

Community



Roots

Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association Newsletter - Fall 2017 - Volume 85



Do you love photography?

Do you want to see your work published in this newsletter?

Be part of the community **Photo Showcase**. Send yours today.

All photos in this newsletter were taken by our community members.

QCHCA members and guests plant fruit trees at Rutledge Park, May 2017

Read more in the **Photo Showcase** section on Page 3.

President's Message

Susan Haddon, President QCHCA

I hope you've had a great summer. With Thanksgiving just around the corner, I'm reminded of how much I appreciate this vibrant and beautiful corner of Saanich, thanks to all of you who contribute in so many ways to making it so.

I hope you have enjoyed our new Farmers Market, attended a 'Music in the Park' event, an all-candidates debate or joined us to celebrate Cedar Hill Park's 50th anniversary.

This issue contains news and articles about our community to inform and entertain you. These include boulevard gardening, our golf course and life as a duck on King's Pond.

President's Update - Continued on page 2.

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President's Update Continued

We are featuring a new series of articles on sports and activities. Our first feature article is on motorcycling. We have also included updates on Saanich governance, parks planning and local developments.

I appreciate the contribution of our new Associate Editor, Anna Pino, for bringing a new perspective to our newsletter.

We invite you to join the members of QCHCA to make this an even more gratifying place in which to live and work. The opportunities are endless and it's fun, enriching and gratifying.

I look forward to hearing from you at QCHCA3003@gmail.com.

Best wishes, Susan Haddon

Motorcycling

Anna P, Resident

I remember wandering down a backroad with my stepfather, sitting on my back throne watching the trees whiz by, feeling the rumble of the 1984 Goldwing motorcycle beneath us like a giant contented cat.

A motorcycle came over a hill towards us and as it went by, my stepfather threw up his clutch hand and gave a little wave. The other biker waved back with the same friendly swing of his left wrist.

At our next stop I asked, "Did you know him? Why'd you wave?" He said, "You just do...it's important." That day, I waved along with him as we passed other bikes.

I was not altogether intrigued by the sport. I feared the stories I've heard of accidents and held a belief that bikes were inherently dangerous. But then in 2006, I decided I wanted to face fear head on. I enrolled in a basic motorcycle course, tipping over several times and failing the exam on the first attempt. Second attempt, however, was successful.

Continued =>

That same year, I enrolled in an advanced course, that saw me on a track, learning to navigate curves with speed. After four of those track days, I went back to my Motorcycle school and asked for a job, teaching others how to ride a motorcycle. Teaching others to face **their** fear head on.

As a rider, I now understand how the wave demonstrates comradeship and a mutual understanding of what it is to enjoy riding a motorcycle. It symbolizes connection between riders, that if they saw you and your bike on the side of the road, they would stop to help and might not ask your name.

As a rider, I understand what you are up against every time you take your bike on the road...the drivers that don't see you, the ones that cut you off or tailgate you, the potholes that lie in waiting. The rain. The cold. The heat. The wind. But how through it all, riding remains an almost pure pleasure.

As a rider, I appreciate both the engineering and the artistry in the machine I ride. I may not be able to describe what it means to feel the smooth acceleration and the strength beneath me. But fellow riders will understand.

As a rider, I park my bike, begin to walk away and then stop. I turn and look back. I see something when I look at my bike that others might not. Something more complex, something that is almost secret, sensed rather than known. I see my passion. I see a part of myself.



Anna on the track

Photo Showcase

Send us your photos for the Spring edition of Community Roots.

Submission deadline: February 01, 2018

Send to QCHCA3003@gmail.com (subject Photo Showcase)

Find us online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/QuadraCedarHill>

Website: <https://www.qchca.org/>



Circle Canning Team at the Farmers Market

Governance Update

John Schmuck, Committee Chair

The Saanich Governance Review Citizens Advisory Committee was created by Saanich Council as a result of the 88.5% YES vote at the November, 2014 municipal election. Committee members were then appointed by Council and have been meeting since March of 2016.

Significant public consultation completed in July of this year included two town halls, two public workshops, and numerous targeted engagements. The committee spent this past summer reviewing the findings of the consultation process and coming to conclusions for our recommendations. The scheduled date for the presentation of our report to Saanich Council is on Monday, October 23rd.

