

CAMOSUN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2013

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.

Upcoming Events

December 12, 7pm - CCA & Mt. Tolmie CA joint meeting with Saanich Police. Discussion to focus on the community's safety needs. Location Lutheran Church of the Cross at Cedar Hill & Cedar Hill X Rd.

January 14th - CCA and Mt. Tolmie CA joint meeting with Saanich Planning to discuss planning process in a local context. Location TBD. Check CCA website for details.

January 21st - Greener Garbage Collection information session and presentation followed by CCA Annual General Meeting Lansdowne School Library. 7pm. All area residents welcome. Coffee, snacks, and door prize.

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Saanich Greener Garbage Collection Information Session & AGM

*Lansdowne Middle School - Library
Thursday January 21, 2014 at 7pm*

Information presentation by **David McAra**, from Saanich Solid Waste Services. Come learn about the new Greener Garbage Collection services and how it will affect our community. Services start Spring 2014.

We are pleased to also welcome, Saanich Councillor **Dean Murdoch** who will be speaking on community engagement and the role of community associations in Saanich.

Following the two guest speakers, the CCA will hold the 2014 Annual General Meeting and election of the Board. We are desperately seeking some new volunteers for the Board and encourage you to get involved to keep our community strong.



greener garbage
collection
it's good all around.

Land Use in the CCA

The CCA is involved in many land use proposals and projects in our neighborhood 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 District of Saanich. Below is an update of some current land use projects in the CCA. If you have any questions or concerns about land use, or would like to become involved, please contact Caleb Horn at: horn.calebj@gmail.com

3226 Doncaster Drive

A proposal to rezone this lot on Doncaster Drive has been received. The applicant seeks to construct a duplex dwelling on the property which would require a rezoning from the RS-1 zone to RD-1. The application is pending and any questions or comments should be directed to Saanich Planning.

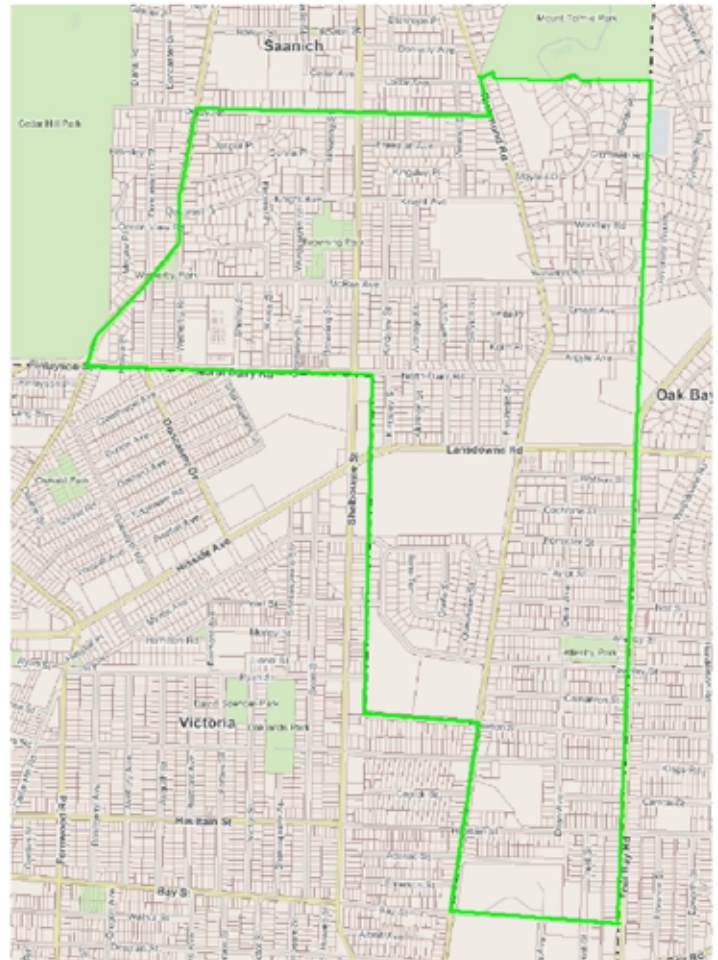
3514 Richmond Road

Conversion of an existing dwelling to a side-by-side duplex will require a Development Permit Amendment. The project will remain within the current structure's building envelope. Public feedback is still being accepted.

