



Winter 2017

## *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**

Greetings to all of our Grand Boulevard neighbours and supporters. This is the final printed (hard copy) GBRRA Bulletin, delivered by your GBRRA Executive and friends.

We have been able and willing to produce Bulletins since the inception of GBRRA, with the help of our volunteer Executive Committee, starting with the late Stan Peters in 2005. Since the Spring of 2009, we have had the financial support of small businesses in the Grand Boulevard area who advertised in our Bulletin. We would like to sincerely thank all of those businesses for their support (*see page 4*). We love having them near us and wish them all the best.

I would like to invite all of you, as the residents of the Grand Boulevard area, whether you live in a house, (*cont'd on p.2*)

### **GBRRA Gathering**

**Wednesday, April 26, 2017**

1016 Grand Boulevard

7:00 - 8:30 pm

#### **BIG CHANGES AHEAD!**

We're revamping the GBRRA in 2017. We want to meet you, hear your ideas and tell you all about ours. Our suggested changes are tentative and we're really looking for your feedback. This is a great opportunity to be part of the development of your community association, the way you'd like to see it working.

This year we're gathering at the home of Marilyn Watson, our secretary. It will be a relaxed, social event followed by the GBRRA AGM and the election of a new team of directors. Bring your friends and neighbours. (*adults only, please*)

We welcome you to come and/or phone and find out about our committees, such as Events, Schools, Website, Facebook and Council Watch.

(*cont'd on p.2*)

### **Urban Agriculture**

**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

Loutet Farm, east end, 14<sup>th</sup> St.

Save the date! GBRRA will be holding it's 5<sup>th</sup> annual Urban Agriculture Workshop from 11:00 to 3:00 pm, with the help of the farmers of the Edible Garden Project. We are inviting you to spread the word about our very own LOUTET FARM to your secondary students and adults, young and old. We'll introduce participants to a few aspects of growing vegetables: in your back yard, in a raised garden, or in your kitchen, sprouting alfalfa seeds or wheat grass. You'll learn about pollinator bees, bee boxes and the flowers that attract bees. There's also a 'Chicken Lady' who will Show & Tell about keeping backyard chickens.

We will provide a healthy lunch, including fresh produce from Loutet Farm and Sprout Organic Market. (*cont'd on p.2*)

*(Chair's Report, cont'd from p.1)*

a basement suite or a coach house, to visit our website: [www.gbrra.org](http://www.gbrra.org) or join us on Facebook: Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Community Group *(see article, page 3)*. The boundaries of the GBRRA are *(clockwise)* St. Andrews to 19<sup>th</sup>, east to Grand Boulevard, north to 22<sup>nd</sup>, east to Boulevard Crescent & Hwy 1 eastbound onramp, south along Hwy 1 to 14<sup>th</sup>, west to Sutherland, south to East Keith Road & west to St. Andrews. Though our boundaries won't change, our area is increasing in population, with zoning changes that the City Council has made. Keep in touch.

*(GBRRA Gathering, cont'd from p.1)*

In case you haven't had a chance to look at our website, go to [www.gbrra.org](http://www.gbrra.org) to see the wonderful photos, taken by our professional photographer, Oliver Harden, or to read back issues of our Bulletin. Without a printed Bulletin, we will be looking at new ways to reach out to area residents and students from Sutherland Secondary (where they have a Schoolyard Market Garden) and our 3 elementary schools.

These are the committees we are thinking of:

**Events:** to organize events such as our AGM, the Canada Day Parade Registration Table, All-Candidates Meeting (next one, in 2018) and our Urban Agriculture Workshop.

**Schools:** to liaise, loosely, with Sutherland Secondary and Queensbury, Brooksbank and Ridgeway Elementary Schools

**Website:** to post notices or issues and to invite comments, questions & discussion

**Facebook:** to posts social notices to and from people in our community, such as services or neighbourhood sales or events

**Council Watch:** to follow and alert us to building developments, land use or traffic issues that are planned for our area

There's also a chance to create other committees, such as:

**Farm & Garden:** to keep us up-to-date on developments at Loutet Farm, the Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden or school gardens

For sure, we will have fun thinking of things to do or post on our website, and we'll all pitch in for major events. We're growing and encouraging all Grand Boulevard area residents to join us with your ideas and enthusiasm. Please pass this Bulletin on to others who live with or near you.

*(Urban Agriculture, cont'd from p.1)*

You might like to taste some homemade kombucha or milk kefir. After lunch, we'll learn about plans on the farm and help to plant or prepare beds for planting, until 3:00pm. The farm will supply tools, but you should wear boots and head gear. RSVP by May 15<sup>th</sup> or get answers to your questions from Fiona: 604 980 8436 or [fiona@gbrra.org](mailto:fiona@gbrra.org). **Space is limited.**

## **The Green Necklace**

**by Marilyn Watson, Exec.**

The Green Necklace was first envisioned by Edward Mahon, one of the first land owners of North Vancouver. Mahon stated: "Completion of this great public way... would perpetuate health areas and pleasure grounds within a short distance of every resident". The original plan shows Grand Blvd. going north to 25<sup>th</sup> Street, west to Jones Ave. and south to Mahon Park and West Keith Rd. To date, the Official Community Plan of the City of North Vancouver is committed to "honouring and maintaining Mahon's vision of a necklace of green spaces". In 2005, the first phase was completed through Victoria Park, east of Lonsdale and on East Keith Road to St. Andrews Ave. Phase 2 was on Jones Ave. from West Keith Rd. to West 21<sup>st</sup> St. Phase 3, presently under construction, continues along East Keith Rd. to Grand Boulevard. Two asphalt paths were created on each side of the Boulevard for bicycles (west side, northbound; east side, southbound) and the centre walking path was also paved. This leads to Boulevard Crescent, with bike paths that will continue north on Lynn Valley Rd. Last October, Council approved spending \$50,000 for greenways down St. David's and Queensbury, connecting the Green Necklace with the waterfront Spirit Trail.