Many thanks to the twelve volunteer committee members who contributed so many long hours to this process. Our goal is to make bold recommendations to our municipal government, to allow for positive change in governance.

Local Development Summary

Updating Saanich Local Area Plans (LAPs) is now to be expedited as directed by Council. QCHCA's and North Quadra's LAPs will be updated concurrently and incorporate the Quadra Corridor plan. Check our website for more information <https://www.qchca.org/>.

University Heights Shopping Centre: Owners, Wesbild Holdings, are starting discussions with Saanich, tenants, stakeholders and community to determine how to improve the shopping center. QCHCA understands that Wesbild will conduct events to present plans and gather public input.

Quadra/McKenzie: Lumberworld's application to remove a covenant and Prostorage's application to make changes to the building exterior and to construct additional storage structures, are still in the review/approval process.

Cloverdale townhouses: Construction of this 14 unit development has started.

3216-3218 Alder - Multi-family building: Application in progress for a 27 unit multi-family residential building under current zoning. Variances are required.

Douglas Corridor Plan: Saanich has conducted a Survey and open house and a public engagement report is being prepared. A Plan Framework Report developed, with the public, stakeholders and advisory committee input, will be presented to Council on October 16th 2017.

Nigel Valley Project on Darwin south of Saanich Municipal Hall is a comprehensive plan led by BC Housing for 12 properties operated by a variety of non-profit organizations or government agencies. These provide housing, residential care services and day programming. For information: <https://www.bchousing.org/partner-services/major-projects/nigel-valley>

Many other development applications are in progress in the QCHCA area. For more information please see Saanich's website: Active Development Applications

Celebrate Cedar Hill Golf Course

Mark Bate and Editors

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the creation of Cedar Hill Park in 1967, we think it's remarkable how this beautiful area came to be established. One has to thank golf professional Harry W. Eve's initiative 100 years ago. Circa 1917, Harry leased sixty acres of the McRae dairy farm from Elizabeth McRae for a nine-hole golf course. Harry's vision for golf in Saanich created a loved amenity for golfers and community within the 54-hectare park area encompassing woodland, grassland, creeks and watersheds. No doubt Harry would be impressed with what became Cedar Hill Park with an 18-hole course and recreation centre.

Under the guidance of the golf course Superintendent Ian Smith, the grounds maintenance team is responsible for the maintenance of the park and the natural surrounding area. As the Assistant Superintendent of the golf course Mark has over 25 years experience in the industry. There are four full-time staff and six part-time staff, as well as staff for golf clubhouse and the pro shop operations. The course is about 35 hectares within the park and is very popular, providing about 45,000 rounds of golf a year.

The Cedar Hill Golf Club has been a sustaining influence for the golf course. There are currently about 100 members and the club welcomes new members. For details go to:
<http://cedarhillgolfclub.com/>

The golf course maintenance team is currently working toward a certificate of recognition in Environmental Stewardship through the Audubon Society. Their focus is to balance the demands of golf with commitment to the natural environment, by enhancing wildlife habitat, removing non-native invasive species, protecting natural resources and improving the playing conditions of the golf course.

It was the legacy of the McRae family's care and stewardship of their farmland that ultimately became our wonderful municipal park. It is sad to note that all the members of the McRae family who worked on the dairy farm are now deceased, with the passing of Elizabeth McRae's daughter, Jean Keziere, in August 2017.

Farmers Market

Shawn Newby, Organizer



We are pleased to announce that the **First Annual Saanich Sunday Farmers Market** was a huge success. Organizers Shawn Newby and Marsha Henderson would like to thank the myriad of volunteers, supporters and shoppers who have all contributed to this wonderful achievement.

Strong sponsorship from The Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association, The Royal Oak Community Association, The Braefoot Community Association and Original Fire Design Studio was pivotal in ensuring a market next year.

The market included vendors such as local farmers, food producers, artisans and even a massage service that kept some people coming back week after week. Light music from local musicians added to the ambiance of the market, with some guests swing-dancing during their visit. Feedback was positive, leading to several vendors clinching their spot for next season.

