



Source: North Vancouver Museum and Archives

Spring 2012

The GBRRA represents the neighbourhood to the City, providing a unified voice with a mandate to improved the quality of life in the area.

GBRRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, April 1, 1:30 - 3pm

St. Agnes Church Hall
530 E. 12th St.

Chair's Report

I hope you enjoyed our All Candidates Meeting on November 8, 2011, at Brooksbank School Gym. Thanks to the City for a grant of \$500 toward our costs. And thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make it a big success, before, during and after the event, with questions for candidates and with the chairs and clean-up. It was a tall order with 24 candidates, but I think we made a difference.

The new GBRRA blog-style website is live! At www.gbrra.org, we will be sharing news related to our neighbourhood and inform you of upcoming events. There will be lots of pictures and movie clips from events in our city and much more. You have the opportunity to comment on blog posts and subscribe to posts to receive notifications via email. For more information, please contact admin@gbrra.org or attend the AGM, when Oliver will talk about it. We will also have a presentation from Amanda Nichol about the Low Level Road Improvement Project. (Read more on page 3.) And then Don Bell will tell us how the Civic Engagement Task Force (CETF) was created and why. He will be able to tell us if any of the 28 recommendations have been followed. Did it make a difference in the fall election turnout?

City Shaping (re: Official Community Plan 2021) is in Stage 2. In case you missed Stage 1, you're not alone. Try to get to the next Critical Issues Workshop on March 31st, 1-3:30 at The Legion, 123 West 15th St. But first, pick up the 38-page Discussion Paper at City Hall, so you'll be able to make an informed contribution to the workshop, and then complete the workbooks. We need to make our voices heard.

Fiona Walsh



Our Loutet Farm is entering its second season as your neighbourhood farm! With soil, fencing and an irrigation system already installed, we're well ahead of where we were a year ago, and are already watching the garlic sprouting on the farm. We are hopeful that we will be able to add two bee hives which will allow us to add delicious North Shore honey to our market days! Crop planning is complete and seeds are sprouting in the hoop house -- they will soon find their way into the soil. Come by any time to check out their progress - the farm is always open to the public. We are excited to be preparing to install (long overdue!) signage at the farm to give everyone a little more information about what is happening on the farm.

Watch the website for Loutet market dates & times (www.ediblegardenproject.com). These will likely begin in June, depending on how the spring season is! We look forward to sharing what we grow!

Unfortunately, farmer Robbie will be moving on from the farm to work and return to school -- he will be missed! We will be welcoming a new farmer in the coming weeks.

We have set aside two volunteer days for **GBRRA volunteers: Saturday, April 28th, 1-3pm, and Wednesday, May 16th, 5:30-7pm** to try your hand at farming -- bring your rubber boots and dress for the weather - all tools will be supplied.

We will begin hosting a monthly community potluck -- you don't need to volunteer to attend. Everyone is welcome (just be sure to bring your own plate/fork etc!). To volunteer, call the North Shore Neighbourhood House at 604 987 8138, or email coordinator@ediblegardenproject.com.

Public Volunteer Workbees

April 7 - 1-3pm	July 14 - 1-3pm
April 18 - 5:30-7:30pm	July 25 - 5:30-7pm
May 5 - 1-3pm	Aug 11 - 1-3pm
May 30 - 5:30-7pm	Aug 29 - 5:30-7pm
June 9 - 1-3pm	Sept 26 - 5:30-7pm
June 27 - 5:30-7pm	Oct 13 - 1-3pm

Potluck Dinners at Loutet Farm

May 30 - 7-8pm
 June 27 - 7-8pm
 July 25 - 7-8pm
 Aug 29 - 7-8pm
 Sept 26 - 7-8pm