Cedar Hill Tennis Courts

The proposal to construct a tennis court complex behind the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre, just outside the CCA's boundaries, was reviewed at a Saanich Council Meeting on November 28th. More than 300 people attended and the meeting was cut short at 10:45 after 36 people shared their views on the proposal. A second meeting has been scheduled for January 23rd, 2014 to be held again at Garth Homer Centre at 813 Darwin Avenue. The project plans can be viewed online at: www.TinyURL.com/CedarHillTennis

Camosun Community Association Boundaries



CCA Board of Directors

Acting-President.....	Caleb Horn.....	horn.calebj@gmail.com
Past President.....	Michael Crowe.....	michaelc@benefits.bc.ca
Vice President.....	Lorne Neil.....	lorneil@gmail.com
Membership.....	Lorne Neil	lorneil@gmail.com
Treasurer.....	Tom Celuszak.....	tom.celuszak@gmail.com
Secretary.....	Open.....	
SCAN Rep.....	Caleb Horn.....	horn.calebj@gmail.com
Traffic Safety.....	Open.....	
Graffiti Removal.....	Open.....	
Land Use.....	Caleb Horn	horn.calebj@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Lorne Neil	lorneil@gmail.com
Newsletter Distribution	Caleb Horn.....	horn.calebj@gmail.com
Environment.....	Andrea Gleichauf..	freewind@shaw.ca

The CCA Board meets once per month to discuss events, initiatives, opportunities and issues in the CCA area. If you are interested in getting involved in your community, please contact horn.calebj@gmail.com



Group Insurance

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Local Area Plan Review

by Caleb Horn

Saanich Planning has initiated the process of updating Saanich's Local Area Plans (LAPs). Along with the Official Community Plan, LAPs help provide policy guidance to Saanich Council and residents, but are specific to individual communities throughout the District. In the Camosun Community, we are covered by the Shelbourne Local Area Plan (not to be confused with the more concentrated Shelbourne Valley Action Plan). The LAP's focus is broader than the Action Plan, both in policy scope and in area covered. The Shelbourne LAP was last updated in 1998 and is the second oldest LAP in Saanich.

The CCA is currently reviewing the Shelbourne LAP and identifying priorities. These priorities will be brought forward with Saanich during its consideration of LAP updates. Priorities currently identified are mostly in relation to the Panhandle and areas of the Camosun Community that fall outside the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan's area. Such priorities include protection of greenspace (such as the BC Hydro lands and Richmond Elementary School site), traffic / parking on residential streets, and incorporation of the Bowker Creek Blueprint's goals.

We are seeking any comments in our LAP review including your own priorities or concerns. Please contact us with any feedback. The current LAP can be viewed on Saanich's website at www.saanich.ca/business/lap/shelbourne.html

The Read and Return Project

The Read and Return Team are a group of Geography undergraduate students at the University of Victoria, who are interested in creating a free-cycling of children's books. We are hoping this will take the form of miniature libraries located in community areas, one of which we hope to be Browning Park.

The Read and Return project has been designed to foster a sense of community and reciprocity in our 'Free Library' locations. Our goal is to utilize donated children's books so that these resources can be shared within the community. Our hope is that we can promote a multi-purpose use of the space for play, reading, and an engagement with our library exchange. By doing so, we are attempting to strengthen the sense of community in these areas through community interaction and participation.

Thus far, we have received generous contributions from Home Depot (Shelbourne Street location) and a local business owner. We are hoping to collaborate with a local elementary school for the painting of the book shelves that will house the community books. We are also hoping to collaborate with the planners of the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan.

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas about our project, or want to get involved, please contact us at readandreturnuvic@gmail.com or visit <https://www.facebook.com/readandreturn>.



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KEN HORN

Heritage Homes in the CCA

1911 Woodley

100 years would seem a short time to the tall Douglas Fir at the front of this property: this tree is at least 300 years of age. The large Gary Oak is younger but not by much.

The house is an Arts & Crafts design with Tudor revival elements. Designed by Samuel Maclure, with architectural plans dated, May 1913, construction was for Charles Bentley Jones, his wife and four children. They lived in the house until 1921, when they emigrated to New Zealand. Charles had been reeve of Saanich in 1919 (today the title of mayor).



Circa 1949

In the time period 1921 to 1924 the house was rented to the Eakins family. Mr. Eakins was a partner in the company, Beach-Eakins Limited, makers of jam.

Colonel Wilby purchased the house in 1924 to then sell it in 1934. He worked for the federal government, as a Marine Agent in Victoria. Maintaining the coastal lighthouses was part of his work.