In addition to the Green Necklace, the City of North Vancouver received provincial funding for a pedestrian path and a separate bike path going up West Keith Road from Marine Dr. to Chesterfield Ave. Cyclists going downhill on West Keith Rd. must share the lane with cars. The goal of the City is to encourage people to get out of their cars and reduce congestion on our streets, by walking or cycling for short trips.

Try 150 healthy activities for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, why not?

*(quotes: The Green Necklace by Walter Volovsek, 2012)*

## New Facebook Page: Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Community Group

**Carole Stewart/Marilyn Watson, Exec.**

The Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Residents Association is trying something new. We have started a Facebook Group. This is a closed group, only accessible to residents in our area, and approved by the Administrators. Members are invited to post about events happening at their school, church or club, garage sales, block parties or any other items which might be of interest, such as free stuff — with pictures, if you can. If you see a development on your block, let us know if and when there's an open house. We hope this group will provide a way of keeping in touch with each other and with the events going on in our community.

Please join us in conversation by joining this Group. We look forward to seeing your posts! In order to join the group, log on to Facebook and search for "Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Community Group". Click on the name to get to the group page, then click on "Join Group".

If that doesn't work for you, please email one of our Administrators:

**Carole Stewart** – [twinbeaches2007@shaw.ca](mailto:twinbeaches2007@shaw.ca)

**Marilyn Watson** – [pekoe12@telus.net](mailto:pekoe12@telus.net)

Please do not post any commercial or political ads and be kind when commenting. The admin will delete any inappropriate comments.

## YOUNG ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LEADERSHIP LAUNCHPAD (YELL)

### School District 44

One of the keys to success in business is networking and mentoring. The YELL offers students entering Grades 11 and 12 a dynamic and engaging forum to explore the field of business in a real-world setting.

Students earn course credit toward graduation while working with teachers and business/community leaders to design a business. They connect with top entrepreneurial talent and compete in a Venture Challenge in the spring.

Hosted at Sutherland Secondary School, students with an interest in business from Carson Graham, Handsworth and Argyle Secondary Schools are welcome to apply. The course runs outside the regular timetable, with weekly 2½-hour classes or meetings from September to December. In January, students will break into mentorship groups, working towards "Venture Presentation Night", during which they will share their business ideas and learning.

What are the advantages to students?

- Mentorship opportunities with business partners in the community
- Opportunity to develop their own business ideas
- Opportunity to develop public speaking, leadership and collaboration skills

For more information, contact [jnevison@sd44.ca](mailto:jnevison@sd44.ca) (James Nevison)



## Queensbury Elementary School SPRING FAIR (Western Theme)

SATURDAY MAY 27, 2017  
10:00am-2:00pm



2020 Moody Avenue, North Van.  
Bouncy Castles, Games, Artisans and Much More

## Note from Maureen Frederiksen, Exec.

I would like to acknowledge and thank those who have been so kind in helping to deliver the GBRRRA Bulletin over the last 5 years:

Kathryn Allison  
Nick & Claire Arnold  
Nina Campbell  
Ivor Frederiksen  
Carmel and Tanya Hill  
Isobelle Houston  
Don Johnstone  
Kaitlyn Leask  
Jack and Ruby Morton  
Patty and Richard Paul  
Scott & Lianne Reynolds  
Bill and Doreen Stanbrook  
Mary Toulas  
Brian and Kay Wellwood  
Rebekah Whist

As the saying goes:

"Many hands make light work".

With over 1500 residences to deliver to, your help was much appreciated.

**plus our tireless Executive Members who folded 1500 Bulletins (over a good chinwag) and/or delivered them and who have volunteered many hours at our Civic All-Candidates Meetings Canada Day Parade Registration Table or our Urban Agriculture Workshops.**

Elvia Belanger  
Susan Conn  
Maureen Frederiksen  
Oliver Harden  
Dianne Jackson  
Connie McGill  
Jean Morrison  
Rhelda Nicholson  
Carole Stewart  
Susan Tower  
Marie Trewella  
Fiona Walsh  
Marilyn Watson



## Sutherland Schoolyard Market Garden

On June 15, 2017, we will be celebrating our Third Anniversary. Come and join us

**In the Garden with Monet**  
**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

and learn about the flowers and vegetables we're growing in our many raised gardens, with the help of the Edible Garden Project and the Sutherland Farm and Garden Club, led by teacher, Cynthia Bunbury (*who will be Monet, for the day*). Join **Impressionists** for food, music and art in the garden!



## A BIG Thank you to these Businesses for Supporting GBRRRA

Gwen Greenway Music School  
Ken Mayo House Inspections  
Grand Manor Guest House & Apartment  
Laffing Dogs Lawn & Garden Services  
The BRITISH BUTCHER Shoppe Ltd  
Gambrinus Restaurant & Catering Inc.  
A2M Developments Corp.  
Karate For Kids  
Spade & Pick Services Ltd.  
KYTHIRA Restaurant  
Valley Estates Winemaking Store  
hair for you, Hair & Esthetics Salon  
ZIMBA Building & Interior Design  
OLIVER HARDEN Photography  
Sprout Organic Market  
Nina Campbell, RE/MAX Realtor  
S'WICH Cafe