

Spring 2014

Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Residents Association

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

Chair's Report:

Fiona Walsh

April Showers bring many flowers... and, I hope, many vegetables to my new raised garden! Our GBRRA executive has had a busy time since our last Bulletin and now's the time to ramp up even more. The North Van City's Official Community Plan is in its last stages of development. They've provided opportunities for citizens to give input (see www2.cnv.org/CityShaping/ index.html), however, they have made some basic assumptions that didn't come from citizens: namely that the city wants and needs more density. As Kerry Morris (kerry.morris@shaw.ca) has pointed out at the City Shaping Town Hall meetings, we've reached the population that Metro Vancouver estimated we'd have in 2031, counting the development projects which

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GBRRA AGM

April 27, 1 - 3:00pm St. Agnes Church Hall 530 E. 12th St.

Come and show your support of your GBRRA Executive, who attend meetings and phone or write to City Hall, the North Shore News or the Outlook, to help keep our neighbourhood a great place to live.

If something concerns you and

you just need to get more information or test the waters for support; if you want to voice your opinion; or if you want to connect with neighbours for a project that you're involved in,

we're there for you.

But we can't do it on a shoestring budget.
We need your support.

Become a GBRRA Member See page 3 for the membership form and who to contact.

Loutet Farm

On May 10th, 2014, we're hosting the GBRRA's second **Urban Agriculture Workshop** at Loutet Farm for adults and high school students. We'll introduce you to Loutet Farm and backyard gardening. Come and learn with us! Farmer Gavin. from the Edible Garden Project, will lead the workshop from 11:00 to 12:00. Then we'll have a lunch, with produce from the farm and Sprout Organic Market, located at 700 East 7th St. (actually on Queensbury). After lunch, we'll learn about sprouting seeds and get our hands dirty on the farm, helping to plant or prepare beds for planting. We'll also socialize and network. We will supply tools, but you should bring your own gardening gloves, boots and head gear. RSVP to Fiona fewalsh@yahoo.com or phone 604-980-8436 by May 7th. Space is limited.



Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden - Emily Jubenvill

The North Shore Neighbourhood House's Edible Garden Project is working with the North Vancouver School District to establish a Schoolyard Market Garden at Sutherland Secondary. The Schoolyard Market Garden will provide an inspiring outdoor education space, and approximately a quarter acre of market garden vegetable production. Farmer Gavin, who you may know from Loutet Farm, will manage the Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden with a part-time farmer, and community and student volunteers will play an important role in its success. Produce grown at the Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden will be sold at Loutet Farm Gate Sales. We hope to install the garden this year, but our timeline is dependent on fundraising and completing an agreement with the North Vancouver School District. To find out how you can get involved or support the project please email emily@ediblegardenproject.com.

Photos of the building and filling of Fiona's Raised Garden (October - December, 2013)



Proposed OCP – The end of the single family neighbourhood?

Do you know how the draft Official Community Plan (OCP) will affect your neighbourhood? The draft OCP, if implemented, will allow both a secondary suite and a coach house in all residential areas, including yours. Where you once had one family next door, there could be three.

Think about what this could do to your neighbourhood – more density, less street parking, and less privacy. Your back lane will become a thoroughfare! Unless there is vigorous opposition, this change will simply happen when the OCP is implemented by City Council, potentially before the municipal election in the fall. The number of people showing up will greatly influence the decision of Council on this issue... apathy is the enemy. Plan to attend to have your say or to support others.

At the Town Hall Meeting #2 (Central Lonsdale) at Queen Mary School Gymnasium, on April 3, attended by more than 200 people, some spoke out against the proposed rezoning of Central Lonsdale, from Keith Road to Hwy 1. They questioned the intentions of the Mayor and Council and the power of Metro Vancouver over the citizens of the City of North Vancouver.

CityShaping Draft OCP - Town Hall Meeting #3 - Two Suites

Tuesday, April 15, 7:00 – 9:00 pm 230 East Keith Road (Queen Mary School Gynmasium) Material on display 6:30 – 7:00pm

CityShaping Draft OCP - Town Hall Meeting #4 - Lower Lonsdale
Tuesday, April 22, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Pinnacle Hotel Ballroom

AAA Cycling Network

We made it into the March issue of WeCycle! The City of North Van has approved an All Ages and Abilities Cycling Network (called an AAA Network). Find out how you can get on a bike -- maybe an electric bike -- in WeCycle: http://bccc.bc.ca/WeCycle/WeCycle-2-1-March-2014.pdf

(Chair's Report, from page 1)

have already been approved by the City. Why, then, is City Shaping talking of more density? Dramatic changes are being brought in. To quote a resident, "I'm mad and I'm not going to take this anymore. Metro Vancouver has decided this for us. We need our Councillors to stand up to Metro Vancouver and say **No**."

What does \$10 buy these days? Membership in a vibrant Community Association!

To become a **member of the Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Residents Association** or to renew your membershp, contact Carole Stewart at 604 984 2321 or twinbeaches2007@shaw.ca or drop off a cheque at 533 East 11th Street, V7L 2H4.

GBRRA Membership Application	
Name:	
Adress:	
Postal Code:	☐ I'm renewing my membership
Telephone:	Email:
Membership enclosed: \$10 cash	\square \$10 cheque \square + \$60 for my ad

The GBRRA Executive would like to recognize and support local Grand Boulevard, Ridgeway and Queensbury business owners. Thank you to these members for supporting the GBRRA Bulletin. Non-business membership is \$10. Contact Carole Stewart at 984 2321 or twinbeaches2007@shaw.ca.



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