With a newly-established Market, expect next year's **Saanich Sunday Farmers Market** to come with more local farmers and food producers.

The Market has a three-year Temporary Use Permit from Saanich with the option to re-apply for another three years, after which the property would need to be rezoned to permanently allow a Farmers Market on the premises.



Music in the Park is back!

Karen Dearborn, Director and event co-coordinator

Rutledge Park is a green oasis just two blocks from Blanshard Street. For the past 11 years, it has been a pleasure for the Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association to present Music in the Park at Rutledge.

Music in the Park events were originally organized by Margaret Bachmann who passed the torch to QCHCA Director, Chris Bartlett, four years ago. The park is transformed into a music venue with a 'dance floor', face painting, children's crafts, information booths, food trucks, and displays from the Saanich Police and Fire departments.

August 8th saw us dancing to the surfin' music of Tropic Mayhem. August 15th was spent grooving to the R&B / Motown sound of SoulSonix, with over 1,200 people in attendance at each event.

Many thanks to our sponsors, contributors and volunteers:

- **Saanich Recreation's Jason Jones** who coordinated a myriad of tasks with his colleagues at the municipality.
- **Saanich Legacy Foundation's** president, Kodi Gibson, and his team for providing a significant amount of funding.
- Community Supporters and businesses who provided funds and amenities - **Ron & Betty Otke, Hansbraun Investments, Homewood Constructors, Island Savings, Kinetic Construction, Noble Car Buyers, Saanich 150, Salvation Army, Shaw Cable, TD Canada Trust, Tecnet and the Corps of Commissionaires.**
- Not to be forgotten is the first aid help provided by **Medix, and the always willing and able group of volunteers from the QCHCA community association.**





Calendar of Events

October 4 to 28 – Course on Mushrooms at Swan Lake: The Swan Lake Nature House is presenting a series of courses. More info at: www.SwanLake.bc.ca

October 23 – Governance Review: Final Report presented to Council and published.

October 28, 9am to 1pm – Bowker Creek Clean-Up: Friends of Cedar Hill Park are coordinating a creek area clean-up. More info at: www.FriendsofCedarHillPark.com

November 28, 7 to 9 pm – QCHCA General Meeting and Christmas Social at Cedar Hill Rec Centre. More info at www.QCHCA.org

January 23, 2018 - QCHCA General Meeting. Please see QCHCA website for more details.

March 27, 2018 - QCHCA Annual General Meeting

April 2018 – Spring issue of Community Roots. Please send us your ideas and pictures for our Spring Roots edition. Deadline March 01, 2018

Editor's Update

QCHCA's Community Roots Newsletter is published twice yearly in the spring and fall. We welcome your ideas and pictures. Please send your suggestions and comments to: QCHCA3003@gmail.com

Cedar Hill Arts Centre Events

October 4 to 29 - Victoria Chapter - Federation of Canadian Artists Fall Exhibition

November 1 to 27 - Anne Bowen, "Westcoast Dreaming", Keith Taylor and Elizabeth (Betty) Murrison, "Realism and White"

November 18 10am to 3pm - Cedar Hill Early Bird Holiday Market

November 29 to December. 31 - Linda Stagg, "Feathers, Fur and a Few Surprises"

November 29 to December 10 - Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria Project: "I've Not Always Been Canadian"

December 12 to 31 - Cedar Hill Studio Artists Exhibition

Saanich Parks - The Fall Arts Program has been published. It outlines all programs available at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre. More info at: <http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/parks-recreation-culture/arts/arts-centre-at-cedar-hill.html>

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the many photographs in this Edition and to the staff at Island Print Group, Aristos Mail and to all our volunteers for bringing Community Roots to your mailbox. Your newsletter Team: Peter, Susan, Anna and Lana.

Beautifying your Boulevard

Susan Haddon

Did you know that boulevard gardens are permitted in front of your property in Saanich? This growing phenomenon can add beauty and interest to our surroundings; build community spirit, and attract birds, butterflies and other pollinators. In addition, where such plantings are allowed, it can improve food security.

Your boulevard garden starts with obtaining a free permit from the municipality that requires a description plus a marked photo or sketch of your proposed works. Your proposed plants must come from an approved list; structures such as fences and sheds are not allowed. For permit and other information, go to Saanich.ca and search Boulevard Gardens.