Colonel Pope, his wife and two children lived in the house from 1934 until ownership went to his son-inlaw, Commander Considine a navy man. Sometime during one of these ownerships the shingle exterior was converted to stucco; the kitchen and bathrooms were re-modeled.

Ownership changed in the fall of 1977, the property purchased by Jim and Sheila Colwill, owners to the present. In this time period the two car garage was added, the stucco was removed and the body of the house was re-shingled, chimneys were re-built, all done to take the house back to its original design. This restoration earned The Hallmark Society, Award Of Merit, in 1989.

The house and the land on which it sits are both HERITAGE DESIGNATED to help future owners maintain this landmark into the next 100 years.

Article submitted` by Jim Colwill

Are you interested in having your heritage home or heritage story featured in the CCA newsletter. If so, please send your story and photo to vicepresident@camosuncommunityassociation.com

**THRIFTY
FOODS™**



Community Stories Project

Are you a long-term community member? We would like to talk to you! We are collecting stories from long-term Camosun Community residents to record and publish in future newsletters. These stories can range from general recollections of the neighbourhood from yesteryear to memories about specific community sites or significant residents.

If you are interested in this project or would like to contribute, please contact Caleb Horn by phone at 250-595-8924 or by email at: horn.calebj@gmail.com

Shelbourne Valley Action Plan - Update

After four years of consultations and reports, the first draft of Shelbourne Valley Action Plan has been released. A series of open houses were held in late October and early November to collect feedback on the Plan. Within the Camosun Community, the Plan is recommending increased density along Shelbourne Street. Short-term improvement along Shelbourne, including bicycle tracks and widened sidewalks, are also being recommended. The southern section of Shelbourne (roughly between North Dairy and Derby) is highlighted as a top priority and may be one of the first sections to see implementation.

For more information, visit www.saanich.ca/shelbourne



Dr. Cale Copeland BScN, DC
#203-3200 Shelbourne St. | 250-592-5553

In Which Community Do we Live?

As a testament to Greater Victoria's seemingly arbitrary municipal boundaries, residents were recently surprised to find an "Oaklands Community" styled traffic control box placed within the Camosun Community. The traffic signal at Wordsworth and North Dairy, on the border with Saanich, had been installed by the City of Victoria. Perhaps forgetting where the proverbial line-in-the-sand lay, the control box was decorated with colourful Oaklands livery. The CCA notified the City of this error and a new wrap for the box is being prepared to eliminate any source of confusion for the neighbourhood. Additionally, the CCA is hoping to up the ante by preparing our own branding to display around the community.

Anyone with an interest in this project is encouraged to contact the CCA.



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

www.vickisanders.com email: vicki_sanders@telus.net

Councillor.Vicki.Sanders@facebook.com

Twitter: @SandersVicki

CCA and the Cedar Hill Tennis Court Proposal

The following letter was submitted to Saanich by the CCA regarding the Cedar Hill tennis court proposal based on concerns heard from residents. Round two of the Council meeting will be taking place on January 23rd at the Garth Homer Centre.

Dear Mayor Leonard and Council,

The Camosun Community Association (CCA) would like to take this opportunity to comment on the Cedar Hill Clay Court Tennis Society (CHCCTS) proposal at Cedar Hill Park & Golf Course. While not within our boundaries, this location is adjacent to the Camosun Community across Cedar Hill Road and the site is important to many of our residents. First and foremost, we would like to thank the CHCCTS for their commitment to engaging with stakeholders and for their diligence in consulting with the community.

Limited in capacity, the CCA was not able to conduct a thorough survey to gauge support for the proposal within our community. While we are aware of a high level of enthusiasm for such excellent tennis facilities in the area, our attention has also been drawn to some concerns among neighbours in the community. As such, we are not aware of any consensus among Camosun Community residents.

Most of the concerns that have been brought forward to the CCA are regarding the site's conversion from an open and unstructured space to a limited-use space. As noted on page 31 of the CHCCTS proposal, this issue is primarily "philosophical" in nature and cannot be addressed by the proponent. Indeed, this is something that Saanich staff considers when receiving an application for developing new facilities on public land. While 'use of space' is an issue that can be addressed through preliminary consultation prior to having a proponent move forward with a proposal, it may not have been adequately dealt with as this issue remains a consideration for many residents.

