

Membership Fees

We appreciate and need your support. Your \$10 renewal or new membership dues (per household) can be submitted using the form below. All funds raised by the CCA are re-directed back into your community and help cover community events, newsletter publication and web site costs.

Connect with CCA on Facebook & Twitter

Visit CCA website at

www.camosuncommunityassociation.com and click on the Facebook and Twitter icons on the homepage.



 Michael Crowe	Group Insurance Dental Care Extended Health Disability Insurance Group Life Insurance Accident Insurance Group Pension / RRSP Flexible Spending Accounts	 Group Benefits Advantage Benefits PLUS <small>www.benefitsbc.ca</small>
	206-2750 Quadra St • Victoria BC V8T 4E8 • Phone: 250-380-1990 • Toll Free: 866-380-1990	

- ☐ RENEWAL
☐ NEW

\$10 per year