If you would only like a boulevard tree, call Parks at 250.475.5522.

Read more about boulevard gardens and the history and operations of three 'open' boulevard gardens: the "Fair Field", the "Haultain Common" and the "Haultain Annex" at <https://streetgreens.com/>.

You can also find public workshops available here <https://www.compost.bc.ca/education/workshop-series/> on such topics as composting basics, worm composting, and plant propagation.



The Good Food 2025 Resolution

Jean Newton, Resident

Good Food 2025 is a Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiative Roundtable (CRFAIR) Resolution to create a local food and agriculture system that is environmentally sustainable, provides safe and fair working conditions for farmers, and assures that high quality food is accessible to everyone regardless of income.

The Good Food 2025 Resolution strives to

- Increase local food production in the Capital Region from less than 10% of total food consumption in 2011 to 25% by 2025.
- Decrease food insecurity by creating a Food Share Network that includes neighborhood and school programs and a subsidized grocery store. Presently approximately 14% of people in the CRD are food insecure.
- Build food literacy to help people understand our food system and how food choices impact local agriculture. The Good Food Resolution encourages people to rely less on imported foods.

What you can do

- Read and share the Good Food 2025 Primer and sign the Resolution here: <http://www.crfair/signtheresolution>
- Shop for food at community farmers markets and local farms. Directory of farms for locally produced food found here: <http://islandfarmfresh.com/>
- If possible, grow some of your own food and encourage and support municipalities to create more community gardens and farmers markets.
- Don't waste food. The waste includes the farmers' labour, resources and all other production costs.

Become a QCHCA member

Noella May – Membership Director, QCHCA

The Executive and other volunteers are actively engaged on issues at the municipal and regional levels addressing common concerns of the residents.

They actively promote community spirit by organizing such events as Music in the Park, hot dog sales, the Community Roots newsletter, and supporting the first annual Saanich Farmers Market right here in the neighborhood.

They sincerely strive to enhance the quality of life in the area and encourage participation to ensure they continue to be a responsive and representative voice in this great community.

Membership is only \$10 per person per year. The Membership Form can be found on our website <https://www.qchca.org/>, or come to a General Meeting and join in person.

For more information please contact Noella May at 250 380 0015 or noellamay128@gmail.com

Community Roots Spring 2018 Edition

Photo Showcase – Submit by Feb 01, 2018

Spring Roots edition - Submit by March 01, 2018

Wetland and Creeks

Governance Committee Update

Cedar Hill Park Management Planning Process Update

Fun and Games – Publish your story

Do you have a favourite sport or activity? Send your story in 250 words or less to Susan Haddon at QCHCA3003@gmail.com with subject ‘Publish your story’.

Cedar Hill Park Management Plan

Saanich Council created Cedar Hill Park with the purchase of the McRae farm property including the golf course in 1967. In 2016 Saanich and community started a planning process to consider the future of the park. A “Stakeholder Working Group”, comprised of Saanich Parks and community representatives has been established and a community survey and “Ideas Fair” have been conducted.

A management plan report will be drafted and presented to community and Council in 2018. We will include a summary of the report in our Community Roots Spring 2018 edition.

QCHCA General Meeting

November 28 2017 – 7 to 9 pm

Please mark your calendars for the next QCHCA General Meeting at Cedar Hill Arts and Recreation Centre. We have yet to announce a speaker for the evening but remain committed to bringing you an informative, interesting and relevant subject.

QCHCA Website & Facebook

Please check our QCHCA website for events, newsletters, local developments, news and meeting minutes at QCHCA.org. <https://www.qchca.org/>

You will also find us as QCHCA on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/QuadraCedarHill/>

Chris Bhopalsingh is our webmaster and can be contacted: QCHCA3003@gmail.com

Can you Help QCHCA?

We have an urgent need to fill a volunteer Executive position as an Area Representative for the Cook Tolmie neighborhood.

This is a triangular area bounded by Cook, Quadra and Tolmie Streets.

If you would like more details, please contact Susan Haddon at QCHCA3003@gmail.com