A second concern that has been brought forward is the level of restoration of the Bowker Creek tributary that runs next to the site. The CCA has been actively involved as a partner in the Bowker Creek Initiative (BCI) and we strongly endorse the policies within the BCI's Bowker Creek Blueprint. The CHCCTS is committing to restoration work along the Bowker Creek tributary, having gone above and beyond typical streamside development requirements in their proposal. The Blueprint, however, goes further by recommending a significant detention pond in the area of the Recreation Centre. This recommendation is identified as preferred action 17-1 for "Reach 17" of the tributary in the Appendix B of the Blueprint.

The CCA believes that if Saanich were to approve the CHCCTS proposal, it would be a significant opportunity to develop Reach 17 to the full extent of the Blueprint's preferred option. Without a fully developed restoration plan, it is difficult to assess whether action 17-1 will be implemented. On page 30 of the applicant's report, the non-profit CHCCTS suggests that they have "neither the expertise nor the funds to fully restore the entire reach of Bowker Creek in this area". For these reasons, the CCA recommends that should Saanich Council support the CHCCTS proposal, an agreement be reached whereby Saanich Parks and the CHCCTS collaborate on a partnership to plan and implement the Bowker Creek Blueprint's preferred action 17-1. It would be an appropriate opportunity for Saanich to involve itself and take advantage of the restoration work taking place on public land. The District's involvement in this agreement would be a testament to Saanich's commitment to carry out the Bowker Creek Blueprint's vision.

The Camosun Community Association trusts that Saanich Council will consider these elements in their deliberations.

Sincerely,

Caleb Horn

Acting President, Camosun Community Association

CCA Future Challenged

submitted by Michael Crowe, Past-President

Your Association has been challenged over the past year by a diminishing number of volunteers. This is the largest reason why there was no Community Picnic in 2013.

Our role is to be the voice of the community. Typically this involves polling residents and reporting the common or differing opinions on given matters. We are non-partisan and do our best not to take sides on issues. We would only do so if a consensus among residents has been met. Examples of this are our support of the Bowker Creek Blueprint and our commitment for preservation of the Richmond School property as community green space.

What does the association need to continue? At a minimum we need ½ a dozen new volunteers who are interested in: being part of community input into land use and development; helping to edit and deliver our newsletter; helping to organize our community picnic. Bring your ideas!

For more information, please contact past-president Michael Crowe at michaelc@benefits.bc.ca

Our Annual General Meeting will at Lansdowne School, at 7:00 PM, on Tuesday January 21st. We hope that you will attend the meeting and consider joining the Association Board.

Shelbourne Community Kitchen

The Shelbourne Community Kitchen initiative is moving forward and the CCA is excited to be a partner in this project. The Community Kitchen will be a food resource centre where residents can come to cook, prepare food, learn about nutrition, access a food bank, and grow their own food. No location has been formally secured, but a part-time staff member has been hired to help with establishing the centre. A fundraiser dinner on October 26th was successful in raising additional funds for the project.

Anyone wishing to get involved can contact the CCA or email: ShelbourneCommunityKitchen@gmail.com

Transportation in the CCA

A few projects affecting the transportation networks in our community are in the works:

- Saanich Engineering is in the planning stages of new cycling infrastructure along Lansdowne Road between Shelbourne Street and Foul Bay Road. The configuration is not finalized, but may include a combination of bicycle lanes and separated bicycle tracks. Concurrently, improvements to the bus shelter on the north side of Lansdowne at Frechette Street may be implemented.
- With the revitalization of the Hillside Shopping Centre in the City of Victoria has come improvements to North Dairy Road along the Camosun Community's border. New traffic signals at Wordsworth Street and Doncaster Drive are being installed, as well as new lane configurations at Cedar Hill Road. This work is being carried out by Victoria.

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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 of volunteer carriers in a number of areas. Please contact Caleb Horn at horn.calebj@gmail.com

Advertising in this Newsletter

At \$35 for a business card size ad, your business can contribute to covering the cost of publishing an issue of the newsletter. The CCA newsletter is published two times per year and is distributed to approximately 2,000 households. To place an ad please contact Lorne Neil at lorneneil@gmail.com.



Membership Fees

We need and appreciate your support. Your \$10 contribution (per household) can be submitted using the form below. All membership 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 at www.CamosunCommunityAssociation.com and click on the Facebook and Twitter icons on the homepage.



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CCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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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"/> Emergency Preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Bowker Creek Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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