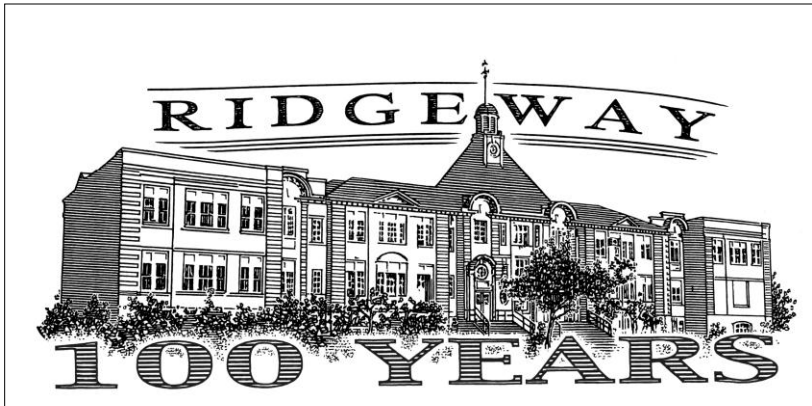


Thank you! to all the **volunteers** who have distributed our Bulletin over the past few years. We depend on you!

Doris Aitken
 Nick & Claire Arnold
 Nicholas & Sheila Bartley
 Elvia Belanger
 Roxanna Cris
 Susan Conn
 Ivor & Maureen
 Frederiksen

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 Oliver Harden
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Partick Oakley
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 Scott & Lianne Reynolds
 Sarah Robertson
 Claire Robinson
 Edgar Spallek
 Janet Spence
 Bill Stanbrook
 Carole Stewart
 Mary Turlas
 Susan Tower
 Fiona Walsh
 Marilyn Watson



Ridgeway School Centennial

Saturday, May 5, 2012, 12 - 4pm
420 E. 8th St.

Come to our Birthday Party, past and present students, teachers, parents, administrators, support staff and neighbours!

The newly restored school will be open for everyone to tour. The Spring Fair will begin at 11am, with fun activities for children. Visit the heritage display, with the original strap and principal's discipline log. Refreshments will be served throughout the day. Visit Ridgeway's website, send them an email or find them on Facebook to reconnect and share photos and stories from your time at Ridgeway. Do you have memorabilia or photos to add to the Heritage Display?

www.ridgewayschool.ca

email: Ridgeway100th@gmail.com

Facebook: Ridgeway 100th

Tel: 604 903 3740

Boulevard Park Playground

We now have an improved playground, with a sand play area & swings for little ones and a climbing apparatus for bigger kids.



Low Level Road Improvement Project

The biggest federal project ever to hit North Vancouver is coming to a neighbourhood near you. The Port Metro Vancouver (PMV) is putting things in place to expand its operations and encroach within 10 feet (in some areas) on private residents' homes that sit adjacent to the bluff above Low Level Road. What was presented to the public as a Low Level Road 'Improvement' Project is really a PMV and CN Rail expansion. This project, currently in the public consultation phase, will effect hundreds of homes in the vicinity. The project includes the raising of Low Level Road, the installation of two more rail tracks and the building of two significant overpasses into Port lands. Together, these will increase pollution -- noise and dust will rise further up the hill, and during construction major roadways may be closed, resulting in traffic issues for up to 3 years. A small neighbourhood in the 500 & 600 block of East 1st Street has been involved in this for over a year, and residents have committed many hours researching how the entire community will be greatly affected. For more information contact Michael or Michelle Binkley at 604 984 8574 or Marianne Ketchen at moveover@shaw.ca. We are hoping that as many residents as possible get out to the next and last scheduled PMV Open House and Workshop on March 24 at Ridgeway School Gym. You can look at the information boards from 10am to 1pm and be part of the workshop discussion from 1:30 to 4pm. Please pre-register at www.PortTalk.ca, phone 604 665 9066 or email public_affairs@portmetrovancover.com. Let's be a strong, collective voice.

The GBRRA executive would like to recognize and support local Grand Boulevard and Ridgeway business owners. Thank you to these members for supporting the GBRRA Bulletin.

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Now's the time to become a **GBRRA member** or to renew your membership.

We really need your support!

Membership is only \$10.

Contact **Marilyn Watson** at **604 985 8301**

or pekoe12@telus.net.

Better yet, just drop off a cheque for GBRRA to **Carole Stewart** at **533 East 11th Street (!)**



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